January 27, 2012, was an important day for Regional Campuses and our partners. Malcolm MacLeod, president of the Johnson Scholarship Foundation, and Presidents John Hitt-UCF, Jim Richey-Brevard Community College, Chuck Mojock-Lake Sumter Community College, Ann McGee-Seminole State and Sandy Shugart-Valencia College signed a memorandum of understanding creating the first joint philanthropy project under the umbrella of DirectConnect to UCF.

The Johnson Scholarship Foundation (JSF) will offer a $1.5 million “challenge” grant to support need-based scholarships to DirectConnect students. $500,000 will benefit these students while they attend the partner colleges and that amount will be matched by the partners, increasing the value of the endowed scholarship to $1 million. The Johnson Scholarship Foundation will then provide an additional $1 million, matched by UCF and its partners, to create a $3 million scholarship opportunity for these “Johnson Scholars” once they transfer to UCF for degree completion. There is a five-year window to arrive at a total endowment of $4 million.

The Johnson Scholars will be awarded the scholarship by their “DirectConnect” college prior to transferring to UCF; the scholars will have program requirements that emphasize student success, responsibility and leadership, and they will have the unique opportunity of working with members of the JSF board after selection.

“We’re interested in students who have financial need and who might not otherwise go to college. DirectConnect is a perfect fit for us,” MacLeod said. He noted that colleges and universities offer a bridge out of poverty. The Johnson Scholarship Foundation is a private foundation with a mission to assist disadvantaged people.

One of the foundation’s core values is partnership: We realize that our programs are, at best, a catalyst. The people we seek to assist and the organizations that serve them do the real work of change and are usually the best source of ideas for new program initiatives. We look to them to help us understand how to make our work more effective and, whenever we can usefully do so, we engage them as partners.

DirectConnect to UCF is a national model of successful partnerships and, as such, generated interest within JSF as they observed our efforts to provide student access toward successful completion of bachelor degrees. UCF Regional Campuses welcomed the opportunity to be instrumental in partnering with the Johnson Scholarship Foundation, UCF Foundation and the DirectConnect presidents and partner foundation officers in making the first “joint philanthropy” of this type.

Without the creativity and cooperation of all our DirectConnect partners, however, this would not have happened. Many thanks to each of you for continuing to serve our students first, last and always.
American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) and Project Kaleidoscope (PKAL) selected the Consortium partners as a Florida contingency and one of six institutional groups for a second workshop. The partnership opportunities to advance STEM transfer student success are identified through the continuing work of various working groups—Curriculum Alignment, Resources, Data—and Direct Connect to UCF partnership meetings.

**College Access Summit**

The 6th annual College Access Summit will be held on March 14, 2012, hosted by Valencia College at the Valencia West campus. “Build Pathways for Student Transition” is the theme of the summit and the keynote presenter will be Betsy Barefoot, Vice President with the Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education and Senior Fellow at the First Year Student Institute. Two student panels will discuss their perceptions of college choice, transition, and graduation within the DirectConnect to UCF pathway.

**Curriculum Alignment**

K-20 faculty members, teachers, academic leaders and decision makers strategically create educational pathways for STEM disciplines through curriculum alignment.
- Current disciplines include Math, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, and Computer Programming.
- High schools are now included and middle schools will soon be involved.
- Cross-disciplinary alignment with Math, Chemistry and

Physics has been added this year.
- An annual Curriculum Alignment Conference is coordinated with all disciplines to share good work and determine new strategies.

**Resources Working Group**

Grant-writing professionals from our partner institutions work together to identify and secure funding from external resources in support of our common priorities and goals.
- Shared goals and priorities of stakeholders were identified through horizontal and vertical integration.
- Four common areas were determined: building pathways, providing quality learning experiences, contributing to regional economics and workforce, and providing infrastructure to support access and learning outcomes.
- A white paper was drafted for institutional and inter-institutional partnership efforts as a framework to streamline agreements that must be executed for future grants and funding.
- A STEM project was identified for further research, focus and development.

**Data Working Group**

Data collectors and producers who make decisions at the institutions monitor, share, and facilitate data necessary for program development and assessment. This year, the Florida college partners and UCF proposed a data model to the Florida Department of Education so that data could be accessed and utilized by K-20 partners.

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**Enrollment Services**

Enrollment Services, Advising and Student Services have completed videotaping and voice-over recording for the new and improved Virtual Orientation. Regional Campuses are committed to Access which allows our students to select either a virtual or face-to-face orientation. The goal of the group has been to ensure the student experience at orientation, no matter which delivery method is selected, is comparable and provides the student with the necessary information to begin their studies at UCF. It has been a real team effort. A big thanks goes out to David Laney, Martin Malpica, and Ricardo Suarez from Continuing Education who provided expertise with the audio-visual production and additional technical support during editing and compiling the presentations.

The updated architecture website went live on January 10. The pictures on the site hold a special meaning for UCF architecture students. They were taken on a field trip to Chicago and during pin-up, the qualifying design portion of the admission process for new architecture students. Thanks go out Tony Recascino, Minesh Patel, and Marylou Wade for their hard work and patience with the many, many edits. Craig Froehlich assisted Regional Campuses in moving the completed site from the test to the live environment.

Regional Campuses also sent out a survey to almost 5000 admitted students to assess their opinions regarding course modality and time of day for classes based on their selected campus, enrollment status (full or part-time) and academic major. Regional Campuses uses the data to craft a schedule for future terms that meets student preferences.
CONTINUING EDUCATION

Did You Know DCE Provides Conference Services?

The UCF Division of Continuing Education provides full conference support services to clients in the higher education and private sectors. These professional, high-quality, cost-effective services are customized to meet each of our clients’ needs. Our experienced DCE team is ready to assist anyone with the details and delivery of their conference, institute, workshop, or meeting. Whether in Central Florida, across the state, or at any location chosen by the client, our Conference Services Center will provide specialized expertise in individual aspects of the conference or full turnkey pre-event, onsite, and post-event conference support.

Our pre-event planning services include contract management, program planning, financial services, advanced registration services, marketing exhibits/sponsor identification, speaker management support, facility screening and selection, continuing education units (CEU), and any other logistical arrangements needed for the specific function.

The onsite support services include onsite registration services, full audio visual and technology support, complete event coordination, banquet services, and food and beverage support. Our post-event conference services include full-service financial closings and fiscal report generation, conference attendee evaluations, and conference analysis.

A partial list of DCE supported events coming in 2012:
- March 14-16 - Information Fluency Conference
- March 15-16 - CREOL @ 25
- March 24 - Florida Science Olympiad
- April 11-14 - National Association of Branch Campus Administrators
- June 25-29 - AP Summer Institute
- July 2-20 - Burnett Honors College Summer Institute
- October 8-10 - IEEE (IPCC2012: Communication Vision)
- October 7-11 - 13th International Conference on Molecule-based Magnets

If you’d like to learn more about any of these activities visit us at www.ce.ucf.edu. Or better yet, stop in and visit UCF DCE. We’re immediately adjacent to UCF HR.

ACADEMIC INITIATIVES

-Steve Holmes

This spring has been one of the most exciting and busiest semesters in recent history.

Regional Campuses had the opportunity to participate in the update of the University Strategic Plan. This exercise involved university-wide participation in shaping the goals and strategic initiatives of the university over the next few years. We were pleased to see one of Regional Campuses’ core goals (Student Access and Success) prominently noted throughout the document, a testament to the hard work of everyone in the region.

We have formed an advisory committee for Continuing Education to assist us in administering our Corporate Education programs. The committee is comprised of members of the university community and has been charged with setting and interpreting university policy along with reviewing proposals requesting transition to “market rate” programs. This committee has proven to be very effective and its members have been most helpful.

As I mentioned, this semester is one of the most exciting in recent history. I say this because we are currently in the planning phase for opening a new building at Valencia College on the Osceola campus. The current plan calls for hiring twelve faculty and an equivalent number of staff for Building 4. While the building will not officially open until spring of 2013, we are trying to hire at least 6 faculty for the fall of 2012 who can be ready to move in on opening day. We will then fill the other positions in either summer or fall of 2013.

Moreover, we are in the process of hiring faculty on nearly every campus to replace those who have left the university or are in the process of retiring. From my perspective, there is no greater thrill than getting to talk to faculty during the interview process, learning what their research interests are and seeing them succeed once hired.

In closing, I just wanted to take the time to thank each and every one of you for all of the things that you do to make Regional Campuses one of the best and most exciting places on campus to work.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

This month Regional Campuses Advisors are highlighting Lisa Cruz, one of our generalists from UCF Valencia West. Lisa started with us in 2006 as an Office Manager. In 2009, she became an Academic Advisor and brought her many operational skills to the task of helping students be successful in their academic programs. One of the ways she has accomplished this is in her ability to see a need and initiate a solution.

Working with the other advisors at VC West, Lisa implemented an online workshop for online or video streaming courses. Lisa explains how she came to this solution by “meeting with students who transfer in from Valencia, as well as other institutions that have never taken an online or video streaming course. I found that many were confused or lost on ‘how’ to take such courses. With the assistance of David Berland and Melissa Hanbery, we were able to implement this online workshop and highly recommend that students take advantage of it.” In addition, a survey is included for the students to provide any additional feedback or comments.

If interested in the online/video streaming workshop, go to https://rc.ucf.edu/dashboard.action >Regional Campuses Students> Pre-Orientation Advising.

R E G I O N A L  C A M P U S E S  N E W S
In December, 2011, the UCF South Lake, Leesburg and Ocala campuses launched its Knight LIGHTS (Learning, Inspiring, Giving, Helping, Teaching, and Seeking) mentoring program. Its mission is to provide a support network by matching students with caring faculty and staff committed to the LIGHTS principles. The program embodies the UCF Creed. Inaugural mentors—Cecelia Rivers, Tanya Armstrong, Chrysalis Wright and mentees—Noryang Oliveros Lopez, Felicia Shelton and Elizabeth Morse participated in an orientation which covered the roles and responsibilities as well as expectations of the program. Larry Marks (UCF Counseling Center) facilitated a workshop on Mentoring and Coaching. Knight LIGHTS was highlighted at the 18th annual Joseph C. Andrews Public Lecture on February 16. Author of the book, The Boy in the Suitcase, Holocaust Family Stories of Survival (2012), Cohn will speak on Stories of Survival and Righteous Christians.

Lisa Brooks (elem. ed.) was recently accepted as guest speaker at the NSTA (National Science Teachers Association) National Conference to be held in March. She will also be conducting a workshop on aspects of the Internet Science Technology Fair.

Welcome new staff: Carol Sanfratello, Program Assistant-Enrollment Services, and Monte Hazboun, Computer Specialist.

In January, the region held its annual holiday social for faculty and staff. The high spirited celebration featured a delicious smorgasbord, karoke caroling and fellowship. Everyone had a great time.

Emily Wood, a 2010 graduate of the Leesburg Elementary Education program and a current teacher at Beverly Shores Elementary in Lake County, was recently chosen by the State of Florida Department of Education as a State Model Classroom for Math. Visitors from around the state observing her teaching and learning strategies. As a UCF alum, she continues to team with instructor, Cynthia Walters, in mentoring current juniors and seniors in the program by sharing her classroom experiences.

In January, staff partnered with University Center to host the annual Spring Welcome Back Bash in Ocala. A similar event was held in South Lake. Students enjoyed live DJ music, lots of food, and a variety of fun activities.
Faculty are being encouraged to invite students to participate in the first undergraduate research event at UCF West/Osceola which will showcase student research projects from all the disciplines. The event will take place in April. For more information, contact jason.chesnut@ucf.edu.

Regional majors workshops will be conducted at UCF West and UCF Osceola for Valencia students regarding UCF programs.

Student services workshops are conducted throughout the semester. Carol Black is responsible for seeing that these workshops are publicized and promoted. For more information, contact carol.black@ucf.edu.

Faculty are invited to attend the UCF Spirit Day at Osceola on February 29 from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m.

UCF Direct Connect Center updates were shared with Osceola West and Valencia advisors, counselors, answering center, student services, and other personnel.

UCF Book Festival will be on March 31. Visit http://education.ucf.edu/bookfest/

Carlos Valdez (marketing) published a paper entitled “Marketing’s Influence as an Antecedent of Differences of Sales-Marketing Thought Worlds in Mexican Companies” in the International Business: Research, Teaching and Practice Journal from the Academy of International Business, Southeast Chapter.

Request for proposals are due February 17 for the 2012 UCF Summer Faculty Development Conference. Faculty selected to participate will each receive an $800 grant. More information at http://www.fctl.ucf.edu/Events/SummerConference/.

Nursing students Rebecca Lowe, concurrently enrolled at Valencia) and Kristin Fisher (accelerated program) presented their writing projects as part of KnightsWrite Showcase, which highlights writing across disciplines.

In addition to their presentation, they displayed a poster at the event. For more information, go to http://writingandrhetoric.cah.ucf.edu/events.php.
Faculty and Staff

In partnership with Brevard Community College, UCF recently brought a Fulbright Scholar to the campus for the spring semester. Professor Huseyin Dogan is the chair of the psychology department at Meliksah University in Turkey and his areas of specialization include career psychological counseling, business psychology, family counseling, special education, educational sciences, interpersonal relationships, and addiction psychology, with special emphasis on internet addiction. Dogan’s visit will help strengthen the international dimension of the general studies programming at BCC and the upper division course work provided through UCF.

Shelley Park presented a paper, “Mothering queerly, queering motherhood: Exploring polymaternalism in adoptive, lesbian, and blended families,” at the national meeting of the American Philosophical Association in December, 2011.

Deborah Rhyne successfully completed the Quality Matters Publisher Rubric Update course which allows her to review courses developed by publishers such as Pearson, Cengage Learning, John Wiley & Sons.


Denise L. Young co-presented the following: 1) “Spirit of SACS Past, Present, and Future: Role of the Accreditation Liaison” and “Blurring Institutional Lines to Benefit Students” at the 2011 annual meeting of the SACSCOC and 2) “Power of Partnership” at the Nile Foundation annual dialogue dinner with BCC’s Cocoa provost, Beverly Slaughter.

Welcome to our newest Knight: Lauren Miller’s new baby girl, Hadley, was born January 19. She joins big brother, Brady.

The BCC-UCF Joint-Use Library featured a traveling history exhibit sponsored by the Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Cultural Complex from February 6-17 on the Cocoa campus; the exhibit will be displayed on the Palm Bay campus later in the spring. Robert Cassanello, (history) delivered two lectures on the exhibit.

The Cocoa and Palm Bay campuses chose Connected by 25 for the region’s holiday charity for another year. Gifts were collected to help young graduates of the foster care system and their children. SR provided over $1,000 of gifts to these children in need.

STUDENTS

The Nicholson School of Communication is incubating a Speech Team as a co-curricular activity for tournament competition. Students engage in individual speaking events such as persuasion, dramatic interpretation, and extemporaneous speaking, as well as team events such as parliamentary debate. A multi-campus organization (Palm Bay, Cocoa, Orlando) the team just completed its first tournament in Pensacola, FL. UCF junior, Stephen Sherbin, competed in both Poetry Interpretation and Impromptu Speaking and will compete again, along with Xaondra Bergman (Persuasive Speaking), at the “Gator Invitational” hosted by the University of Florida. The entire team will be traveling to the event, along with the UCF Debate Team, in February.

There has been a drastic increase in the number of students requesting student services this spring: 13% increase in virtual completions and a 15% increase in virtual orientation; 33% increase in students seeking academic accommodations. Veteran Services also witnessed a substantial increase in the number seeking to transfer educational benefits from BCC to UCF.

Student Outreach Services at UCF Cocoa held their Spring Welcome event on January 18, with 90 students attending. One of the newest programs, the Student Activities Council (a volunteer group of students), will be planning, organizing and facilitating events at the Cocoa and Palm Bay campuses with the assistance of SOS staff.
CAMPUS NEWS

Students, faculty and staff were welcomed back to campus on Wednesday, January 25, with an event hosted by our Student Outreach Services. Representatives from multiple organizations provided important information to participants and refreshments were served. A fun time was had by all.

On February 10, Barbara Thompson from Diversity Initiatives provided a DISC training seminar for staff. DISC is an acronym that refers to four personality dimensions: dominance, influence, steadiness and compliance.

UPCOMING EVENTS
The Annual Daytona Beach Campus Health and Fitness Fair is scheduled for February 27 between 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in the Atrium of building 140. Participants will include Recreation and Wellness, nursing students, and various community groups that promote healthy lifestyles.

Faculty and Staff

SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS SERVICES AT DAYTONA BEACH:
As an organization, we take pride in our exceptional customer service. Julie Dann is the dedicated individual who meets a variety of needs on several campuses. She produces the ID cards for the DB campus as well as Seminole and South Lake and returns the cards in record time. Her concern for the students is genuine and taking care of all of them is the key to her success. Kudos to Julie!

Julia W. Buckey (social work) has published an article entitled, “Empirically based spirituality education: Implications for social work research and practice,” in the current volume of the Journal of Social Service Research.

“Honoring patient preferences: Surrogates speak,” a qualitative research study by Buckey and Olga Molina (social work) has been accepted for publication in Omega: Journal of Death and Dying. The work was presented at the 16th Annual Conference of Society for Social Work in Research in Washington, DC in January.

Buckey and Dr. Neil Abell (FSU College of Social Work) received the highest research score ranking in a systematic review of studies reporting the effects on surrogates making treatment decisions for adults unable to make decisions independently. An abstract of the study appeared in the March issue of Annals of Internal Medicine.

Angeline Bushy (nursing) recently co-authored The Rural Nurse: Transition to Practice with Deanna Molinari, PhD, RN from Idaho State University. The 400-page textbook focuses on nurses transitioning from an urban-based nursing educational program or practice setting to a rural health care environment.

Ariana Gross (nursing) and two senior students from the Orlando campus, Amanda Oyola and Amanda Hermida, joined students and faculty from UCF’s College of Medicine on a short-term medical trip to the Cibao region of the Dominican Republic.

Sue Mahan is working at the Volusia Regional Detention Center with detained youth, many of whom have battery charges, to address non-violent methods of conflict resolution and bullying.

Todd Richardson (legal studies) was a judge at UCF’s South Atlantic Regional Moot Court Tournament in December. A team from UCF Daytona Beach participated, which was the first year UCF hosted the event.

STUDENTS

Kappa Delta Pi, sponsored a Blood Drive (Florida Blood Centers) on January 26. More than 20 students volunteered to donate blood.

The Spring 2012 class of BSN students started with a record number of 38.
Campus News

• Our campus showed the U.S. State Department Foreign Service Officer Workshop via polycom on January 19 for students interested in this field.

• Several of Altamonte’s Concurrent Nursing students participated in the 2011 Florida Nursing Students Association (FNSA) Convention with Seminole State College, where the group submitted their health pamphlets and won the Health Literacy Award.

• We now have a UCF Sanford/Lake Mary Facebook page for current UCF and prospective students.

• SOS will be collecting school supplies for “Knights Give Back” to donate to children in a small village in Afghanistan. IT staff member Carolyn Kennedy’s husband is currently serving with the U.S. Army there.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Angie Ritten (nursing) has been chosen as UCF’s 2012 nominee to NACADA in the New Faculty Advisor category.

Brett Meltzer: 1) Recently published an essay, “Capital Punishment Should Not Be Abolished in the United States,” in ABC-CLIO Enduring Issues: Understanding Controversy and Society. His essay is in response to an essay written by the Executive Director of the Death Penalty Information Center in Washington, D.C. 2) Had three guest speakers visit his classes to speak on their experiences practicing law and studying at law school—Judge Heather O’Brien, Osceola County Court; Rudy Ramjeawan, Esq. of the Ramjeawan Law Group; and Lisa Acharekar, Assistant State Attorney.

James Brophy is currently consulting on a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) grant with an Orlando company, IDEAS, exploring treatment options for PTSD. Brophy is also presenting on a panel at the medical school on web-based learning.

Mary Starzynski’s Professional Development School (PDS) has been selected as a 2012 recipient of the NAPDS Award for Exemplary Professional Development School Achievement. Students from both the Daytona and Sanford/Lake Mary campuses are able to observe and teach at Timbercrest Elementary School. “We are thrilled to receive this award which will be presented at the NAPDS Conference in Las Vegas in March . . . our PDS has become a model for partnerships between UCF and Central Florida communities to meet the needs of 21st Century students at both the district and higher education levels,” Starzynski said about the award.

Congratulations to Sean Armstrong on his promotion to Director of Academic Support Services.

STUDENTS

Ashley Squillante and Sarah Zoll represented DirectConnect at UCF at Seminole State’s Welcome Back Bash. They also worked the SLM’s Welcome Back Knights event, handing out goodies and water bottles to promote the new partnership with the local YMCA.

Mary Starzynski and Andrea Velez-Vazquez hosted the “What I Wish I Knew About Internship” workshop in January for all elementary education students.

W. Scott Wise from the College of Education visited the campus on February 1, hosting his FTCE workshop for all interested elementary education majors.

Rosa YI (nursing) was awarded the FNSA Individual Legislative Award.

200 tickets to the men’s basketball game, UCF vs. PB Atlantic, were handed out on January 30.

Altamonte’s Concurrent Nursing students participated in the 2012 Disney Marathon as medical volunteers in January. The students assisted runners, assessing and providing medical care, wound care, ice wraps, and administering analgesics.