The Sport and Fitness program, one of the first programs offered at UCF South Lake in 2002, prepares students for careers with school and university athletic programs, community sports organizations, private and public fitness and recreation programs, and multipurpose facilities. In addition, students may pursue graduate and professional degree programs. Enrollment has grown from 29 students to more than 200 at the South Lake campus and over 400 university-wide.

On the UCF South Lake campus, classes are taught by outstanding faculty in the fields of fitness, personal training, strength and conditioning, recreation and wellness, public administration, and coaching. The faculty includes: Jeff Duke, William Kuminka, Wendy Berry, Anna Valdes and Jeff Biddle. They serve as advisers to the Sport and Fitness students and have helped to build a strong local and national reputation for the program. As one student remarked, “The Sport and Fitness program at South Lake is fantastic; I've received the best guidance and support to earn a degree that will allow me to achieve my dream of owning my own fitness facility.”

Jeff Duke is an instructor in the Sport and Fitness program at UCF South Lake. Hired in 2001, he played a pivotal role in developing the program’s curriculum/design and was one of its first faculty members. Many consider him to the “father” of the Sports & Fitness program at UCF.

Duke has an extensive background in the sport and fitness field. His primary area of expertise is coaching. With over thirty successful years of experience encompassing youth, collegiate and professional teams, he has coached five different sports and directly supervised more than 200 coaches in 17 different sports across the country. He even coached several years with the legendary Bobby Bowden.

A leader in the field at home, Duke’s coaching scholarship reaches beyond the contiguous United States. Eight years of his career were devoted to developing an international platform on elite coaching education. His global research initiatives required extensive travel throughout Europe and the Americas. His doctoral research (Florida State University) established baseline data to help analyze proficient elite-level coaching methods. In 2008, he authored a study entitled “Three Dimensional Pyramid of Coaching Success,” which has revolutionized the sport coaching landscape. His methodology allows coaches to discover a style that produces the ultimate athlete performance.
The 2011 Chinese New Year provided an opportunity for Min Tong, UCF Librarian at the South Lake campus, to collaborate with the head of Youth Services at the Cooper Memorial Library in presenting a special story time program for visiting 3-5 year-olds on that theme. As part of the presentation, Tong told the story of her dream of becoming a librarian by teaching the kids and their parents a nursery rhyme about Little White Rabbit in Mandarin Chinese.

Cecilia Rivers, Tanya Armstrong, Roberta Erge, and Cindy Kirk, were joined by Karri Williams (Coordinator, Elementary Education), and Bryan Zugelder (Director Clinical Experiences-College of Education), along with citrus County School District leaders, for the inaugural meeting of the UCF Ocala/Citrus Education Advisory Council in February. The group discussed the purpose and mission of the Council, UCF Ocala degree offerings, and the elementary education program specifically. Council members discussed ways to improve internship placements and processes, create job opportunities for program graduates, and explored other joint initiatives that would be mutually beneficial for the district and UCF. A similar council has also been formed with the Marion County School District.

coming up events

March 16: The UCF South Lake campus will host the Executive Board Meeting for the UCF Black Faculty Staff Association-March 16, 12:30-1:30 p.m. Building 2 room 127
April 7: UCF South Lake and UCF Ocala Graduation Reception-April 7, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Cooper Memorial Library room 108
May 3: UCF South Lake, UCF Ocala Graduation Reception-May 3, 4:00-6:00 p.m. Cooper Memorial Library room 108

Students majoring in the Sport and Fitness program choose an area of specialization: Coaching, Fitness, Physical Performance or Exercise Science and Recreation. Students are also expected to complete three specialization certifications and join three industry associations prior to graduation. The UCF program is only one of nine such programs with these requirements. Imbedded in the degree program are 18 hours of tailored practicum experiences within a diverse cadre of sports, fitness, athletic, and health-related partnership organizations. Signature partners include the National Training Center, Special Olympics Florida, ESPN Wide World of Sports, South Lake Hospital and National Training Center Sports Medicine Institute, P.A. Through these community partnerships, program facilities are as unique as the curriculum and include access to an aquatic center with a 70-meter pool, aerobic and weight training rooms, a state- of-the-art human performance lab, community health education and resource centers, multipurpose athletic fields, and a field house. The faculty has also developed strong partnerships with the UCF athletic department, Recreation and Wellness Center, and Academic Advising Office for Student Athletes.

Min Tong, UCF Librarian at the South Lake campus, tells a story about Little White Rabbit.
ACADEMIC INITIATIVES UPDATE - Steve Holmes

What an exciting academic year! This has been. The Regional Campus has seen unprecedented growth with the addition of 20+ new faculty, the implementation of the College of Sciences’ Web MOU and the growth and maturation of our corporate education programs. While change and growth are nothing new to those of us who have been at UCF for some time, I don’t remember when there were so many balls in the air.

And I don’t see things slowing down anytime soon. Next year we will begin ramping up for 10-12 faculty hires in the new facility being built on the UCF Valencia Osceola campus. Moreover, we will be asking the College of Arts and Humanities to join us in a web MOU similar to the one COS did this year. Finally, there is potential for adding to 2-3 academic programs in our corporate education division.

I have no doubt that we are ready for these changes and additional responsibilities. I don’t think I have ever been around a more dedicated and hard working staff than I have seen here, and I can’t think of anywhere I would rather be than at the center of all this growth, optimism and excitement.

What Faculty Are Reading... Stephen T. Holmes

Following the College Access meeting last week, I finally broke down and bought a Kindle. I figured that I had better get with it because, from what I understand, many of the public schools will be switching to electronic text books using this device next year. The first book I bought was a new novel by James Gleick titled The Information. A History, a Theory, a Flood. While I generally do not have an interest in books of this genre, I found this one particularly interesting and captivating. Gleick takes a scientific look at how we, as a culture, process information and how technology serves to satisfy our hunger for knowledge. In the end, Gleick suggests that all of our forms of communication—from the alphabet to the typewriter to the computer—are simply the latest innovations for saving and manipulating knowledge. This book is not for everyone, but it makes me pause and attempt to reinterpret the world around me. It is available for download at $14.99 and in hardcover for $18.

For those of you that have not used a Kindle to read a book, I found it to be quite a nice tool. While I thought I would miss turning the pages, after I got into the story it really didn’t matter. What I did like was the ability to increase the text size—no need to squint or use those awful reading glasses. For this reason alone, I think it is safe to say all of my new book purchases will be in electronic format.

ENROLLMENT SERVICES

UCF Valencia West hosted an Architecture Decision Day in January with 23 students attending.

Chris Fletcher met with the Valencia academic advisors about the new Express Decision events, eight of which have been scheduled.

A scavenger hunt was staged for Valencia students interested in learning about DirectConnect to UCF. Class was busier than usual with a little maneuvering to make sure participants visited Building 11 and “connected” with DirectConnect at UCF. Giveaways were part of the fun.

Sheilla Thomas-Small attended a FAFSA “Wednesday Webinar” hosted by USA Funds.

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Be on the lookout for seeing more students on your campuses as we look forward to the start of registration for the Summer/Fall term. We anticipate additional students for Spring enrollment.

For us, orientation will become a daily part of our lives. We try to be as helpful as possible to students by making sure that the information they receive is accurate and appropriate.

Note to Advisors: Remember that the IT track in the B.A.S. will no longer be offered. These courses have been discontinued. We will work closely with students currently enrolled in this track to make sure they can graduate. However, new students will not be allowed to declare this track in the B.A.S. degree program.

Our own Scott Larson is up for a leadership position with the Regional NACADA organization. Don’t forget to vote if you are a member. The Regional Conference will be held in Birmingham, Alabama, March 13-15, 2011.

information technology plugged in...

February saw the University usher in the new era of Microsoft Outlook, a replacement for GroupWise. Thanks to the tireless effort put forth by the Regional Campus IT team, our migration was a success. Moving forward, remember that you can access your email from any computer at http://webmail.ucf.edu. You will need to know your NID and your NID password. Your NID password will expire every 60 days and will have to be changed.

During the month of February, the IT staff also participated in the 5th annual College Access Summit, provided audio visual support for the DiversITEA event at the Barber Shop (http://connect.ucf.edu/p90941770/) in addition to the BFSA Mentoring Breakfast.

We continue to search for processes and tools that will make day-to-day life easier and more efficient for faculty, staff and students. If you wish to contribute your ideas, please send an email to kirk.henry@ucf.edu.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Upcoming Events

March 16
Health & Fitness Fair—UCF Daytona Beach
April 12
Etiquette Banquet—UCF Daytona Beach
April 13
“Age & Attitudes” and “The Faber Sax”—UCF Cocoa

Continuing Education initiatives:

• DCE is partnering with UCF Career Services to provide resume writing, job search strategies and interview training sessions to non-credit UCF students.

• DCE is now offering Human Resource Certification classes at the UCF Daytona Beach and UCF Brevard regional campuses.

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• The 17th Annual Joseph C. Andrews Mentoring Breakfast program was broadcast to the five regional campuses during February. This event was planned and organized by the Black Faculty and Academic Administrators Association and sponsored by SGA and the Campus Activities Board. Lucas Boyle, Director of Community Relations, Multicultural Insights, Cause Marketing and Government Affairs, for the Orlando Magic was the speaker.

• The DiversITEA program was recorded and subsequently broadcast to UCF South Lake, UCF Cocoa, and UCF Sanford/ Lake Mary campuses. Sponsored by the Office of International Student Services, the event recognized and embraced international or global diversity on campus by celebrating international foods, teas, customs, and traditions across the world.

• A total of 38 students utilized the National Training Center in a total of 189 visits during the month of February at the UCF South Lake campus.

Student Services

Campus News

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College Access Summit V

**Regional Strategy: From Access to Achievement**

**College Access Summit V: S.O., a Regional Strategy Session to Expand Access to Colleges occurred on February 23. More than 150 leaders from Central, Technical, community/state colleges and UCF met to summarize the work of the past year while generating a regional strategy and set of priorities for expanding access to student pathways which lead to degree completion.**

Presidents James Drake (Brevard Community College), E. Anne McGee (Seminole State College), and Sandy Shugart (Valencia Community College) provided a focused review of the success of DirectConnect to UCF and the consortium impact on the region, state and nation. UCF Regional Campus Interim Provost Joyce Dorner introduced UCF Provost Tony Waldrop who shared his thoughts with the participants.

Special thanks to Mike Hampton, Craig Tidwell, Joyce Romano, Sandra Arches, Susan Kelley and Merewyn “Libba” Lyons for their leadership and reports summarizing the three work groups under the DirectConnect to UCF umbrella. Additional appreciation goes out to Don Upton and Tru (Fairfield Index), Mike Cooney (Project Manager), Kirk Henry and IT staff, Dania Saurez, Bev Butch, Jeanette Holder, Gina Clifton, Michelle Fuentes (UCF Marketing), and all attendees for making the day a success.

A press release by Mike Cooney and Erika Finlimore summarized the Summit as follows: "Participants received updates from three working groups that have been meeting since the fourth Summit last February. The Curriculum Alignment, Data and Resources Working Groups each told of the work they have accomplished throughout the year, which will help support college access for high school and college students across the region."

The daylong summit also focused on the need for more students and teachers to be proficient in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) disciplines, which will help support the high tech workforce needs of Florida employers. STEM is a major focus of all K-12, community/state colleges and UCF as well as a primary job-creating and diversification strategy for nearly all economic development organizations including Enterprise Florida. At lunch, Kenneth B. Ross, Vice President for Communications & Public Affairs at the Lockheed Martin Global Training and Logistics facility on Lake Underhill Road, gave a presentation on STEMFlorida, an initiative supported by Enterprise Florida to help ensure a ready and able workforce that supports the ever-changing labor demands of the state’s employers. In addition, attendees went through a series of polling exercises to choose three priorities for the region. They agreed to work together on a regional basis to ensure that 1) significantly more students will graduate prepared for the next level of education, 2) teachers and faculty share and analyze student success data, 3) there will be no significant achievement gaps in degree completion among students from different backgrounds.

**The Summit also addressed increasing the rate of degree completion at UCF and at community colleges that belong to the local higher education consortium.**

In 2005, Brevard, Lake-Sumter, Seminole and Valencia community colleges joined UCF to establish the Central Florida Higher Education Consortium. UCF was the first state university to establish this type of partnership. Early goals of the consortium included expanding capacity and guaranteeing opportunities to students. Among the consortium’s successes is the establishment of DirectConnect to UCF, which guarantees university admission to graduates of the partner community colleges and closely aligns students with UCF’s admissions policies and procedures to ensure an easy transition. The consortium continues to expand through additional program offerings in the two new joint use facilities and an increase in shared faculty and staff to serve students.

"It is our job to design pathways for students that create a pull instead of a push," said Sandy Shugart, president of Valencia Community College.

**College Access Summit V
Succinctly said... by the Summit Speakers**

Sandy Shugart . . .

1) Programs must be designed for students.
Only 17% of today’s students go to college like we did, e.g. you graduate from high school and you immediately go someplace else, where you go up to bachelor’s degree or more; you live on or near campus, and you go full-time. Students don’t go to school that way anymore.

2) Programs must become tightly-coupled enterprises. Students don’t know where the county lines are, nor do they care; they don’t know where municipalities are either, and they certainly don’t know what the service areas are. Our economies work on a regional basis as do our institutions. We have to think beyond UCF, beyond my college, my institution, my degree programs. Together, we represented somewhere between 600-700,000 students. So, what do we have to do to have a common experience when you come from one community college?

3) The college is . . . what the students experience. The college isn’t the buildings, it isn’t the finances, it isn’t the curriculum. The college is how students experience us, not how we experience them. The big question is how do we understand what students are experiencing and what they want to experience.

The first step is building a database that can be shared across institutions. The design needs to include pathways for students to achieve their goals. In the past, we have used the “push” method—we pushed them to graduate from high school, we pushed them into college, we pushed them through programs. We must introduce the idea of “pull,” laying out clearly the connections students need to make and pulling them along so they can meet their goals. If we do this right, we will improve graduation rates. If we do this right, we will diversify across the professions.

E. Ann McGee . . .

DirectConnect is a national model. A number of years ago, UCF President John Hitt called together college presidents to discuss issues that are important to all of us. He realized that hometown kids were not getting into the hometown university. The best infact of students was coming from Dade and Brevard counties. The recent economic downturn has only served to accentuate the importance of kids being able to go to school in their hometown university.

The Board of Trustees, sent regrets and a letter, read the letter. They said that UCF would have a very different future. Only 17% of today’s students go to college like we did, e.g. you graduate from high school and you immediately go someplace else, where you go up to bachelor’s degree or more; you live on or near campus, and you go full-time. Students don’t go to school that way anymore.

To facilitate this arrangement, the various trustees boards signed agreements stating that in exchange for our students being able to enter any of our universities, we would partner with UCF in awarding bachelor’s degrees. Another piece of this was increasing our graduation rates. As Florida placed very near the bottom among the 50 states in this area. An important factor was this: schools were not interested in competing with each other; they were interested in cooperating with each other. In this region we want to build partnerships that focus on the students. Just recently UCF “gave up” some back-calculations degrees. The four presidents sat down and hammered out an agreement.

It’s really all about the students, students who are dependent on these cooperative arrangements for their education, for their futures. Our job is to make it as easy as possible for them.

James Drake . . .

The Brevard Community College Chairman of the Board of Trustees, went regrets and a letter; read by Dr. Drake, outlining his personal experiences with DirectConnect to UCF. "...I am a proud alumnus of UF, thanks to the strong relationship between BCC and UCF. Because of that partnership I was able to work my way through undergraduate school, first through Brevard Community College and then at UCF without having to take very many courses proportionately here in Orlando."

Recently President Drake and I had breakfast with the student government leaders from all four of our campuses. Many of our SGA leaders and the vast majority of the thousands of BCC students whom they represent now envision UCF as their top choice university because of the guaranteed admission that the 2+2 and now DirectConnect have made possible. I want you to know, as a proud alumnus and presently as Chairman of BCC Board of Trustees, UCF and DirectConnect will always be my top choice as one of the policymakers for Brevard Community College and the choice that I recommend consistently to students, legislators, and donors."
faculty and staff

Florin Mihal was an invited speaker at the 2011 Pathways to Excellence in Teaching Project Conference where he co-presented “The Merging of Two Disciplines in Working with English Language Learners: Communication Differences or Communication Disorders?” He also presented “Assessing ELLs Through Large Scale Assessments: A Focus on Test Accommodations” at the conference.

Nick Pantoni ran in Melbourne Music Marathon 5K. He also furthered his training by completing two webinars on financial aid and diversity initiatives. Nick completed six classroom visits for Enrollment Services to BCC. He will present on financial aid at Heritage High School in Palm Bay on February 24. Sonia Curtis and Felipe Mendez conducted two classroom visits at the BCC Palm Bay campus.

Deborah Rhyne participated in UCF Professional Development: “Effective Online Assessment - Scalable Success Strategies” and is currently enrolled in “Quality Matters,” addressing quality standards for online teaching.

Jerry Sublette participated as a judge in the debate tournament arguing the topic “immigration visa policy.” The two-day event was revived by Robert Chandler, Director of the Nicholson School of Communication, after a 25-year hiatus. UCF was one of 21 teams participating.

Kristina Watkins introduced Katherine Louise to the world on February 10, 2011. She was 8 lbs. 8 oz. and 18 inches long. Welcome, Katherine, and congrats to Kristina and Gary.

students

ORIENTATION

UCF Cocoa and UCF Palm Bay faculty and staff have developed and implemented many academic programs and support services to expand, enhance, and support the academic experience of regional campus students. Faculty, staff, and student organizations can reserve an information table by contacting Regional Campuses Student Services at (321) 433-7950.

Summer and Fall Dates:

UCF Cocoa: Tuesday, April 12
Thursday, June 23
Wednesday, August 17

UCF Palm Bay: Wednesday, May 4

campus news

Jose Fernandez and Denise Young participated in a planning meeting with the head of the Puerto Rican Chamber in Brevard County for local events related to the 500th anniversary of the landing of Ponce de Leon in Florida.

Black History Month activities: Sonya Curtis, John King, Angel Edgecombe, and Felipe Mendez attended the BCC Palm Bay Southern Comfort luncheon. Angel Edgecombe and Lenea Walton attended BCC’s Palm Bay Black History Program on both the Palm Bay and Cocoa campuses. In celebration of BCC’s 50th Anniversary, the festivities honored African Americans who have made significant contributions to education and especially to BCC.

Sonya Curtis attended the MLK Remembrance on February 15 in Orlando. The presenter, Dr. Steven Perry is a CNN educational contributor and founder of Capitol Preparatory Magnet School.

Brevard County had the largest contingent (29 percent of all attendees) at the annual College Access Summit V.

Lauren Miller served as an award co-presenter at LEAD, Brevard’s annual 4 Under 40 event, along with the President of BCC and a representative of Florida Tech. The Coca and Palm Bay campuses co-sponsor the event as Educational Consortium Partners, recognizing 4 up and coming professionals who have made notable contributions to Brevard County.

Lauren Miller, Dr. Steven Perry and Sonya Curtis

BCC’S Director of Collegewide Admissions and Advising invited the AVP and Director to the BCC Student Services Council Meeting to discuss spring semester Direct Connect to UCF Advising Sessions at all four of BCC’s campuses as well as overall expansion of DC outreach. At the session the group made preliminary plans for establishment of a permanent staffed table on the Coca campus next to their advising office, needs for marketing information, and installation of Prep Steps displays at all campuses.

facult and staff

Deirdre Engelhart, Early Childhood Instructor, is a graduate of the Lockheed Martin/UCF Academy of Mathematics and Science and has been chosen as a Fellow in the NASA Endeavor Science Teaching Certificate Project. Engelhart received additional support from NASA to integrate ideas and materials from their various programs into her college coursework.

Trisha Bray, a student of Engelhart’s, was also selected for this honor, joining five other college professors and their students. Trisha is completing her senior internship this spring and will begin her STEM certification during the summer.

Congratulations to Dr. Engelhart and Trisha.

upcoming events

March 16 Health and Fitness Fair
March 21 Suicide Prevention Workshop, “The Truth About Suicide”
March 26 UCF Daytona Beach Community Volunteer Day: Chiles Academy for Teen Mothers
March 29 Orientation (Summer/Fall)
Karen Hoffman
Allies Advance programs as deemed appropriate. The sessions will be facilitated by a program that will enable those employed at Seminole State College to provide internal support for the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgendered) student and employee community. On March 4, an "Allies Advance" and a Train-the-Trainer program were offered to students within UCF and Seminole State came out to our campus to complete a bachelor's degree. Representatives from different departments and at Seminole and either transferring to UCF or staying at Seminole to be the next stop.

Andrea Velez-Vazquez
Sean Armstrong
Karen Hoffman
Allies Advance programs at the UCF Black Faculty and Staff Association Mentoring Breakfast on February 17. Congratulations to Jerry Frano on completing his Supervisory Skills training this month.

Kia Anderson will be completing her training as Program Assistant to Admissions and will begin the scanning of Enrollment Services documents for this campus.

On February 23, Dr. Alla Kourova, Dr. David Mealor, Galina Kovkina, and Margarita Vershinina, linguistic, language, and culture, 2) expanding teachers’ and students’ worldview, 3) broadening the knowledge of American education and culture, 3) expanding teachers’ and students’ worldview, 3) broadening the knowledge of American education, and 4) sharing the experience of teaching culture through language.

Dr. Alla Kourova, Dr. David Mealor, Galina Kovkina, and Margarita Vershinina established the network for exchanging materials in teaching English as a second language, and 4) sharing the experience of teaching culture through language.

On February 23, David Mealor, Sean Armstrong, and Jackie West-Lee represented our campus at the 5th Annual College Access Summit held at the Fairwinds Alumni Center. Sean Armstrong took our new hires, Kia Anderson, Jesse Gruen, Kallie Reyes, and Andrea Veliez-Vazquez, on a “road trip” to the Daytona campus to tour their facilities, meet the staff, and observe the way other Regional Campuses operate. UCF Cocoa has been relocated to a bigger, more visible office.

On Wednesday, March 2, we held our third annual UCF/Seminole State Transfer Fair, hosted by Pam Williams Gruen. There were prizes and giveaways for students who participated. We gave out information on completing the AA or AS degree and will begin the scanning of Enrollment Services documents for this campus.

On March 4, an "Allies Advance" and a Train-the-Trainer program were offered to students. The new architecture laser lab is now available for students. A program on "Getting Started in Undergraduate Research" will be offered to students March 15 at UCF Valencia West.
FEATURED PROGRAM

Sports and Fitness

at UCF South Lake, UCF Ocala and UCF Leesburg