

## PASS (Peer Assisted Study Sessions) Leader Observation

Leader name: Elizabeth Lavery

Date: November 5, 2009

Observer: Susan Spencer, Learning Support Coordinator, RDC

### Group facilitation skills:

- Began session by discussing with participants what they needed help with – identified questions from class quiz
- Clarified what question was asking through discussion; asked for suggestions on how to work through it
- Encouraged participation by inviting a student to begin working on the problem on the board saying all would assist with the process – encouraged students with part marks to start them off
- Shared own experiences of doing these problems and writing exams in this course
- Encouraging interaction when it was noted that the questions seemed so simple when you figure them out, Elizabeth said, "it helps when you can discuss it with others."

### Questioning skills:

- Asked questions such as "what do we do next?" and "how did you work that out?" to keep everyone involved.
- Elizabeth had students guide her steps when she was working through a problem on the board

### Interpersonal skills:

- Friendly and engaging; chatting with students as a peer
- Patient when finding ways to explain concept to student
- Sincere – when a student showed an alternate way to solve a problem, Elizabeth was complimentary and said she was going to write down the alternate way
- Empathetic – when a student stated how bad she felt failing the quiz after getting a B on the mid-term, Elizabeth agreed it must have been hard.

### Suggestions:

- Use more visual cues or analogy to explain when a student has difficulty understanding a concept

Great job, Elizabeth!