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**Fraternity President Wins Top Awards**

UCF student Ryan O’Rourke received two national awards at Sigma Alpha Epsilon’s (SAE) John Mosley Leadership School in St. Charles, Illinois. O’Rourke, a former Interfraternity Council president and current president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon here at UCF, received the Outstanding President Award. In addition to his role as chapter president, he is the director of Campus Life for the Student Government Association and the recruitment director for the UCF Dance Marathon.

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**SDES Members Assist in Hurricane Aftermath**

SDES members, who are certified crisis responders with National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) and Florida Response Team (FLCRT), assisted the UCF community with the aftermath of Hurricane Charley. Among these SDES members were Student Health Services staff members: Claudia Witcher and Christi Oberbeck, and Counseling Center members: Jessica Carlson, Valerie Wilson, Megan Creemore and Garmany Graham were available for crisis response debriefing to assist students who may have needed to discuss or process their hurricane experience.

A special thank you to all the SDES and RWC staff that assisted before, during and after each hurricane to assure the safety and well-being of the UCF community.

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**Spotlight is on Continuous Quality Improvements**

Each year Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES) reports, along with the rest of the university’s academic and administrative units, report their institutional effectiveness assessment plans and results to the Divisional and University Assessment Committees. The committees review the plans and results to measure how well the university is progressing towards the goal of continuous quality improvement.

In the course of conducting these reviews, the committees come across assessment plans and results that truly model the institutional effectiveness standards the university is striving to reach. At the recent Annual Institutional Effectiveness Report to the President, four SDES departments (along with four other university departments) presented their model plans for review.

The department heads and their staff from Housing and Residence Life, Career Services and Experiential Learning (former Career Resource Center), Student Academic Resource Center and the Student Union are to be commended for their exemplary efforts.

Surveys were administered to a census sample of participating employers during the Fall 2002 and the Spring 2003 Career Expos. Based upon the findings, Career Services and Experiential Learning has developed and are implementing an aggressive employer outreach program; implemented an innovative new-employer relationship management system; submitted a new funding and organizational proposal that was approved by the university; secured new recruiting funding; and created a centralized organization for employers to recruit top talent for internships, Cooperative Education opportunities and part-time and full-time jobs.

**Student Development and Enrollment Services**

http://www.sdes.ucf.edu

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“With all the ominous news of the hurricane for us in Florida, it is so good to be able to welcome a new judge to our Student Legal Services family,” said Patt MacKowen, assistant vice president and director for Students Rights and Responsibilities.

“Congratulations to University of Central Florida’s Mike Murphy our very own Orange County judge elected on August 31. Yeah, Mike we have always known how good you are.”

Michael Murphy came to UCF in April 2001. He graduated from Winter Park High School and received his law degree at the University of Florida. Murphy has been practicing law for nine years.

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UCF Gospel and Cultural Choir

Multicultural Students Connect to UCF

On September 16, multicultural students were welcomed to the fall semester at the Ninth Annual Fall Welcome Program. Multicultural students had the opportunity to meet and network with other students, faculty and staff. The program included speakers, musical selection by the UCF Gospel and Cultural Choir, and a reception following the program.

In the opening remarks, Provost Terry Hickey invited students to get involved in the UCF community and to embrace diversity.

Students Check Out Academic Support Services at Fair

The Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) held a Learning Fair for students on September 14 showcasing the academic support services available to assist them during their college years. The Learning Fair was a first-time initiative for SARC and targeted freshmen students. SARC, University Testing Center, Counseling Center, First Year Advising and Exploration, Campus Wellness Center, Library, Math Lab, University Writing Center and Chemistry Club were among many academic support tables showcasing their informational pamphlets and promotional items.

Students, staff members, and peers were on-hand to assist and answer students’ questions.

In addition, eight academic workshops were offered to enhance students’ learning and/or academic skills covering topics on time management, effective note-taking, strategies in multiple-choice tests and stress management. By attending the Learning Fair, first-year students earned LINK (Learning and Interacting with New Knights) loot that could be used later in the semester at the LINK auction. Food and door prizes were also provided. The Learning Fair was created to foster academic success and retain students through the development of relevant academic skills, and through increased awareness of learning support services on campus. There were 133 students who participated, and of those, over 80 percent were freshmen. Students’ comments about the Learning Fair included, “I’ve gone to many time management workshops, but this is by far the best,” and “It was very helpful. I learned a lot on how I should study.”

Upcoming Self-Discovery Knights Schedule

The Counseling Center offers students the Self-Discovery Knights series on topics concerning personal development and self-improvement.

The following presentations will be held in the Student Union, Key West room 208A, 12-1:30 p.m.

• October 4 – Surviving in Close Quarters: Dealing with Roommates
• October 18 – Facing the College Challenge: What to Expect in the Next Four Years
• October 25 – What Happens When Romances End: Relationship Break-ups
• November 1 – Improve Your College Life with Stress Management

For more information, visit: www.counseling.sdes.ucf.edu.

The Counseling Center is open Monday and Thursdays till 7 p.m.

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 champion 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 towards the highest standards of performance in any endeavor I undertake.

SDCES Council 2003 - 2004

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

Sandra Bulger 407.362.5138
Alison Smith 407.362.5133
Brenda Posey 407.362.5134
Dakota Reynolds 407.362.5131
Maria Santiago 407.362.5133

Welcome Back at Rosen College

Rosen College of Hospitality Management (RCHM) students were welcomed back to the fall semester with activities and scheduled events. Campus hosted campus tours, fitness orientations, team building skills, educational workshops and fun social activities. Students had the opportunity to create sand art bottles or necklaces, get their photos taken, have themselves drawn on a movie screen (digital caricatures) and play a Giant Twister game.

Hospitality clubs and organizations information was available to students. Students also had the opportunity to have their hair and nails done by Rosen Medical Center. Refreshments included snow cones, cotton candy, popcorn and cookies.

Students participated in the sand art activity at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management Welcome Back.

Ericka Dunlap’s Reign Ends

UCF senior Ericka Dunlap ended her reign as Miss America 2004 in Atlantic City on September 18. She has traveled extensively both in the United States and abroad promoting her platform on cultural diversity and inclusiveness. It was a bittersweet week for Dunlap. She looks forward to her return to UCF in January 2005 to complete her degree; yet, she has enjoyed the spotlight in her travels and personal appearances, especially her visit to the troops in Kuwait last Thanksgiving.

During the first Miss America preliminary, Dunlap sang her competition song from last September 18. She has traveled extensively both in the United States and abroad promoting her platform on cultural diversity and inclusiveness. It was a bittersweet week for Dunlap. She looks forward to her return to UCF in January 2005 to complete her degree; yet, she has enjoyed the spotlight in her travels and personal appearances, especially her visit to the troops in Kuwait last Thanksgiving.

In the closing remarks, Celeste Ferguson, interim associate director for Multicultural Academic and Support Services (MASS), remarked, “The program provided an opportunity to put a human face on UCF and encouraged the students to try new directions, and to respectfully challenge all accepted ideas.”

The event was sponsored by MASS and the Multicultural Student Center (MSC) and had over 150 people in attendance.

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Representatives from the colleges and multicultural student organizations greeted the new students. UCF alumni Felix Soto-Toro, project manager, NASA, was the keynote speaker.

“The running theme throughout the program was to encourage students to get involved and connected to the UCF community, and I believe many students were encouraged to do so,” said Chantel Carter, assistant director for the Office of Student Involvement.

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- RWC administration offices are open for business. Entrance to the administration offices will only be through the second floor, side patio entrance, by academic village. Temporary location facility hours will be posted on the RWC Web site: www.rwc.ucf.edu. Partial occupancy of the RWC is anticipated for December. This will include the cardio area, weights and the climbing wall. For more information, call 407.823.2408.

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October 2004

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Vol. VII, No. 4

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