



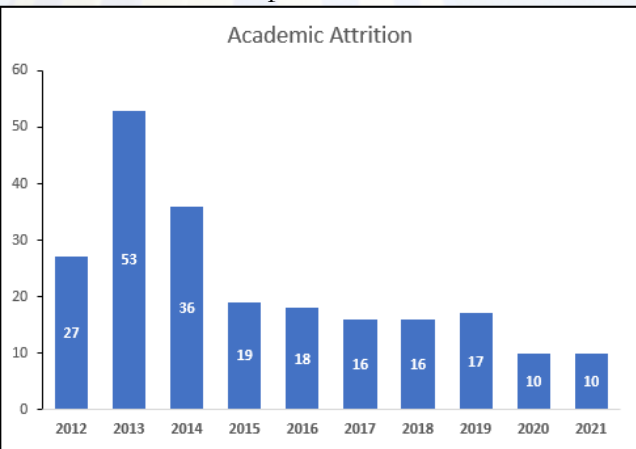
Greetings, Class of 1963!

As the Director of the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence (CAE), it is my honor to update you on our most successful year yet. With a return to in-person services in Academic Year (AY) 2022, CAE saw **51,379** total visits, making this our highest year to date! Consistent growth has become our hallmark characteristic. After all, the use of CAE services has averaged a yearly increase of 5% over the past eight years, and we have yielded an astonishing 100% growth in unique students and over 200% growth in overall visits since 2009. In addition to



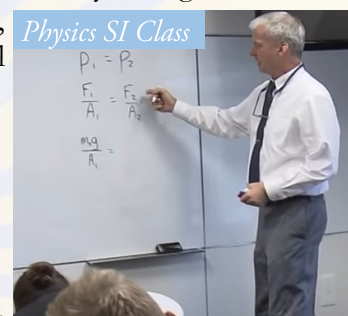
growth, our extensive reach defies expectations for academic support services nationwide; the CAE sees 97% of the Brigade at least once in their four years, whereas the national average is only 26%. Far from a place where midshipmen are "voluntold" to attend begrudgingly, the CAE has earned a reputation as a friendly, welcoming, effective one-stop-shop for all students from all demographics for all academic support needs. We could not do any of this without your support!

So, how do all of these impressive numbers translate to a midshipman's everyday life at the academy? To begin, in AY 22, we saw **3,199** unique students, which is **71%** of the entire Brigade of Midshipmen. We reached our highest total number of visits ever this year by consistently seeing an average of **1,511** visits per week. As is to be expected, the majority of those students were plebes, as 99% of 4/C students visited us this year. Close behind, however, we saw 87% of 3/C students, 63% of 2/C students, and even 33% of 1/C students. Just seeing these students once would not be something to brag about, but we have data to show that the majority of midshipmen are routinely utilizing our services, from those who earn straight As to those who barely escape academic separation. Specifically, 61% of students with a 4.0 QPR visited the CAE an average of 11.5 visits. On graduation day, we cheered for many of our "regulars," the top 100 midshipmen in the class of 2022; 94 of those top 100 students used CAE services an average of 16 times. We may have cheered even more loudly for the bottom 100 midshipmen in the class of 2022, those we helped to cross that stage, as all 100 of them used a CAE service at least once. Though there are many factors when considering attrition, it is worth noting that according to USNA's

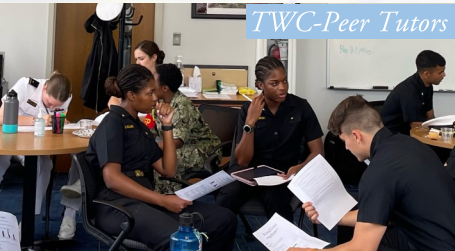


"Institutional Effectiveness Assessment Report," ten years ago, an average of 30 midshipmen were separated from USNA after an academic board; in the past two years, an average of only 10 have separated for academics.¹ Here's a snapshot of our successful programs:

• **Supplemental Instruction (SI)** - Students enrolled in traditionally difficult STEM courses can sign up for these non-credit SI classes with no homework, no quizzes, and no tests--just helpful support. The class improves subject retention within a technical discipline by reviewing key concepts concurrent with an associated core course. As one student explained on a survey, "I was able to get help and have things explained to me differently than my teacher does. I benefited from the smaller, more focused environment." There are an average of 65 SI courses per semester, with around 10 students enrolled in each course. SI continues to be CAE's most popular service, and we saw the second highest number of users ever in



AY 2022, reaching **16,020** visits with **730** seats.



• **The Writing Center (TWC)** - TWC offers one-on-one writing consultations for midshipmen for all writing projects at every stage of the writing process. Our professional and peer tutors work collaboratively with students to improve both the work in progress and the student's overall writing proficiency. We also provide dynamic writing and public speaking workshops throughout the semester. This year, we also provided a weekend 24-hour online paper review. Ultimately, the Writing Center yielded 4,049 visits in AY2022, which is 126 visits per week. Furthermore, a student survey revealed that 99% of midshipmen strongly agreed or

agreed that their goals were met during their tutorial sessions and a faculty survey proved quantitatively and qualitatively that TWC is highly appreciated, yielding comments such as, "TWC is a tremendous asset to USNA," and "I am grateful for your support in helping the mids write and think more clearly." We continue to work to improve the communication skills of the Brigade, which are critical for success in the Fleet.

¹Academy Effectiveness Board. "Academic Year 2020-21 Institutional Effectiveness Assessment Report." *United States Naval Academy Dashboards* (Annapolis, MD: December 3, 2021), 7.

The mission of the Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence is to support the mission of the Naval Academy by providing the highest quality academic support programs for all midshipmen seeking to improve their academic performance.

- ◆ **Midshipmen Group Study Program (MGSP)** - Approximately 115 MGSP Leaders work closely with their paired faculty sponsors throughout the year to support their peers by facilitating weekly group study sessions. Dozens of courses are supported. Continuing a strong trend of growth, MGSP increased from **8,603** visits in AY2012 to **15,466** in AY2022, making this our highest usage of MGSP to date. In fact, over 51% of the Brigade attended an MGSP study session at least once in AY2022.

Tutoring Session



- ◆ **Evening Tutoring** - Offered Sunday through Thursday evenings every week, this program is designed to augment Extra Instruction with professional mathematics, chemistry, cyber, and physics tutors. Tutors have advanced degrees in their respective fields and address questions from lectures, homework, or labs. In 2012, this program yielded **5,735** visits; in 2022, the program increased by **124%** with **12,867** visits. In one midshipman's words, "[the tutor] would always help me get ahead of my chemistry class so I already had a great understanding of the material."

- ◆ **Topic Reviews & Exam Reviews** - Each week, our professional staff holds Topic Reviews for specific areas of core-course-related material, such as "Derivatives," "Electrical Circuits," or "Internal Combustion Engines." In addition, to help students prepare for six-week, twelve-week, and final exams, Exam Review sessions are held in propulsion, physics, chemistry, cyber security, and calculus. Our largest increase in growth, this program increased by **1,635%**, from **384** visits to 54 reviews in AY2013 to **6,661** visits to 343 reviews in AY 2022, approximately **10** per week.

- ◆ **Strategies for Academic Success** - Through one-on-one consultations and custom workshops, our Strategies for Academic Success program helps midshipmen develop critical skills and learn strategies in memory improvement, note taking, time management, reading, test preparation, and test anxiety. Our Learning Specialist has continued to extend her reach throughout the Brigade via one-on-one consultations, traditional workshops, and ProKnowledge and company workshops. In AY 2022, we had **1,184** visits with **1,028** students.



- ◆ **ACE Reader** - This 4-6 week program has proved to dramatically increase midshipmen's comprehension while greatly improving reading speed, and therefore remains an enticing draw for all midshipmen, plebes in particular. Consistent with the last several years, almost **200** midshipmen completed the program in AY 2022 to enhance their reading performance.

The entire CAE staff feels great pride that the Brigade's use of our services has more than tripled from 2009 to 2022, but we draw our greatest satisfaction knowing that we are meeting the needs of these students by providing a hands-on, interactive approach to learning, helping to develop these future naval leaders. Thank you for your admirable leadership and support for our efforts. We are dedicated to continuing to provide the highest quality academic support services possible!

Sincerely,

Dr. Bruce J Bukowski,
Director, The Class of 1963 Center for Academic Excellence