Academic Advising Brought Closer to Home

Tim Edwards, also known as advisor in the "honor room," from First Year Advising and undeclared population living at Pegasus Landing. He is the first full-time director of UCF Student Health Services. Dr. Stoner said he was impressed with the growth of both the Student Health Center and the entire university.

New Career Service Offered to Graduate Students

The CAREER Resource Center (CRC) has added a career planning service for graduate students. Rachel Montgomery is the assistant director of Career Planning Services and liaisons to Graduate Studies. After meeting with the Graduate College coordinator and the Graduate Advising, Montgomery identified the following services for graduate students:

• Help current graduate students evaluate career options and find assistantships, part-time employment, and internships;
• Assist prospective graduate students with the application process, to include researching programs, taking admissions tests, writing personal statements and gaining reference letters;
• Encourage faculty members and departments to advertise assistantships in the CRC’s E-Recruiting system;
• Develop career-related programs to graduate students, such as CV detailed resume writing, interviewing and job-search skills;
• Increase the campus presence of employers interested in hiring foreign nationals, masters, Ph.D.s, and post-docs.

UCF is one of two career centers in Florida to hire a full-time staff member focusing on this population. For more information, contact Montgomery at 407.823.2361 or e-mail: rmontgo@mail.ucd.edu.

Free Workout Programs for Students and Staff

The Recreation and Wellness Center has initiated two programs: the Assisted Workout Program and the Fitness Orientation. Undergraduate students and guests from the physical therapy program, are welcome each week to help the students find the best workout program for their needs. "The mesh of the Wellness Center and the physical therapy program have proven to be very effective in helping students complete their workouts," says Brannon.

The second program is a free Fitness Orientation. This orientation is open to all students and staff. The orientations will be tailored to suit all levels of exercise and performance from beginner to advanced. Individual workout schedules will be created for all participants.

For more information, call 407.823.2408 or visit: www.ucf.edu.

Students Connect on Scholars Day

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions will host Scholars Day on campus for all admitted students, who have been offered academic scholarships. The event will be held on Saturday, March 20 and will give the scholarship students a chance to meet with faculty, staff and students from the UCF community. "We hope that by bringing these students and their families on campus, we can show them all of the programs, resources and opportunities UCF has to offer," said Melissa Haas, senior assistant director, Undergraduate Admissions.

Testing Center Extends Hours

The University Testing Center (UTC) has extended its office hours to accommodate students and the community. UTC offers a variety of standardized and national testing services, including CLAST, CLEP and FTCE testing on the computer UTC is now open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m., and usually the third Saturday of every month from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Testing services are by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, contact the UTC Centralized Registration Office at 407.823.3109.

REACH Offers Painless HIV Testing

The REACH Health and Peer Education Program offers programs to needles-free, confidential and anonymous HIV/AIDS testing for a $10 fee. Testing includes pre- and post-test counseling, risk assessment and sexual health education. For an appointment, call 407.823.2437.

Join REACH in participating in the upcoming AIDS Walk Orlando on March 6 from 9 a.m. till noon at Lake Eola Park, Orlando. To sign up for more information, contact Michel Wallace at 407.644.5217, e-mail: events@hopelandhelp.org.

Leadership Week Award Winners

- Faculty – Robert Ashley, Food Service Education, Rosen School of Hospitality Management, and Mark Allen Posek, First Year Transitions and Transfer Services, SDES
- ASDP – Robert Hartman, Counseling Center, SDES
- UCF – Elvis Wanamaker, First Year Transitions, SDES
- Distinguished Knights – Generation Donation
- Emerging Student Leadership – Crystal Espinosa and Cassandra Long
- Progressive Student Leadership – Anne Ceci and Nick Merole
- Rising Star Leadership Award (Alumni)
  - College of Arts & Sciences – Victoria Sanquinet, ’99
  - College of Humanities & Liberal Arts – Abraham McCracken, ’99
- College of Business Administration – Andrea Quatty, ’00
- College of Education – Rachel Hazle, ’00
- College of Engineering and Computer Science – Christine Dixon, ’00
- College of Health and Public Affairs – Nicholas Haley, ’01
- Order of Pegasus
  - Outstanding Student – Haydee Cuevas, Lisa Wall and Franklin Williams

University of Central Florida

Dr. Ed Stoner with nurses Beverly Dear (left) and Carol Balboni, both of whom he wired while director of UCF Student Health Services.

Former Director Visits Health Center

The Student Health Center received a surprise visitor on February 6 when Dr. Ed Stoner dropped by. Dr. Stoner was the first full-time director of UCF Student Health Services in the early 1970s until his retirement in 1985. He also provided medical care to the Oviedo community for over 50 years with his private practice. Dr. Stoner said he was impressed with the growth of both the Student Health Center and the entire university.
Points of Pride...

**Online Medical Advice**

Offered to Students

UCF Student Health Services is the first in the nation to offer college students the 24/7 WebMed online system. Students can receive online medical advice (not diagnosed) by key medical professionals. The system is not a substitute for a physician’s evaluation and treatment. The data is collected for research or public health purposes. This data can spot trends across the country about disease outbreaks or higher than normal incidence of certain health hazards.

**Federal Reps Recruit Students with Disabilities**

UCF students with disabilities had an opportunity to interview for jobs and internships in the federal government and in the private sector. Approximately, a dozen students at the undergraduate and graduate levels had interviews with a Department of Labor representative from Washington, D.C. The Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities (WRP) is a resource to connect public and private sector employers nationwide with highly motivated post-secondary students and recent graduates with disabilities, who are eager to prove their abilities in the workforce. Employers seek to fill temporary and permanent positions in a variety of fields. Statistics show that students with disabilities from minority backgrounds encounter an even greater difficulty in obtaining work.

**Federal Reps Recruit Students with Disabilities**

The representative who conducted the interview stated that she was impressed with UCF students and the university. Additional information may be found on Web site: www.dol.gov/ofed/pubs/brochures/wrp1.html.

The staff at Student Disability Services (SDS) thanks the Career Center for providing the space for the event. Louise Frederici, associate director for SDS, coordinated the event. For more information, contact Frederici at 3-2371.

**Veterans Services Streamlines Processes**

The Veterans Services sections of the Regional Office have begun using VONCE (Online Certification) for electronically certifying veterans online. The new service reduces processing time and results in more timely payments of educational benefits. It makes information available at the university in an attractive and easy-to-read format. Veterans advantage from the streamlined process.

**Student-Athletes’ 2003 Academic Stats Revealed**

Academic Services for Student-Athletes (ASSA) reviewed the academic performance of student-athletes for spring, summer and fall 2003. The results are as follows:

- **Distinctive Individual student-athletes who obtained a 3.6 GPA in spring, 3.5 in summer and 3.4 in fall.
- **Distinctive Individual student-athletes who obtained a 4.0 GPA in spring or fall.
- **University Career Services**

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UCF students and the university have gained a competitive advantage in the market place, with a 51 percent increase in student attendance and a 19 percent increase in employer attendance.

Federal Reps Recruit Students with Disabilities
UCF students with disabilities had an opportunity to interview for jobs and internships in the federal government and in the private sector. Approximately, a dozen students at the undergraduate and graduate level had interviews with a Department of Labor representative, as well as with a Department of Veterans Affairs representative.

The Federal Reps Recruiting Program for College Students with Disabilities (WRP) is a resource to connect public and private sector employers nationwide with highly motivated post-secondary students and recent graduates with disabilities, who are eager to prove their abilities in the workforce. Employers seek to fill temporary and permanent positions in a variety of fields. Statistics show that students with disabilities from minority backgrounds encounter an even greater difficulty in obtaining work.

The representative who conducted the interview stated that she was impressed with UCF students and the university. Additional information can be found on WebMed at http://www.ucs.ucf.edu/ucp/pubs/anet/.

The staff at UCF Disability Services (DDS) thanks the Career Resource Center for providing the space for the event. Louise Frederici, associate director for DDS, coordinated the event. For more information, contact Frederici at 3-2371.

First-Year Students Recognized by LINK
The LINK (Learning and Instructional Methods with New Knights) Academic Scholarship Recognition honored first-year students for outstanding academic achievement for fall 2003 on February 3, 2004. A total of 1,605 freshmen students earned a 3.5 or higher GPA for the fall. Over 400 students attended the reception, which was again lapelled the “Meet and Greet” competition. The first-year students achieved recognition in their hard work. Speakers included Tom Holland, vice president of SDS; Rick Schilt, assistant vice president and dean of Undergraduate Studies; and Nicki Panzoce, assistant director of the LEAD Scholarship Program, who explained how students could benefit from the UCF Creed with an emphasis on integrity and excellence, leadership and thinking outside the box. Panzoce encouraged students to tutor others and serve as positive role models by attending class and studying.

Spring 2004 Career Expo
Students Connect with Employers in February
UCF students have the opportunity to connect to employers at the Internship Fair, Meet and Greet, and Summer 2004 Career Expo.

• Internship Fair offered a forum for students to meet with employers seeking internship placements. Over 1,027 students attended this event, taking advantage of the opportunity to meet with 43 employers, a 51 percent increase in student attendance and a 19 percent increase in employer attendance.

• Meet and Greet reception offered the opportunity for student leaders to network with employers. Seventeen student leaders attended, meeting with representatives from 20 different companies.

• Summer 2004 Career Expo offered students and alumni the opportunity to meet with employers from across the country. The Spring 2004 Career Expo hosted 100 companies who met with over 2,265 UCF students.

“A special thank you to Edward Jewell, student assistant and assistant event coordinator. His innovative ideas played a major role in the success of all of these events,” said Melanie Parker, director, Career Resource Center (CRC). All events were hosted by the CRC.

UCF Creed
Integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence are the core values that guide our mission, membership, and contributions of every individual.

SCHOLARSHIP
I will study and research frameworks that improve the quality of learning experiences.

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

EXCELLENCE
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Reunion and Pageant Marked an Evening of Spectacular Events

Spectacular Knights 20th Anniversary Reunion followed by the crowning of Miss UCF 2004 were held on February 7. Prior to the Miss UCF Pageant, a celebration dinner was held to reunion former Miss and Mr UCF contestants, student directors, committee members and staff advisors. In addition, representatives from other local pages and the Miss Florida Scholarship Pageant Board were in attendance.

The Miss UCF Pageant is 20 years old and the Mr UCF Pageant is 14 years old. Nine former Miss UCFs, including Lisa Lorenze, the first Miss UCF 1984, and four former Mr. UCFs were in attendance. Brian Glassman, former student and off-stage announcer for many years, introduced both the 20-year reunion program and later opened the Miss UCF Pageant.

Regi Woods, Mr. UCF 2002, sang the national anthem and an ensemble consisting of Woods, Elizabeth Roote, Mr. UCF 2004; Isabel Rougeau, Miss UCF 2002; Wes Miller, Mr. UCF 2003; and Krissy Burgess, Miss UCF 2003; sang the Alma Mater A canto – 20 Years of Spectacular Knights – showcased both Miss and Mr. UCF pageants throughout the years. One hundred people enjoyed remembering about their pageant days.

The 20th Miss UCF Pageant featured 16 contestants vying for the title of Miss UCF 2004. In the end, Christine Cooper emerged as the winner and was crowned Miss UCF 2004. Cooper has been working on her platform, “Advocating for the Rights of the Mentally Ill” since 2001 when she began her psychological studies at UCF. She volunteers at Lakeside Alternatives and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. Cooper enjoys the opportunity to speak about mental illness as a way to help people understand that these are true diseases that should no longer be neglected or stigmatized. Cooper is a 21-year-old senior majoring in psychology and a member of the Burnett Honors College, the Psychological Society and Psi Chi. Upon graduation, she will begin graduate studies in clinical psychology.

The Miss America program certified judges (including Kelli Meierhenry, UCF alumna and Miss Florida 1999) from Florida and other states were brought in to judge the competition. Mark Allen Poisel served as the local celebrity judge. Emily Kukulies and Veronica Lively have served as executive directors for the program. Lively says the interview skills have intensified each year during the last few years. “The interview skills, accomplishments and talent among these young women are unbelievable,” Lively said she was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her 20 years of service to the Miss UCF Pageant and the Campus Activities Board (CAB) Spectacular Knights Committee. She received flowers, an award and a framed resolution to mark the occasion.

The Miss UCF Pageant was sponsored by the CAB Spectacular Knights Committee and funded by Student Government.