Welcome to SDES

• Stephanie Bork, office assistant, Health Services (HS) 
• Katherine Cox, assistant director, Academic Support Services, Career Services and Experimental Learning 
• Jacqueline Dunston, certified medical assistant, HS 
• Erin Kitter, coordinator, University Relations/Public Affairs, HS 
• Melman Luong, custodial worker, Recreation and Wellness Center 
• Andrew Luchner, psychologist, Counseling Center 
• Lindi Smedberg, assistant director, Student Affairs, Fraternity and Sorority Life 
• Steven Willbanks, licensed electrician, Buildings and Grounds

SDES Changes

• Valeria Brown recently joined the Academic Services for Student-Athletes (ASSA) staff as a visiting academic advisor. While working on her second master’s degree, she worked for UCF’s Housing and Residence Life Department. In her new position with ASSA, she will serve as an academic advisor for student-athletes, specifically those on the football team and men’s and women’s basketball teams.

• Ronald Atwell is providing halftime computer services from 2006-07.

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Bonneville Backpack Project

Given, caring, and sharing, is what the Bonneville Backpack Project is all about. The second annual Bonneville Backpack Project is now underway. This project, hosted by the SDES Council, includes all the departments and staff within the SDES division. Collectively, SDES will raise funds and supplies to create 60 well-equipped backpacks for students at Bonneville Elementary. The backpacks are distributed by the school’s faculty and staff to need-based students.

The SDES Council has long said, “Bridging the Gap...Using Technology to Our Advantage” at the NA (National Association of Academic Advisors for Students) National Convention in Phoenix, June 8-11. The presentation explored ways to use Facebook, MySpace, text messaging and Instant Messaging as methods to connect and communicate with student-athletes.

• Craig Ullom, Registrar’s Office (RO), was on the Residency. Legislative Update panel at the 52nd Florida Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Conference and presented a session, “Everything I Needed to Know about Life I Learned from a Jigsaw Puzzle.” Paul Vian, RO, shared his expertise in “Going Global” at the same conference. The session was held in St. Petersburg, June 10-12.

• Patricia MacKown, Campus Life and Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, presented, “A Medical Amnesty Program at UCF” at the 2007 Association of Student Judicial Affairs (ASA) Summer Drive-In Conference at the University of North Florida on June 8. Nick Oleksy and Laura Creggan, UCF Office of Student Conduct, also attended the conference.

• Craig Ullom, Campus Life, chaired a panel presentation and discussion entitled, “Safety and Security on Our Campuses: What’s Next?” at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Region III Summer Conference in Virginia Beach on June 11.

• James Wilkening and Jason Balma, Recreation and Wellness Center, presented, “Surfing Life: Sport Club Budgeting Through a Tier and Point System” at the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) Fall Meetings and Annual Conference held in Milwaukee, June 14.

The following Health Services members presented on had leadership roles at the American College Health Association (ACHA) Annual Meeting held in San Antonio on May 29-June 2.

• James Schaus, M.D., presented “Alcohol and other Drug Abuse.”

Logan Berkowitz’s leadership roles and experience in SGA include Financial Allocations for Organizations (FAO), chairperson, deputy prov temp of Legislative Affairs, deputy prov temp of Senate Operations, president pro tempore, Activity and Service Fee Budgeting Committee member, and senator positions.

Volume X, No. 1

UKrushed

New SGA Administration Makes Changes

Brandie Hollinger’s SGA Leadership roles include director for Campus Life, director for Campus Involvement, vice president for Internal Affairs, chair of the Advisory Council to the Student Body President's Advisory Council, in addition to being inducted into the Order of Pegasus Class of 2007.

Hollinger/Berkowitz Administration

• Advocate for students
• Discount UCF apparel
• Increase student access to SGA representatives
• Make SGA more approachable
• Increase alumni emergency numbers on the back of UCF identification card
• Increase the number of excursions in the Student Escort Panel Services (SEPS) program
• Increase the sense of spirit, pride and tradition for UCF

Students have to be the key to success, goal for Hollinger/Berkowitz administration.

A new administration is looking to overhaul the current campus, with the students as the key to success.

The goal for Hollinger/Berkowitz administration is to create a student government that is accessible and accountable to the student body, and acts in the best interest of the students.

Among the changes that have received quite a bit of attention is the reorganization of the cabinet.

According to Berkowitz, “some cabinet members had too many tasks to handle for one person, so not much was accomplished. They decided to divide the responsibilities evenly among each member. For example, instead of having one cabinet member handle all multicultural and diversity issues, the position was divided into a multicultural affairs coordinator and a diversity initiatives coordinator.

Another goal for Hollinger and Berkowitz is to create a student opinion poll on the SGA Web site for students to voice their opinions regarding upcoming issues that Hollinger will vote on at the BOT meeting. Although they expect it may take time for students to become aware of the poll, Berkowitz said, the students will see the relationship between the existence of the poll and how Hollinger votes. Although the SGA Web site is currently unavailable until some time this month, Hollinger said SGA is promoting the site and the poll as much as they can to through correspondence with students and promotional items. “It is our hope that students will make the SGA Web site one of their ‘favorites’ and a Web site to check every day when they go online.”
UCF Students Named All-American Officials

In 2006-07, only 36 out of thousands of student officials from around the country were the highest honor of being named an All-American official in the sports of flag football and basketball. Two of those officials were from UCF: Jamie Abuzahab and Sarah Crytzer, basketball officials.

Since 2001, UCF has had 11 officials named All-American. Each year during basketball season, an exclusive training class is offered to only 26 officials. Throughout the class, officials study rules, discuss tough plays and are video taped while officiating various competitive games. Clinicians for this class include officials from the NCAA, NBA developmental league, and Division I and II college basketball.

Officials that have come through the intramural program at UCF continue to blossom in their own careers after they graduate. Former students have moved on to work various levels of college basketball, Minor League Baseball and the NBA Developmental League.

Each semester, student officials are recruited, hired and trained to officiate a number of sports including: flag football, basketball, hockey, baseball, dodgeball, volleyball and softball offered through the Intramural Sports (IM) program. “The University of Central Florida’s IM officials program is quickly becoming one of the hardest working and most decorated student officials programs in the country,” stated Gary Campbell, assistant director for IM.

Each year, every student selects training to officiate workshops across the county in order to bring officiating philosophies and techniques back to the program at UCF. According to Campbell, “What makes the officials’ education process so unique is that fellow students do almost all the training.”

Send-Off Celebration for Denesha Jenkins

Family and friends of Miss UCF 2007, Denesha Jenkins, gathered in the Cape Florida Ballroom on June 8 to wish her well in the Miss Florida Scholarship Competition, held June 27-30 in St. Petersburg. Jenkins modeled her wardrobe, discussed her platform, “Get Excited About Reading: Literacy Education,” and sang her vocal rendition of “Listen” from the movie Dreamgirls.

Jenkins joins five other UCF women who are among the most decorated student officials program in the country,” stated Gary Campbell, assistant director for IM.

Counseling Director presents at Regional Campus Seminar

David Wallace, director for the UCF Counseling Center, presented, “How to Deal with Difficult Situations,” at the May Southern Region Faculty Brown Bag Lunch Seminar. The presentation included a discussion on ways to address and de-escalate difficult situations in the classroom, hallways, meetings and offices. Topics included the importance of having a work area safety plan, helpful resources and the introduction of the new Southern Region Faculty and Staff 914 Guide.

“The principles we need to apply when we encounter unusual behaviors are really straightforward and quite easy to apply. This workshop teaches those basic ideas and how to apply them in the classroom, our offices and in other campus settings,” stated Wallace. The seminar originated from the UCF Cocoa campus and was transmitted via Polycom to the UCF Palm Bay campus. Attendance totaled 31 and included UCF faculty, staff, students, administration and Brevard Community College partners.

“The seminar provided a comprehensive strategy for dealing with the difficult situations that we may potentially face in our efforts to support student success,” said Terry Evans, director for Southern Region Student Services.

UCF Alumni Initiative Career Program

Ken Goodwin has launched a new career services program for UCF alumni. He is housed in the FAIRWINDS Alumni Center and has met with numerous alumni, referring them to Employ Florida Marketplace, KnightLink and directly to potential employers. Goodwin has also facilitated the alumni career networking program and developed marketing and advertising materials. Goodwin is an executive on loan from the Workforce Central Florida and co-sponsored by the Florida High Tech Corridor.

Student Abroad Program Opportunities

Melanie Patten, executive director for Career Services and Experiential Learning, participated in a sponsored, week-long trip to Israel to learn about more than 150 long-term study and work abroad programs. MASA, the sponsoring agency, provides scholarships and program information for more than 8,000 young adult participants. The trip highlights included visits to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Mount of the Dead Sea, a Bedouin village, Hebrew and Ben Gurion Universities, community service projects, the Holocaust Museum, and a culminating gala event with over 5,000 attendees featuring a speech by Prime Minister Olmert.

The UCF Creed

Integrity, scholarship, community, and creativity are the core values that guide our conduct, performance and decisions.

UCF Participates in World Diversity Summit

Andrettia Williams, student director, and Ashley Sumby, graduate assistant, both from Multicultural Student Center, had the opportunity to attend the World Diversity Leadership Summit held at the United Nations in New York City, June 6-8. This opportunity was funded in part by a grant received from Diversity Initiatives with additional funding from the Student Government Association. The two were able to learn about innovative techniques for integrating diversity into organizations from every business level, including academic institutions and Fortune 500 companies.

Additionally, they attended a panel session that included Richard Lapchick, UCF program director and chair for DeVos Sport Business Management Program. Lapchick spoke about how sport is the catalyst for change in society and how diversity and inclusion are important components of sport and education.

Enrollment Services

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Registrar’s Office is Ready in an Emergency

The Registrar’s Office now has an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) available on the first floor of Millican Hall. An AED is a portable automatic device used to restore normal heart rhythms to patients in cardiac arrest. When an AED is applied, it automatically analyzes the patient’s heart rhythm and advises the rescuer whether or not a shock is needed to restore a normal heart beat. The office staff took part in a demonstration of its use May 31, extending the office’s commitment to service with the ability to provide emergency assistance.

Registrar’s Office Earns an A in Grade Processing

For the spring 2007 semester, the Registrar’s Office processed 7,875 grade sheets for a combined total of 165,000 grades processed. Tina Sutherland, assistant university registrar, led the efforts. “The dedication and cooperation of the Registrar’s Office, college and departmental staff members made a most successful grade roster processing week,” said Sutherland. “We had the lowest number of missing rosters and missing grades. Every staff member added greatly to the endeavor and should be commended.”

Student Development

Summer Sizzle Keeps Students Informed

In an effort to keep summer students engaged and aware of UCF programs and services, the Sophomore and Second Year Center (SSYC) collaborated with Undergraduate Studies and Residence Life on an event called Summer Sizzle. This outreach program was conducted June 12 in the Tower II lobby with food provided by Residence Life staff and prizes donated by the SSYC office.

A total of 35 students attended this interactive information event conducted to help them stay connected with student support and advising services at UCF. Information was provided about programs, major and career exploration services and opportunities for their continued academic success. Alison Morrison-Shetlar, dean of Undergraduate Studies, spoke about various research and faculty contact opportunities for students and shared information on the new environmental focus of general education program courses. Students said they enjoyed the opportunity to converse with UCF staff in a relaxing atmosphere.

UCF Football Scholar Receives National Recognition

Shareef Rashad, a junior on the varsity football team, was named by Diverse magazine to the 2007 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars First Team. He was one of only 15 football players nationwide named to this list. In addition to their athletic ability, Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars exhibit academic excellence and community activism. Rashad, who was also recently named UCF’s male Scholar-Athlete of the Year, is pursuing a criminal justice degree.

An important component of the Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars program is the development of each student athlete’s leadership skills and knowledge of diversity and inclusion. Shareef Rashad, with the assistance of his mentor, will attend the W orld Diversity Leadership Summit held at the United Nations in New York City this June 6-8.

UCF Recreation and Wellness Center staff, left to right, Gary Cahen, Chris Morello, Steve Anderson and Jaime Morales, relax in a relaxing atmosphere.

UCF Recreational Program Coordinator, left to right, Gary Cahen, Chris Morello, Steve Anderson and Jaime Morales.
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UCF Fit Recreational and Wellness Center staff, left to right: Gary Cahan, Chris Morello, Steve Anderson and Jaime Morales

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Additionally, they attended a panel session that included Richard Lapchick, UCF program director and chair for DeVos Sport Business Management Program. Lapchick spoke about how sport is the catalyst for change in society and how diversity and inclusion are important components of sport and education.

Richard Lapchick and Andesta Williams

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Andretta Williams, student director, and Ashley Summey, graduate assistant, both from Multicultural Student Center, had the opportunity to attend the World Diversity Leadership Summit held at the United Nations in New York City, June 4-6. This opportunity was funded in part by a grant received from Diversity Initiatives with additional funding from the Student Government Association. The two were able to learn about innovative techniques for integrating diversity into organizations from every business level, including academic institutions and Fortune 500 companies.

An announcement sign of AED is posted outside Registrar’s Office.
SDES Changes

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Kathleen "Katie" Raitt is an assistant director for Employer Relations-College of Business Administration, Career Services and Student Development and Enrollment Services. Raitt, who worked as a newly assistant director for Career Services at Washington and Lee University in Virginia, and the Office of Multicultural Academic & Support Services welcomes Lindi Smedberg, Joseph Ross Leshinsky, Steven Wilbanks, Kathleen Connolly, James Schaus, M.D., Peter Mastroianni, Brandie Hollinger, Javier Antonio, James Deichen, M.D., and Antonio.

SDES Awards and Recognition

Joseph Ross Leshinsky, Veterans Services, was named the Registrar’s Office Spring 2007 SDES Award recipient. Leshinsky, who was previously an academic advisor, and has worked 10 years in student affairs, was recognized for his commitment to students and his dedication to their success.

SDES Student Government

Volume X, No. 1

New SGA Administration Makes Changes

Dr. Bernd Hollinger, Student Government Administration (SGA) president, and Logan Berkowitz, vice-president, are determined to put the emphasis on the administration on the student. “We really want to empower students,” Hollinger said. During Hollinger’s one-year term as student body president, she will oversee a budget of $1.36 million and represent UCF’s 40,000 students as a member of the Board of Trustees (BOT). Her primary focus throughout the year is to increase SGA’s visibility to students in order to effectively advocate for them. One of her strategies is to have a SGA table in front of the Student Union where every member of student government will be required to commit to a two-hour block per week to answer student questions and concerns. “I really want to see student government be accessible and accountable to the community and to be more approachable,” Hollinger said. She also plans to engage in public speaking at every opportunity to include addressing the student Senate and speaking at orientations to new UCF students. The goal is to create a student government that is accessible and accountable to the student body, and acts according to the needs of the students.

Among the changes that have received quite a bit of attention is the reorganization of the cabinet. “According to Berkowitz, some cabinet members had too many tasks to handle for one person, so not much was accomplished.” They decided to divide the responsibilities equally among each member. For example, instead of having one cabinet member handle all multicultural and diversity issues, the position was divided into a multicultural affairs coordinator and a diversity initiatives coordinator.

Another goal for Hollinger and Berkowitz is to create a student opinion poll on the SGA website for students to voice their opinions regarding upcoming issues that Hollinger will report at the BOT meetings. Although they expect it may take time for students to become aware of the poll, Berkowitz said, the students will see the relationship between the existence of the poll and how Hollinger votes. Although the SGA Web site is currently unavailable until some time this month, Hollinger said SGA is promoting the site and the poll as accessible and accountable.

SDES Student Development and Enrollment Services

Volume X, No. 1

Student Development and Enrollment Services

Building collaborative partnerships that empower students to succeed!

University of Central Florida

Stands for Opportunity

SDES Council Corner

Bonneville Backpack Project

Gifting, giving, and sharing, is what the Bonneville Backpack Project is all about. The second annual Bonneville Backpack Project is now underway. This project, hosted by the SDES Council, includes all the departments and offices within the SDES division. Collectively, SDES will raise funds and supplies to create 60 well-equipped backpacks for the students in Bonneville Elementary. The backpacks are distributed by the school’s faculty and staff to need-based students.

The SDES Council has Trustees as a sponsor. They agreed to donate $1,500 to the cause. This will cover the backpacks and some general supplies. The council will need SDES staff and faculty to donate money and school supplies. SDES staff will receive a list of items and collection envelopes. The supply list will be available online at www.sdes.ucf.edu, then click on Staff News and Information. The deadline to collect money and donated items in each department is June 8.

The council will be stuffing the backpacks during the week of August 6. To volunteer and assist with assembling the backpacks, as well as transporting them to the school, contact Jessica Falco at jfalco@mail.ucf.edu.

SDES Presentations

Shyann Pettis, assistant director, Student Affairs, Fraternity and Sorority Life

Steven Willbanks, licensed electrician, Career Services

Logan Berkowitz’s leadership roles and experience in SGA include Financial Allocations for Organizations (FAO) chairman, former ACHA president, and campus Life Officer. Hollinger, currently a senior majoring in Public Administration, was named the Registrar’s Office Spring 2007 SDES Award recipient. Hollinger, who was previously a legal assistant, was recognized for her commitment to students and her dedication to their success.