**Student Health Services: Accreditation**

FGCU Student Health Services is pleased to announce that we received our initial three year accreditation by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) in March of this year. This was a voluntary process of accreditation that required us to measure our Health Center against nationally recognized standards. The process involved self-analysis, peer review, and an on-site inspection and consultation by a surveyor.

To obtain accreditation an organization must demonstrate and adhere to core standards which are designed to assure high quality patient care. The standards include: rights of patients, governance, administration, quality of care provided, quality management and improvement, clinical records and health information, infection prevention and safety control, and facilities and environment.

Accreditation represents an important milestone in the continuing growth and success of Student Health Services at FGCU. It epitomizes our commitment to provide the highest level of care to our patients and to apply the same high level of conduct in our business practices. Our team at Student Health Services is committed to the mission of providing accessible and quality health care to the students of FGCU. Accreditation by AAAHC is proof of this commitment and it signifies that we have met the rigorous standards of a nationally recognized outside authority. We are proud to have met the challenge of accreditation and we intend to consistently uphold the principles of quality improvement and outstanding patient care in the future. The process challenged us to find better ways to serve our patients and accreditation serves as a constant reminder of our responsibility to provide quality health care for our students.
New Health Center Management Software

One of the most significant enhancements to the FGCU Student Health Services operation occurred last summer when the office implemented an integrated health center management software system. The system was purchased from PyraMed Health Systems, the nation’s leading provider of such systems for colleges and universities. The software system provides a turnkey solution for registering students and scheduling appointments, data collection and reporting, and billing/financial services. The electronic health records module enables the health care staff to create digital files for each patient that can be efficiently stored and retrieved. The system also interfaces with Quest Labs so that lab reports are electronically transmitted to each patient’s file. The immunization management module enables the department to accurately track each patient’s immunization history, administer on-site vaccinations, and report on immunization data.

The new system has helped streamline office operations, resulting in greater efficiency and enhanced customer service. The use of electronic health records has helped improve the quality of care through enhanced quality control and better communication within the center and with other health care providers. There are also few storage space issues now that physical files are no longer used. With the implementation of this new system, Student Health Services is now in a better position to meet the challenges and needs of an evolving health care environment while continuing to provide high quality service to our students.