

UKnighted



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September 2010 (Summer News)

From My Desk to Yours: Happy Fall Semester 2010

**Maribeth Ehasz, Vice President
Student Development and Enrollment Services**

We had a very active summer term with 27 orientation programs that transitioned over 6,200 first time in college students, 6,300 community college students and 800 other transfers who were beginning at UCF for the summer or fall terms. We expect our total enrollment to reach over 56,000 students maintaining our position as the 3rd largest university in the country. Congratulations and appreciation to everyone in SDES for their involvement, participation, and commitment to the success of our students. As one parent commented to me during orientation, "The thing that is different about UCF is that everyone seems to truly care about our students." You can imagine how wonderful it felt to hear someone else talk about the "heart" of our work.

Orlando Sentinel Luis Zaragoza summed up Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES) quite nicely when he described our work as "helping students stay in school, be healthy and live ethically." We have a big job ahead of us. I spoke to another parent during orientation who shared this feedback with me, "If you deliver on 15 percent of what we heard about, I'll be satisfied." Of course, my response was that if we don't deliver on 100 percent, let me know. I know that all of us will "walk the talk" and assure student success and learning at UCF is our top priority.

As we start this new term, I want to share with you my priorities for SDES this academic year. The following priorities are embodied in the Strategic Plan and give direction for our work:

- **Safety and Security:** Let's be certain that 100 percent of our offices conduct adequate emergency training activities so that we are prepared for the unlikely possibility of a major threat. I also hope that throughout the division we will embrace educational and prevention programs to diminish student risks in the areas of alcohol, drugs and sexual violence.
- **Student Success:** The UCF Retention Plan has been updated and priorities have been identified for our attention. In order to raise our first year retention rates, we

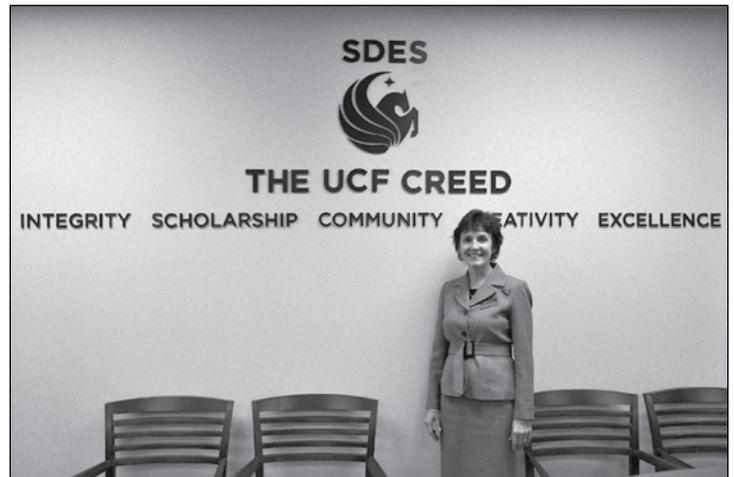
need to focus our attention on transfer students, Science students, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) majors, male FTICs, veterans, and students with disabilities.

- **Staff Development and Morale:** You are working very hard and giving much of your time and talent to our division with the effort to enhance student success and learning. We will do more to provide learning opportunities and appreciation activities for all members of our SDES team.

- **Diversity and Inclusiveness:** I have a commitment to increase the cultural competency expertise in our division by training an initial minimum 30 percent of SDES staff members this year in order to improve the climate and support for our growing population of multicultural students. Completing the basic diversity certification requirements is our first step.

- **Living and Learning Environments:** Several new building projects are scheduled for completion this year – Career Services and Experiential Learning; Veteran's Academic Resource Center; Recreation and Wellness Center expansion; and SGA Knights Plaza Study. It is time to celebrate and discover new ways to utilize these spaces to increase student learning and success. It is also a time to plan for future projects.

- **SDES Emerging Priorities** include: the development of our **Healthy Knights** initiatives, comprehensive **leadership development**, enhanced attention to **parents**, strengthened **partnerships**, increased attention to **off-campus sites**, improvement of our use of **technology**, and **compliance** support of university policies,



Vice President Maribeth Ehasz in Millican Hall, room 282 reception area

governmental mandates, and new processes.

These priorities are definitely what I consider a "work in progress" that will extend beyond this academic year. Our current SDES Strategic Plan looks ahead five years and supports these priorities while emphasizing our continued commitment to advance the tenets of the UCF Creed – **integrity, scholarship, community, creativity, and excellence** as the core values that guide our conduct, performance, and decisions.

As one way of giving back to the Central Florida community, I invite you to join the SDES Leadership Team in participating with our students in Knights Give Back on Saturday, October 9, 2010.

Although these priorities may be ambitious, I am confident that together we will make great progress. As I have said before, "the student who starts at UCF is not the same student that graduates from UCF." If we are successful, our students will embrace the values of the UCF Creed, experience leadership growth, be culturally competent, articulate learning achieved in and outside of the classroom, and appreciate the value of community service. As we communicated to parents this summer – UCF has a heart; we care about our students and their success.

We are committed to delivering 100% of what we promise! Thank you for all that you do for UCF, our community and SDES! Happy Fall Semester 2010!

Expanding Real World Experience for Students

The UCF Career Services Center sponsored its ninth annual 2010 Spring Break Externship Program. The goal of the program is to provide students with a glimpse into a real world environment, within their career interests. The program also allows them to make career decisions based on first-hand knowledge rather than what is read or said about that particular career.

The 2010 Spring Break Externship Program placed 82 students with 54 different employers, who shared their professional experiences with our students. For the employers, this program presented a chance to get their hands on promising students, who could be potential future employees. Occasionally, the externships lead to opportunities with those employers down the road in the form of an internship or full-time position after graduation.

After Spring Break, the externs completed

an online survey and had the opportunity to attend a "Reflection Session" where they had the chance to discuss and share their externship experience and the connections they have made with other students. Overall, the program received a positive evaluation. One student commented: "It was an unforgettable experience that enlightened my future. I have never been so sure of what career to pursue. Thank you Career Services."

For many students, the externships are simply opportunities to explore career fields in which they are interested in. Another externship student, a finance major, stated, "It has been a great experience, and I would recommend everyone to participate. It's a good way to 'taste' the particular field/industry within a company. For example, I changed my opinion about the insurance industry after this externship. This industry is much more diverse and complex, which makes it very interesting



Downtown Orlando

and a possible choice for my future career. I will definitely apply to participate again."

For more information about how to participate with the 2010 Winter Break Externship Program and how it can offer answers to your question about your future career, visit the UCF Career Services Web site: www.career.ucf.edu.

Best Wishes to Sara York at the Miss Florida Pageant

The Campus Activities Board Spectacular Knights committee hosted a send off for Miss UCF 2010, Sara York, as she prepared to compete in the Miss Florida Pageant July 7-10 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

The theme for the event was "Dreams Really Do Come True." York was introduced by her Fairy Godmother (AKA Veronica Livesay, co-executive director), and, in keeping with the



Sara York played "Malaguena" on the piano.

theme, a Cinderella coach was present. Vice President Maribeth Ehasz and Student Body President Mike Kilbride, brought well wishes from the university community and student body. Sara modeled her competition wardrobe and played her talent piece "Malaguena" on the piano.

A total of seven current and former Knights are competing in this year's Miss Florida Pageant: Vicky DiSanto, Dasha Gonzalez, Jaclyn Raulerson, Danielle Mueller, Tara Szczepanski and Kristina Janolo.

"This is a positive way to show support for our Miss UCF as she represents our university at the upcoming state pageant," said Melanie Bullock, co-executive director.

All the UCF women did well at Miss Florida. Jaclyn Raulerson was named Miss Florida, and Sara York, Vicky DiSanto and Kristina Janolo all placed in the top 15. "As usual, UCF women did very well among the competition," said Livesay.

Summer Renovations at RWC

The Recreation and Wellness Center Athletic Training room space, located on the first floor, was renovated in August.

Renovations include:

- Two training tables for assessing participants
- Storage closet for supplies
- Work space station
- Ice machine
- Whirl pool tub for rehabilitation

The Athletic Training services include a certified athletic trainer who is accessible on most evenings and on Open Clinic hours: Monday-Friday from 2-5 p.m. The trainer's role is prevention of athletic injuries, recognition, evaluation, assessment of injuries, immediate care, treatment, rehabilitation and reconditioning. The services are available to Recreation and Wellness Center participants at select Intramural Sports and Sport Club events for free.



Athletic Training room

Students' Civility Work Pays Off in Scholarships

The Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES) Civility Campaign Horizontal Team promoted "Civility in Action" in the classroom, environment, workplace and beyond through contests. All original work reflected this theme. Students had the opportunity to win book scholarships and display their work.

The following students were awarded the amount of money in book scholarships:

- **Caitlyn Leary**, senior and Civil Engineering major, won 1st place in film and 1st place in photography – \$300
- **Monica Bertram**, junior and Mechanical Engineering major won 1st and 3rd in traditional media – \$175
- **Nathalie See**, junior and Biology major, won 2nd place in traditional media – \$100

For more information about Civility, visit: www.drs.sdes.ucf.edu/?id=civility.

UCF Upward Bound Program Awarded a Grant

The Upward Bound Program (UBP) was recently awarded a Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) grant. The grant was used to help fund the program's new summer science camp. "I am ecstatic about the award," said Rebekah McCloud, Upward Bound director. "It enabled us to provide our scholars with a learning experience that we could not have provided without the funding."

This past summer, to encourage participation in science, technology, engineering, math (STEM) careers and to ignite an interest in science, the Upward Bound Program hosted a science camp themed "Mission to Mars." Scholars learned from three experts: Thomas Brueckner, UCF physics faculty member (an astrophysicist); Sigfredo Chiclana, high school Science Olympiad & Robotics coach; and Kara Hartage, a high school biology and chemistry teacher. The camp was booked by presentations by UCF Physicist Daniel Britt and NASA Physicist Russell Romanella.

It also included a day of science exploration of mechanical and electrical design provided by TechBridge and the Girl Scouts of West Florida. "Inspector Gadget" allowed students to design and build working catapults and build electronic circuits. Students engaged in classroom-based laboratories that integrated hands on science and, in teams, they designed and built robots. The camp also included a visit to the Robinson Observatory, an opportunity to see UCF's electron microscope, a field trip to Wonderworks, and several STEM-focused job shadowing experiences (Blue Chip Solar, AT&T, Universal Studios and Sea World) sponsored by Junior Achievement of Central Florida. "We developed some wonderful partnerships this summer that opened up a world of possibilities for our scholars," said McCloud.

We Like it Late at Knight

On the evening of July 16 at 9 p.m., Late Knights turned the Student Union into "Winter in July" to celebrate the best of winter and summer in one venue. Late Knights is a monthly student-run event at the UCF providing free food, fun, games and giveaways.

Approximately 1,300 students, faculty, staff, family members, and the Orlando community came together to participate in numerous activities offered at the event. In the union courtyard, attendees rode the snow board simulator and utilized the inflatable joust, bungee run and slide. Those in the mood for a refreshing drink were able to enjoy a free Smoothie King smoothie.

The entertainment continued inside the union atrium with Wii video games, arts and crafts, fun photos, and a Wet n' Wild ticket raffle. The first 200 in the door received personalized license plates. Those who wanted to learn more about getting involved at UCF had the chance to talk with student organizations.

The action proceeded into Pegasus Ballroom with the Knightcast DJ, dancing, tropical bounce and slide inflatable, extreme obstacle course, and human bowling. Food was catered by Wackadoos to serve about

700 people at midnight.

The next Late Knights' event, "Into the Wild" will be held on October 1 at 9 p.m. -1 a.m. in the Student Union.



Left to right: Upward Bound Scholar Ashel Salgado, science teacher Sigfredo Chiclana, and peer mentor T.J. Luke

An outcome of the summer camp is that students were able to allay their fears about science and learn that instead of being a scary thing, science can be fun. "It is my goal to provide our scholars with every opportunity I can to explore careers in STEM," said McCloud. Nationally, there is a shortage of women and minorities employed in these fields. There is a growing need for highly trained employees to fill these positions especially in the Central Florida high-tech corridor.

Fraternity Members Attend Leadership Conference

UCF Interfraternity Council (IFC) concluded their first annual "Building Leadership" conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. Forty men representing leadership of 13 IFC fraternities and dozens of on-campus organizations arrived in New Orleans on August 15th. The group was divided into teams and worked actively with the United Saints Recovery Project rebuilding projects for the New Orleans community.

In addition to the service work, the fraternity members had an impressive lineup of speakers, including an Air Force colonel, superintendent of Saint Bernard Parish Schools, and a member of Teach for America. The speakers offered different perspectives on leadership and shared their moving stories. Speaker Beau Williamson offered motivation, teach leadership strategies and breakdown communication constraints amongst the group workshops.

"So glad to have made great IFC bonds. This is looking like it's going to be a banner year for IFC at UCF," posted Alex Lewis, shortly after the trip. The strong bonds forged were quickly evident amongst members of IFC as they discussed an array of topics facing the community on the way back to Orlando. The IFC looks forward the discussion of how they can continue to "build better men and a better community."

The UCF IFC consists of 16 member organizations and oversees over 1,300 fraternity men. For more information, visit: www.ifc.ucf.com.



IFC members worked on rebuilding projects in New Orleans.

Student Government Expanding Opportunity

An Interview with SGA President Michael Kilbride

The campaign, “The Difference is You,” reigned in February’s Student Government Association (SGA) elections with a new SGA president, Michael Kilbride, and SGA vice president, Taylor Lochrane.

When Kilbride attended Orientation five years ago, his dad predicted his son would be up on stage as an O-Teamer; Kilbride did just that in his freshman year. “It is one of the reasons I am involved and love this university as much as I do—because of my first year experience in Orientation.” In his second year at UCF, he became a student coordinator hiring and training O-Teamers. “I had the opportunity to work in the Office of First Year Experience with first-year student programming and transitioning students to the UCF experience,” said Kilbride. His leadership experience continued as a resident assistant on campus and as a student director for Knight-Thon 2008-2010. “Now I get to be president. I am real excited about the year.”

Kilbride, an undergraduate in finance who is minoring in nonprofit management, wants students to know SGA cares and are here to serve them. He wants students to feel welcomed when they come in the office. The administration hired 30 students on the cabinet, nine of which are students who have never served on SGA. Kilbride is proud of the non SGA hires. “We hopefully will bring new ideas, a new set of eyes to the administration that SGA officials look at the same way.”

The Kilbride-Lochrane administration has also hired a chief information officer who is building an information collection of e-mails and creating ways to assess students easily. This fall, SGA will use the latest technology,

I-Pods, to survey students linking the event with free T-shirts and other promotional items. They want students to get involved in SGA’s decision-making process and programming suggestions.

The biggest challenge is how to build a more inclusive programming to include UCF students at the Rosen campus, regional campuses, non-traditional and other students who may not be involved on the Orlando campus. He would like to give everyone the best UCF experience and serve those different groups of students. “As a university, we should at least open the dialogue,” says Kilbride.

Kilbride will continue several initiatives that began in the former administration. One dedicated study day prior to finals exams was set for 2012-13; he is advocating for three days. Another initiative is providing 4,400-square-foot study space inside the Arena that will be open 24-hours for students. Free printing and Scantrons will be available. The space will also include a SGA office that will benefit their programming, which is held in the Arena. The space will be available in the early spring. Kilbride-Lochrane’s administration will also continue to work on environmental sustainability policy changes for SGA-owned facilities. The plan is to have most of the Student Union second floor changed to LED lighting. In addition, they are working on an energy efficient master plan for the Recreation and Wellness Center. It is Kilbride’s hope that changing LED lights, installing water-free urinals and other sustainable efforts will set standards for UCF administration to consider for other buildings on campus.

One of the Kilbride-Lochrane’s platform



Michael Kilbride, SGA president

items was to expand campus safety and implement a car pool parking system. SGA implemented Zimride, a social network for ride sharing that makes it easier for students to find commute partners or shared rides for longer trips. Participants can share in the cost of fuel and is beneficial for those who are taking classes at a regional campus. Zimride was launched on June 29, and two days later, 500 students were registered and 1,500 rides were posted. The project is led by Lochrane.

One of Kilbride’s goals is to have a consistent SGA universal brand, “Student Government: Expanding Opportunities,” geared toward students that SGA will continue from year to year. They wanted to link the brand to the university’s “UCF Stands for Opportunity.” Kilbride-Lochrane’s campaign tag line, “The Difference is You” will be geared toward SGA staff to keep them motivated throughout the year.

“I am excited to get all the students back on our cabinet when fall starts. There is nothing more rewarding than watching students helping students.”

Stand Up for the Count

UCF partnered and assisted the U.S. Census with its marketing campaigns, “Stand Up for the Count” Census 2010 and the Census Hotline 1-866-872-6868. The Hotline assisted those who did not fill out their written form. The division placed an article in the SDES News and UCF Today to promote the campaign and remind students who live away from home they were not counted on their parents’ census forms. The efforts were coordinated by Fernando Senra, director;



Moore Consulting Group of Tallahassee, and Chantel Carter, associate director of Office of Student Involvement.

Off-Campus Housing Search Gets Easier

UCF Housing and Residence Life has approximately 6,000 beds on campus, however, staff will eventually send most students off campus at some point during their college career. Off-Campus Student Services teamed up with Virginia-based Off Campus Partners (OCP) two years ago. OCP provides software and services to simplify the off-campus housing search process for universities, students and property managers. Their private-label software platform and listing program powers the off-campus housing service at many of the nation’s leading universities. Since this Web site has been in service, it has revolutionized how UCF students found off-campus housing.

With over 12,000 registered users and almost 3,000 e-mails sent through the site since its launch, it has been a success.

In May 2010, after a one year redesign effort, the site got a new look. In addition to a more streamlined and modern appearance, the functionality has once again made the search that much easier. Additional features such as integrated Google Maps, favorites, comparison charts and free message boards allows students to customize their experience with an unprecedented level of interactivity. Registration is free for students, faculty and staff, enabling students to access listings. For more information, visit: offcampus.ucf.edu.

SDES REAL Project Recognized as a Model Program

The University of Central Florida was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a Model Program. The Student Development and Enrollment Services (SDES) REAL Project's substance use prevention and intervention services and the Clinical Psychology SURG lab (Substance Use Research Group) were recognized as a Model of Exemplary, Alcohol or Other Drug Abuse Prevention Program on College Campuses. This is not the first time SDES has been recognized for leadership in prevention and intervention services. In 2008, the REAL Project was the only program in the country recognized for Prevention Excellence by Outside the Classroom.

This year, the Department of Education recognized the REAL Project and the SURG Lab as the only Exemplary Program among the grantees. The Department of Education defines an Exemplary program as: A program that has a strong theoretical base and demonstrated effectiveness in reducing alcohol or other drug abuse among college students or

reducing problems resulting from alcohol or other drug use among college students, using a research design of the highest quality.

The REAL Project and the SURG lab were recognized for their theory to practice efforts in developing evidence-based intervention strategies. Research conducted by Clinical Psychology faculty was successfully implemented by the REAL Project clinicians and peer facilitators. As an Exemplary site, UCF is expected to disseminate its findings and provide technical assistance to colleges and

universities throughout the country.

The following universities join the prestigious ranks of current and previous model grantees:

- University of Central Florida, Exemplary
- University of Houston, Effective
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Promising
- University of Missouri, Promising
- University of Nebraska, Promising

SDES continues to be a leader in providing student-centered services that empower students to succeed inside and outside the classroom.

"This recognition is possible because of the leadership and support of the REAL Project by Maribeth Ehasz [vice president for SDES] and Mark Allen Poisel [associate vice president for SDES]," stated Tom Hall, director for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention and Intervention Services. "We are very proud of the designation as an exemplary program, especially in light of the other universities mentioned."



Web site: www.getrealucf.com

¿ Se Habla Español?

The University of Central Florida started hosting bilingual orientations during summer 2006. The session was created for parents or family members who speak or prefer to speak Spanish. While a large number of these parents do in fact speak and understand English, the Spanish sessions provide parents an opportunity to assimilate large amounts of information in their native tongue. Through the Office of First Year Experience, these orientations occur twice each summer; one for parents of students admitted for Summer B term and the other for parents of students admitted for the fall.

The structure of the program is very similar to the English parent program. After the initial orientation welcome, parents are sent to hear

their first presentation of the day. At this time, parents who self-selected to be a part of the bilingual program go to a separate room and hear the same information in Spanish. Each PowerPoint has been translated in Spanish and a representative from each office or orientation presents all the information and answers all questions in Spanish. In addition, student orientation leaders (O-Teamers) who are fluent in Spanish provide a student perspective for these parents.

Family and Parent comments at the June 7-8 bilingual orientation, are as follows:

- "I very much liked the information given, and the interest and professionalism of those in charge of providing the orientation."
- "The university was well prepared in receiving the parents and in my case, I felt very pleased because of the environment, the cleanliness, the availability and friendliness of the whole staff. Thank you very much. . . and as a family, we feel very happy that our daughter is now part of UCF"
- "Orientation has been very beneficial to me because it has helped me clarify all the concerns about my daughter beginning college. Thank you."

The bilingual program is facilitated by Danny Meuninck and Sophie Cortes-Thomas, First Year Experience.



Family members receive information at Orientation.

UCF Health Services Launches New Web Site

UCF Health Services has a new and improved Web site. With the hiring of Lori Clark, Health Services' Web designer, the site was launched in time for the initial orientation for first time in college (FTIC) students.

The new site is more user-friendly with numerous features of interest to students, faculty, staff and parents. The Web site is separated by the four areas of Health Services: Health Center, Dental Center, Pharmacy and Wellness Center. Each section provides information pertinent to the services offered, such as student health insurance, an online refill system for the UCF Pharmacy & Knight Aide and recipes from the Wellness Center's dietitian. All areas include a detailed list of services and frequently asked questions.

Health Services is currently working to provide the site with more interactive with tools and assessments to assist the UCF community to achieve higher levels of personal health and wellness. In addition, UCF Health Services is collaborating with other UCF departments to develop a Healthy Knights 2020 Web site, which will be a student's one-stop-shop for all on-campus health and wellness resources.

For more information on Health Services, visit: www.hs.ucf.edu.



Work Experience Prepares Students for Employment

Students learn the basics in the classroom but it is the real world experience that will challenge their knowledge and enhance their skills while adding to their confidence for a job well done. The Design Group within the Office of Student Involvement (OSI) offers creative-minded students the opportunity to build on their marketing, publication and/or Web skills and add those experiences to their resume or portfolio. This experience could be impressive to employers when the students graduate and seek a job.

The Design Group provides advertising, promotions, graphics and Web presence for Activity and Service Fee funded agencies. OSI agencies include: Campus Activities Board, UCF Homecoming, Knights of the Round Table, Late Knights, Multicultural Student Center, Knightcast and Volunteer UCF (VUCF). The agency's student fills out work order forms for graphic print design requests or Web update, design or redesign. Each Design Group member will handle a work order and stays in communication with the client until he or she is satisfied and the deadline is met.

The UKnighted staff interviewed two Design Group members: Vanessa Flores, a junior who is majoring in art and specializing in graphic design; and Julian Palhof, a senior who is majoring in Digital Media Interactive Systems.

Palhof handles the agencies' Web sites: editing content, creating or updating pages, adding images, flash animation, forms, embedding media, and Web databases. Palhof's accomplishments include the redesign of

Knight-Thon's 2009-10, VUCF, and OSI Web sites. "I am better with the front end [content and appearance of the Web site]; Mike is better with the back end [functionality and maintenance of data]," says Palhof referring to the OSI site. "We help each other and give each other feedback." Palhof says OSI Web site is his favorite project: "It has been the most challenging and creative project I have worked on."

"OSI has given me the opportunity to discover my creativity and strength as a Web designer, as well as strengthen my confidence in the work I have created as I progressed in my time working here," says Palhof. "It was an amazing opportunity and experience working in OSI." He plans to pursue employment outside of Florida after summer graduation.

As a graphic artist, Flores has the opportunity to create printed designs such as handbills (flyers), posters, programs, newspaper ads, booklets, banners or T-shirts. There are six graphic designers who work individually but offer opinions or feedback when asked. Flores has worked on a Panhellenic Recruitment e-book with a journal/scrapbook feel that is available on the Panhellenic Web site. This



Left to right: Julian Palhof and Vanessa Flores, Design Group members

is her favorite project as she has incorporated some of her personal drawings in the publication. "I feel I put a little more of myself in it," said Flores.

"Working in the OSI Design Group has not only helped me develop my design skills, but also my communication skills with my clients and my peers," says Flores. "Having these real-life client relationships will better prepare me for my future career." She plans to stay in the Design Group, and hopes to minor in digital media. In addition, this fall Flores will be working as an intern at Channel 9's graphic department.

Kerry Welch is director for the OSI and Chantel Carter, associate director for OSI, supervises the Design Group.

Delta Delta Delta House Corporation Wins National Award

The House Corporation for the Beta Lambda chapter of Delta Delta Delta at UCF received the "Most Outstanding House Corporation Award" at the organization's national convention, held June 30-July 3 at the J.W. Marriott Grande Lakes Resort in Orlando.

The award acknowledges the Delta Delta Delta house corporation's exceptional efforts toward maintaining the chapter house and ensuring the financial stability of the organization, and the safety of its collegiate members.

"This award is a testament to the outstanding dedication our Tri-Delta area alumni," said Greg Mason, director of Fraternity/Sorority Housing and Development. "At UCF, we are fortunate to have such loyal and involved alumni

and sorority house corporation boards."

Recent Delta Delta Delta house corporation projects include re-painting the outside of the house and installing a security

camera system at all entrances. In 2004, the house corporation coordinated a major addition that included a grand hall (meeting and dining space), commercial kitchen and study library, and expanded the house's capacity to 52 members. The house corporation has also provided wireless internet access to the entire house.

Founded in 1888, Tri Delta is a leader among social Greek organizations through its passion for progress and visionary thinking. Through partnerships with nationally recognized organizations like St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, award-winning publications like The Trident and innovative collegiate and alumnae initiatives, Tri Delta is committed to leveraging our timeless values to revitalize the sorority experience.



Delta Delta Delta House

Creed Grants Awarded

Student Development and Enrollment Services received \$60,000 from the Foundation Parent Fund to support Creed Grant Proposals for this year. Programs, services and initiatives will be accomplished with this funding to support UCF students. The 2010-2011 Creed Grants proposals are as follows:

- Study Union – Student Union
- FTIC & Parent Pre College Seminar – Student Academic Resource Center
- Career Development Guide – Career Services
- Mentors in Violence Prevention – Counseling Center
- Food Pantry – Student Union and Office of Student Involvement

- Major Exploration Enhancement Project – First Year Advising and Exploration
 - Lunch and Learn – Data & Analyses
 - CREED Values Workshop – Student Conduct
 - Out-of-State Student Mentoring Program – First Year Experience and First Year Advising and Exploration
 - Lead Out Loud Program – LEAD Scholars, Leadership Programs
 - Notetaking – Student Disability Services
 - First Year Experience Student Executive Board – First Year Experience
- SDES would like to acknowledge and thank all departments that submitted proposals this year. A total of 23 proposals were submitted and reviewed.

SOAR Program Recipient of National Award

The MASS Seizing Opportunities for Achievement and Retention (SOAR) program at UCF has been selected for a national award. The SOAR program is the recipient of the Outstanding Institutional Advising Program Certificate of Merit award that will be presented at the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) as part of the 2010 Annual Awards Program for Academic Advising.

The quality advising SOAR program was selected as one of three programs to be honored with this award. The Outstanding Advising Program Awards annually recognize programs that document innovated and/or exemplary practices resulting in improvement of academic advising service. The award will be presented during the NACADA Annual Conference at Disney World this fall.

NACADA's membership consists of faculty, professional advisors, administrators, counselors and others in academic and student affairs concerned with the intellectual, personal

and vocational needs of students. In addition, NACADA is the representative and advocate of academic advising and those providing that service to higher education.

SOAR is a six-week academic, on-campus, summer program for a selected group of first-time-in-college (FTIC) students. The program builds and upgrades the writing, verbal, social and study skills necessary for these students to succeed in college. Participants in this intensive program are evaluated solely by UCF's Undergraduate Admissions Office and participation is by invitation only.

"Many of the SOAR students don't have a high SAT or high school GPA, compared to the average UCF freshmen student, but they are extremely hard workers," said Wayne Jackson, director for MASS. "The staff, led by Coordinator Erik Range, has done a great job in preparing the SOAR students for the rigors of college life at UCF. Thus, it is one of the main reasons why our retention rates and student grade point averages are so high."

Housing Check-in for Fall



Housing and Residence Life check-in

Over 6,200 students moved on campus for the fall 2010 semester. Aside from all the wonderful amenities that the UCF campus offers, freshmen who live on campus have a higher first-year retention rate than those who live off campus.

This fall, approximately 65 percent of the first-time-in-college class are residing on campus.

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

Healthy Knights Checklist Gets National Attention

Dr. Michael Deichen, medical director and Dr. Jim Schaus, assistant medical director for UCF Health Services, presented an overview of preventive screening in the college population at the annual American College Health Association meeting in Philadelphia on June 2.

The presentation, "Evidence-Based Patient Screening and Intervention That Will Impact the Health on Your Campus Community," shared an overview of existing evidence-based health screening recommendations for young adults and highlighted how those screening questions were incorporated into the UCF Health Center's Healthy Knights 2020 Checklist.

Having had the checklist in place for several months now, Deichen and Schaus were able to review the data. This demonstrates the significant impact the checklist is having with our students.

The presentation was well attended and included representatives from Student Health Centers from across the country.

◆ Welcome to SDES ◆

New employees: May 15 – August 15, 2010

- **Indierra Burke**, certified medical assistant, Health Services (HS)
- **Jill Cooley**, psychologist, Counseling Center (CC)
- **Marcia Fitzpatrick**, senior Registered Nurse
- **Steven Hardee**, senior computer specialist, SDES Information Technology (IT)
- **Natalie Maida**, office assistant, HS
- **Jorge Olmedo**, senior accountant, HS
- **Maria Rodriguez**, applications systems analyst/programmer assistant, Registrar's Office
- **Carla McKnight**, coordinator student affairs, Office of Students Rights and Responsibilities
- **Zhaleh Mostofi**, specialist student counselor, CC
- **Daniel Russo**, Application System Analyst Programmer, SDES IT
- **Raymond Smith**, custodial worker, Student Union
- **Andrea Snead**, coordinator student affairs, Recreation and Wellness Center

SDES Changes

- **Dana Juntunen** was promoted to director of Office of Student Conduct.
- **Stacey Malaret** as the new director for Student Leadership Development.
- **Stephen O'Connell** was promoted to director of First Year Advising and Exploration

SDES Awards and Recognition

- **Patti MacKown**, Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, was recognized with the "Elizabeth Berg Streeter Community Service Award" by National Legal Aid & Defender Association (NLADA).

SDES Victory Over SGA in Kickball



After two years of SDES superiority in softball, SGA looked to change the outcome by challenging their professional counterparts in an old-fashioned playground kickball battle. SDES took their 4-0 lead into the 7th inning where SGA finally scratched out a run as Dan Compte scored on a sacrifice fly, however SDES would close the door with more solid defense to take the trophy.

School Supplies Donated to Bonneville Elementary School



SDES Council delivered eight boxes of school supplies to Bonneville Elementary School on August 13. Thank you SDES faculty and staff for your generous donations.

SDES IT Open House



SDES Information Technology (IT) invited SDES faculty and staff to an Open House August 11. IT representatives gave insight and information on SDES Windows 7, Microsoft Office 2010, Microsoft SharePoint, Virtual Desktop, Microsoft Service Manager—new call ticket system and more.

Over 150 SDES employees attended.

Meeting Focuses on Students With Disabilities

UCF Daytona Student Services hosted a daylong Student Disability Services (SDS) training retreat at the Daytona Campus. The training focused on standardizing, implementing and integrating procedures to assist SDS' students who may attend multiple campuses while pursuing their degree.

Orlando Student Disability Services attendees included Pamela Rea, Myrna Ubides, Kimberley Foy, Constance Ashworth and Antoinette Durden. Terry Exum, Jim Smith, Pam Brady, Carol Black, Ginny Dear, Michelle Van Brunt, AJ Range and Diana Weidman represented Regional Campuses Student Services.

Core Group Meeting

Planting Seeds, Reaping Success

On August 10, the Strategic Assessment & Learning Team (SALT) members used a large, creatively-crafted paper tree to help

over 50 participants recognize the important contributions sparked by the SDES Reconsidered "seed" and look forward to the new growth anticipated using the strategic plan over the next four years.



Jeff Novak placed a Housing and Residential Life contribution leaf to the tree.

The program included slides of the various units' many successes achieved over the past year. Attendees were invited to recall their groups' accomplishments stemming from the SDES Reconsidered program, write them on paper "roots," and post them appropriately at the base of the tree. Next, the SDES Strategic Plan and Action Items, compiled from different staff contributions, were distributed. Group members used paper leaves to jot down early ideas on how they could incorporate their groups' existing programs into action items and attached the leaves to the branches of the tree, symbolizing the transformation of everyone's hard work into effective results. Finally, cypress seedlings were distributed to all who wanted a remembrance of their SDES Reconsidered efforts.

SDES Vice President Maribeth Ehasz and attendees made the meeting a fun and productive time, while continuing to explore the SDES Strategic Plan and sharing ideas for implementation.

Special thanks also go out to the many behind-the-scenes contributors: Rebecca Piety, University Testing Center; Shane Juntunen, Office of Student Involvement (OSI); and Anasara Cosme, OSI.

The next Core Group meeting is scheduled to be held September 22 from 9-11 a.m. in SU 218CD, Key West.

Dennis Congos' Book is Published

Dennis Congos, First Year Advising and Exploration, has published a book titled, *Starting Out! in College: Proven Strategies for Academic Success*. The publication is intended for college learning skills and orientation classes, college bound high school seniors, summer bridge programs, direct connect programs, those returning to college and community college students in transition to four-year institutions.

