



## People in the News...

### Welcome Aboard New SDES Employees

- **David Albert**, maintenance specialist, Student Union
- **Ana Bondi**, program assistant, Undergraduate Admissions
- **Jane Brookhouse**, marketing specialist, Career Resource Center
- **Frances Echevarria**, coordinator, Academic Support Services, Multicultural Academic and Support Services
- **Bliss Thompson**, assistant director, Student Affairs, International Student and Scholar Services. Thompson comes to UCF from Valencia Community College where she worked eight years as an academic and immigration advisor for international students.



Bliss Thompson

### Kudos to...

**Dennis Congos**, Supplemental Instruction coordinator in the Student Academic Resource Center, coauthored an article with David Bain of Pfeiffer College, Charlotte, North Carolina. The article, "A Board Work and Note Formatting Model for Learning Mathematics Coursework Using Writing," was published in the December issue of 'The Learning Center Newsletter.' The article is available at: [www.attendance-tracking.com/Newsletter/Dec01.htm](http://www.attendance-tracking.com/Newsletter/Dec01.htm)

### Greek News

**Joshua Martin**, graduate assistant, Greek Affairs, and **Stephanie Arsht**, graduate assistant, Volunteer UCF, were two recipients of the William J. Brennan Graduate Assistant Fellowships from the Order of Omega in Washington D.C. UCF was the only school to have more than one recipient. Currently, Martin is not only a graduate assistant for Greek Affairs at UCF but Hall Director at Rollins College. In addition, he is also the Key Facilitator for Delta Upsilon's Recruitment Symposium and PUSH Program, to be held in January in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Arsht is a graduate student in the Student Personnel in Higher Education program at UCF. She expects to receive her master's degree in August. Her future plans include working at a university and earning a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership. In addition to her duties assisting Volunteer UCF, Arsht will be working on course work/practicum in Greek Affairs.

The National Order of Omega is a leadership honor society for members of fraternities and sororities. Since 1985, the organization has awarded \$273,400 in undergraduate scholarships and \$56,750 in graduate fellowships.

### Self Discovery Knights

Student Outreach Series sponsored by the Counseling and Testing Center explores a variety of student development concerns and self-improvement topics. Presentations are free to UCF students, faculty and staff and are held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Pegasus Ballroom H.

- **Building Heathy Relationships – January 28**
- **Time Management – February 4**

For more information, contact Rich McLaughlin at 823.2811 or check the Web site: <http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~counstst>.

## Paul McQuilkin Retires

*In keeping with his nature and reputation for not wanting any fanfare, Dr. Paul McQuilkin quietly left in late November to begin his retirement from SDES and UCF.*



Paul began his career with UCF 31 years ago when he left De Pauw University to become Dean of Men, with Student Affairs from 1971 until 1980. As Dean of Men, he supervised the University Housing Program and developed the Office of Veterans Affairs, Office of Veterans Certification and the Office of International Student Services.

From 1980–1985, he served as associate dean, Undergraduate Studies. He assisted the dean of Undergraduate Studies in the establishment of this new unit. During this time, he assisted in creating Athletic Advising, the Student Academic Resource Center and an outreach program for minority high school students. He also developed and administered a summer program for high school gifted students in engineering and computer science.

Craig Ullom, Associate Vice President, Campus Life had this to say: "Paul will be deeply missed by the campus life staff. He had the exceptional ability to work with others to find solutions to challenging and complex problems and opportunities. Paul is a trusted colleague, friend, and confidant whose integrity and genuine caring is seldom equaled. His extensive involvement with students throughout his career has indeed made a positive difference in our world."

In November of 1985, he became responsible for the coordination of the \$5.6 million budget and personnel for Undergraduate Studies. In October 1993, Paul began his role with Enrollment and Academic Services as associate dean responsible for the development and coordination of a \$12.5 million budget and personnel initiatives.

With the merger of Student Affairs and Enrollment and Academic Services, he served as assistant vice president, Administrative Affairs. His challenges grew to a \$30 million E&G budget and personnel coordination of over 580 full time personnel.

"Paul McQuilkin contributed many good things during his very successful period at UCF. His work with students and staff were very important," says Dr. Huddleston, Vice President, Student Development and Enrollment Services. His quiet presence and sense of fairness will be missed.

### Multicultural Student Center

The Multicultural Student Center will be located in the Student Union, room 305. This was a major accomplishment for Student Government and the entire student body. For more than a decade, minority students advocated for a cultural center on campus indicative of the diversity and strength of the entire student body. Student Government administration and President Peña set this objective as their highest priority.

The center was established by forming partnerships in the university community including the largest cultural organizations such as the International Student Association, the African-American Student Union, the Hispanic American Student Association and the Caribbean Student Association. Student Government also utilized existing campuswide boards and committees including the Campus Life Facilities Board to review the proposed mission and operations of the facility to ensure the needs of the student body would be met. All efforts were successful.

Please submit your February UKnighted newsletter articles to [jpardo@mail.ucf.edu](mailto:jpardo@mail.ucf.edu) by January 15th. Thank you.

UKnighted Articles

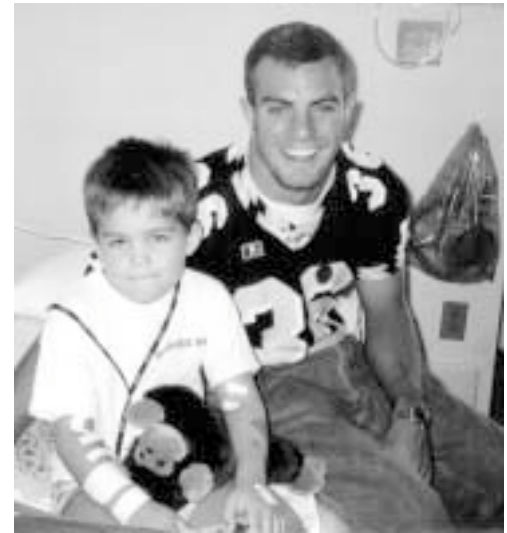
## KNIGHTS OUT ...in the Community

The National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS) initiate community outreach programs, such as visiting the children at Florida Children's Hospital and the student-athletes bring them to life. The athletes not only perform extremely well on the playing field and in the classroom, but also use their talents to make a difference in the lives of children by offering their love and friendship and serving as mentors and leaders in the Orlando community.

"This has been a record year so far," said Suzi Katz, director of NCAS. "More student-athletes have been involved this year volunteering for multiple projects and

initiating their own projects. Student-athletes are not required to volunteer their time, but want to take time out of their busy schedules to make these children smile. The coaches encourage their athletes to participate and many of the teams at UCF work as a whole on outreach events."

Jimmy Johnson, a member of UCF's football team says, "Anytime you're given a chance to help someone in need, even if it's the simplest thing like signing posters, it offers each of us (student-athletes) an opportunity to put our situation as athletes into perspective." This program not only helps the children at the hospital, but it also helps the athletes to understand the power of their presence, friendship and leadership role.



Jimmy Johnson, UCF student-athlete, visits children in hospital

## Academic Advising Council Creates Resources

UCF's Academic Advising Council is a collaborative effort among the colleges, schools and SDES to provide leadership for academic advising at UCF. The council has been busy this past semester creating resources to assist advisors in working with students.

At the start of the fall semester, a monthly advisor enhancement program was implemented. Each month the council sponsored different topics of interest to provide advisors with the latest information about UCF programs, policies and procedures. Some of the topics included admissions procedures, degree audits, communication skills, AEP's EXCITED program, advising athletes, student disability services and probation.

In addition, the council created a Web site just for UCF advisors. The Web site serves as an advising resource, with information such as a listing of advisors in the respective colleges and SDES, current news, a link to important university forms, and an on-line version of the newly created advising handbook, which will be distributed at the start of the spring term. These resources will provide advisors with valuable information when working with students.

Finally, the council has a new chair and secretary for 2001-2002. Judy Sindlinger, director of the Office of Student Support for the College of Health and Public Affairs was elected chair for this year and will serve a one-year term. Mark Poisel, director of Transfer Services, will serve a one-year term as secretary and then assume the role of chair in the following year.

## LEADERSHIP WEEK 2002

*University of Central Florida  
Leadership Award  
"Chart YOUR Journey,  
Set Sail and Explore"*

LEADERSHIP WEEK 2002, a collaborative effort among various organizations on campus to recognize leadership at UCF, will be held February 16-23. During this week of leadership, service and recognition, numerous workshops and events are provided for students, faculty and staff.

The "LEADERSHIP WEEK 2002" committee is accepting applications from faculty, A&P, USPS and students for the UCF Leadership Awards. If you are interested in nominating an individual(s) in the UCF community, visit "The LEADERSHIP WEEK 2002" Web site at: [reach.ucf.edu/%7Elead/Pages/LEADPrograms.htm](http://reach.ucf.edu/%7Elead/Pages/LEADPrograms.htm). Award applications, desired criteria and requirements are also available at this site.

Applications for LEADERSHIP WEEK 2002 Awards are due by 5 p.m. on January 31 in the Student Union, room 208. The Awards Reception will be held on February 21 in the Pegasus Ballroom from 2-4 p.m. For more information, contact Micki Pannozzo, LEAD Scholars Program, 823.3949.



## Greek Student Success (GSS)

First Year Advising and Information Services, a unit of Academic Support and Advising Programs, and the Office of Greek Affairs, Student Leadership Programs, partnered to develop a program to provide academic support for new Greek members to enhance academic performance and increase retention.

The objective of GSS is to provide intensive personal and proactive academic advising, support services and student success strategies (time management, note taking, test taking skills) to new freshmen who are members of UCF Greek organizations. The program was promoted to prospective fraternity and sorority members entering UCF in fall 2000; 168 students participated.

The desired outcomes for this targeted freshmen population was an improvement in the fall semester grade point averages, a reduction in the numbers "placed on academic probation," and an improvement in retention of these students.

The result for the fall 2000 was an increased GPA of .42 for those participating in GSS program compared to Greek organization new member non-participants. The retention rate for fall 2000 to spring 2001 for GSS participants was 92.7 %, the GSS non-participants had a retention rate of 88.9%

The Pan-Hellenic and Interfraternity Council (IFC) provided funds to support this program. The GSS program was continued in the fall 2001 semester with proactive academic success and life skills support programs for 178 freshmen Greek organization participants.

