SDES Division Changes

• Mark Gumble is the new director for Academic Services for Student-Athletes. Gumble arrived to UCF from San Diego State University (SDSU), where he worked for seven years, including four years as director of Student-Athletes Services. During his tenure at SDSU, he implemented a mentoring program for student-athletes, which resulted in an increase in graduation rates, team Grade-Point-Averages and number of scholar-athletes.

• The new position of Academic Services for Student-Athletes was created to build a program that could serve the needs of all student-athletes, not only at the highest level but for all student-athletes, including those in developmental levels.

• Sabu Akram-Scales, coordinator for Student Disability Services (SDS), has been selected as the new director of ASSA and the SDS office for eight years. “We at Student Disability Services applaud her selection for this program and believe that her dedication to the university, its goals, diversity and students with disabilities make her an excellent choice for this program,” said Phil Kalfin, director.

• Joe Sciarrino is the new director for Hospitality Management. Sciarrino will be responsible for a budget of over eight million dollars, and the processing of over 350 employees. This position also supervises the operations of the SGA Ticket Center, SGA Computer Lab, and serves on numerous SGA and university committees.

Awards and Recognition

• Melanie Parker, executive director for Career Services and Experiential Learning, presented the Erin P. Bleisner Experiential Learning Award to Dennis Congos, academic advisor and College of Health and Public Service faculty member.

• Mel Bowers, director of Learning Resources, presented the William G. Bell Teaching Excellence Award to Bob Faust, director of UCF Student Health Services.

• Dennis Congos, academic advisor and College of Health and Public Service faculty member, was honored for his dedication to teaching and learning.

• Three-Day Conference

Health Services Hosts Three-Day Conference

UCF Student Health Services hosted the 2005 Sunbelt Conference at the Rosen Centre Hotel on International Drive. The Sunbelt Conference, held July 20-22, is an annual meeting of college and university student health professionals from all over the south. This year there were 70 attendees.

What is SDES’ role?

By now we have welcomed, oriented, counseled, and supported first-year students coming straight from high school or transferring from community colleges and other universities. We are especially pleased to be the host school this year and further establish UCF as a leader in the college health field.

The UCF Creed

INTEGRITY

I will practice and defend academic and ethical standards, purpose, and excellence; and foster student success and learning; and promote institutional commitment and persistence to graduation. We are dedicated to making early connections with success from the very start of students’ lives. Attention to the needs and concerns of first-year students coming straight from high school or transferring from community colleges and other universities is a cornerstone of our work. We dedicate our time, energy and talent to providing the support, encouragement and necessary resources that positively influence students’ success in their first year. We believe that concerns outside the classroom are best handled by participating in leadership opportunities, student government, volunteering, clubs and organizations, Internships, Supplemental Instruction, internships, Greek life, major fairs, LINK—First Year Experience programs, study abdroad, campus lecture series, campus Services, concerts and other opportunities, which are too many to list. Together with the faculty we strive to promote student learning and the intellectual environment that is purposeful and holistic by integrating curricular and co-curricular opportunities into one dynamic and effective UCF experience.

Student development is evident in outcomes such as strong personal identity and autonomy, moral and social development, career decision making, social responsibility, healthy behavior and meaningful interpersonal relationships. We expect that students will appreciate and actualize the core values of The UCF Creed—integrity, scholarship, community, creativity and excellence—in their conduct, performance and decisions not only as students but as alumni as well.

Student success at UCF is dependent on the successful integration of academic and social experiences that promote institutional commitment and persistence to graduation. We are dedicated to making early connections with success from the very start of students’ lives. Attention to the needs and concerns of first-year students coming straight from high school or transferring from community colleges and other universities is a cornerstone of our work. We dedicate our time, energy and talent to providing the support, encouragement and necessary resources that positively influence students’ success in their first year. We believe that concerns outside the classroom are best handled by participating in leadership opportunities, student government, volunteering, clubs and organizations, Internships, Supplemental Instruction, internships, Greek life, major fairs, LINK—First Year Experience programs, study abroad, campus lecture series, campus Services, concerts and other opportunities, which are too many to list. Together with the faculty we strive to promote student learning and the intellectual environment that is purposeful and holistic by integrating curricular and co-curricular opportunities into one dynamic and effective UCF experience.

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Office of Student Involvement

A Look Back: FYAE reminisces on Beginnings

(Two of a Four-Part Series—FYAE’s beginnings, present, and future.)

First Year Advising and Information Services (FY) opened its doors in spring ’96. FY introduced the program to freshmen during the fall ‘96 orientation, thus beginning its journey of providing academic advising services to UCF first-year students. According to Maneth Funke, executive director for Student First Time College (FTIC) students, and in that year FY was responsible for 1,100 students.

Gloria Laurenso, now director of FYAE, was FY’s first professional advisor; and Paul Vau, assistant director of FYAE, was the office’s first person to be hired outside of UCF. Rex Roberts, was the first FY advisor, and FYAE was one of those freshmen in ’96 served by First Year Advising. He said he remembers the “huge students, huge first year students, huge advisor help keep him on the right track. I switched my major twice my first year, so it was important to have one person to talk to and stay with.” That’s one of the advantages of our office,” said Roberts.

“CEP was an opportunity for me to make contact and be an e-mentor with a high school student,” says Densia Djalilah, University Registrar. “I look forward to actually meeting my student this year and putting a face and personality with the assigned e-mentor and getting to know my student.”

The Office of Student Involvement (OSI) has new and improved physical space and digital tools to help the University be more accessible to all students.

OSI now includes a virtual student calendar. OSI has more than doubled the number of cubic spaces they offer to Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) and can now host the cultivation of new students with their new print and work stations. The new wing of the Student Union (south of Patrinos Ballroom) is a spacious area that provides Multicultural Student Center (MSC) and Fraternity and Sorority Life more work space for those student groups.

The Student Government Association (SGA) also has new carpeting and furniture. These offices hosted Odyssey Orientation and Student Leadership Academy with students, staff and students to their renovated areas.

OSI has also redesigned their Web site to provide students and the university community with up-to-date information on all their services, adventures, and variety of co-curricular student activities and events. The site features a master calendar that also hosts their events and the university community and includes alerts for campus events. The site is accessible to all students.

The easy calendar feature will schedule academic students on topics such as releases for (Campus Activity Board, Homecoming, Knights of the Round Table, Late Knights, MCA, SCA, Fraternity and Sorority Life and Variable faculty) and UCF, but includes Athletics and Intramural events, LINK and Rosen College of Hospitality Management organizations. OCI also provides a variety of team data and UPs staff to students at their renovated areas.

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At fall orientation, students had the opportunity to register for their courses and met with an advisor. The advisor discussed how to study and how to prepare for final exams. At the Student First Time College (FTIC) students, and in that year FY was responsible for 1,100 students. Students also learned how to become motivated to study and how to prepare for final exams.

During the Fall semester—Get Ready for Fall 05 program held at the Heritage Activity Center, student learned about the many academic support services available during the fall semester and were directed to their own resources. Students also learned how to become motivated to study and how to prepare for final exams.

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Two Health Office Men

Student Health Services is excited about a recent merger of two of their departments, REACH, Health Education and the Campus Wellness Center. The new, combined group is now called Reach for Wellness. Reach for Wellness and student peer educators are now all located in the Recreation and Wellness Center with a stop shop that offers printed information, workshops, orientation programs and special events on such topics as: Rock Impact Comprehensive Health Assessment Motivation Program (CHAMP) tests, diet and nutrition, relaxation services (ascent), sexuality, and wellness issues. Reach for Wellness offers anonymous and confidential HIV testing using an oral test (no more needles). For more information, call 407.823.5841.

Office of Student Involvement

The Office of Student Involvement (OSI) has new and improved physical space and different tools for the W eb site. OSI now includes a virtual student calendar. OSI has more than doubled the number of cable spaces they offer to Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) and campus entities. All new offices are students with their new print and work stations. The new wing of the Student Union (south of Ferguson Balcony) is a spacious addition that provides multicultural Student Center (MSC) and Fraternity and Sorority Life more work space, coffee and a place for those student groups that are part of the Student Government Association (SGA) also has new carpeting and furniture. These offices hosted Open House and Student Union and faculty staff and students to their renovated areas.

OSI has also redesigned their Web site to provide students and the university community with current information on up-to-date details through the Office of Student Involvement’s (OSI) registered student organizations. OSI now includes a variety of co-curricular student activities and events. The site features a master calendar that not only lists OSI events (for Campus Activity Board, Homecoming, Knights of Columbus, SARC and UCF Student Government) but includes Athletics and Intramural activities. OSI announced the Round Table, Late Knights, MSC, SGA, Activity Board, Homecoming, Knights of Cambridge and petitions for proposals that are part of the Managing and chairing student events and activities.

Check out OSI’s Web site at: www.ots.ucf.edu/document/074295.html

Melanie Parker, executive director of Career Services and Experiential Learning, was invited to attend the round table meeting in Oxford, England. Periodically, the Oxford Round Table meets with a group of leaders in higher education, who present documents and engage in discussions to ensure the continued development of education. Parker was one of 16 delegates in attendance.

“The Round Table was an incredible experience,” said Parker. “I had the opportunity to interact with a diverse group of leaders in higher education from throughout the U.S. at the oldest university in the English-speaking world. We discussed a range of topics critical to student affairs, including integrating academic affairs and student affairs in practice into international events, retention life initiatives, counseling center issues as well as trends in multicultural programs.”

The attendees received an overview of the Oxford University system including the 39 self-governing colleges and their relation to the university. Delegates also learned about Murray State University in Kentcask, which is the largest public university to implement a fully residential college model. “I was impressed by the jump in retention rates for those students that Murray State University has experienced as a result of their commitment to higher education from throughout the U.S. at the oldest university in the English-speaking world,” said Parker.

Atwell, Joy Blair, Kareman Campbell, Jessica Hoffmiller, Melissanne Klein, Brian King, Rachael Knobloch, Lauren North, Dawn O’leary, Melissa Parker, Maxie Rankin, Jessica Smith, Casey Taylor, Monica Thompson, Stephanie Upton, Ashley Winslow, and Jennifer Wright. The Round Table is a chance to make a lifelong connection with faculty,” reported Parker.

While at Oxford, Parker had the opportunity to visit with Tyler Fisher, UCF’s first Rhodes Scholar. She said, “Tyler has completed his Rhodes Scholarship and enjoyed Oxford so well that he has decided to complete his doctoral studies there.” According to Parker, Tyler described his work as a tutor at Oxford as extremely gratifying. Parker is grateful for the experience at Oxford and encourages others to experience other universities.

SDE Members Participates in E-Mail Mentor Program

Several SDES colleagues are involved in a mentoring program with K-12 students in the local Orlando area. Community Education Partners (CEP) is an alternative education program for students, who are having difficulty in school and need a fresh start and individual guidance. The E-Mail Mentor program is one way to provide individual attention. Research has shown that mentors have the power to change a child’s life by providing positive reinforcement and encouragement. “CEP was an opportunity for me to make contact and be an e-mentor with a high school student,” says Dennis Dalnix, University Registrar. “I look forward to actually meeting my student this year and putting a face and name to the assignment with the assigned e-mentor.”

Several SDES faculty and staff are currently CEP Mentors: Jim Wilkening, Ron Atwater, Jacki Blackman, Carmen Campbell, David Druluck, Dennis Dalnix, Sharon Ekern, Sara Hill, Marsha Haddad, Kathy Neville, Jacqueline Ortiz-Borges, Dave Polvino, Diane Rettig, Raig Ulloa, Debra Urban and Kerry Welch. For more information to become a CEP mentor, contact Kelly Aistro at 407.823.6346.

A Look Back: FYAE Reminiscences on Beginnings

(Two of a Four-Part Series—FYAE’s beginnings, present, and future.)

First Year Advising and Information Services (FY) opened its doors in spring ’96. FY introduced the program to freshmen during the fall ’96 orientation, thus beginning FY to provide academic advising services to UCF first-year students. According to Manthert Eliau, executive director for Student First Time in College (FTIC) students, and in that year FY was responsible for 1,100 students.

Gloria Laureano, now director of FYAE, was FY’s first professional advisor; and Paul Vioa, assistant director of FYAE, was the officer’s first person to be hired outside of UCF. Rex Roberts, assistant director of FYAE, was one of those freshmen in ’96 served by First Year Advising. He said he remembers the “helping students” experience. “I enjoyed being a student advisor helped keep me on the right track. I switched my major twice my first year, so it was important to have one person to talk to and stay with. That’s one of the advantages of our office,” said Roberts.

Roberts feels that orientation is the outsource the staff and location for the demands of meeting the growing FTIC’s population needs. According to Roberts, “We needed to invest in a professional advising staff. We needed to work closely with campus partners, we needed to work closely with campus partners, we needed to use for students to make connections with students and university specialists, we built the program steadily.” In December ’96, the trailer FY occupied was moved one more time. FY took permanent establishment in Howard Phillips Hall in December ’99.

Since 2000, First Year Advising and Information Services merged with the Academic Exploration Program to become the current First Year Advising and Exploration. According to Swow, the FYAE office has “many connections and collaborations” through the office expansions and the acquisition of the office building. Further expansion of the office established a presence in the university community. Swow stated his philosophy was centered on serving students in a dependable and reliable resource for first-year students.

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Jennifer Wright and Edwanda Andrews, SARC, offer students information at an outreach event.

Students also learned how to become motivated and use some strategies to reduce stress, improve concentration, increase understanding, and successfully study for important exams.

Center Nationaly Recognized

The University Testing Center (UTC) received national recognition by the College Board as being one of the top 100 testing centers in the country administering the most CLEP examinations in 2004. UTC is committed to meeting testing needs to higher education for all students.
SDES Division Changes

• Mark Gumble is the new director for Academic Services for Student-Athletes. Gumble arrived to UCF from San Diego State University (SDSU), where he worked for seven years, including four years as director of Student-Athletes Success Services. During his tenure at SDSU, he implemented a mentoring program for student-athletes with the goal of an increase in graduation rates, team Grade-Point-Averages and number of scholarship athletes.

• I am extremely excited about being selected as the new director of ASSA and happy to be a part of the UCF community,” says Gumble. “I look forward to helping build the premier program in Conference-USA.

Gumble earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Brigham Young University. He is a former three-time All-American student-athlete. He served as the head wrestling coach for nine years and created the Education Enhancement Program for student-athletes at his alma mater.

DeLaune Priest, assistant vice president, Student Success Services, has moved to the Student Success Center’s (SSC) administrative office located in Howard Phillips Hall, room 216. The SSC administrative office can be reached at 407.823.2137.

Joe Sciarrino is the new director for Activity and Service Fee (A&SF) Business Office. He has over 25 years of business-related experience, 15 of which have been at UCF. His most recent position was that of assistant director, A&SF Business Office. As director, Sciarrino will provide financial oversight of operations for A&SF funded departments, which include the Recreation and Wellness Center, Office of Student Involvement, Student Government Association and hundreds of Registered Student Organizations. Sciarrino will be responsible for a budget of over eight million dollars, and the processing of over 350 employees. This position also supervises the operations of the SGA Ticket Center, SGA Computer Lab, and serves on numerous UCF and university committees.

Awards and Recognition

• Sabu Akram-Scales, coordinator for Student Disability Services (SDS), has been selected for the Office of Diversity Initiatives’ Leadership Enhancement Program. Akram-Scales is responsible for managing SDS test accommodations and supervises the delivery of disability services at Rosen College of Hospitality Management. She has worked in the SDS office for eight years. “We at Student Disability Services applaud her selection for this program and believe that her dedication to the university, its goals, diversity and students with disabilities make her an excellent choice for this program,” said Phil Kollm, director.


Publications

• Dennis Cogoson, academic advisor and College Level Learning Skills specialist, has published an article, “Self-testing Concept: Discovering what has been learned before an exam is taken, not after,” in the August issue of the online journal, Learning Skills Newsletter. This is his 16th publication since coming to UCF in 1998.

Health Services Hosts Three-Day Conference

UCF Student Health Services hosted the 2005 Sunbelt Conference at the Rosen Centre Hotel on International Drive. The Sunbelt Conference, held July 20-22, is an annual meeting of college and university student health professionals from all over the south. This year there were 70 attendees.

Unlike many conferences, the Sunbelt is informal and generally involves group discussions of common issues, such as new medical services for the college population, student insurance, privacy in handling patient records and technology advances.

A highlight of the conference was a tour and luncheon at the Rosen College of Hospitality Management, with an address by UCF Trustee Harris Rosen.

Bob Faust, director of UCF Student Health Services, summed up the meeting by saying: “It’s always great to get together and share best practices with our counterparts at other universities. We were especially pleased to be the host school this year and further establish UCF as a leader in the college health field.”

SDES Offers Students Opportunities That Empower Them to Succeed at UCF

What is SDES’ role?

By now we have welcomed, oriented, answered questions, moved in and registered new and continuing students for the fall 2005 term. We are working to involve, engage and encourage student-athletes that empower students to choose while they are here. Our Division of Student Development and Enrollment Services has a major role in the direction that students take and the choices that students make in their academic, personal and career decisions. These are decisions that shape our students’ futures, either positively or negatively. All of us have a role in empowering students to find the best information, to critically evaluate it and make the best decisions possible. We do our work best when we actively partner with others.

The new SDES vision, “Building collaborative partnerships that empower students to succeed,” captures our role at UCF very well. This is a guiding call to action for us. It means that we must seek new ways to bring students together with faculty, employers, community partners and each other to make the UCF Experience one of empowerment, engagement, recreation, tutoring, healing, teaching, counseling, and success.

SDES programs, services and learning environments that:

• Provide opportunities for students to discover and define personal ethical standards, purpose, and meaning in life.
• Strengthen life skills that promote and support success and learning.
• Foster student engagement in their diverse community.

Mission

The mission of SDES is to be a UCF leader in building successful partnerships to provide quality programs, services, activities, and facilities that encourage retention and graduation; provide opportunities for students to discover and define personal ethical standards, purpose, and meaning in life; strengthen life skills that promote and support success and learning; and foster student engagement in their diverse community.

Goals

Be a UCF leader in providing quality programs, services and learning environments that:

• Build effective partnerships with internal and external stakeholders.
• Provide opportunities for students to discover and define personal ethical standards, purpose, and meaning in life.
• Strengthen life skills that promote and support success and learning.
• Foster student engagement in their diverse community.
• Promote progression to graduation, graduate school, and productive employment.

UCF Creed

Integration, community, diversity, and excellence are the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

INTEGRITY

I will practice and defend academic and professional integrity.

COMMUNITY

I will promote and sustain a community that values and respects the 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

Standards for Opportunity