Student-Athletes Awareness

UCF’s freshmen and sophomore student-athletes participated in a gender violence prevention and education program, Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP). The student-athletes were separated into groups of male and female to participate in awareness training sessions that dealt with real-life school and social scenarios.

Participants discussed options for intervention in situations ranging from sexist comments overhead in the locker room to an attempted rape involving alcohol. Staff and coaches were not allowed in the training so that student-athletes could share their views and experiences with their peers.

“I received positive feedback the day after the program,” says Kizzy Boldt, academic advisor for Academic Services for Student-Athletes (ASSA). “Many of the student-athletes who they could have spoken about the topic all night. They learned a lot about the issues of gender violence, rape, battering and bull harassment.”

Approximately 160 student-athletes participated in the nationally acclaimed MVP Program, which was sponsored by the National Consortium for Academics and Sports (NCAS) and Academic Services for Student Athletes (ASSA) as part of the NCAA CHAMPS/Life Skills program. To learn more about the MVP program, visit: www.ncaasports.org.

Target Presents Gift to Career Resource Center

On November 10, the retail store Target presented the Career Resource Center (CRC) with a $2,000 contribution in recognition of the CRC’s commitment to excellence in education, and the strong partnership it has developed with the Target Corporation. This partnership includes Target’s participation in UCF career fairs, information sessions and on-campus recruiting. Target provided 87 freshmen and graduates for full-time, part-time and internship opportunities.

Karen Kitter, Target Store Team Leader, Melanie Pinker, director of the Career Resource Center and Maribeth Ehse, associate director of Academic Development and Retention, participated in the check presentation ceremony which was held at the CRC.

Nationally, Target is a recognized corporate leader in contributing time and funds to educational initiatives, charitable organizations and community projects.

Out-of-State Freshmen

Welcomed at Social

A social event over the Thanksgiving break was attended by 22 out-of-state freshmen and 25 faculty/staff members was hosted by the Learning and Interacting with New Knights (LINK) Program and First-Year Advising and Exploration (FYA).

Students were matched with faculty/staff mentors from their home states and were encouraged to exchange contact information to keep in touch throughout the year. Keeping with the out-of-state theme, New England crab cakes, southwest quesadillas, and California tabouille wraps were served. The students received a welcome bag containing a map of Orlando, a Lynx bus schedule, 101 Things to do in Orlando guide from REACH Peer Education and information of the SDES offices. Students won prizes, such as a DVD player, phone cards, DVDs and a portable CD player by raffle.

“First-year out-of-state students face a greater retention risk because the transition to a new state can be difficult,” said Rebecca Morales, coordinator of the LINK Program. This program will connect the out-of-state students with faculty, staff and other students from their hometowns, making UCF a comfortable and familiar place.”

For more information on the LINK Program or to become an out-state student mentor, contact Rebecca Morales at 407.882.2055.

Did You Know?

• Student Union Expansion: Construction begins in December and will provide 1,300 square feet of usable space to the Student Union (SU). Student organization offices will accommodate the growth, space for student events will be added to the first and second floor, an extension off the south end of the Pegasus Grand Ballroom. In addition, a new entrance into the Pegasus Grand Ballroom will be added. The expansion is funded through Capital Improvement Trust (CITF). Construction scheduled for completion in December 2005.

• National Study Ranks UCF SU in Top Five: In the Educational Benchmarking’s (EBI) 2004 National Survey of Student Affairs, the UCF Student Union was ranked number 2 in Student/Customer Service, 4 in Food, Quality and Price, 1 in Program/number 5 in Overall Customer Satisfaction.

A&OD: Reaching Out to the UCF Community

The Alcohol and Other Drug (A&OD) Programming Office has been in operation for approximately one year and a half, providing A&OD related prevention, education and intervention services to students; and providing technical assistance, resources and consultation to the UCF campus community. The development of this office was a proactive decision by President John C. Hitt, based on recommendations from a campus-wide Alcohol Task Force, chaired by Vice President of SDES, Tom Huddleston. In the late spring 2002, Laura Riddle was hired as director of A&OD Programming, and charged with creating a new department to implement a comprehensive, multifaceted policy and programming response to a wide range of A&OD related issues.

Building on the initial direction set by the Alcohol Task Force, the office hit the ground running. According to Riddle, “The major mission of this office is clear; we want to help promote the academic and personal success of each of our students, as well as facilitate the transitions that occur in the course of a student’s career. We do that by providing a range of services, some focused on individual student needs, and others designed to create a broader environment or systemic change. The goal is to encourage all students to make healthy life choices around the use of alcohol and other drugs, and to have a campus and community climate that encourages healthy living. At the same time, to recognize that some students are at high risk for developing problems related to substance use such as abuse and addiction. Intervention or treatment options may be more appropriate for those individuals.”

Because I am both dually certified as an Addiction Treatment and Prevention Professional and a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, I can provide a broad range of services, along the continuum of need,” says Riddle. “This definitely funs UCF on the cutting edge of A&OD programming across the state. It allows us to have an integrative comprehensive program.”

Another major component of the A&OD office includes the REACH Health and Peer Education Program. REACH, which stands for REACHing Out to the UCF Community, is managed by coordinators, Tanya Capero and Brooke Williams, both masters level health educators. Capero oversees all HIV/AIDS and sexual health components, providing non-needle testing, pre and post test counseling, as well as education services. Williams oversees the A&OD programs, including the Alcohol Drug Abuse Prevention Training (ADAPT) classes for students referred by the Office of Student Conduct, Housing and Residence Life or by the legal or court system. Together they train and supervise 15-25 peer student peer educators, who provide a variety of interactive college health related workshops, and host a number of events, including College Alcohol Awareness Week, Safe Holiday and Spring Break Campaigns, and HIV/AIDS awareness and educational activities. “Peer to Peer Education can be very powerful and we have one of the very best in the state, if not, the region,” says Riddle.

From July 2002-July 2003, the A&OD Programming Office provided 77 assessments, 150 hours of counseling, over 25 consultations (mostly parents or family), and innumerable staff and faculty environment that says Riddle, “The programs such as LINK (Learning and Interacting with New Knights), Late Knights, Freshmen Frenzy and the New Football Fan Faire. It is a readily available resource interested in helping students succeed.”

For more information about A&OD Programming, contact Riddle or her assistant Alissa Pesce at 384.227.80 or 407.823.0859. For more information about REACH, contact coordinators Capero and Williams at 617.407.823.0859.

SDES Annual Holiday Social

Friday, December 5

2-4 p.m.

Cape Florida, Student Union

Don’t forget your homecoming!
The UCF Creed
Integration, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are core values that guide our conduct, performance and decisions.

INTEGRITY
I will practice and defend academic and personal honesty.

SCHOLARSHIP
I will study 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 everyone.

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

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

Points of Pride...
Four UCF Staff Present at National Conference
UCF Orientation Services members presented at the annual conference, National Orientation Directors Association (NODA), in Seattle. Joe Ritchie, UCF director of Orientation Services and executive board member of NODA, assisted directors Maggie Gonzalez and Eric Hennes. Assistant Beth Stroshane presented sessions. The presentations were as follows:
- "A Virtual Success: On-Line Orientation at the University of Central Florida outlined the history, development and success of UCF's virtual orientation program for transfer students and distance learners. This was presented by Ritchie, Gonzalez, Hennes and Stroshane. Virtual success was a result of participants’ evaluations.
- "Transfer Orientation: Is a Program for Future Success Necessary?" This session was presented with examples of mailings, internal and guest schedules and related data displaying the parent program for transfer orientations. The session was presented by Gonzalez, Hennes and Stroshane.

Preparation Pays Off: Center Receives Reaccreditation
The Student Health Center (SHC) was reaccredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) for the purpose of offering programs for the on-site inspection team was especially challenging during the past year, with virtually all members participating in many projects and task forces to ensure compliance with AAAHC’s standards,” says Bob Faust, director of SHC. Accreditation offers many benefits to a college health center including having an impact on recruiting and retention. An article in the March 25, 2003 Wall Street Journal pointed out that parents should pay special attention to the quality of the health care on the campuses they visit. “Only about 50 percent of college health services in the U.S. are accredited. It is voluntary and achievement shows a certain initiative.”

Housing Students Receive Training at Conference
Ten students from on-campus and affiliated housing, Pegasus Landing, and members of UCF’s United Student Association (USIA), participated in educational and leadership training seminars at the South Atlantic Association of Colleges and Residence Halls (SACURH). The regional conference was held at Appalachian State University in North Carolina attracting nearly 800 residence hall and apartment student leaders from 10 states.

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The UCF Creed

Greek Director Elected Vice President for National Group
Greg Mason, director, for UCF Greek Affairs, was elected as vice president of the national organization Membership for the Association of Fraternity Advisors (AFA). AFA provides resources for recognition and support for campus fraternity or sorority advising professionals. Mason will supervise the activities and programs of the AFA’s five regional directors, and virtually new member recruitment programs and coordinate the planning and implementation of regional and area meetings.

On 15 years, Mason has served in AFA leadership positions on the National Parthenial Conference Liasion Committee, the Perspectives Board and the Awards Committee. In addition, he has served as advisor to the Southeastern Interfraternity Conference and institutional workshops for chapters, leadership conferences and national conventions.

The UCF Greek Community has grown from 21 chapters with 1,500 students to 41 chapters with over 3,000 students during his 13 years as director of Greek Affairs.

The nationally recognized UCF Greek Community has received Patron Excellence awards for the Southeastern region seven out of the past 12 years, and was named the Best Greek Community by Florida Leader Magazine for the year 2000. The UCF fraternity and sorority community won the MAC Conference Highest GPA award, two of the past three semesters.

The Student Academic Resource Center (SARC), located in Howard Phillips Hall, room 115, will be open 24-hours December 6-12 for students to prepare for finals. For more information, call 407.823.5310 or visit www.ucf.edu/sarc.

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BFCD Recognizes Faculty, Staff and Students
The student organization Black Female Development Circle (BFCD) sponsored its 7th annual tribute to a Black Man at UCF.

Speaker keynote Anzio Williams, assistant news director for WESH Channel 2, spoke on the importance of being mentors and role models. After dinner, there was a ceremony where the following awards were presented:

- Outstanding Faculty/Staff - A. J. Range, assistant vice president, SDES
- Outstanding Student on Campus – Kerley Prudhomme, student
- Outstanding Student Leader – Ola Adulaja, student
- Mass of Integrity – Kenneth Sheilds, student.

The Black Female Development Circle is an organization of black women who come together to serve as a support system for each other. BFDC also meets to plan forums, fundraisers and workshops to educate the UCF community about the issues that black women face. BFDC sponsors the Shades of Womanhood program in the spring during Black History Month, Germaine Graham, psychologist, Counseling Center, is one of the advisors for the BFDC.

Housing Students Receive Training at Conference
Ten students from on-campus and affiliated housing, Pegasus Landing, and members of UCF's United Student Resident Association (USRA), participated in educational and leadership training seminars at the South Atlantic, Area Two College and University Residence Halls (SACURH). The regional conference was held at Appalachian State University in North Carolina attracting nearly 800 residence hall and apartment student leaders from 10 states.

UCF graduate assistant Stefanie Riverio, Housing and Residence Life, who currently serves the SACURH region as associate director for the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) also attended. The NRHH is a student organization that strives to recognize the outstanding student leaders and educators in the educational and cultural programs that serve residence hall and apartment communities around the country. The Pegasus Landing Chapter of National Residence Hall Honorary is currently in the process of reorganizing and initiating members.

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Creative School for Children students danced in costumes and paraded through the hallways of the building. Teachers decorated offices and received healthy treats and goodies.

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Mission: Strengthen communication among employees, improve the general employee environment, build morale among employees within divisions and create awareness of the mission of Student Development and Enrollment Services.

If you have any ideas, suggestions or comments, please contact a SDES Council member.

SDES Council 2003 - 2004

Preparation Pays Off Center Receives Reaccreditation
The Student Health Association (SHA) was reaccredited by the Accreditation for Ambulatory Health Care (AAHC) for the first time.

“The process of preparing for the on-site inspection team was especially challenging during the past year, with virtually all of the SHA members participating in various projects and tasks for ensuring compliance with AAHC’s standards,” said Bob Faust, director for Student Health Services.

Accreditation offers many benefits to a college health center including having an impact on recruiting and retention. An article in the March 25, 2003 Wall Street Journal pointed out that parents should pay special attention to the quality of the health care on the campuses they visit. “Only about 10 percent of college health services in the U.S. are accredited. It is voluntary and achievement shows a certain initiative.”

On November 13, four representatives and two council advisors from the Libra Area Council raised $510 for Give Kids the World, a non-profit resort that creates magical memories for children with medical conditions. Give Kids the World, a non-profit resort that creates magical memories for children with medical conditions.

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• National Achievers Participate in Community Projects

The National Achievers Society at the McKnight Center of Excellence continues to demonstrate the importance of giving back to the surrounding communities through service projects. National Achievers are minority students ranging from fourth grade to senior. As a yearly membership, National Achievers are required to maintain academic excellence and complete at least one community service project. At a National Achievers Society chapter meeting, guest speaker Traci Blue, volunteer coordinator for the City of Orlando, shared information on community service project opportunities.

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