UCF Hosts State Workshop on Intramural Sports

Recruitment professionals and students from University of West Florida (UWF), University of Florida, University of Miami, Florida International University, University of Tampa and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University attended the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) State Workshop, hosted by UCF in the Student Union.

The event kicked-off with Joe Macelloni, Student Body vice president, and Paul Ullum, associate vice president, Campus Life, welcoming NIRSA members to UCF and defining the role Intramural Sports and the recreational facilities play on the UCF campus. Informational sessions were offered, such as Diversity in Recreational Sports, Fitness Programming on campus and Innovative Co-curricular Programs and Career Development for Students.

A post-workshop flag football officiating clinic was hosted by UCF Intramural Sports with 22 students from other schools attending. Participants were involved in a rules clinic taught by instructors from UCF and UWF and received on-field evaluations.

Program Challenges Students to Discuss Controversial Issues

The Housing and Residence Life Office has established a programming series called Expanding Our Comfort Zones (EOC Zones). The series challenges residents to go outside of their comfort zones and think in new ways by discussing controversial issues with speakers in an open and frank manner. The EOC Zones schedule as follows: 11/5: Affirmative Action/Debaters and the US Supreme Court – Lake Claire Community Center @ 7:30 p.m.; 11/15: Where is the Line on University Campuses – Hercules Community Center (7 p.m.).

Issues that have been raised in the past include racial profiling, women’s rights in the workplace and reparations for slavery. As Henry David Thoreau (1854) said, “It is never too late to give up our prejudices. For more information, contact Vivian Ortiz at 852-7001 or e-mail vortiz@mail.ucf.edu.

UCF Recognized at National Conference

UCF and SDS were well represented at the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Conference in Dallas. NACADA has over 6,000 members and serves as the leading professional organization for academic advisors.

At the conference, UCF was awarded the 2003 Electronic Publication Certificate of Merit for the Academic Advising Council Web site; ucacdc.us; which was accepted by Mark Allen Posel, assistant vice president, First Year Transitions. This award recognizes the highest quality electronic advising materials currently in use by NACADA members. UCF staff made the following presentations:

• Advising for Underserved Transfer Students – by Charlene Smirad, Transfer Services;

• Challenges Facing Student Athletes Entering Division I Institutions – by Michele Stanos, Athletic Advising for Student Athletes (a commission-sponsored session);

• Creating a University Advising Council – by Judy Stindlinger, COHPA, and Tina Stuflke, College of Education (a commission-sponsored session).

A discussion session, Probation Advising and Beyond: Integrating Test Scores in Advising for Probation Students, was led by DeLane Piteau and Edwanna Andrews, Student Academic Resource Center, University of West Florida.

KAOS to the SDSI students who participated and the SARC staff at the national top academic advising professional association conference.

LINK: Learning and Interacting with New Knights

Maribeth Elhan, associate vice president, Academic Development and Retention: thanks the tutors and Supplemental Instruction leaders for their help and support to SARC.

SARC Celebrates 15 Years of Excellence

“It was 15 years ago that Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) first opened its doors to welcome students into a supportive academic learning environment,” says DeLane Price, SARC director. “It is because of the support of UCF students and community that we are able to continue to offer outstanding services.”

The award-winning center celebrates 15 years of helping students to reach their academic goals through their services and programs. SARC began as a pioneering effort to offer UCF students and the community a relaxed and safe environment to receive academic support services. Over the years, the staff worked diligently to expand its services for students and the community. Their efforts have received national recognition for its successes.

The founding director of SARC, Mary Helen Callahan, had a student-oriented philosophy and developed innovative student programs and services, such as the tutoring program, academic workshops and the nationally recognized Pegasus Success Program implemented in 1999. SARC’s nationally recognized Pegasus Success Program gained national attention by receiving the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Exemplary Student Program Award in 1999, a recognition as an outstanding model program for other institutions.

In March 2001, SARC joined the Student Success Center in Howard Phillips Hall, a centralized and spacious location on campus. Students and the UCF community became increasingly aware of the various services offered, including the Pegasus Success Program, the College Achievement Program, Supplemental Instruction (SD), workshops and learning support. SARC’s tutoring program received international certification through the College Reading and Learning Association. The office continued to receive recognition.

The Pegasus Success Program was selected as one of five premier advising programs in the nation by the National Academic Advising Association in 2002. Student requests continued to grow and SARC again expanded its services.

In fall 2002, SARC and the University Testing Center (UTC), formerly part of the testing component of the Counseling Center, joined to provide a comprehensive testing and academic support service to UCF students and the metropolitan community. SARC and UTC are dedicated to helping students achieve academic excellence through a myriad of quality resources with a "one-stop shop" approach by integrating testing and learning support services.

Students who visit SARC and UTC can take advantage not only of SARC’s academic advising and other services, but also a variety of testing services, including the College Placement Test (CPT), Florida Teacher Certification Exam (FTCE) and College Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST).

Since joining SARC, UTC has expanded its services to include an updated Computer-Adaptive Testing (CAT) Lab with a 30-seat capacity. The CAT Lab also offers two testing workstations specifically for those who require special accommodations.

Along with SARC’s growth, came more accomplishments. The Supplemental Instruction (SI) program was introduced as a “best practice” retention program by the State of Florida’s Department of Education. During the 2002-2003 academic year, the UCF Office of students who visited the SARC lab increased by 29 percent from the previous year (17,727).

The SI program facilitated 33 sections, an increase of 41 percent over the previous year, and testing services were provided to 5,012 Bright Future Scholarship recipients. SARC kicked-off its celebration October 6-12 with National Tutoring Week. SARC honored the dedication, loyalty and hard work of its tutors and SI leaders by coordinating a weekend series of festivities, which included a resume workshop, a certificate of appreciation for each tutor and SI leader. Thank you notes from students, who received tutoring services, were given to tutors in appreciation for their help. The week concluded with a luncheon with Maribeth Elhan, associate vice president of Academic Development and Retention, congratulating the tutors and SI Leaders and encouraging them to continue with their enthusiasm, commitment and dedication.

SARC’s 15 Years of Excellence celebration will run from October 6 to April. A schedule of activities is available at Web site www.sarc.ucf.edu.

Freshmen to Pay Admissions Deposit

Beginning with the summer 2003 freshman class, all First Time In College (FTIC) freshmen will be required to pay a $500 nonrefundable admissions enrollment deposit. This $200 deposit will secure a student’s place at the university and will give UCF a sense of the new incoming class much earlier in the admissions process. At this time, the deposit is only required for freshmen students and the $200 will go toward the student’s first semester tuition. Deadline for the deposit is: May 1 for all summer and fall freshmen, and December 1 for all spring freshmen. Students may be able to request a reduction or a waiver based on financial eligibility. All FTIC students will receive information about the deposit from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions once they have been offered admission to UCF.

Student Assistant Designs Posters for UCF

Jori Wright, student assistant for Transfer Services, has been involved in designing a display board and poster for UCF.

Wright was recently appointed by Dean John Schell, Undergraduate Studies, to design the display board for “Connecting the UCF Campus to the Community” – celebrating UCF’s 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, the landmark Supreme Court desegregation decision. As a result of his work for Undergraduate Studies, Wright was selected by the Office of Diversity Initiatives to design this year’s Diversity Week poster. The poster uses road signs to illustrate the journey from segregation through integration to inclusion, the theme of this year’s diversity week. Wright’s contribution to the UCF celebration of diversity initiatives was acknowledged at the Diversity Week breakfast. One thousand posters have been distributed among the UCF campus community.

A senior in the Digital Media program, Wright was a transfer from Broward Community College, and this work was for Mark Allen Posel, assistant vice president for First Year Transitions, for more than a year.

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Please submit your December 2003 Untangled newsletter article to josie@ufl.edu by November 25.

Welcome Aboard New SDES Employees

- Rocío Alfonso, counselor worker, Recreation and Wellness Center
- Bohana Aranda, program assistant, Housing and Residence Life
- Vanessa Augustin, office assistant, First-Year Experience and Transitions
- Angela Brutton, office manager, Administrative Support Services
- Fernando Toro, counselor worker, Student Union

SDES Staff Give Presentations at Annual Conference

Several professional staff of the Counseling Center made presentations at the annual Southeastern College Counseling Center Personnel Conference (SCCCP) at Jekyll Island, Georgia on October 15-17. The presentations were as follows:

- Toned of Oppression: A Counseling Center's Role in a University Wide Diversity Program by Carmen Crow-Graham, Rich McLaughlin, and Housing and Residence Life staff member Virtan Ortiz
- Assessing and Understanding: Administrative How-To's and Challenges to Starting a GLBT Ally Program at a University – by Karen Holmwood and Andrew Blair
- Creative Counseling Center Partnerships – by Crow-Graham, Megan Greene and Yalesa Wilson

Robert Hamran, director, and Larry Marks, psychologist, also attended the conference.

The UCF Creed

Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, personal and professional.

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 promote an open and supportive campus environment by respecting the rights and contributions of every individual.

CREATIVITY
I will use my talents to enrich the human experience.

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

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Tapping into the Mind, Body and Soul

The programming series, Mind, Body and Soul, has been taking place every Thursday night from 7-8 p.m. at the Lake Claire Community Center. Lake Claire residents enjoy refreshments and indulge in pleasant overall conversations with neighbors from campus and the Orlando area. The schedule is as follows:

- 11/13: Race Relations – by Jeff Kaplan, professor, College of Education leads a discussion on race relations and Brown v. Board of Education; afterwards, the movie American History will be shown.
- 11/20: Work it with Mr. Pulis – a group fitness instructor from the Recreation and Wellness Center will lead a class to tone those “ABZ, Bunz and Thighs;”
- 11/27: Meditation – by a Wellness Center representative.

For more information, contact Graham Quick at 407.882.9002 or gquick@ucf.edu.

UCF Meet with Off-Campus Community Managers

Jimmie Watson, assistant vice president and director, Off-Campus Student Services, and staff met with local apartment community managers at the annual fall meeting on October 16. Some items discussed were the office name change from Off-Campus Student Resource Center to Off-Campus Student Services, lease terminations, roommate matching, handling of complaints and outreach participation. Special guest, Rebecca Morales, LINK coordinator, presented a PowerPoint slide show to managers introducing the LINK program. Morales asked the managers to help market the LINK program to the student residents and allow coordinated LINK educational programs to be presented in their communities.

“Sharing information for the betterment of UCF students living in the off-campus apartments were the order of the meeting,” said Watson.

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Several professional staff of the Counseling Center made presentations at the annual Southeastern College Counseling Center Personnel Conference on October 15 at the University of South Florida. Pauluc gave a presentation on saving money and fund-raising in residence life. Greggs and Quick spoke about the Resident Assistant selection process, and Varner and Shade gave a presentation on advising hall councils.

Check out SDES Employee Spotlight

www.sdes.ucf.edu

Click to Staff News and Information, then SDES Employee Spotlight.
People in the News...

Janell Kownslar Honored as UCF Employee of the Month

Kudos to Janell Kownslar, administrative assistant, Greek Affairs, winner of the October USPS Employee of the Month. Kownslar is described by her co-workers as fun, outgoing, dependable and conscientious. She is known for her outstanding hard work, dedication and involvement in the “Hib” philosophy (creating staff incentives and motivation).

“Janell works extremely hard, does a lot for students, staff and the university, and is very deserving of this recognition,” said Greg Mason, director for Greek Affairs.

UCF Represented at the NASPA Drive-In

Housing and Residence Life assistant director Joe Paulick, area coordinators Graham Quirk, T.J. Greggs, Sarah Weaver and Stefanie Rivero, and graduate assistants Megan Varner and Jennifer Shade attended the National Association for Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Drive-In Conference on October 5 at the University of South Florida. Paulick gave a presentation on saving money and fund-raising in residence life. Greggs and Quirk spoke about the Resident Assistant selection process, and Varner and Shade gave a presentation on advising halls council.

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Student Union Exhibition Displays Student Art

The Student Union (SU) became a gallery on October 9. The Open Circle Art Exhibition features student art selected by a panel of staff, faculty and students. Each semester, submissions are open to all UCF students. The inaugural 2003 show features painting, photography, drawing, and sculpture with themes ranging from war and drones to the environment and gender roles.

“The Student Union is the perfect venue for the exhibition – it’s a student space and should reflect the creativity of the community,” says UCF student and SU employee Matthew Pardon.

The SU will accept submissions early next semester for the upcoming show. For more information, contact Pardon at 407.823.3677 or mpardon@mail.ucf.edu.

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