FAYE Summer Advisors Shine at UCF Orientation

First Year Advising and Exploration (FAYE) employs 16 Summer Orientation advisors (pictured) who assist incoming freshmen students with their transition to UCF. The advising staff contacts incoming freshmen students prior to attending UCF orientation as a welcome to the university and obtain key pre-advising student academic information to facilitate planning for appropriate summer and/or fall semester schedules. Advisors contact students via phone reaching about 70 percent of the new students. In addition, through this early UCF advising connection, students can ask academic or other campus-related questions prior to orientation. Many of the incoming freshmen and parents comment on how appreciative they are of this personal touch.

At orientation, the summer advisors assist the full-time FAYE advising staff with the Undeclared/Academic Exploration Program (AEP) student session, advising information rotation, schedule planning and registration. Many of the summer advisors are graduate students and teachers in the Central Florida community. The tutoring advisors employ a small group format to provide a smooth and pleasant experience for the new freshmen's academic advising and registration process.

The Summer Advisors also assist incoming freshmen students with their transition to UCF. The advising staff contacts incoming freshmen students through an early UCF advising connection. In addition, through this early UCF advising connection, students can ask academic or other campus-related questions.

Partnering for Enhanced Services for Students

Undergraduate Admissions and Student Financial Assistance are meeting on a regular monthly basis to discuss current services and communications to students, and methods to improve them. Staff benefits by sharing information on issues and acquiring basic knowledge of the admissions and financial aid processes.

"Enjoying the collaboration of ideas and sharing methods that work," says Lou Minnick, associate director of Student Financial Assistance. "It's really nice to become better acquainted with the professionals that bring the great student to UCF.

Christopher Lynch, associate director for Undergraduate Admissions, adds, "Strategic efforts have been established to purposefully enhance operational excellence through awareness and understanding of the vital roles and procedures each office performs. These meetings are beginning to enhance a collaborative relationship, which will only serve to further benefit our students.

Campus Life Staff Tour the Hospitality Facility and Services

On June 18, staff from Campus Life visited the Rosen College of Hospitality Management to learn about the campus life and SDES operations at that campus.

The tour began with a welcoming and met with Campus Life staffs Tony Perry and Tiffany Greenis. Following the tour (guided by Admissions staff and students), a meeting was held to hear presentations prepared and served by the Quantity Food Preparation Class. FSS 2212 taught by Professor Bob Selah. The UCF Main Campus life staff were thoroughly impressed by their experience and agreed that the Rosen campus is a beautiful facility.

Spreading Knight Fever at Parent Orientation

As the mid-orientation season approaches, over 2,000 parents and family members have experienced the whirlwind of orientation. By the end of the summer, over 6,000 parents and family members will have participated in orientation.

Throughout the fall and spring semesters, Orientation Services is focused on planning the programs as they will occur through the summer. Students are not the only population that is taken into consideration in the students transition process from high school to college. Parents and family members are involved more than ever in the process and this does not go unnoticed or ignored.

Parents and family members of incoming first-year students are provided the opportunity to have their own orientation separate but concurrent with the student program. The resources and information shared with them are intentionally selected and carefully coordinated over an eight month period. There are over 25 departments involved from the Division of Student Development and Enrollment Services as well as many academic colleges and Student Conduct Board members.

Parents do not leave empty handed either. They are given a Family Handbook that may be used as a resource guide of the services available to their sons or daughters. They also receive a calendar, Days and Knights of UCF created by SDES to acquaint them with the challenges as well as the deadlines students will be facing. UCF's newspaper, The Central Florida Future, is sure to be printed in the hands of a parent during the course of the two-day program with a featured edition on UCF activities. Parents also receive a guide prepared by the National Association of Student Personnel's program, which provides suggestions to parents as they begin to let go of their sons or daughters during the transition to UCF.

The Student Conduct Board program include college meetings with academic deans, an overview of academic policies and resources, an ice cream social with Alumni Services and presentations by a variety of campus services.

One of the last sessions parents experience is the Orientation Banquet called Letting Go. The letting go process is one of those life events where both parents and college students are able to share this extremely important moment in their lives. It marks the beginning of a new era where parents may change their relationship from authority or control to more of a partnership. Navigating the unknown expectations, parents and students have experienced the whirlwind of orientation. By the end of the summer, over 6,000 parents and family members will have participated in orientation.

Students in the food preparation class introduce themselves, tell about the meal they prepared and receive their applause from the group.

Division Changes

- Tiffany Greenis was promoted to assistant director of student conduct, Rosen College of Hospitality Management Campus Life. Formerly, Greenis had served as the special Interned Program assistant in Housing and Residence Life.
- Maralis Mercado has been promoted to full-time professional health educator, Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Programming.
- Ryan Stiner and Michelle Torres have been promoted to assistant directors in the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

Awards and Recognition

- REACH Peer Educators: Keren Annihud, Melissa Day, Mary Ann Espuel, Marianne Hayes, Charles Hogan, Stephanie Jankowski, Keni Samuel, Kim Saunders and Stefanie Warren along with staff members Laura Rice and Ashley Brooke Williams and SHS nurse Janice Ruschack were HIV 501 trained (a 3-day course), which is part of the process of being State of Florida HIV/AIDS certified for testing and counseling.

Presentations

- DeLaist Pierce, SARC, Rebekah McCloud and Valerie King, Office of Diversity

The Pegasus Success Program students visited SDES offices and learned of their services in a scavenger hunt they participated in during the Pegasus Success Program Welcome event. This group gathered by the poster and then posed for a photo. The Pegasus Success Program is an online admission program. Other students attend summer seminars.

RWC and LINK Collaborated Student Summer Fun Event

This summer, the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) will be teaming up with LINK to offer a kickoff event in the summer B term. The Recreational Water Olympics was held at the pool on June 21. Students enjoyed eight events that are usually offered to student sports teams and live DJ. Games included inner tube water polo, big splash contest, three-legged race, slip and slide, a moon walk, and kickball.

The RWC plans to continue partnering with LINK on events, such as Disc Golf with Intramural Sports, Group Exercise and Outdoor Adventure.

The Future. . . is Out There

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The SSEF of Florida is dedicated to promoting science education and recognizing and rewarding student achievement in science and technology. Young scientist winners (350 students) from the 37 Regional Science and Engineering Fairs from around the state participated in the fair which was held at the Prime Osborn III Convention Center, Jacksonville. More than 320 students received Place Awards from each category along with more than 1.2 million in special awards, scholarships, NASA Internship and an opportunity to compete at the Intel ISEF.

The 111 Florida Delegation finalists attended the Intel ISEF in Portland. The Intel ISEF presented awards valued at close to $1.8 million in scholarships, tuition grants and scientific field trips. The Florida finalists won $177,750 in cash awards-14.5 percent of the total.

Points of Pride. . .

UFC's Career Center Resource Center was recognized as one of 10 state colleges/universities to pilot the FACTS:Org Online Career Portfolio and achieve the highest number of student responses.

The Career Portfolio is a web-based interactive tool that provides a private workspace where the student can log in, store a collection of his or her accomplishments and skills across five experience categories—cooperative, internships, service/volunteer work, memberships/activities and interests/life experiences. The student can organize the information in his/her career workspace and create three separate customized portfolios. The Career Portfolio requires a willingness to invest time and effort to update and maintain information. Ultimately, the student will have a usable portfolio that prospective employers, graduate school admissions offices and others can view online.

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Three Generations of LEAD Scholars’ Mentors

First Year Transitions (FYT) in Academic Development and Retention (A&D) and the LEAD Scholars Program in Campus Life have joined together to start a meaningful tradition. Every year, the LEAD Scholars Program (LSP) selects approximately 32 of its second-year students to be mentors. Each mentor assist 10-15 first-year LEAD Scholar students in their transition to UCF and their programs.

In 2002, mentors Negan and Valentine (first generation) worked closely with Mark ABS Posel, vice president of First Year Transitions to inspire learning, leading and serving as well as to teach his students the foundations of leadership-class. In the end, two members of mentor's group, Donna Aoello and Zachary Hughes, (second generation) were selected to work with Posel in the fall of 2003. To help these new mentors carry on the spirit, Negan and Valentine passed along a statue. This statue had its names on it. A command was also placed on the statue, stating, "to pass this statue along to a future mentor pair within their class.”

“Due Mark Allen Posel inspires you to find your strengths and weaknesses and use that information to help those around you,” says Aoello. Nicholas Dorsey and Kristina Graczyk (third generation) decided to apply to be mentors and requested to work with Posel. The tradition of the statue lived on when they were both selected.

“One of the highlights of my position here at UCF is serving as a LEAD faculty member,” said Posel. “It is a great opportunity to teach students about leadership, teamwork and the leadership process.”

To celebrate the generations of mentors, the six students as well as Posel dined at a local restaurant. The first two pairs passed on wisdom and stories to the youngest pair who will start their work with Posel in the fall.

People in the News.

Welcome Aboard New SDES Employees

- Elouisine Baptiste, senior financial aid officer, Student Financial Assistance
- Ida Cereno, senior secretary, Registration and Wellness Center
- Stephan Collins, senior financial aid officer, Student Financial Assistance
- Carlos Cortez, coordinator, Academic Services
- Andrea Ross, student services representative, Academic Services
- Ismael Diaz, custodial worker, Facilities
- Vidal Gorajuria, custodial worker, Recreation and Wellness Center
- Kari Thompson, office manager, Administrative Services
- Kerry Welch, director, Academic Support Services, Office of Student Involvement

Initiatives, presented a pre-conference session: Peering and T eetering: Preparing Minority Women for Leadership at the 17th annual National Conference on Race and Ethnicity, Miami in June.
- Laura Riddle and Brooke Williams have teamed up with the Counseling Center to provide a 30-minute presentation to the UCF Parent Orientation sessions concerning education, prevention and counseling related services that are offered to students through REACH, the Alcohol and Other Drug Programming Office, and the Counseling Center.
- Claudia Witcher and Sheryl Gambel, nursing director and pharmacy manager respectively, presented Risk Management and Pharmaceuticals at the American College Health Conference. Also, Bob Faust, SHS director, presented, Customer Service: What College Health Services Can Learn From the World’s Best, New Orleans in June.

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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 honesty.

SCHOLARSHIP
I will cherish and honor learning as a fundamental purpose of my membership in the UCF community.

COMMUNITY
I will promote and open a strong 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.

The LEAD Scholars Program (LSP) hosted its largest LEAD Orientation on June 10-11. Over 200 LEAD Scholars arrived at UCF ready to learn about their universities.

First Time in College students ask experienced LEAD scholars to explain the benefits and requirements of being a LEAD scholar, but they also attend a special LEAD Scholars seminar where they can meet many of their incoming LEAD Scholar peers, LSP staff, and faculty.

This year's freshmen—now the upperclassmen of the two-year LSP—volunteered their time to serve as mentors and leaders for the incoming freshmen—answering questions and providing a student contact for the new scholars.

LEAD scholars are now in high school GPA’s of 4.1 and highest average SAT scores yet, the class looks to be very academically promising,” says Micki Pannozzo, assistant director, LSP. Additional photos of the LEAD orientation can be viewed at: lead.ucf.edu.

The SSEF of Florida is dedicated to the students and educators participating in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF). The Florida finalists won $177,750 in cash awards—14.5 percent of the total.

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“One of the highlights of my position here at UCF is serving as a LEAD faculty member,” said Poisel. “It is a great opportunity to teach students about leadership, teamwork and responsibility. The LEAD Scholars’ mentors make a huge difference in the class and are great role models for our new LEAD scholars.”

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The SSEF, Celebrating 50 Years of Discovery, will be held April 6-8, 2005 at the Orange County Convention Center, Orlando.
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Parents and students walk into the Student Union and are greeted by one of four Student Conduct Board Members who direct them toward the sign-in table in front of the Pagoda Ballroom. From the welcome speakers in small group discussions and campus tours hosted by O-Teams, UCF resources, spirit and pride leave a positive impression on parents and students.

So what do parents say about this program? Well, some parents shared the following on their Orientation survey evaluations:

- "We learned so much and feel great about the orientation. Excellent 10 stars!"
- "My husband and I were very impressed with the orientation. We found a single unpleasant person at UCF—not in administration, not in staff, not in custodial, etc. NOT one. We are impressed."
- "I enjoyed the collaboration of ideas and sharing methods that work," says Lisa Minnick, associate director of Student Financial Assistance. "It's really nice to become better acquainted with the professionals that bring the great student to UCF."
- "It is important for parents to be meaningfully involved as partners with their student and the university especially during this critical time of change and transition into the collegiate experience," says Craig Ullom, associate vice president of Campus Life. "It is imperative that all stakeholders have an awareness and understanding of our changing roles and the expectations of our evolving relationship as we collaboratively support the success of UCF students."

Parents do not leave empty handed either. They are given a Family Handbook that may be used as a resource guide of the services available to their sons or daughters. They also receive a calendar, Days and Knights of UCF created by SDES to acquaint them with the challenges as well as the deadlines students will be facing. UCF’s newspaper, The Central Florida Future, is sure to be mentioned in the handed out in the back of a parent program include college meetings with academic deans, an overview of academic policies and resources, an ice cream social with Alumni Services and presentations by a variety of campus services.

One of the last sessions parents experience is called Letting Go. The letting go process is one of those life events where both parents and college students experience a sensory awareness of the changes in their lives. It marks the beginning of a new era where parents may change their relationship from authority or control more of a partnership. Navigation of this transition is critical that important balance on the continuum between under- and over-involvement is critical for parents in fostering healthy adult development in college students. "It is important for parents to be meaningfully involved as partners with their student and the university especially during this critical time of change and transition into the collegiate experience," says Craig Ullom, associate vice president of Campus Life. "It is imperative that all stakeholders have an awareness and understanding of our changing roles and the expectations of our evolving relationship as we collaboratively support the success of UCF students."

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Students in the food preparation class introduce themselves, tell students about their food experiences and receive their appliance from the group.

O-Team is a great concept, especially with the transition to helping parents understand the students' experience.

Thank you for making us feel welcome and important. The program was well structured, organized, friendly and informative.

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As important for parents to be meaningfully involved as partners with their student and the university especially during this critical time of change and transition into the collegiate experience," says Craig Ullom, associate vice president of Campus Life. "It is imperative that all stakeholders have an awareness and understanding of our changing roles and the expectations of our evolving relationship as we collaboratively support the success of UCF students."

Parents do not leave empty handed either. They are given a Family Handbook which may be used as a resource guide of the services available to their sons or daughters. They also receive a calendar, Days and Knights of UCF created by SDES to acquaint them with the challenges as well as the deadlines students will be facing. UCF’s newspaper, The Central Florida Future, is sure to be mentioned in the handed out in the back of a parent program include college meetings with academic deans, an overview of academic policies and resources, an ice cream social with Alumni Services and presentations by a variety of campus services.

One of the last sessions parents experience is called Letting Go. The letting go process is one of those life events where both parents and college students experience a sensory awareness of the changes in their lives. It marks the beginning of a new era where parents may change their relationship from authority or control more of a partnership. Navigation of this transition is critical that important balance on the continuum between under- and over-involvement is critical for parents in fostering healthy adult development in college students.