The Creative School
— Home of UCF’s Youngest Students

How would you like to be 5 years old and going to college? Sound exciting? Well, students aged 2-7 have been attending the Creative School for Children on the UCF campus for the past 23 years. And some of these Creative School alumni are now “really” going to college bigtime at UCF.

The Creative School has provided a developmentally appropriate educational program for children of UCF students, faculty, staff, alumni and community to “rave” reviews all these years. Dolores Burghard, Director, opened the doors of the School on March 29, 1976 and has seen the school develop from a single building with two classrooms and 20 students to a complex which has undergone an addition, added a couple of modular buildings, and an outdoor education playground. The capacity of the school is presently 115 children in the regular preschool program (note: there is a waiting list) and requires a six or nine hour block of time. The school is an Educational Research Center for Child Development and was the first one in the State University System. This designation, by the Florida legislature in 1979, allows the program to provide opportunities for faculty and graduate students to conduct educational research projects approved by the Creative School and its Board of Directors.

Since its inception, the Creative School has designed a program that goes far beyond the parameters of a mere child care center. The school hires only degreed teachers trained in Early Childhood Education to plan and carry out an instructional program, which is developmental in content. These teachers have the faculty rank of Instructional Specialist. The school’s primary purpose is to provide a safe environment and a sound educational experience for the children while their parents are attending class, studying or working. The enrollment process gives priority to children of UCF students. Seventy-five percent of the students are children of UCF students, while the remaining 25 percent are from faculty, staff and community parents.

Dolores Burghard has always been a trailblazer in her vision of early childhood education and programs. One of her visions is becoming reality in that the school has raised over $50,000 in outside donations for the development of the outdoor education playground into a very unique Outdoor Environmental Learning Center. The Center when fully developed will be a national model of developmentally appropriate use of outdoor space in early childhood education.

Dolores Burghard has been teaching children since the early 1960s. She says, the continuous contact with children “is her driving force,” and running the school has been a “continuous challenge.” Her greatest satisfaction occurs when the children, some who have finished college, return to report that their academic success was directly attributed to their Creative School experience. What more can a teacher ask?

IMPORTANT!
Directors Meeting
On Tuesday, April 27 at 4 p.m. in the Student Union Key West AB, Dr. Huddleston will host a meeting with all SDES unit directors and direct reports. The meeting will serve as another way to foster communication in the division. General SDES matters will be discussed. Questions and broad-based dialogue are encouraged.

Good Practice in SDES
In 1997, ACPA (American College Personnel Association) and NASPA (National Association of Student Personnel Administrators) collaborated on a document entitled, Principles of Good Practice in Student Affairs. Upon reading these principles, you will note how closely aligned they are with both UCF’s goals and strategic direction statement and the division’s mission and purpose statements.

“GOOD PRACTICE...”
1. Engages students in active learning.
2. Helps students develop coherent values and ethical standards.
5. Uses resources effectively to achieve institutional missions and goals.
6. Forges educational partnerships that advance student learning.
7. Builds supportive and inclusive communities.

We’re right...
People in the News...

The Career Resource Center welcomes Ann Ware as the Coordinator of Career Development Services for the College of Arts and Sciences. She will also coordinate part-time and internship opportunities. Ms. Ware previously served the CRC as the Interim Accountant for the Lockheed-Martin College Work Study Program.

- **Suzi Katz**, Director of NCAS, was recently named as a “1999 Sports Ethics Fellow” by the Institute for International Sport.
- Marybeth Matta and Diahn Escue, Creative School for Children, attended a music seminar entitled “S.M.I.L.E.” (Songs and Movement I, a Learning Environment)

Ronald Atwell, Director of Veterans Affairs, presented a paper entitled the “Personal and Educational Profiles of UCF Veterans” to the National Association of State Approving Agencies for Veterans Benefits on February 24th, in Washington DC. The paper summarized research conducted by Mr. Atwell for his Doctoral Dissertation.

- **Sabrina Gilyard**, Student Loan Supervisor, was among 3 UCF’s women who participated in Florida’s Educational Leadership Enhancement program for women and minorities in higher education. Sabrina received a stipend for professional development costs, took core seminars, attended a statewide program, built a portfolio and worked with a mentor. She was also matched with a senior administrator for meetings and special projects.
- **Heather Scales**, Loan Counselor, tied the knot on January 30th. She is now Heather Hoover.
- **Jennifer Tellis**, Office Manager, is back from her year hiatus (for educational pursuits). Welcome back!

Judy Sayers, conference here in Orlando, hosted by UCF!

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Points of Pride...

**LEAD Scholars Program**

A total of 10 National Merit Semifinalist have been accepted into the LEAD Scholars Program for fall of 1999!

The LEAD Scholars Program is proud to announce the establishment of a new fellowship for students, the Henri Landwirth Heart of UCF Fellowship. This fellowship will be used to recognize and reward students who exemplify the values of service, compassion, leadership and humanitarianism demonstrated by Henri Landwirth. Henri Landwirth, founder of Give Kids the World, has made dreams come true for over 40,000 terminally ill children from around the world who have visited Give Kids the World and the Orlando area attractions, cost free.

The LEAD Scholars Program will host for the second year, the LIFT (Leaders Involved For Tomorrow) Summit. The Summit was designed to help high school leaders develop leadership skills while showcasing UCF to these prospective scholars. This year’s staff is anticipating nearly 180 students from throughout the state of Florida for a four day adventure in leadership.

April 6-8, two former U.S. Congressmen, Jolene Unsoeld and Harold Sawyer, will be guest speakers and visit UCF as part of the Congress to Campus Program. The two former representatives will spend their time on campus interacting with students, faculty, and staff as below:

* April 6, 4-5 PM, SU Cape Florida
  - Open Forums for Students, Faculty & Staff
  Both representatives will discuss their experiences in Congress.

* April 7, 1-2:30 PM, Two sessions
  - Rep. Harold Sawyer – SU 218
  Experiences on the House Select Committees for the assassinations of Kennedy and King.

**International Student and Scholar Services**

Town and Gown Council for the Greater Orlando Area and University of Central Florida held a luncheon at the Barbara Ying Center on March 16, 1999. The speakers were: Dr. Mathilda Harris, Director of International Studies; Ragda Kurdy, Coordinator of International Students Services; Shazia Farhat, Ex-President of International Students Association. The focus of the luncheon was on the diverse and valuable contributions of international students to our campus and to our city. Many dignitaries were present including the wives of three presidents of UCF; Mrs. Millican, Mrs. Colbourn, and Mrs. Hitt. The event was organized by Ms. Mary Scott and was led by Ms. Shelley Pynn, the President of Town and Gown.

Recent visitors to the Student Union Building are noticing a change! Construction has begun for the new addition to the building. A chain link fence has been installed across Pegasus Circle on the south side of the building and the west entrance to the Union Building has been closed to foot traffic. This inconvenience is expected to continue until March 2000, when we plan to unveil a beautiful 11,500 sq. ft. ballroom. For the safety of our visitors, please do not to venture into the construction area.

**KUDOS!**

Bob Snow, Director of First Year Advising and Information, will receive the university-wide award for “Excellence in Professional Advising” at this year’s Founders Day Honor Convocation (April 7). This is a significant award and Bob will receive special recognition at the ceremony.

**Student Union**

Welcome to Kim Murrah, who recently joined the SHS staff as Senior Secretary in the Appointments Department. Kim previously worked for the Main Street Physicians group in west Orlando and originally hails from Titusville.

**Health Services**

Congratulations... to Bob Faust on being selected as “Director” of Student Health Services! Bob Faust has provided an extraordinary leadership role and experience to the Health Service and Campus Life team for the past year and a half as Interim Director.

Judy Sayers and Bob Faust recently attended the Southern College Health Association Conference in Raleigh, NC, hosted by NC State University. At the session, Judy was chosen president-elect of the organization. She will assume the duties of president at next year’s conference here in Orlando, hosted by UCF!

**Save Earth**

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Greek Affairs

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) at UCF recently won several awards at the “Southeastern Interfraternity Conference” (SEIFC) in Atlanta, Ga. on February 17-21. UCF’s IFC received a Fraternal Excellence Award, Outstanding Community and University Relations (Halloween Knights and the VIP Luncheon were the focus of this award), and an Honorable Mention in the area of Membership Recruitment. Andrew Cupicha (a junior and member of Sigma Chi) presided as President of the 1999 SEIFC. This was the first time that a UCF student has been elected president of the conference board. Andrew also developed and implemented the project, Greek Role Models Advocating Community Excellence (G.R.A.C.E.). This annual project was designed to bring Greeks together in an effort to support and give back to their local communities.

Student Outreach Program

The UCF McKnight Center of Excellence has been chosen as “Community Organization of the Year” by Phi Delta Kappa. Presentation will be given at an Awards Dinner on April 23rd at the Harley Hotel in downtown Orlando.

The state-wide McKnight Centers Conference and Brain Bowl took place March 19-20 in Tampa. The Brain Bowl finals brought teams of students who have competed at the local and regional levels. The winning team received college scholarships. There are twelve McKnight Centers of Excellence in the state of Florida. McKnight achievers and their parents attended workshops and interacted with peers across the state at the conference.

The College Reach-Out Program will take a group of 32 students on a college tour to different colleges and universities in the northern part of the state. The objective is to bolster interest in schools within the state of Florida and increase the enrollment of underrepresented groups into state universities and colleges. Some of the universities and colleges to be visited are: FSU, FAMU, and several community colleges.

Registrar’s Office

There are changes in the Summer “C” 1999 academic calendar. Classes for “C” term will now end on 8/2. Grades for “C” term are due in the Registrar’s Office on 8/4 at noon. The dates for Summer “B” remain unchanged. Classes end on 8/3, and grades are due in the Registrar’s Office on 8/5 at noon.

An automated telephone system has been implemented to assist calls received by the Registrar Office main switchboard (823-3100). Callers are directed to a menu of options. Each option provides general information, including the option to stay on the line to speak to the appropriate staff member. This system will help route calls and provide statistical data for each area.

Macrina St. Helene-Raghunanan has been promoted to Admissions/Registrar Officer. Macrina joined the Registrar’s Office in April 1998 as a Program Assistant.

National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS)

On April 16, the National Consortium for Academics and Sports will be hosting the 2nd annual Florida Student-Athlete Citizenship Award Ceremony. The program, created in honor of National STUDENT-Athlete Day, will honor the top two male and female student-athletes from each high school across the state of Florida. Honored student-athletes must have a 3.0 GPA or better and must have shown a commitment to their schools or communities through outreach & community service. In addition to being recognized for their achievements, each participant will participate in a three hour long workshop from the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) Program, the NCAS’ nationally acclaimed gender violence prevention program.

Undergraduate Admissions

Following the Spring 1999 Add/Drop period, UCF had registered 29,044 students (2,441 new students) for 299,576 credit hours! When compared to Spring ‘98, these numbers reflect a 5.72% increase in head count and a 6.89% increase in credit hours.

Undergraduate Admissions has been busy hosting area receptions in cities all around the state. Admission representatives along with speakers from Student Financial Assistance and the Housing Office have been sharing the UCF message with admitted students and their parents. The response has been overwhelming and students are really looking forward to attending UCF.

“Our lives are not determined by what happens to us, but how we react to what happens, not by what life brings to us, but by the attitude we bring to life. A positive attitude causes a chain reaction of positive thoughts, events, and outcomes. It is a catalyst...a spark that creates extraordinary results.”
Margaret Bridwell, M.D., recently visited and evaluated UCF’s Student Health Services. She found the facility spotless and welcoming for the students, especially noting the newly renovated facilities as “...beautiful, complimentary of the Health Services operation in her final report.”

Dr. Bridwell pointed out the reasons an increasing number of progressive universities are seeking accreditation, including recognition by students and their parents of the ready availability of quality, low cost health care, retention of students, and the eventual requirement for such validation in the “managed care” environment. Dr. Bridwell was very complimentary of the Health Services operation in her final report, especially noting the newly renovated facilities as, “... beautiful, spotless and welcoming for the students.”

The New College Gender Gap – part 2

Male-Female Student Relationships on Campuses

Last month UKnighted reported on the dramatic increase in the number of women attending college and the resulting consequences of this phenomenon. This month UKnighted reports on the widening reality gap between male and female students on their expectations of each other.

An article in The Chronicle of Higher Education (March 5, p. B7) looks at these conflicting realities and conflicting expectations “when dreams differ.” Barbara Kerr, in The Chronicle article, notes that most female undergraduates expect to have a career after marriage. Yet many male students think they will marry women who will stay at home. How do we who work with students to help resolve such conflicts?

Kerr, a professor of Counseling Psychology at Arizona State University, has spent 20 years doing research on students and their expectations about their futures. She does an exercise called “The Perfect Future Day Fantasy.” In this fantasy, students imagine a day in their lives, 10 years in the future.

A typical college male’s fantasy goes something like this: “I wake up and get in my car—a really nice rebuilt ‘67 Mustang—and then I go to work—I think I’m some kind of manager of a computer firm—and then I go home, and when I get there, my wife is there at the door (she has a really nice figure), she has a drink for me, and she’s made a great meal. We watch TV or maybe play with the kids.” Kerr’s typical college female fantasy example is: “I wake up, and my husband and I get in our twin Jettas, and I go to the law firm where I work. Then after work, I go home, and he’s pulling up in the driveway at the same time. We go in and have a glass of wine, and we make an omelet together and eat by candlelight. Then the nanny brings the children in, and we play with them until bedtime.”

As the example above indicates, a sizeable number of male students still believe, even though they profess equitability, that the woman’s place is in the home, not in the workplace. On the other hand, the female student fantasy shows complete equivalency in the male-female relationship.

Other disturbing trends noted by Kerr are the disengagement of young men from leadership positions in organizations dominated by women, and men’s apparent flight from college majors once dominated by males that now attract large numbers of women. As pointed out last month, college majors are showing some major gender shifts. Kerr says, “Biology is becoming a female ghetto, as undergraduate women pour into the one natural science that they perceive as friendly to them.” Since 1990, prelaw classes have also shifted from predominately male to a female majority. Alexander Astin’s study of trends from 1966 to 1996 published in The Review of Higher Education in 1998 shows that when women’s interest in a scholarly field grows, men’s interest in that field declines. Additionally, on college campuses, women are surging into leadership positions in student government, college newspapers, and social service organizations. What often happens is that males simply begin to drop out of these organizations when the proportion of females to males becomes high. Thus, it appears that as females broaden their choices, males seem to be narrowing theirs. To stop this trend it appears that college-age men will have to recast their definition of masculinity so that they are less threatened by association with women.

Kerr concludes, “We enter the new millennium with young women and men in an uncomfortable dance of courtship for which the rules are sadly inadequate, and no new rules exist yet.” We as educators, although reluctant, must help students (and each other) adjust to new relationship roles and their accompanying difficulties.