Staff Help Out During and After Charley

Although Hurricane Charley tore up most of the campus, it also brought together the dedicated Campus Life staff. On August 12, when the decision was made to close the campus for the storm event, the Housing and Residence Life team began to make preparations to house and feed the residence life staff, students and essential university personnel, who would be on-campus during the storm. Other actions taken were to protect the buildings, equipment and records.

The next day, the on-campus residence life staff and residents were moved to Citrus Hall with emergency equipment. A shelter was set up for essential personnel and their families in Sumter Hall. UCF Dining Services brought food and water to the halls for lunch, dinner and the following morning for everyone in Sumter and Citrus halls. Affiliated staff went back to Pegasus Landing to ride out the storm with the residents of that community.

Housing and Residence Life staff answered department phones starting on Saturday at noon and continued to do so through Sunday. Information updates were provided continuously on the Housing and Residence Web site. Additional housing for essential staff was set up in Osceola Hall to accommodate those who were working to get the campus safe and operational again.

In the storm’s aftermath on Saturday morning, a select number of staff members naturally migrated back to campus to assess damages to the main student centered buildings, the Student Union and Recreation and Wellness Center. The Student Union staff was relieved to find no significant damage, but the Recreation Center was without its roof. The members of both staffs worked together for the next two days to relocate as much equipment as possible to the dry parts of the building.

The Off-Campus Student Services’ staff was involved on a daily basis meeting with student apartment community management, assessing livability of off-campus housing, and responding to the concerns and questions of parents and students living in the community. Staff from Student Leadership Programs and Greek Affairs were involved in damage assessment, communication of information and working with security chapter leaders to address changes in fall rush events.

“This selfless dedication and commitment to UCF is a community value that should make us all very proud,” says Craig Ulloa, associate vice president, Campus Life.

The Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) was hit hard by Hurricane Charley. Nonetheless, recreation and wellness programs will still be available this semester. The professional and student staff have worked hard to make preparations to house and feed the campus community and to re-open the RWC. The RWC is now up for essential personnel and their families. A shelter was set up in Osceola Hall to accommodate those who were working to get the campus safe and operational again.

The RWC Campus Wellness Center was damaged by the hurricane. “Charley took us down, but not out,” says Terri Langford, Wellness Coordinator. “Please visit our new Campus Wellness Center located in Osceola Hall, first floor.”

Hurricane Charley caused a two-day delay for students to Check-in for on-campus housing. On August 17 and 18, students and their family members could be seen carrying boxes and bags into the housing resident halls.

SDES Members Join Crisis Team in Polk County

Three SDES Counseling Center members were called out to Polk County by the Florida Crisis Response Team (FLCRT) to provide crisis counseling to individuals and families who were affected by the hurricane. Valerie Wilson, Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Specialist, Student Counseling; Germaine Graham, Psychologist; and Megan Greene, Specialist, Student Counseling are certified crisis responders with National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) and FLCRT.

Wilson, Graham and Greene provided crisis counseling to first responders who have been working since the week before the hurricane. They also assisted in the following areas:

- Community outreach—visited mobile home communities where there was the most devastation and destruction and provided crisis debriefing, local information and referrals.
- Shelters and distribution centers—provided mental health services to special needs shelters and at the distribution centers, they provided crisis support and assisted the Red Cross and Salvation Army in distributing food, ice and water.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)—assisted survivors seeking FEMA services as well FEMA workers. They provided crisis intervention with individuals who were distressed and frustrated with the process. They provided crisis intervention with families at the FEMA center and assisted Spanish-speaking individuals through the process.

Wilson, Graham and Greene made approximately 550 contacts from August 19-22.

Welcome Expo 2004

Students could check out information on clubs, organizations, departments and various SDES services at the Welcome Expo 2004 on August 27. Staff was on hand to answer students’ questions. Brochures and flyers were available on the tables. Tables pictured left to right: Student Health Services and Career Resource Center.

UCF Knighted 2004

The divisional newsletter published throughout the year to provide information about SDES

Students Are Welcomed to UCF for Fall 2004

Students are welcomed to UCF by various SDES events, such as the New Student Convocation, LINK (Learning and Interacting with New Knights) Luau, Got Questions and Welcome Expo 2004.

Students Have Fun at LINK LUAU Before Classes Begin

Take a Velcro wall, bungee bull, joust, barbecue food, a balloon artist and karaoke, and what do you get—the second annual LINK Luau. Approximately 1,000 students braved the rainy weather on August 21 from 6 to 9 p.m. on the Student Resource Center lawn to enjoy a meal and fun at the kick-off program of the year—the LINK Luau. Sponsored by the LINK First Year Experience Program, SGA, UCF Dining Services and Business Services, the LINK Luau is just one of many programs that help first-year students get connected to UCF. First-year students can choose from a wide variety of programs offered through the LINK Program each semester. For each program that a first-year student participates in, he/she will receive LINK Loot points. The first-year students who attended the LINK Luau received 1,000 points. LINK Loot points can be used to bid on free prizes at an auction at the end of each semester. The LINK Program will be giving away $1,200 in tuition again this year. "The LINK Luau is a great way for new students to get together, mingle and have some fun before classes begin," says Rebecca Morales, coordinator of the LINK Program. For more information about the LINK First Year Experience Program, visit www.link.ucf.edu.

Students who attended the LINK Luau received 1,000 points. LINK Loot points can be used to bid on free prizes at an auction at the end of each semester. The LINK Program will be giving away $1,200 in tuition again this year.

Family attends New Student Convocation for Second Time

The Aughton family attended their son’s David’s New Student Convocation program on August 21, 2004 as they did when his sister, Lindsay, was an incoming freshman.

“We did enjoy the ceremony and liked the video preceding the ceremony,” said Maureen Aughton, David and Lindsay’s mother. “My mom commented at the dinner following that she found it very interesting to learn about the history of the region and the university.”

The UCF Creed and traditions are introduced to first-year students and their families at the New Student Convocation.
Welcome Aboard New SDES Employees

- Stephanie Baysing, Admission/Registrar officer, Undergraduate Admissions
- Kacy Cordwell, program assistant, Registrar’s Office
- Julie Escobar, senior financial officer, Student Financial Assistance
- Sylvia "Patty" Farris, Student Affairs coordinator, Dispute Resolution Services
- Mary Goetze, program assistant, Registrar’s Office
- Alicia Phillips, program assistant, Registrar’s Office
- Alicia Pinoeiro, senior financial officer, Student Financial Assistance
- Robert Springhill, associate director, Undergraduate Admissions
- Tia Sutherland, Academic Support Services coordinator, Registrar’s Office

Sylvia Farris

Sylvia "Patty" Farris is the new coordinator of Dispute Resolution Services, Counseling Life.

Brenda Posey was promoted from office manager to administrative assistant. Posey has been employed with the university for over four years and worked for the Activity and Service Fee Business Office for two of those years during which time she completed her master’s degree in liberal studies.

Awards and Recognition

- Patricia MacKown and Michelle Kuo of Student Disability Services gave a presentation on student-athletes with disabilities at the national conference for the Association for Higher Education and Disabilities (AHEAD) held at Miami Beach, Florida in July. As a result of this presentation, AHEAD may make this topic a preconference institute next year.

Elvis Wamanaeker Honored as Employee of the Month

Kudos to Elvis Wamanaeker, Admissions Officer, First Year Transitions, winner of July UCF Employee of the Month.

"A long-time employee of UCF, Elvis has gone well beyond the expected, not out of his own comfort level and has made significant new contributions to our office," says Charlene Stinard, assistant director for Transfer Services. "His willingness to do more, to extend himself, to take on new training in order to help the unit are examples and commitment to collaboration, excellence and a caring service attitude that exemplify Transfer Services and First Year Transitions."

What’s Cooking SDES?

Over 100 SDES employees enjoyed a BBQ hosted by the SDES Council on August 2. The menu consisted of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, corn bread, corn, baked beans and soda. The SDES BBQ gave employees the opportunity to come together and socialize before the busy fall semester began.

Many thanks to the SDES Council and very special thanks to Joe Paulick, Bob Boyle and T. J. Greggs, Housing and Residence Life, Craig Ullom, Campus Life, Linda Hayes, Office of Vice President, SDES, and the University House.

Florida Colleges Share Ideas at Student Conduct/Judicial Affairs Conference

The Office of Student Conduct at UCF, conducting a Judicial Affairs/Student Conduct Summer 2004 Drive-In Conference on July 23. The conference provided an informal setting for Florida judicial and housing officers to come together and discuss pertinent issues and/or topics they are facing. Attendees shared ideas and resources and got acquainted with fellow judicial/housing officer colleagues from around the state.

The conference was sponsored by Association for Student Judicial Affairs (ASJA) and the UCF Office of Student Conduct. Conference attendees included SDES Vice President Tom Hildreth and Campus Life Associate Vice President Craig Ullem, as well as students and staff from the UCF’s Student Conduct, Dispute Resolution Services, and Housing and Residence, Students and staff from the University of Florida, Florida Southern College, Florida Atlantic University, Rollins College, University of North Florida, Florida State University, Florida International University and Mercer University were in attendance.

Pegasus Retention Rocks

Not only did this year’s Pegasus Success Program rock, the retention rate was rock solid. Of the 2003-2004 year, 92 students enrolled in a single day and achieved summer admission Pegasus Success Program, 89 attained the grades necessary to return in the fall, a success rate of 97 percent.

"This is a noteworthy achievement for the program and a substantial leap in the direction of one of Academic Development and Student Affairs’ initiatives, to expand the year retention for FTIC students," said Sandra Macauley, coordinator for the Pegasus Success Program, "With the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) as their first year advising office, the 2004 Pegasus Success students have set in place their keystone to academic success.”

Student Leaders serve as Ambassadors

Student Ambassadors serve as leaders for prospective UCF students and families. These students direct the campus tours, assist the Office of Undergraduate Admissions (UA) during the eight Open House events, UA selected 10 ambassadors for the 2004-2005 year from a record-breaking 48 applications. The Undergraduate Admissions Office has also initiated an ambassador program at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management. The staff of UA thanks the student ambassadors for their dedication and hard work.

Center Ranks Top 100

The University Testing Center (FTC) was recognized by the College Board as being one of the top 100 CLEP test centers in the nation. The FTC has received the College Board Examination Program (CLEP) exams. The UCF staff is committed to promoting access to higher education for all students.

The UCF Creed

What You Want–concepts of assertiveness and its impact on one’s relationship and self-esteem.

What’s Cooking SDES? Over 100 SDES employees enjoyed a BBQ hosted by the SDES Council on August 2. The menu consisted of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, corn bread, corn, baked beans and soda. The SDES BBQ gave employees the opportunity to come together and socialize before the busy fall semester began. Many thanks to the SDES Council and very special thanks to Joe Paulick, Bob Boyle and T. J. Greggs, Housing and Residence Life, Craig Ullom, Campus Life, Linda Hayes, Office of Vice President, SDES.

The fall calendar is as follows:

- September 13: Time Management–planning, setting priorities and making a schedule.

For more information, visit: www.counseling.sdes.ucf.edu.
Elvis Wamakoner Honored as Employee of the Month
Kudos to Elvis Wamakoner, Admissions/Registrar Office, First Year Transitions, winner of July USSP Employee of the Month.
“A long-time employee of UCF, Elvis has gone way beyond the expected, more out of his own comfort level and has made significant contributions to our office,” says Charlene Stinard, assistant director for Transfer Services. “His willingness to do more, to extend himself, to take on new training in order to help the unit are examples and commitment to collaboration, excellence and a caring service attitude that exemplify Transfer Services and First Year Transitions.”

What’s Cooking SDES?
Over 100 SDES employees enjoyed a BBQ hosted by the SDES Council on August 2. The menu consisted of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, corn bread, corn, baked beans and soda. The SARC BBQ gave employees the opportunity to come together and socialize in the busy fall semester began.
Many thanks to the SDES Council and very special thanks to Joe Paulick, Bob Boyle and T. J. Greggs, Housing and Residence Life, Craig Ullom, Campus Life, Linda Haynes, Office of Vice President, SDES.

Sylvia ‘Patty’ Farris is the new coordinator of Dispute Resolution Services, Career Life. Brenda Posey was promoted from office manager to administrative assistant. Posey was awarded with the university for over four years and worked for the Activity and Service Fee Business Office for two of those years during which time she completed her master’s degree in Liberal Studies.

Awards and Recognition
• Patricia MacKown and Michelle Kuo of Student Financial Assistance attended the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators conference in June. From her perspective, she says, “It was very helpful to attend the conference because I could learn from other professionals in the field and share ideas.”

Presentations
• Mary Aman and Phil Kalfin from Student Disabilities Services gave a presentation on student-athletes with disabilities at the national conference for the Association for Higher Education and Disabilities (AHEAD) held at Miami Beach, July 21. As a result of this presentation, AHEAD may make this topic a preconference institute next year.

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 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 any endeavor I undertake.

Points of Pride...
LINK and OCSS Take the Show on the Road
Learning and Interacting with New Knights (LINK) and Office of Student Conduct/Student Services (OCSS) are collaborating to bring programming opportunities to neighboring communities this fall. The management staff of participating properties will host the events, execute an aggressive marketing campaign and provide enough food and drink to include all attendees.
Many SDES partners are getting on board to offer services at the events, such as the Campus Wellness Center and Student Academic Resource Center (SARC). All UCF students and staff are invited to participate, and all links students will earn LINK Loot. The fall calendar is as follows:
• College Defense: Protect Your Most Valuable Assets September 20 @ 7 p.m.
• Hosted by Jefferson Commons, Orange County Sheriff’s Office and UCF Police Department will provide information about the latest safety strategies; engravers will be available to engrave valuables.
• Pegasus Retention Rocks: Smooth Move! October 26 @ 7 p.m.
• Hosted by Boardwalk Apartments UCF Dietician will talk about nutrition; free food and giveaways.

What You Want–concepts of assertiveness
Time Management–planning, setting priorities and making a schedule
For more information, visit: www.counseling.sdes.ucf.edu
SDES Members Join Crisis Team in Polk County

Three SDES Counseling Center members were called out to Polk County by the Florida Crisis Response Team (FLCRT) to provide crisis counseling to individuals and families who were affected by the hurricane. Valerie Wilson, Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) Specialist, Student Counseling; Germaine Graham, Psychologist; and Megan Greene, Specialist, Student Counseling are certified crisis responders with National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) and FLCRT.

Wilson, Graham and Greene provided crisis counseling to first responders who have been working since the week before the hurricane. They also assisted in the following areas:
- Community outreach—visited mobile home communities where there was the most devastation and destruction and provided crisis debriefing, local information and referrals.
- Shelters and distribution centers—provided mental health services to special needs shelters and at the distribution centers, they provided crisis support and assisted the Red Cross and Salvation Army in distributing food, ice and water.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)—assisted survivors seeking FEMA services as well FEMA workers. They provided crisis intervention with individuals who were distressed and frustrated with the process. They provided crisis intervention with children at the FEMA center and assisted Spanish speaking individuals through the process.

Hurricane Charley caused a two-day delay for students in Check-in for on-campus housing. On August 17 and 18, students and their family members could be seen carrying boxes and bags into the housing resident halls.

The Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) was hit hard by Hurricane Charlie. None-the-less, recreation and wellness programs will still be available this semester. The RWC was set up in Osceola Hall to accommodate students and programs that help first-year students get connected to UCF. First-year students can choose from a wide variety of programs offered through the LINK Program each semester. For each program that a first-year student participates in, he/ she will receive LINK Loot points. The first-year students who attended the LINK Luau received 1,000 points. LINK Loot points can be used to bid on free prizes at an auction at the end of each semester. The LINK Program will be giving away $1,300 in tuition again this year. "The LINK Luau is just one of many programs that help first-year students to get together, mingle and have some fun before classes begin," says Rebecca Morales, coordinator of the LINK Program. For more information about the LINK First Year Experience Program, visit www.link.ucf.edu.

The RWC Campus Wellness Center was damaged by the hurricane. "Charley took us down, but not out," says Tami Langfeld, Wellness Coordinator. "Please visit our new Campus Wellness Center location in Osceola Hall, first floor."