

# Science Solved



(left to right) Melissa Dugas, Crystal Grunert and Sean Robbins say the extra study time in the Science Resource Center is reflected in their grades.

## Academics

### Hours for Science Resource Center,

room 110 A Classroom and Laboratory Building  
Monday, Wednesday 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

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**S**ean Robbins, Olathe, and Crystal Grunert, Merriam, spend a minimum of two hours a day Monday-Friday going over anatomy in the Science Resource Center.

“The best way to learn anatomy is through repetition and studying the models,” Grunert said. “Maria (Hawkins) is incredible; she is always willing to help.”

“Let me put it this way,” Robbins said. “On my first quiz I got a C (grade). I have been coming here daily, and I’ve gone from a C to an A.”

Tejash Purohit, Lenexa, studies 20 hours a week in the SRC for physics, chemistry and anatomy classes, in addition to having a 40-hour-a-week job.

“Concepts become more clear, and you can confirm your knowledge with the tutor and other students in the resource center,” Purohit said.

The dedicated Science Resource Center opened its doors at the beginning of the fall semester. Maria Hawkins, formerly an Access Services tutor, is the SRC coordinator. Tutors in biology, anatomy, physics, chemistry, physiology and zoology are available to help students according to posted hours (see sidebar). Aids such as anatomy and molecule models, zoology slides

and microscopes assist students with visualizing concepts. Computer software instruction programs and a reference library help with self-guided studies.

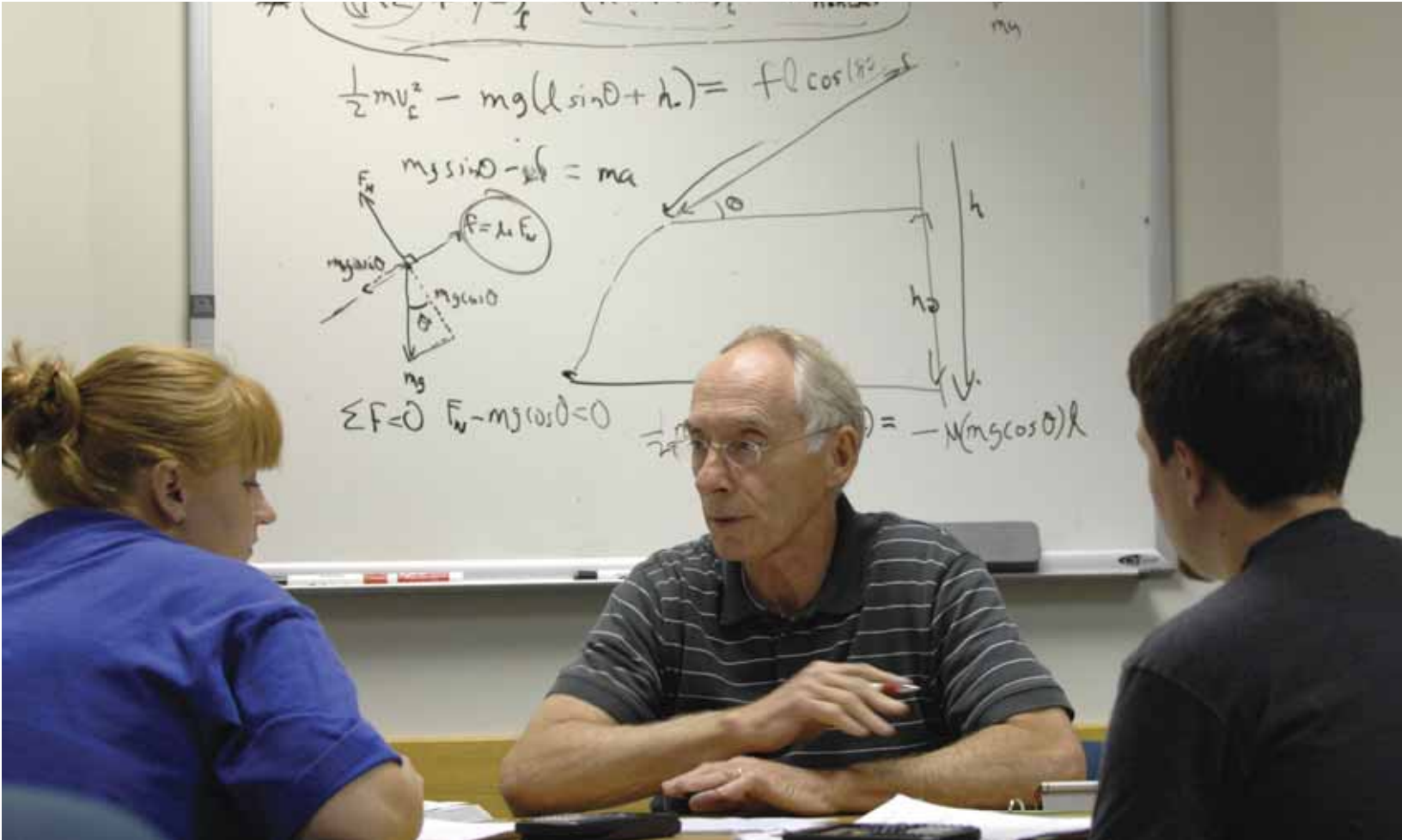
Students come individually and in groups.

“I like to sit with other people because they ask the tutors questions that I didn’t think of,” said K.K. Vouthy, Overland Park, who is taking *Organic Chemistry II* in preparation for acceptance to pharmacy school. “After struggling with a problem, we can help each other arrive at a conclusion.”

“When we get a larger group, there is a cross-fertilization of ideas. People get to interact,” said tutor Gary Dirks, a retired forensic chemist.

“We’ve seen a lot of business here during the first semester. The Science Resource Center definitely has high usage,” said Brent Long, biology and zoology tutor, who has a master’s degree in ecology and evolutionary biology.

There are several faculty who hold office hours in the SRC – Dr. Jeanne DeHaan, assistant professor, chemistry; Michelle Clark, assistant



professor, chemistry; and Richard Sherry, assistant professor, anatomy. Students looking for further assistance seek them out.

Tutors find the experience rewarding. Dr. John Bosnak, retired Honeywell physicist, says he really enjoys helping young people. He guides students with solving problems, setting up equations from problems and semantics.

Dr. Joe Gadberry, assistant dean, Science, says plans for a Science Resource Center have been in the works since 1995. Until now, the problem was lack of space. Gadberry wants to see the SRC expand its space, hours, resources and number of tutors.

“The Science Resource Center is a valuable resource. I only wish we had had it sooner,” Gadberry said. “If students don’t take advantage of it, it’s their loss. Where else can you get free tutoring from people with bachelor’s, master’s and doctorate degrees?”

**Tutors and subjects:**

- Maria Hawkins, coordinator, Science Resource Center, anatomy and physiology
- Gary Dirks, chemistry
- Dr. John Bosnak, physics
- Matt Krafft, physics
- Safina Safder, biology
- Brent Long, biology, zoology

**Phone number: 913-469-8500, ext. 2473.**

Dr. John Bosnak, a retired Honeywell physicist, helps Nicole Campbell and Chris Herling set up a physics equation in the Science Resource Center.



Brent Long, prospective Ph.D. student at KU, tutors Athena Parker on Mendelian genetics in the Science Resource Center.

