The divisional newsletter will be published throughout the year to provide information about SDES.

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Where the boys aren’t—the new college gender gap

A recent article in U.S. News & World Report (February 8, 1999) illuminated the dramatic increase in the number of women attending college. This year, women are expected to earn 57 percent of all bachelor’s degrees, compared with 43 percent in 1970 and fewer than 24 percent in 1950. In 2007, 735,000 women are projected to earn bachelor’s degrees as compared with only 532,000 men. The U.S. Department of Education now projects that by 2008 women will outnumber men in undergraduate and graduate programs by 9.2 million to 8.9 million (p. 47).

Why is this phenomenon occurring? U.S. News says young men are now subscribing to the “less learning, more earning” credo, preferring $30,000 starting salaries in such fields as air-conditioner maintenance and computer-related jobs such as Web design to four years of Shakespeare and student loans. On the other hand, young women are armed with better grades, better resumes, and a clearer sense of future goals; thus, they reach the senior year of high school primed for the college admissions game. Additionally, part of the trend is a result of the fact that women have been given more choices in society: they are no longer expected to take the homemaker route or to matriculate solely for the purpose of earning their M.R.S. degree (i.e., a husband).

A major change occurring is that female students have reversed or narrowed the gender gap in many traditionally “male” areas of study such as psychology, biology/life sciences, business and even engineering. With young men a rarer on-campus sight, college social life has taken a new turn and the dating game has changed considerably. Men now have little difficulty getting dates, sometimes dating several coeds at a time. Many schools are now actively recruiting men, but say they stop short of offering “affirmative action for men.” Some, however, confide that giving male students a slight break is becoming a standard, albeit unspoken practice. At UCF, fall semester statistics indicate that females outnumber males by 55.1 percent to 44.9 percent (or 16,532 to 13,477). [UCF Report, Feb. 19, 1999, p. 5]

If college degrees remain an entrée to wealth and status in the 21st century, U.S. News concludes that males may have to get used to the same second-class status that American women so long endured, as highly educated females become the majority among the nation’s intellectual, economic, and even power elite. Once young men realize this, it could prove enough of a shock to send the guys scurrying off to hit the books—and fill out some college applications. Only time will tell…

Two New Divisional Program Initiatives

The Office of Student Information and Evening/Weekend Student Services is now called Non-Traditional and Evening/Weekend Student Services. This office will be directed by Jameer Abass and will serve as an advocate for adult and evening/weekend students. It will work in collaboration with other university departments to promote the awareness of adult students and will provide off-hour support services. The office is located in room 282 of the Admin. Bldg., 823-3111.

Jimmy Watson, formerly the Director of the Office of Student Information and Evening/Weekend Student Services is presently spearheading a new program initiative called the Off-Campus Resource Center formerly known as Off-Campus Housing Office. Watson and Tamara Jones, Assistant Director of the Center will be enhancing the Off-Campus Program to include more services and programs that will welcome and encourage students living off-campus to get involved in campus life and become “connected” with the many benefits the campus has to offer. In addition, the Off-Campus Resource Center will be promoting and fostering good will between off-campus students, landlords/property managers and the local community at large. The office is located in Student Resource Center 140, 823-6505. The Student Information component will remain under the responsibility of Watson.

UCF’s STRATEGIC DIRECTION STATEMENT

As it strives to become America’s great metropolitan university and to achieve its five goals, UCF will:

- Promote interdisciplinarity in its programs;
- Foster learning communities;
- Achieve operational excellence;
- Make innovative use of technology.

The university will continue to rely on partnerships both on and off campus as its preferred means of addressing significant opportunities.
Ronald H. Atwell, Director of Veterans Affairs is a member of a veterans education working group that prepared a White Paper which was presented at the recent Forum in Washington D.C. February 27 to March 1. The three day forum addressed several issues facing higher education in the 21st century.

Karen Nguyen, Senior Secretary, Office of Veterans Affairs, was the Pageant Coordinator for the Vietnamese Association of Central Florida’s celebration of the Lunar New Year (“Tet” 1999 - the year of the Rabbit) held on 2/7/99 at the Orange County Fairgrounds.

Jill Ziegenfuss, Assistant Director of Career Resource Center, presented a workshop on resume and cover letter development for the UCF Brevard Campus Career Week ’99.

Paul Viau from FY has organized several “Freshman Computer Workshops” specifically targeting new freshmen students to occur in March. These workshops were developed in collaboration with Computer Services and will provide new freshmen with information on how to log onto the computers in the labs, use their Pegasus e-mail account, use the POLARIS on-line registration system, and how to “dial-in” to the UCF computer system from home.

David Pavlonnis from FY has created “Advisor Alert” which is the new information tool to keep the ASAP and MSS departments aware on a variety of issues, college major updates, events, and academic policies. The newsletter will be distributed to all the first year advising offices as well as our college/department colleagues.

Bon Voyage, Mon Ami, C’est La Vie...

A final tribute to Edmund Dabiedath, Accountant at Student Government for 10 years, was held in the Key West Room at the Student Union on Feb. 18th. Refreshments, decorations, gifts, humor and a good time was had by all. Edmund was accompanied by his wife Loretta, a former UCF graduate and employee. They plan to enjoy retirement by traveling throughout the U.S. and Canada (especially, Las Vegas). Edmund had twenty years of total service time at UCF and was the first retiree at UCF Student Government. We will certainly miss his dedication, hard work and cheerful humor. Best wishes to both of them!

Academic Support and Advising Programs (ASAP) would like to welcome....

• Dennis Congos is the new Supplemental Instruction (SI) coordinator in the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC). He is also a certified national SI trainer who trains college administrators to set up and run SI programs. Dennis has 10 years experience running SI programs and over 13 years experience training and consulting on SI. Dennis has a BA on Social Science from Cleveland State University and a MSEd degree in Student Affairs and Counseling from Indiana University. He has completed all his coursework for a doctoral degree in higher education administration.

• Debbie Foreman, a graduate of Springfield College in Massachusetts with a M.Ed. in Athletic Counseling, is the newest addition to the Department of Academic Services for Student-Athletes (ASSA). Ms. Foreman will be working with Men’s and Women’s basketball, cross-country, track & field, and Women’s volleyball. She brings over 10 years experience in the recreation and counseling field.

Undergraduate Admissions...

Welcome... Patrick Alesandri has accepted the Admissions Officer position and will be supervising the processing area.

Bid Adieu... Jessica Foxman, Admissions Officer, has moved to join her husband in Ft. Myers.

Career Resource Center

The Spring ’99 Expo was held on 1/26/99. Student attendance was the BEST ever! There were 1,568 students attending, a 21% increase over our previous largest student turnout. 210 companies were represented by over 450 employer representatives. The Part-time and Summer Job Fair will be held March 31, 1999 at the Student Union.
Points of Pride...

First Year Advising (FY)
The February 1999 edition of the “First Year Times” newsletter was recently published by FY and mailed out to approximately 4,000 freshmen students. The newsletter reminded freshmen of preparing for upcoming summer and fall registration, updates from the colleges, and campus events.

Undergraduate Admissions initiated the Class Advantage Program 3 years ago. This year Cathy Spoon and Nancy Hegger spearheaded this advising initiative and over 380 Fall ’99 FTIC students have responded that they would like to participate in the Class Advantage Program, a 62% increase from last year! A total of 12 advisors from ASAP were involved with the advisement during Class Advantage, which included evening and Saturday hours.

Student Financial Assistance
http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu
The Student Financial Assistance’s Website is better than ever. Not only can you find out about all of our programs and application processes, you can find updated scholarship information, download forms, and even fill out the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Assistance) online.

If it’s your own personal file you would like to see, all you would need to do is to type in your social security number and your universal pin number. You can find out what you were awarded and when your aid was paid. Keep a look out for our “News Bulletin” coming out soon on the web. This page will be updated weekly with time sensitive material, for example, when to apply for short term loans for the upcoming term.

Recreational Services
New Recreation Building!!! The building program is completed for UCF’s new 95,000 sq. ft. Recreation Building and plans are to hire an architect to get ready for a Fall ‘99 ground-breaking. The new building will more than double the present fitness/aerobic space and provide unlimited access to a jogging track, four basketball courts, indoor pool, racquetball courts and possibly a climbing wall, plus adequate office space and Recreational Services “own” classroom.

Interested in “Learn to Swim” lessons?
Call Debbie Madison @ 823-2391. (Participants must be family members of students, faculty, or staff.)

Student Orientation
The Orientation Center is collaborating with the Office of Student Activities and the Wellness Center to create and produce an educational skit addressing issues related to social responsibility and diversity for the 1999 freshman orientation sessions.

The Orientation Center recently mailed postcards to new students admitted for summer and fall terms alerting them their Orientation invitation will arrive by the end of February! The Center is also sending out Orientation invitations two months ahead of schedule as compared to last year. Thanks to all who have contributed to the editing of the invitations - this project was a collaboration of 15 departments or units!

International Students and Scholars Services
On February 10th, the Dedication of the “Colbourn Rose Garden” took place at the Barbara Ying Center. Dr. Ying was present, and many other dignitaries, including three presidents of UCF: Dr. Millican, Dr. Colbourn, and Dr. Hitt. Speeches were very eloquent, and the event was greatly successful.

Student Disability Services - SDS.....
A. J. Range introduced, and Dennis Hall conducted, a session entitled “Integrating the Disabled into the Learning Environment” on Feb. 18th. The second of six SDES Spring ’99 “Educational Series” programs, the session focused on understanding and assisting students with specific learning disabilities at UCF. These students have difficulty: encoding information; retrieving information from long term memory; transferring information from short to long term memory; and, expressing information. Dennis said, “Although two students may have the same specific learning disability diagnosed, the effect(s) on each student may be quite different. Therefore, each student may need a different constellation of accommodations, strategies and technologies in order to take advantage of the opportunities that UCF has to offer. To provide excellence in service, we need to clearly see the opportunities that all students bring to our University.” A few ideas for working with students with specific learning disabilities include, but are not limited to: believing that specific learning disabilities exist and have real effects, treat the student as an individual, tap into the student’s strength, and hold the same expectations as you do with all students.

LEAD Scholars Program
The LEAD Scholars Program was highlighted at the Excellence in Higher Education Conference at the University of Miami. Edward Hampton, Shannon Bergman, and Jan Lloyd facilitated a presentation on ‘Building Bridges through Leadership Development’. The presentation was selected based on the conference theme of successfully building programs that encompass both Student Affairs and Academic Affairs.

The word is out about the LEAD Scholars Program! Recruitment for the Fall 1999 class has received 258 applications compared to 64 from last year at this same time. That’s a 400% increase!

February Correction/Change:
Edward Hampton, Interim Director of LEAD Scholars submitted a program ‘Bridging Academics and Service Learning for Leadership Development’ to the 1999 American College Personnel Association (ACPA) Convention. Jan Lloyd and Shannon Bergman will be presenting the accepted program on March 23, 1999 in the Copenhagen Room, in the Marriott in Atlanta, GA.
Student Health Services

- The Eating Disorder Task Force has produced a new brochure ‘Body S.M.A.R.T.’ which explains their mission, gives information on where students with eating disorders can get help and lists campus activities which relate to the subject.

- All are invited to the annual Wellness Expo ’99 at 10am till 2pm on March 10 in front of the UCF Bookstore. Campus and community resources will join together to provide free professional information and health screenings, brochures, demonstrations, neck massages, food, music, and more.

- The Annual SWAT 5K Fun Run/Walk at Greek Park begins at 5 pm on Friday, April 9. All are invited to attend this “healthy happy hour” event which features a lively foot tour of our beautiful campus, music, food, prizes, awards, and more! Entry forms will be available at the Campus Wellness Center, or call 823-5841.

Dispute Resolution Services

Dispute Resolution Services, UCF’s campus mediation program, is currently planning their next training session to be held in April 1999. This intensive two-day training session is designed to teach the participants the appropriate skills for effective mediation. If any staff members are interested in attending this training session, please call the office at 823-3477.

UCF’s Dispute Resolution Services, in partnership with the Dean of Students Office, Student Legal Services, and The Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning will be hosting a teleconference titled “Faculty on the Front Lines: Reclaiming Civility in the Classroom”. This conference will be televised live April 8th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., location TBA. It will be replayed April 9th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in BA119. All students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Pete Wallace at 823-3477. Or visit the website: http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~mediate/conference.html

POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Ed Hampton offers this...

To laugh is to risk appearing a fool.
To weep is to risk appearing sentimental.
To reach out for another is to risk involvement.
To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self.
To place your true ideas, your demands before a crowd is to risk their loss.
To love is to risk not being loved in return.
To live is to risk dying.
To hope is to risk despair.
To try is to risk failure.
But risk must be taken because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing, does nothing, is nothing. They may avoid suffering and sorrow, but they cannot learn, feel, grow, change, love, live. Chained by their attitudes, they are a slave. They have forfeited their freedom. Only the person who risks is free.

Student Activities Board

“Burnout or Boundaries: Which is Your Destiny?”
March 3rd at 10am-11am, SU, 218 CD Key West

Working in higher education can either suck the life force out of you OR it can be an opportunity to learn the fine art of balancing many different roles. The key is to be aware of potential dangers and how you can avoid or minimize them. This discussion will allow you time to present challenges you are currently facing or are worried about.

Upcoming Events...

LEAD Scholars Program

- 3/12 - The LEAD Scholars Program will be hosting a session of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership Education series.
- 4/16 - The Florida NASPA Drive-in Conference to be held here at UCF
- 6/19-22 - The Forum on Volunteerism, Service, and Learning to be held in Atlanta.

Campus Activities Board

- 3/4 - Creative Dating Seminar, 8pm, location TBA
- 3/6 - Miss UCF Scholarship Pageant, Arena:
  - 10am-12pm Interviews
  - 8pm-10pm Show
  - 10pm-11pm Reception
- 3/10 - Student Theatre Knight: ‘Big River’ @ 7:45pm, Theatre UCF
- 3/13 - Spouse Abuse Project, Volunteer UCF, 823-6471
- 3/11 - Speaker: Filmmaker Kevin Smith, 8pm, location TBA
- 3/23 - Tuesday Knight Live Comedian Gary Greenberg, @ 8pm, Loco's
- 3/24 - Business Etiquette® @ SU, Key West -Room 218 ABCD
  (Men: 3-5pm • Women: 6-8pm)

Academic Exploration Program

- 3/24 - 3pm - FY is coordinating academic outreach program & will provide schedule planning for freshmen living in the Knights Krossing apartments.

Summer Orientation Dates:

| 4/9 | Transfers (S/F) |
| 5/10 | Catchall (S) |
| 6/17-18 | FTIC (S) (Special Groups) |

Undergraduate Admissions

- 3/15 to 5/5 - 16 In-State Receptions (Admitted/Juniors)
- 2/21 to 4/6 - 15 Out-of-State Receptions (Admitted/Juniors)
- 4/3 - Open House will be for Arts & Sciences and Engineering.
- 4/17 - Open House will be for the Colleges of Business, Education, and Health & Public Affairs.

Undergraduate Admissions would like to thank the Division in advance for helping to make these days a success.

First Year Advising

- 3/24 - 4-7pm - FY is coordinating academic outreach program & will provide schedule planning for freshmen living in the Knights Krossing apartments.

POSITIVE ATTITUDE

Ed Hampton offers this...

Philipical food for the soul.

To laugh is to risk appearing a fool.
To weep is to risk appearing sentimental.
To reach out for another is to risk involvement.
To expose feelings is to risk exposing your true self.
To place your true ideas, your demands before a crowd is to risk their loss.
To love is to risk not being loved in return.
To live is to risk dying.
To hope is to risk despair.
To try is to risk failure.
But risk must be taken because the greatest hazard in life is to risk nothing. The person who risks nothing, does nothing, is nothing. They may avoid suffering and sorrow, but they cannot learn, feel, grow, change, love, live. Chained by their attitudes, they are a slave. They have forfeited their freedom. Only the person who risks is free.

Author unknown