Stocking Stuffers for our Troops

The service project for Student Support Services this fall will be sending stocking stuffers to our military troops. The items must be collected by October 27th (Eagle Expo) to allow enough time for them to be shipped overseas. Below is a list of items that have been suggested and you may drop them off in the basket in the SSS office reception area. They are much appreciated. You may also sign a holiday card for the troops while you’re in our office!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Combs</td>
<td>Shampoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toothbrush/toothpaste</td>
<td>Hand sanitizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dental floss</td>
<td>Liquid soap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gum</td>
<td>Deodorant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifesavers</td>
<td>Fruit rollups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kleenex</td>
<td>Wet wipes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books/current magazines</td>
<td>Pens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunscreen</td>
<td>Beef Jerky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deodorant</td>
<td>Chapstick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Peer Advocate Program

Student Support Services implemented a new program this fall known as the Peer Advocate Program. Its purpose is to acquaint new students (freshmen, transfer, and in some cases students returning to SSS after an absence) with the FGCU campus and make them feel welcome in the SSS program. Current SSS members (Advocates) are matched up with new members (PALS) and are asked to communicate with them via email on a weekly basis. Reports from the Advocates are due every two weeks. In return for this service, Advocates are awarded $500 in grant aid per semester; their PALS are awarded $350. If you would like more information about this program, please contact Susan at 590-7836 or Julie at 590-7809.
McNair Conference held in Niagara Falls, NY

Cathy Doyle, director, and Susan Genson, assistant director, accompanied two SSS students, Amber Pacheco and Brittany Strouse, to the 13th Annual McNair Research Conference in Niagara Falls, NY, July 26-29. Students from around the country who are members of TRiO programs were invited to present research and/or network with faculty and graduate program representatives. The purpose of the conference each year is to support a student’s transition into a graduate program. In addition to the research presentations, the conference featured fantastic speakers, interesting workshops, and a large fair which highlighted graduate school opportunities. You can read more about the conference in this issue from one of the attendees, Brittany.

New Faces in SSS!

Welcome to the following new members of SSS:
Ken Beauvais
John Britton
Tiffani Blanks
Raymond Budd
Felix Camille
Ismaray Cardentey
Lilibet Diaz
Yasmine Dolle
Hao Duong
Janice Facey-Brown
Nicolella Gallo
Fritz Henry
Lidia Hernandez
Ashley Hickam
Candi Johnson
Maria Koenig
Annette Luna
Jessica McGroarty
Barbara Morejon
Francesca Morey
Winnifer Odom
Joseph Pfeffer
Michael Powelson
Arline Quezada
Anthony Roman
Ronaldo Samedi
Alexis Sanchez
Arlene Quezada
Kelly Kuhns—hoodie/FGCU decal
Feslene Revolte—bumper sticker/key chain
Kaysy Williams—flash drive

Meet and Greet held Sept 13th

Student Support Services held its annual Fall Meet and Greet on September 13th with 54 in attendance. Students were given new SSS t-shirts, a calendar of events, an activity checklist, and the opportunity to socialize with staff and other students. Subs were provided for lunch along with other treats throughout the day. The following people were lucky prize winners that day:

Milene LaFortune—coffee mug
Victoria Pereira—stuffed eagle
Ken Beauvais—drawstring bag
Jessica McGroarty—green t-shirt
Lilibet Diaz—blue t-shirt
Marguerita Harris—blanket
Jessica Harpin—hoodie/FGCU decal
Feslene Revolte—bumper sticker/key chain
Kelly Kuhns—bumper sticker/key chain
Kaysy Williams—flash drive

Congratulations prize winners, Victoria and Lilibet!

Recycling Continues

Don’t forget that SSS continues to recycle used cell phones (no accessories please) and ink jet cartridges. Drop those items off in the bin located just inside the door to Room 202 in McTarnaghan Hall. Recycling benefits everyone….and remember FGCU is the environmental university!
McNair Scholars Conference  
By Brittany Strouse

Left to right, Brittany and Amber

I had the opportunity to attend the McNair Conference presented by the McNair Scholars and the University at Buffalo July 26-29. The conference gave me a chance to visit with many students from a variety of universities and inquire about graduate programs available at their universities. I viewed over a dozen undergraduate and graduate student research projects. I was not aware of the limitations each student faced. The McNair Conference gave students from universities all over the United States the opportunity to present their hypothesis and give insight into their discoveries.

The Conference also offered a wide range of interesting guest speakers. I found all of the speakers to be encouraging, but Dr James Pogue was truly inspirational. He talked about helping others and how we can be more involved. A summary of a statement made by Dr Pogue states that “during freshman orientation, you are told to look at yourself, to your left, and then to your right. Of the three individuals you’ve just looked at, two are not going to graduate from college.” Instead of viewing two of the three students as failures, Dr Pogue suggested that you lend a hand. Instead of fighting to be the student who graduates, help those around you attain their degree as well. As students, we are rarely told to focus on others’ progress in school.

Along with well-informed presentations, the conference organizers also planned a fun activity for all of us on the Whirlpool Jet Boat Tour. It was described by one conference speaker as a “controlled drowning.” Indeed, it was, as the boat spun in circles and bounced through whirlpools on the Niagara River, drenching all 48 occupants of the boat!

The McNair Conference and the University at Buffalo offered a learning experience that I will carry with me throughout my higher education. Again, Student Support Services is an incredible support service that you should use as a tool throughout your education at FGCU. It has given me the opportunity to explore my professional options. A special thanks to Susan Genson and Cathy Doyle for accompanying Amber Pacheco and me to Buffalo and for the valuable opportunity afforded to us by Student Support Services!

Upcoming Lunch and Learn Events
Office of Multicultural Services, Oct 30, 12:30-1:30 pm
Consumer Credit Counseling, Nov 6 & 7, 12:00-1:00 pm
Graduate School Exploration, Nov 27, 12:30-1:30 pm

These events are held in the SSS computer lab. Please register by calling 590-7834. Bring your lunch!

Upcoming Cultural Activities
The Holly Jolly Christmas Show at Broadway Palm
Friday, Nov 30th, 6:00 pm
Movie Night at Regal Gulf Coast Cinema
Friday, Dec 7th, time TBA
Do you need help purchasing your books? If you are planning to take any of the courses listed below, Student Support Services may be able to help!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENC 1101 Composition I</td>
<td>PSY 2012 General Psychology</td>
<td>CHM 1045 General Chemistry I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENC 1102 Composition II</td>
<td>BSC 1020C Human Systems</td>
<td>MAC 1105 College Algebra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAT 1033 Inter. Algebra</td>
<td>IDS 3920 University Colloquium</td>
<td>OCE 1001C Marine Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 1010 General Biology I</td>
<td>STA 2023 Statistical Methods</td>
<td>MAC 231X Calculus I, II, or III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC 2026 Biology of Human Sexuality</td>
<td>BSC 1051C Environmental Biology</td>
<td>HUM 2510 Understanding Visual &amp; Performing Arts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Support Services allows participants to borrow selected books for their courses. The books are available on a first come, first serve basis and are contingent upon program funding. We will only purchase required books for these courses. If you register for any of the courses mentioned above for the spring semester, please bring in a copy of your schedule to the SSS office. Books will be available starting January 3, 2008.

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR STUDENTS!

Cindy Pohner and Victoria Pereira are the best of friends and very active members of Student Support Services. They spend a lot of time together in the SSS Computer Lab. When asked to write something about themselves to be printed in this newsletter, they decided to write about one another! Cindy writes that “Victoria is a senior at FGCU majoring in Psychology, with an emphasis on clinical care concerning children. Victoria stands out from her peers in many ways. She is 19 years old and will graduate with her Bachelor’s degree in December, and then continue towards her Doctorate. She has completed a four-year course load in two short years and will graduate with high academic honors. Her drive, dedication, and perseverance have resulted in her multitudes of success, although if you asked her, she would tell you that her faith in God is what gives her those attributes. She has been awarded numerous scholarships, grants, awards, and recognitions, one being the Chip Johnson Scholarship from the Community Foundation. She devotes her time and energy to many scholarly clubs such as Golden Key Honor Society and Phi Eta Sigma. She encourages all incoming students to enjoy and make the most of their time at FGCU! Victoria’s favorite quote is, ‘I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which one has overcome while trying to succeed’ - Booker T. Washington.”

Victoria writes about Cindy that “she has a very caring and compassionate heart. She is a student in the nursing program at FGCU, maintains a GPA of 3.78 while juggling responsibilities as a full-time mom and a certified nursing assistant at Healthpark. Cindy attributes all her success to God who gives her guidance and grace, as well as having the blessing of her son, Anthony. He is an inspiration in her life. She has received many scholarships throughout her college career such as Uncommon Friends Foundation, All Florida Academic Team Scholarship, and Southwest Florida Community Foundation. Cindy hopes to further pursue a major in theology or religious studies. As her best friend, I know that Cindy will pursue whatever she has her heart set on and achieve it because of her devotion and diligence. Cindy’s advice to those starting college would be ‘have faith, believe, and you will achieve.’”

Left to right, Victoria and Cindy