

Rec Center Re-Opens With Celebrated Festivities

The Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) facility suffered damage through the 2004 hurricane season but will be in full swing with its Grand Re-Opening on January 10.

The RWC facility lost its roof and suffered damage to its interior of the building from Hurricane Charley in August. The inside of the building had to be repaired and much of the equipment had to be replaced. Recreation and wellness programs were made available at alternate locations for students and members. The alternate locations included: affiliated housing Pegasus Landing Fitness Rooms, Business Services Live Oak and Garden Rooms, Education Building Gym and Athletics fields. A special thanks goes to Richard Stallworth in Business Services for his help in arranging the Live Oak and Garden Rooms for the Group Exercise programming, and also to Coach Speraw and the UCF Cheerleaders for working with Intramural programming in scheduling the Education Building Gym.

By November 1, the front half of the RWC facilities opened including: the cardio floor, weight floor, spinning room, locker rooms and climbing tower. The advanced re-construction schedule was a result of the teamwork of many people and organizations. The participants included: the UCF administrative leadership, SGA, and Richard Paradise, director of the Physical Plant and his staff. The RWC staff reported the reconstruction management and labor of Belfor Company had been



Students and faculty/staff members will celebrate the Grand Re-Opening day of the Recreation and Wellness Center on January 10.

excellent. The RWC staff also stated that the Belfor leadership of Kevin Bryant and on-site manager Dwayne Stock had been both professional and inspiring. In addition, recognition is due to the RWC maintenance and custodial staffs who prepared for and cleaned up after hurricanes. The staff's continued extra efforts have resulted in the advanced opening. "Luck is where preparation meets opportunity," said William Ehling, director for RWC. "The RWC past staffs and Suzi Halpin* had compiled excellent documentation regarding facility equipment and the necessary contact information to propel this restoration."

The RWC grand re-opening of January 10 will be a day of festivities including: scheduled activities, demonstrations, guest speakers, food, fun and prizes. The Campus Wellness Center will join the celebration with Massage, Stress Management and Smoothie Programs. It will be a celebration day for students, members and those who contributed to the reconstruction process. Food and attendance prizes will be available throughout the day. A Re-Opening Ceremony/Recognition Program is scheduled

at 4 p.m., followed by a scheduled activity presented by each of the RWC program areas including: Intramural Dodgeball, Group Exercise Master Class, Sports Club demonstrations and Outdoor Adventure Climbing Tower Challenge.

Students have confirmed that the facilities are better than before. According to one student, "The facilities are more functional and the overall appearance of the gym has improved dramatically." Another student commented, "Very Modern and Inviting."

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



The RWC was hit hard by Hurricane Charley and suffered significant damage.

*Suzi Halpin is director of Student Union.

RWC Features:

- Multi-purpose Gymnasium
- Jogging Track
- Two-level Cardiovascular Fitness and Weight Area
- Climbing Tower
- Group Exercise Room
- Locker Rooms
- Wellness Suite
- Exterior Pool and Deck
- Exterior Sand Volleyball
- Outdoor Basketball and Tennis Courts

People in the News...

Welcome Aboard New SDES Employees

- **David Allen**, assistant director, Career Services and Experiential Learning (CSEL)
- **Tina Aulita**, assistant director, CSEL
- **Janet Griffin**, coordinator, Computer Applications, Student Health Center
- **Catherine Steel**, director, Counseling Center
- **Mary Jane Suarez**, assistant director, CSEL

Division Presentations

• **Bill Faulkner** (Student Leadership Programs) was recently invited to present and act as a group facilitator at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators/National Clearinghouse for Leadership Programs (NASPA/NCLP) Leadership Educators Institute for entry and mid-level professionals in Greensboro, N.C., December 2004. Faulkner was asked to present two sessions on Assessing Student Leadership Programs as well as lead a round-table discussion on Strategies for Implementing Full-Day Leadership Retreats. In addition, he was asked to act as one of the facilitators who led a group of ten other professionals during the conference.

Publications

• **Dennis Congos** (First Year Advising and Exploration) coauthored with W. Michael Burgan (Metropolitan State College of Denver), *The Learning Skills Professional as a Therapist?*, *Best Practices for Access and Retention in Higher Education*, 2004.

SDES Council 2004 - 2005

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.



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Check out Staff News and Information at www.sdes.ucf.edu. Holiday Social photos are on the Web.

If you have any ideas, suggestions or comments, please contact a SDES Council member: sdescoun@mail.ucf.edu.



On December 1, the Creative School for Children students sat on the steps of Millican Hall listening to the music of the UCF Brass Ensemble Band.

Charlene Stinard Promoted to Director

The Office of First Year Transitions announced Charlene Stinard has assumed the responsibilities of director of Transfer and Transition Services. In 14 years of service to UCF, Stinard has been a member of the Political Science Department faculty, served as assistant University Registrar, associate director of Undergraduate Admissions, and assistant director of Transfer Services. She was the recipient of the 2001 UCF award for Excellence in Professional Academic Advising.



According to DeLaine Priest, interim assistant vice president for First Year Transitions, "Ms. Stinard is student oriented and very committed to providing excellence in all that she does."

Under Stinard's leadership, transfer students will continue to receive assistance in their preparation for and their transition to UCF. With the addition of transition advising, the reorganization of the office provides: opportunities to serve additional at-risk student populations, including those who have not declared a major, entering freshman who bring 45 credit hours or more, and students changing majors or not admitted to limited access programs.

According to Stinard, "I am excited about the opportunity to continue my service to transitioning students in a new leadership position. UCF has for several years been in the forefront of programming and services for transfer students. I look forward to continuing the excellence begun under Dr. Mark Allen Poisel's leadership."

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.



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

SDES Employees Awarded Educational Leave

The Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Programs "Employee Educational Leave Program" supports paid educational leave for education and employee development leading to promotion. SDES employees, Diana Weidman, Campus Life director for the Eastern Region, and Linda Haynes, office manager, for the Office of the Vice President, SDES, were selected to participate in this program for spring 2005.

Weidman is pursuing her doctorate in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.). She plans to complete her dissertation during her leave January 10-May 2. For assistance during Weidman's absence, please contact Lynn Voiret, at the Daytona Campus Life Office at 386-506-4024 or e-mail: lvoiret@mail.ucf.edu.

Haynes is pursuing a master's degree in Computing Technology in Education at Nova Southeastern University with an anticipated graduation date of June 2005. During her leave, she will be working with online programs and focusing on instructional design and accessibility for students with disabilities at an internship offered by Course Development and Web Services (CDWS).

Please submit your February 2005 UKnighted newsletter articles to jpardo@mail.ucf.edu by January 15.

Points of Pride. . .



SARC Ends Fall 2004 with Record Numbers

The fall semester had record numbers for the Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) in the area of Academic Support Services to UCF students. Over 13,000 students participated in tutoring (5,000) and Supplemental Instruction (SI) (8,000)

sessions. These record numbers are due in large part to the commitment and dedication of the SARC peer tutors and SI leaders. They were very proactive in collaborating with faculty and communicating with professors on a regular basis regarding assistance. New approaches to delivering services included conducting SI sessions in the Academic Village and the tutors providing review sessions prior to mid-terms and finals. SARC tutors and SI leaders provided 35 final review sessions in 17 different subject areas.

Over 1,000 students took advantage of either a final review session or the opportunity to study in the SARC lab between the hours of 8 p.m.-8 a.m. This is an increase of over 400 students from the spring 2004 semester.

SARC established a partnership with the Student Government Association to provide free scantrons, food and drinks available for those UCF students burning the midnight oil in the lab.



Knightro joined the fun on the tennis court at UCF's First Annual Tennis Fair.

Students Participate in UCF's Tennis Fair

UCF's held its First Annual Tennis Fair on November 19 to promote awareness of the USA Team Tennis Program on College Campuses. Intramural Sports, UCF Tennis Club, United States Tennis Association (USTA) Tennis on the Move, E-Tennis of Winter Park collaborated on this educational, fun event with over 100 participants.

The fair was supported by a grant received from National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) and USTA. USA Tennis Florida's Tennis On The Move awarded prizes to the winners. E-Tennis of Winter Park had over 40 demo rackets on-hand for students to try out. The UCF Tennis Club provided: free shirts, drinks, snacks, games and lessons, a courtesy of NIRSA and USTA Tennis on the Move.

In addition to all of these activities, participants could sign up for a doubles tournament consisting of faculty versus students. For more information on UCF Tennis Club, contact the Recreation and Wellness Center at 407.823.2408 or visit: www.rec.ucf.edu.

Rechartered Honor Society Initiates Students

After five years of being inactive on campus, Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society, the oldest and largest freshman honor society, was rechartered at UCF and initiated 176 new members on November 12.

Present at the ceremony was Jack Sagabiel, president emeritus of the Association of College Honor Societies, who helped with the rechartering process.

According to Stephen O'Connell, assistant director of First Year Advising and Exploration (FYAE) and advisor to Phi Eta Sigma, the honor society promotes the academic success of first-year students and is continued throughout their time at the university and beyond. Students with a 3.5 GPA after the fall or spring semester of their first year are invited to join. Members pay the one-time fee and are initiated into the society become members for life.

Phi Eta Sigma members have opportunities to participate: in community outreach and social events, hold office positions for the campus chapter, attend the national conference, and apply for the society's scholarships. For its first outreach event, the UCF chapter is working with the Ripple Effect, an Orlando agency serving homeless citizens which was started by a UCF alumna.

O'Connell, who was asked in fall 2003 to look into a freshman honor society for campus, said, "I've had so much fun working with Phi Eta Sigma and the members. It's been a wonderful experience for me, and it's great when I can promote it to first-year students."



Left to Right: Jeff Stepp (student building manager), Kerry Welch (director, OSI), Suzi Halpin (director, Student Union) and Michael Chapin.

SDES Takes a Swing on the Green

The first Student Union Turkey Golf Tournament took place over the Thanksgiving Holiday. In the spirit of the building community, SDES employees and friends got together for some fun outside the work environment. First Place participants (pictured) were awarded the silver tray and finished seven under par. Second Place team included: Ed Luther, Dave Springsteen and Betsy Guerrero (SU), and Shane Juntunen (OSI). They followed up strong with a score of six under. Third place was awarded to the All Maintenance and Operations Team: Leon Boyd, Rick Falco, John Morris and Gary Campbell (SU).

This will be an annual golf tournament, so mark your calendars and plan to play next year.

Young Scientist at Work



Creative School for Children's 3-year-old class visited the Biology Lab for some special experiments. Cindy Bayer and Instructor, Suzie Caffery assisted the young future scientist with a special look at planera eating a snack.



Left to right: The SDES Choir—TJ Gregg (Housing and Residence Life), Dana Juntunen (Student Conduct), Karen Nguyen (Off-Campus Student Services), Edwana Andrews (Student Academic Resource Center), Angela McDonnell (Housing and Residence Life), Jorge Milanes (Housing and Residence Life), Karl Mooney (Academic Support for Student Athletes), Stefanie Rivero (Housing and Residence Life), and Triscia Panarello (Housing and Residence Life).

Many thanks to the SDES Council who hosted the SDES Holiday Social on December 6. SDES employees gathered to socialize, enjoy refreshments and holiday cheer. Entertainment was provided by Mr. UCF Charles Reuter and the SDES choir. SDES employees brought unwrapped gifts for the less fortunate. A special thank you to former SDES Council members, Debra Reynolds (Undergraduate Admissions) and Maria Santiago (Student Financial Assistance), who assisted in this holiday event. To view photos of the social, visit: www.sdes.ucf.edu; click on Staff News and Information and then SDES Holiday Social.

Families Benefit from Penny War

In the holiday spirit, the staff of Student Academic Resource Center (SARC) presented gift certificates and canned food baskets to six families of students attending Hungerford Preparatory Elementary School.

SARC continued its tradition of reaching out to the community by initiating the 2nd Annual Penny War in conjunction with: First Year Advising and Exploration, Multicultural Academic Support Services, Transfer and Transition Services, and Orientation Services. The five offices participated in the Penny War to raise money to purchase grocery store gift certificates for the Hungerford Preparatory Elementary School families; a total of \$250.00 was raised. The Academic Advising Council also assisted by collecting canned foods from the UCF advising community. The families were presented gift certificates and canned food baskets on December 20.

“Thank you to everyone for opening your cabinets, wallets and hearts, your generous donations were appreciated,” Edwana Andrews, SARC academic advisor.

Rosen Students Celebrate End-Of-Year Bash

Rosen College of Hospitality Management Campus Life hosted Casino Knight for students to relax and have fun. Students played Craps, Roulette, Black-Jack and Texas Holdem for prizes. Some prizes included tickets to nearby theme parks and restaurants. Food was provided by Smokey Bones and Roy’s. During finals week, the Rosen Centre Spa provided two massage therapists for mini-massages to relieve the stress of finals.



Rosen College of Hospitality Management will be celebrating their one year anniversary on January 12.



Student Union Staff

The Student Union (SU) custodial and maintenance staff posed for a photo at their holiday party. Thanks to the hard work of the SU staff, UCF’s SU was ranked one of the cleanliness facilities, according to a recent Educational Benchmarking Institute National Survey of Student Unions.

Property Managers Invited to Fall Meet and Greet

The Off-Campus Student Services (OCSS) hosted a meeting with the managers from several of the off-campus apartment communities. Aside from discussing current concerns, the managers heard from several speakers regarding services on-campus.

Germaine Graham, psychologist for the Counseling Center, provided a detailed presentation advising apartment managers on signs of a student in crisis and what they can do to connect with immediate resources. The managers were also updated on outreach programming and opportunities available to them through the collaboration between OCSS and Learning and Interacting with New Knights (LINK) First Year Experience Program.

All property managers were surveyed after the meeting and results indicated 100% of respondents strongly agree or agree with the statement, “When there is a problem or concern with a student residing on my property, I feel prepared to refer the student to the University Counseling Center.”

Many participants expressed that the information provided was valuable. They also said they would like to get together more often. OCSS is currently in the process of planning the spring meeting.

Two UCF Shuttles

Do you know the difference between them?



There are two distinct designs and names for the UCF shuttles. Pictured on the left is the off-campus bus which is called The UCF Shuttle. On the right is The Black and Gold, an on-campus bus. There are 10 on-campus stops for this bus service.

CORRECTION: An off-campus shuttle was pictured in error in the December UKnighted newsletter (article: Advisors Reaching Out to Students). It should have been a photo of the on-campus shuttle.



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FROM PROMISE TO PROMINENCE
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS