

Student Development and Enrollment Services

<http://sdes.ucf.edu>



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

Volume 4, No. 5

November 2001

Academic Village Opens on Schedule

Construction began on phase I of the Academic Villages on July 13, 2000. The contractor's completion dates for the residence halls were August 12, 2001 and September 15, 2001 for the first two apartment buildings. On August 1, a lot of work remained to be completed. University officials discussed the pros and cons of proceeding with moving students in on August 18 or making temporary housing arrangements. The decision was made to occupy the buildings, as planned, on August 18.

It took cooperation from all to get the buildings ready for students in time for the fall semester. The contractor who had been working six days a week for many months ran double shifts during the month of August. The furnishings and equipment vendors also worked late at night. Christi Hartzler, director of Residence Life, says "The week before check-in, the buildings still looked pretty rough. I walked the buildings each day during that week. There was a flurry of activity with a multitude of trades working at the same time. There was so much progress; it was like seeing time-lapse photography before my eyes. At midnight, just 11 hours before students were scheduled to move-in, the furniture installation was just being completed, painters were still painting and cleaners were still cleaning." Physical Plant and Campus Life staffs provided much needed assistance in final building preparations.



Academic Village I opens to fall 2001 students

Hartzler says, "It was a great experience to have everyone pull together to accomplish something so challenging. By check-in time, all was completed and most everything was in place. It was truly amazing."

Academic Village I has double occupancy suites and apartment-style singles. Each student is assigned a desk, chair, extra long twin Jr. loft bed, chest of drawers and multi-use cube (bookshelf). Additionally, apartments are furnished with a dining table and chairs, love seat, and two living room chairs. All rooms have Internet, cable TV and telephone.

Students moved in and were settled in time to attend the convocation. "At check-in, students were surprised with the new residence halls. I heard one say that the Academic Village I was like a theme park. At that point, I felt like we

had achieved what we started out to achieve. When phase II and the Recreational Services Building are completed, we will have a truly outstanding and attractive housing and recreational facilities for our students," says Hartzler.



Students moved in and settled in time to attend the convocation on August 18

Academic Village I Facts

- 800 total beds
 - 800 students
 - 15 resident assistants
 - 2 graduate assistants
- 348 are apartment-style singles
- 452 are double occupancy suites.
- 80 percent of campus beds reserved for freshmen
- Students commit to an academic year contract – fall and spring
- Academic Village II will be identical.



People in the News...

Welcome Aboard New SDES Employees

- **Cheryll Kinlaw**, office manager, Student Government
- **Catherine Sierra**, coordinator, Career Development Services, Career Resource Center
- **Jill Weems**, coordinator, Career Development Services, Career Resource Center

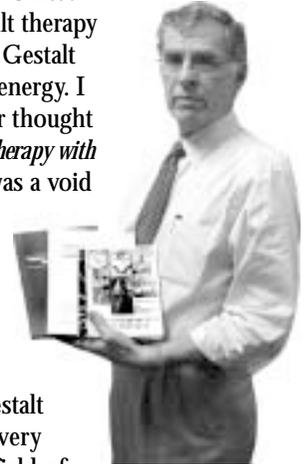
Kudos to...

- **Student Academic Resource Center (SARC)** – **Dennis Congos**, Supplemental Instruction coordinator and Learning Skills advisor has published his tenth article on Supplemental Instruction. The article, “20 FAQ’s from Faculty about Supplemental Instruction,” was published in *The Journal of Research & Teaching in Developmental Education*.
- **LEAD Scholars Program** – **Linda Shutley**, administrative assistant, was recognized as the UCF Employee of the Month. She has been with the program since 1997 and has taken on several additional responsibilities due to staff changes including coordinating the assistantship program, coordinating the LEAD Scholars’ Web site and many other projects.
- **Student Conduct** – **Kelly Imbert**, coordinator, attended the Florida Jaycees Second Semester Conference. The Jaycees is a leadership and civic organization for persons ages 21-39. Imbert currently holds the position of Management Vice President of the Orlando chapter. She was honored with two awards at the conference. One award was for outstanding Local Management Vice President of the Semester in the State of Florida. Imbert also won first place in the state for the C. William Brownfield Award. This award is an honor for first-year Jaycee members, recognizing the spirit and enthusiasm of first year members.
- **Greek Affairs** – **Joshua Martin**, graduate assistant has been selected to serve on the 2001 Graduate Staff for the Association of Fraternity Advisors (AFA)/North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) Annual Meeting held November 28 – December 2 in Washington, D.C. Martin was selected as one of eight students to assist the AFA Conference Committee and Executive Board plan and execute the annual meeting. The selection committee, which consisted of campus Fraternity/Sorority Advisors and Association leadership, was impressed with his academic performance, future career aspirations and practical work experience. In addition, Martin’s references spoke very highly of his personal dedication to the field of higher education, professionalism and overall character.

Robert Harman’s Book Gains International Attention

Gestalt Therapy with the Masters, a 188-page book written by director of Counseling and Testing Center, Robert Harman, has been recently published in German by Charles C. Thomas Publishers. The first version of the book was published in the United States in 1990 and later in Italy and France. Harman says, “Gestalt is a form of psychotherapy that focuses on present behavior – what you are doing now and how you are doing it.” The question of “why” is of the past and less important. The book contains a series of seven interviews with prominent Gestalt therapists in the United States. Harman’s passion for Gestalt therapy began in 1971 when he attended a Gestalt therapy workshop. “It was full of energy. I connected to people in a way never thought possible.” Harman said, “*Gestalt Therapy with the Masters* evolved because there was a void of Gestalt therapy theory. I interviewed the masters so they could discuss how their theory influenced their practice.”

Harman has been an active author since 1974. He has written articles, journals and books on Gestalt theory and techniques. Harman is very well-known internationally in the field of Gestalt.



Academic Village Safety Week

Academic Village’s first annual Safety Week was September 17-24. Throughout the week, the Residence Life staff compiled and disseminated daily campaigns, appropriately titled, “Your Morning Wake-Up Call,” covering topics from theft to fire safety.

Residents were reminded about housing policies, such as not propping doors open, as well as university services such as the Student Escort Patrol Service. On September 18, the Resident Assistant staff facilitated “Blitzkrieg,” a program in which the staff goes door-to-door and addresses students who left their room doors unlocked. Victim Services partnered with the AV Residence Life Staff to include information about sexual assault. The Community Oriented Policing Unit partnered with the Academic Village Residence Life staff to implement Operation ID, a voluntary engraving program in which students were able to get valuable personal items engraved with their driver’s license number.

Many students took part in this program and the response from residents has been positive.

The UCF Creed

Integrity, scholarship, community and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance and decisions.

INTEGRITY

I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.

SCHOLARSHIP

I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.

COMMUNITY

I will respect the rights of others and will value the unique contributions of every individual to promote an open and supportive campus environment.

EXCELLENCE

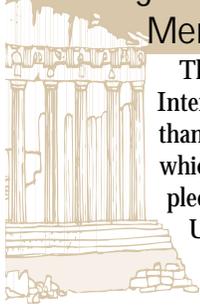
I will strive toward the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.





Points of Pride...

Largest Fraternity and Sorority Membership in UCF History



The UCF Panhellenic Council and Interfraternity Council pledged more students than ever before. Panhellenic recruitment, which took place in August, had 526 women pledge nine sororities, the largest number in UCF history. Greg Mason, director of Greek Affairs cites better retention rates and more choices with the addition of

Kappa Alpha Theta as plausible reasons for such high numbers. The average sorority chapter size is 161, with some chapters over 190 members strong.

Fraternity recruitment, which took place in September, had an increase in numbers with 511 male pledges, a 17 percent increase over last year.

With 74 members in the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC), and 28 members in two Latin/Hispanic sororities, the total membership of UCF's 35 fraternity and sorority chapters has reached just over 2,900 students. This is up from 2,560 last year for a 13 percent increase.

Transfer Services Builds Relationships with Community Colleges

The Office of Transfer Services continues to cultivate strong working relationships with a community colleges by hosting two workshops in October. Articulation Workshop, co-sponsored with Academic Affairs, brought together UCF and community college faculty and administrators. The second was the annual UCF Community College Counselor Workshop.

At the Articulation Workshop, 26 deans, chairs and faculty from the science, engineering and mathematics disciplines at the six regional community colleges shared lunch with 19 of their UCF counterparts. Discussions by discipline included issues of student preparedness: course content, level and sequencing, program articulation and curricular changes. A survey of participants indicated the discussions were useful. Mark Poisel, director of Transfer Services said "We are planning to have these meetings once a semester."

The UCF Community College Counselor Workshop provided highlights and updates from UCF colleges, schools and academic departments. John Schell, assistant vice president for Academic Affairs, opened the program with an overview of university changes, progress and plans. Bill Wetherell, UCF Daytona, and Cecelia Rivers, assistant vice president for UCF Downtown and South Orlando, discussed plans for the regional campuses and sites. Poisel presided over an open forum and a panel of UCF students discussed their transfer experiences. Ninety-nine advisors and counselors from 16 Florida public community colleges attended; UCF was represented by 45 faculty, staff and six students.

Registrar's Office Live in PeopleSoft

All UCF Student Records (SR) from 1968 to summer 1999 have been converted successfully into Higher Education Production (HEPROD) by the Registrar's Office. This implementation was a team effort, involving members of the Registrar's Office, Computer Services, several academic departments and area campuses.

"Paige Borden, SR team lead, and all the Computer Services team working on this are really to be commended for their perseverance and efforts in keeping the conversion on track and on schedule for this stage of the Oct 31 SR Go-live!" said Sullivan, associate university registrar.

For more information, visit: www.ucf.edu/training

Student Financial Assistance Moves Forward in PeopleSoft

The Office of Student Financial Assistance's (SFA) PeopleSoft team continue to make strides of awarding students financial aid for the academic year of 2002-2003. This starts with loading applicant data successfully and accurately, a process which will begin January 2002. Victor LaPorte, the functional team lead, Michele Piccari, the technical lead and Mike Goodwin, the PeopleSoft consultant, are guiding the way to accomplish this goal.

SFA is in the process of loading data, building budgets and packaging awards in the test year of 2001-2002. Trailer 610 is the allocated space for SFA's staff to test processes and do extensive set ups in PeopleSoft. "While our PeopleSoft team is at a remote location, that has not slowed their progress. They have been working routinely with other office staff to ensure that setup and testing are accomplished by our 2002 target," says Janice Contino, associate director.

All SFA staff members, with the exception of student assistants, have received PS 1000 basic training and are anxious to learn how to serve our students with the new PeopleSoft process.





What is “Spirit Splash”?

The Friday before the Homecoming game is always reserved for a pep rally at UCF’s Reflecting Pond, where students descend into the pond to demonstrate their school spirit. Knightro, the band, cheerleaders, athletes and dancers come out to help boost spirit. Free T-shirts are tossed to the participants in the pond.

Beth Barnes, chief of staff in the President’s Office, recalls how it all began: “It happened spontaneously. About eight years ago, one student got in the fountain during the pep rally, then another, then another. The following year, many more did, and it seemed like a great tradition to have.”

“The Splash has grown every year since, and now it’s the coolest tradition in the state,” says Amy Barnickel, executive assistant to the President. Last year, UCF’s Spirit Splash received *Florida Leader Magazine’s* award for best college or university tradition in Florida.

(www.floridaleader.com/best2000_6.htm)

This year, artwork was painted on the fountain protectors adding an additional element of style to the tradition of Spirit Splash.

Go UCF Knights!



CLAST Math Review Session a Success

College Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST) exam was held on October 7. The Student Academic Resource Center provided a free Math CLAST review session on October 6 to aid students in preparation for the test. Thirty-two students attended the three-hour session, which was facilitated by Charles Favreau. In addition to these review sessions, SARC offers CLAST workshops every semester. The next CLAST exam will be administered on February 16 and the registration deadline is January 18. For more information on the CLAST exam or preparation, please contact SARC at (407) 823-5130.

New Faculty Tool to Ensure Students’ Creativity and Honesty

Faculty have an option to use a tool called “turnitin.com,” software that detects plagiarism. It is used by educators to maintain academic integrity in the classroom. Students are given, along with their syllabus, information regarding the software usage and a list of actions that could be taken if they are caught cheating or plagiarizing.

Faculty instruct students to submit their papers at the Web site: www.turnitin.com. Once a paper is processed, a report becomes available to the professor. Among the report findings are: students identification, word count, an amount of documents found that contain similar or exact passages checked against the turnitin.com’s database and the Internet. Those passages are highlighted in colors with corresponding links where the information could be found and referenced for possible plagiarism.

Internet sites such as cheatouse.com or schoolsucks.com offer essays and term papers with the bibliography for a price. These papers can be delivered by e-mail, fax or FedEx. Many of these sites state that they provide model papers to aid students and they are not to be copied without citing the author. Many students enter the sites with intentions to cheat and copy the papers; therefore, committing plagiarism.

How is cheating detrimental to students? Patti MacKown, director of Student Rights and Responsibilities, says, “Students do not practice their writing skills, use their own creative skills or develop critical thinking skills. Most important, students develop unethical habits and demonstrate disrespect for the educational process.” Students who do their own work feel ripped off and start to disrespect the system.

Usage of turnitin.com has many positive aspects such as faculty helping students with proper citing. MacKown says, “Students realize they can no longer ‘borrow intellectual materials’ without being caught. They will do their own work and as a result, educational quality, student morals and ethics will improve. The primary goal is prevention. By getting the word out that UCF is using the system, plagiarism will stop.”

The software and licensing was purchased by the vice president of SDES, Tom Huddleston, but is handled through the Office of Student Conduct. If a faculty member finds a student guilty of plagiarism, he/she may choose to deal directly with the student or can choose disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

Addition to October Issue

Helping the UCF Community Cope with America’s Tragedy

During the week of the September 11th crisis, many denominations were on campus talking with students and participating in UCF and SDES events including the Muslim Students Association who held a meeting on September 14th to answer questions on the Islamic culture.

Submit your December newsletter articles to jpardo@mail.ucf.edu by November 15th. *Thank you.*

UKnighted Articles

