Dear Future Mountain Lion Family:

On behalf of the UCCS Excel Centers, we join the rest of our campus community in congratulating you on your student’s admission to UCCS. We know that many students have made their decision and even registered for fall classes already, while others will be making their decision soon. We also know that family members are an important part of the college support network, so we thought introducing you to a fundamental aspect of student support on our campus would be helpful to you. If you have not yet selected UCCS for your college education, please read on to see what we have to offer.

The Excel Centers are a network of five centers, each offering a unique program of academic support to help all UCCS students succeed in every aspect of their academic careers. Our tutoring services are free, and we’re available to provide students with as much help as they desire. Our primary goal is academic achievement, and UCCS students who use the centers, on average, earn a GPA up to a full letter grade higher than those who don’t.

Each center offers real-time, face-to-face tutoring (even in online settings, should that be the case in Fall 2020). Our staffs are composed of current UCCS students who have been highly trained by us to work with students from all academic backgrounds and disciplines. These students have excelled in the classes they tutor, and have a wealth of institutional knowledge about assignments and instructor expectations that can be beneficial to your student.

In addition to our outstanding tutors, each center offers an array of programs and resources to support your student’s academic success. Some of us provide services such as Peer-Assisted Study Sessions and class-specific tutoring groups, while others offer workshops on academic topics, such as critical reading skills and research methods. Each center has a wide array of classroom resources, such as textbooks, lab materials, podcast episodes, handouts, resource books, and more.

Our centers are also a wealth of professional development opportunities. Our tutors can assist your student with documents such as resumes, cover letters, mock interviews, and graduate school applications. As Directors, each of us is available to students who wish to discuss professional development and career opportunities, including post-graduate programs, such as medical or other health-related schools.

Our contact information is listed on this website, so we hope you will reach out to us if you or your student have questions. UCCS and the Excel Centers will be welcoming and serving students this fall as we always have, and we’re actively planning to serve students whether in-person, virtually or somewhere in between. We can’t wait to see our new students and families in the fall!

Sincerely,

Jerry Phillips, Ph.D., Executive Director, Excel Centers & Excel Science Center Director

Vickie McCoy, MS, MA, Interim Excel Communication Center Director

Sandy Ho, Ph.D., Excel Languages Center Director

Jenny Dorrington, Ph.D., Excel Mathematics Center Director

Matthew Balk, Ph.D., Excel Writing Center Director