Staff Unit for Professional Development Day
Staff members from Academic Development and Retention (ADR) participated in a variety of professional development workshops on December 12. The workshop presentations included topics, such as being assertive, team building, time and stress management. The initiative was organized by the ADR Staff Development and Morale vision team to foster professional and personal growth, learn new skills, invigorate staff, and to develop relationships and collaboration among unit members. Turnout for the event resulted in 79 participants who attended six presentations. Evaluation results and informal feedback from workshop participants revealed that the sessions were educational, entertaining, fun and helped bring unity among the staff.

SDES Members Recognized
SDES employees and retirees were honored at the annual A&D Service Awards Recognition Reception on December 10 for years of service to the university. Posadas left to right: President John C. Hitt with SDES members, Danny Walton (international), Dave Ullom (20 years), Robert Harman (20 years), Marbol Baghurst (20 years), Dolores Burghard (retired). Jim Wilkening (20 years), Mary Baghurst (international), Chris Harter (20 years) and Craig Ullom, associate vice president for Campus Life.

UCM Offers Students Spiritual Opportunities
United Campus Ministries (UCM) exists to serve the spiritual needs of UCF students. UCM consists of 23 registered student organizations with full- and part-time campus ministers serving in multi-cultural religious backgrounds. Collectively, thousands of students are involved in these organizations. Many of the ministries have existed at the national level for over 50 years, and some at UCF for over 22 years. Many of these campus ministers are in full-time campus ministry training. Most UCM organizations have frequent weekly group meetings, usually held in the Student Union. They also provide opportunities to conduct youth group studies, fellowship activities, community service, overseas trips and leadership training. The UCM organization are active in welcoming first-time freshmen during Resident Hall Move-in and Welcome Week and are also involved in Resident Hall programs.

"Connecting with students of like faith is an important factor in freshmen retention, and Campus Ministry is key in making this happen," says Charmaine Townsend, director of UCM. The UCM Office is located in the Recreational Services Building, Room 101. For more information, visit the Web site: www.ucm.ucf.edu.

IM Sports Share Conversation with International Students
Staff members of the Intramural Sports (IM) participated in the Center for Multilingual Multicultural Studies (CMMS) Conversation Hour during the fall semester. Student supervisor Nelson Santiago and Joe Chaver, and graduate assistant Sam Mayhew attended the weekly Conversation Hour to discuss different topics with UCF’s international students. According to Rachael Bendis, assistant director for CMMS, CMMS is grateful to the IM staff for participating in the Conversation Hour. After talking to our international students, they all agree that this forum helped them gain a deeper insight into the U.S. culture and an authentic setting to practice their English. The IM staff has also said they have explored different cultures and gained a better understanding of them. The partnership has provided a great experience for both the IM staff and the CMMS students.

Staff Co-host and Present Sessions at National Conference
The 30th National Conference of Students in Transition was held in Orlando. UCF Valencia Community College (VCC) and Florida Southern College co-hosted the event with the National Resource Center for First-Year Experience.

UCF staff presented the following concurrent and institutional initiative sessions at the conference:

- Energizing a Team to Support Seamless Transition – presented by Manbeth Elsas, associate vice president for Academic Development and Retention and Mark Allen Fossel, assistant vice president for First-Year Transitions;
- Collaborative Networks for Student Success – presented by Chalene Sinard, Transfer Services, with Issel;
- Golden Opportunities: A Major Today, A Career Tomorrow – presented by Emily Santiago and Bill Blank, Career Resource Center;
- First-Year Transitions: How Could This Happen to Me? – presented by DeLaune Priest, director of Student Academic Resource Center (SARC), with Jennifer Wright and Aila Muck from SARC, and Carol Miski and Mary Rentze from the College of Health and Public Affairs;
- Catch Me If You Can: Targeting Slipping Students to Stop the Academic Slide – presented by Reu Vesa, First-Year Advising and Exploration, and Melissa Fallors director of College of Engineering and Computer Science; and
- UCF poster sessions included:
  - Retention Initiatives for Undergraduate Engineering Students presented by Falls – Designing Introductory Academic Courses to Transition Students to Selecting a Major presented by Miski and Rentze;

The goal of the conference was to assist colleges and universities in developing strategies to change campus structures to enhance the learning and success of student transition, especially first-year and transfer students. UCF was well represented by an outstanding team of advisors and administrators.

Check This Out
Click on Staff News and Information at www.sdes.ucf.edu

New Employee spotlight
Please submit your February 2004 UCF newsletter article to jpearsall@mail.ucf.edu by January 25.

UCF Employees Enjoyed Food, Entertainment and Conversation at the Annual Holiday Social
SDES employees enjoyed food, entertainment and conversation at the Annual Holiday Social. During the month of December, there were many celebrative events including the SDES Annual Holiday Social. The SDES Council and Vice President Tom Huddleston greeted faculty and staff as they gathered to enjoy social time with their fellow SDES employees.

Me UCF Charlie Reuter and Miss UCF contestant Deneisha Jenkins sang holiday carols and played the piano. A large screen displayed the words of songs and the audience joined the performers in a sing-a-long. While everyone was enjoying refreshments, Santa came by to visit with elf, Jeff Novak, who distributed candy to the visitors.

Edwunna Andrews, Student Academic Resource Center, coordinated with the Salvation Army Angel Tree setup in Milikan Hall room 282. SDES participants were asked to choose an angel (child) from the tree and purchase a gift from that angel’s wish list. Many thanks to those who supported the Angel Tree program, a total of 90 angels were selected. SDES employees were also asked to make decorations for the tree and bring them to the social, the tree and decorations were to be donated to a family in need. Many thanks to SDES Council members, Debbie Reynolds, Marta Simpson, Linda Sullivan, Jeff Novak, Brenda Posey and Ana Marrero-Lopez for coordinating the SDES Annual Holiday Social.

Children Sing Along with Carolers
On December 3, Milikan Hall was filled with people enjoying cookies while the Brass Band played holiday music. CSC children sat on the stairs listening to carolers and then joined in the fun singing holiday songs.

The social event photos are on the Web at: www.sdes.ucf.edu. Click on Staff News and Information, and then 2003 SDES Annual Holiday Social.
People in the News... Welcome New SDES Employees

- Shama Brown, office assistant, Student Health Services
- Anthony Flores, Licensed Practical Nurse, Student Health Services
- Mary Fowler, program assistant, Undergraduate Advising
- Kacey Lee, senior secretary, Student Legal Services
- Steven Samson, senior clerk, Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC)

SDES Staff Takes Lead in USPS Staff Council

Carolyn Standner, Academic Development and Retention is currently serving as president of the USPS Staff Council. There are 29 council members including: SDES employees, Joyce Crowell, USPS Human Resource Office, Joanne McCully, Recreation and Wellness Center, and Karen Alexander, Recording Secretary, Registrar's Office. The USPS Staff Council provides a forum for employees who participate in events, such as the Diversity Breakfast, Employee Benefits Fair and Homecoming. They also raise money for employee scholarships and book awards.

Standner says, “This has been a very exciting year for our council. It has given me the opportunity to serve in a leadership role, and the ability to meet and network with the wonderful USPS staff members we have at UCF. We continue to meet once a month and work very hard to provide better services for all USPS staff members.”

Look for announcements in your e-mail of the USPS Staff Council Fashion Show in February and Staff Assembly on April 15. For more information, visit: pgusa.ucf.edu/ -uspstat/.

SDES Council 2003 - 2004

- Mitzi S. Carlson, President
- Lorrain Ryan, Vice President
- Carolyn Standner, Secretary
- Mario Handley, Treasurer

Mission: Strengthen communication among employees, improve the general employee environment, build stickiness among employees within diverse 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.

Points of Pride... LEAD Scholar Initiates Project Smiles to UCF

Michelle Ducker, a LEAD Scholar freshman who is majoring in Organizational Communication and working to bring the organization Project Smiles to UCF and Orlando. Project Smiles consists of a group of volunteers that visit and bring joy to sick children.

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.

The UCF Creed
Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the values that guide our conduct, performance and decisions.

In 2013, the SDES staff and students have contributed to an overall support and dedication to the care for children who have significant health conditions.

A big thank you to all SDES staff for their support and help this semester,” said Jeff Novak, assistant director of Housing and Residence Life. “We are thrilled at the success of the LINK program and we are excited about the prospects for the future. If you have a program to include as part of the LINK program, please e-mail Rebecca Morales at: moralesu@ucf.edu. Also, visit: www.sdes.ucf.edu.

SDES Employees Honored for Completion of Training

SDES employees were honored at the Series Graduation Ceremony for completion of a training development series, such as Star Series, Leadership Excellence and Supervisor Skills Hands by Held Human Resources. The participants received a certificate of completion and a photo that will be given at a later time. Pictured top to bottom, left to right: SDES Vice President Thomas Huddleston with training participants Millie River, Linda Haynes, Kirsten Karlen, Sharlene Steel, Angel Brown, Terry Wheeler, James Walker, Vanessa Butts, Margarita Gonzalez, Carolyn Standner, Michelle Panizzo and Russell Muller. Other SDES participants were John Salii, Sandy Quill, Shantion Brand, Ana Mack, Joshua Murdock, Brooke Williams, Tanya Cepero, Macsimah Kaghpathan, Denise Delvin and Sally Quirol. [I apologize if I missed anyone.]

Resident Assistant Selection Process Begins

The Department of Housing and Residence Life will kick off its annual Resident Assistant (RA) selection process. Each spring, over 250 students are interviewed in one weekend. The theme for this year’s process is Resident Assistant Reloaded: Are You The One? Last year, 257 students interviewed for 57 vacancies on the RA staff. Additional components have been added to the process this year including an online application. Each student is required to attend RA Information Sessions prior to the actual interview weekend. During the sessions, students will be informed of the position, the duties, living/learning communities at UCF, and other campus resources and partnerships in the SDES Council.

The first of five information sessions will begin on January 15 and the selection weekend will be February 13-15. Potential applicants can get information online at: www.housing.ucf.edu.

LINK Loot Auction: Who Has the Highest Bid?

The Learning and Interacting with New Knights (LINK) program hosted the first-ever LINK Loot auction on December 2 with 200 freshmen participating. The auction was the culminating event of the LINK program for the fall semester freshmen collected LINK Loot by attending various academic, cultural, community-building, life-style and wellness programs throughout the semester. Freshmen earned the LINK Loot to bid on prizes, such as $1,300 toward fall 2004 UCF tuition sponsored by Pegusa Pointe and Pegusa Landing, round-trip tickets courtesy of STA Travel, TV, DVD player and gift certificates.

Sarah Freden won the tuition prize with the winning bid of LINK Loot dollars. This means that Freden attended approximately 30 programs this semester. Other winners include: Sarah Anthony and Eric Vitolio. Anthony’s winning bid of 9,100 LINK Loot dollars secured him the round-trip airfare to his hometown in the Virgin Islands. Vitolio won a complete computer system with a winning bid of 49,100 LINK Loot dollars.

“We are very pleased with the level of participation among the freshmen this semester. Both the number of participation spreads, more students will become involved with LINK, and the program will continue to gain momentum and flourish during this next year,” said Rebecca Morales, coordinator of the LINK program. The LINK program staff estimate that over 1,500 freshmen have at least one LINK connected program this fall semester. LINK helped to promote over 100 programs offered by 16 different SDES departments. Of those students surveyed at the LINK Loot Auction, 86 percent indicated that they are satisfied with the LINK program, 72 percent said that they felt the LINK program enhanced their experience at UCF and 100 percent said that they would recommend the program to incoming freshmen.

“On behalf of LINK, we would like to send a big thank you to all SDES staff for their support and help this semester,” said Jeff Novak, assistant director of Housing and Residence Life. “We are thrilled at the success of the LINK program and we are excited about the prospects for the future. If you have a program to include as part of the LINK program, please e-mail Rebecca Morales at: moralesu@ucf.edu.

UCF and Valencia Community College (VCC) hosted one of the state’s premier co-advisory programs in fall 2003. GradTrack, awarded Best Practices in 2003, is a joint program to advise and assist VCC students transferring to UCF.

The Office of Transfer Services coordinated the participation of SDES staff, professional advisors from the academic colleges and faculty from UCF campus departments. More than 450 VCC students met with UCF and faculty in preparation for their transition to the university.

“Our collaboration with Valencia is an excellent example of programming that provides an introduction to students before their entrance into UCF,” according to Charlene Sitrand, assistant director, Transfer Services. "Reaching transfer students as they begin the transfer process equips students’ transition into the university and improves their chances to graduate."

UCF and Valencia Community College “visits UCF Broadard”

Phil Kallin and Lesier Friederich from Student Disability Services (SDS) visited the UCF Broadard Campus to meet with the Faculty Advisory Council to discuss issues related to students with disabilities and the provision of services to the students. SDS is represented through the Office of Campus Life by Jim Smith. Smith collaborates with the Orlando Campus staff of Student Disability Services providing services and accommodations.

Collaborating for Transfer Student Advising

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Wellness Center (RWC)
People in the News...

Welcome Aboard New SDES Employees

• Shana Brown, office assistant, Student Health Services
• Anthony Flores, Licensed Practical Nurse, Student Health Services
• Mary Fowler, program assistant, 16th Street Center
• Kacey Lee, senior secretary, Student Legal Services
• Marilyn Suen, senior clerk, Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC)

SDES Staff Takes Lead in UISP Staff Council

Carolyn Stinard, Academic Development and Retention, is currently serving as president of the UISP Staff Council. There are 29 council members including SDES employees, Joyce Crowell, Student Health Services; SDES Council Co-Chair, Office, Joanne McCauley; Recreation and Wellness Center, and Karen Alexander, Recording Secretary. UISP’s Office of Student Council participates in events, such as the Diversity Breakfast, Employee Benefits Fair and Homecoming. They also raise money for employee scholarships and book awards.

Stinard says, “This has been a very exciting year for me as president. It has given me the opportunity to serve in a leadership role, and the ability to meet and network with the wonderful UISP staff members we have at UCF. We continue to make important decisions and work very hard to provide better services for all UISP staff members.”

Look for announcements in your e-mail of the UISP Staff Council Fashion Show in February and Staff Assembly on April 15. For more information visit: peguss.ca.ucf.edu –ʯuspsat@home.htm.

The UCF Creed

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

INTEGRITY

I will practice and defend academic and personal honor.

SCHOLARSHIP

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

COMMUNITY

I will promote a diverse, 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 any endeavor I undertake.

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SDES Employees Honored for Completion of Training

SDES employees were honored at the Series Graduation Ceremony for completion of a training and development series, such as Star Series, Leadership Excellence and Supervisory Skills held by Human Resources. The participants received a certificate of completion and a photo that was taken at a later time. Pictured top to bottom, left to right: SDES Vice President Thomas Haddad with training participants Millie Ride, Linda Haynes, Kirsten Karlen, Sharlene Stetson, Angel Brotom, Terry Wheeler, James Walker, Vanessa Butts, Margarita Gonzalez, Carolyn Stinard, Michelle Panzocco and Russell Mullen. Other SDES participants were John Morris, Sally Quillero, Shannon Branch, Ake Max, Joshua Mundock, Brooke Williams, Tanya Cerero, Macenita Kaghumnan, Denise Devlin and Sally Quillero. [I apologize if I missed anyone.]

Terry Wheeler Promoted to Tech Manager

Student Health Services (SHS) is pleased to announce the promotion of Terry Wheeler to technology manager. Computer Services. Wheeler has been with SHS for over a year and has been instrumental in the change to become cutting edge in their medical systems and to fully implement new federal Health Insurance Portability and Accounting Act (HIPAA) patient privacy protection methods. If you have any ideas, suggestions or comments, please contact a SDES Council member.

Student Advising Services Visits UCF

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Collaborating for Transfer

Student Advising

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LEAD Scholar Initiates Program to Advise and Assist VCC Students

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Ducker first learned about Project Smile in her hometown of Hollywood, Florida. She and volunteers would dress up as common characters and visit children at Joe DiMagio Children’s Hospital. Several of the LEAD Scholars are assisting Ducker to get Project Smile rolling in Orlando. They are planning to coordinate monthly holiday parties at Arnold Palmer Hospital by visiting and bringing children games, treats and joy during their hospital stays. Project Smile will also be working with Give Kids the World in Kissimmee and will be making “character appearances” on request for “sick children.” The LEAD Scholar Program is excited about helping Michelle achieve her dreams for Project Smile and to call her a UCF LEAD Scholar,” says Micki Panzocco, assistant director.

Resident Assistant Selection Process Begins

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Points of Pride...

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Holiday Spirit Brings Smiles and Laughter

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Mr. UCF Charlie Reuter and Miss UCF contestant Denesha Jenkins sang holiday carols and played the piano. A large screen displayed the words of songs and the audience joined in the performances in a sing-a-long. While everyone was enjoying refreshments, Santa came by to visit with elf, Jeff Novak, who distributed candy to the visitors.

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Santa Visits Children at School

The popular wish list for toys were Pokemon, transformers or Barbie dolls. Each child received a stuffed bear or another animal from Santa’s sack.

The social event photos are on the Web at: www.sdes.ucf.edu, Click on Staff News and Information, and then 2003 SDES Annual Holiday Social.