Student Support Services Welcomes its New Director

Cathy Doyle joins Florida Gulf Coast University as Director of Student Support and Outreach Programs after serving three years as the Florida Marketing Director for College Loans. Cathy previously served as District Director for the Student Support Services Program, Students with Disabilities Program, and Single Parent Program at Edison College. Prior to that, Cathy served as Director of Counseling, Advising, Assessment, Recruitment, and Career Center. These experiences enabled her to assist with the development and implementation of the Project Hope Program; a college-wide tutorial program; Upward Bound Program; Peer Mentoring Program, and the Child Care Center providing academic and personal support to underrepresented students. Ms. Doyle has a Master’s Degree in Guidance and Counseling from the University of South Florida and a Bachelor’s in English and History from the University of Charleston in West Virginia. “The best part of being in education is the students. I thrive on working with students and affecting their educational development in a learning environment such as Florida Gulf Coast University. I am so impressed with the students and staff in Student Affairs.”

Cathy can be reached by phone at 239-570-7909; by email at cdoyle@fgcu.edu. Welcome Cathy!

“Life is a Cruise, Enjoy the Scenery”
**New Staff**

**Susan Genson** has been with Student Support Services since January 2005. Prior to coming to FGCU, Susan worked for 13 ½ years in Adult and Continuing Education at Concordia University in Mequon, Wisconsin, where she also earned her B.A. in Business Management and Communications, and M.S. in Student Personnel Administration. Susan enjoys counseling and advising students, accompanying them on field trips and theatre events, and planning workshops!

“Never look back, always look forward!”

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**Sharon Davies**

Many of you have already met Sharon. She worked with us in the Spring 05 and returned in August 2006. This time she has committed to stay with us for several months – or until we kick her out. Sharon retired as a federal Human Resources Manager after 30 years in the Human Resources field, and has had varied work experiences since - either as a volunteer or a paid employee. She recently bought a home in Cape Coral and is a full time resident of Florida. Other than the volunteer work she has done, she considers her assignments here at FGCU to be her most rewarding.

“Hard work spotlights the character of people; Some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don’t turn up at all.”
**New Staff**

**Tim Offermann** is the graduate assistant and oversees the SSS Computer lab which is now open until 6 pm on Mondays and Thursdays. Tim was born and raised in Hamburg, Germany. He spent his junior year of high school as an exchange student in Australia. He was recruited by Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Georgia in 2002 to play tennis. In 2004, Tim transferred to FGCU where he played tennis for two years. He was captain of the team and an all American player. In December 2006 he graduated with a degree in Sports Management. Tim is now working on his Master’s degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance. Welcome Tim!

“ I can accept failure, but I can’t accept not trying.”

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**Julie Rose** is the new coordinator in SSS. She graduated from FGCU in April 2006 and is currently pursuing her master’s degree. She has worked with TRiO programs for over five years and enjoys working with students. Her office is located in McTarnaghan Hall, Room 213. Feel free to stop by and say hello. She looks forward to meeting all of you! Welcome Julie!

“What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson
Quick Study Guides
The following quick study guides are available, free of charge, in our office: Algebra - Part 1, Anatomy, Calculus 1, English Composition and Style, English Grammar and Punctuation, Essays and Term Papers, Math Review, Pre-Algebra, Pre-Calculus, Public Speaking, Spanish Verbs, and Statistics. Stop in to pick up what you need!

Workshops and other Events
Workshops include Beyond the, Personal Identity Values, How to Conduct a Meeting, Professional Associations, and the Etiquette Dinner – free of charge (at Embassy Suites). Tickets will be available in March for “Damn Yankees” at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre on March 30th. Please call Sharon at 590-7834 to register for events.

Lunch and Learn Series
March 15th – Campus Building Projects (AB5, Room 210)
April 11th – Resume and Interview Tips
All Lunch and Learn events take place 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm in the SSS Computer Lab, unless otherwise noted. Please call Sharon at 590-7834 to register.

Book Loan Program
Please remember that SSS is looking for donations of used textbooks so we can make them available to other SSS students who find the cost of textbooks to be a hardship. We are happy to report that we have received our first donation and it is Business, 8th Edition, by Pride, Hughes and Kapoor. If you need this book please stop in the office and see Susan. You will need to provide proof of registration in a class requiring this textbook.
Resource Library
Do you need a TI-83 calculator for statistics or another math class? SSS can loan you a calculator for the entire semester. We also have laptops for loan for a maximum of five days. Please see Susan if you would like to borrow these items.

National Conference on Student Leadership
Six students attended the National Conference on Student Leadership held at the Contemporary Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Nov 16-19. Marguerita Harris, Charmaine Guerrine, Ingrid Fernandez, Be’Lawn Bright, Darlyn Scott, and Aurhell Furlow participated in workshops on topics such as communication and conflict resolution; leaders, followers, scapegoats, and bullies; fundraising with passion and power; seeking civility; and making first impressions that last, just to name a few. Lunch each day was followed by a speaker on topics entitled, “Be the Change,” “The Five P’s of Your Collegiate Success,” and “Eat Right, Feel Good, Look Great!” The conference was not just all work! There was time for fun as we enjoyed a late afternoon/evening in the Magic Kingdom. If you are interested in attending a leadership conference next year, please talk to Susan or fill out an application form which you will find in the SSS office. You will also have a chance to talk personally with the participants of the leadership conferences at February’s Lunch & Learn series on Thursday, Feb 15th, 12:00-1:00 pm in the SSS Computer Lab.

Recycling Continues
SSS continues to recycle your used cell phones and ink jet cartridges. Drop off these items in the bin outside Susan’s office door in McTarnaghan. Thank you!

Service Project to Benefit Children’s Hospital of Southwest Florida
We are collecting coloring books, crayons, markers, and kid-friendly bandages to benefit Children’s Hospital. You may drop these items off in the basket in our reception area during the month of February so they can be delivered to the hospital the latter part of the month.
Black History Month

Seven SSS students visited the Black History Museum in Fort Myers on Tuesday, February 13th, at 11:00 am to celebrate Black History Month. The $5 admission fee was covered by SSS, as well as lunch afterwards at Mildred’s Restaurant. We were greeted at the restaurant by the owners, Mildred and Michael Barns. Mildred explained the history behind many of the foods prepared at the restaurant while Michael told us about the financial struggles they faced in the early years of their business. After closing for several years, Mildred and Michael reopened their restaurant and have been successful ever since. He encouraged the students to work hard and “if at first you don’t succeed, try, try again!”

SSS Celebrates TRiO

Student Support Services will celebrate National TRiO day on Tuesday, February 20th with a reception and cake for faculty, staff, and students in our office. TRiO is the organization within the U. S. Department of Education which funds the Student Support Services grant. It originally encompassed the Upward Bound, Talent Search, and Student Support Services programs; hence, the name TRiO. Today, it encompasses many more than three programs, but still retains the name TRiO. Please join us as we celebrate the organization which makes so many opportunities available to you and thousands of other college students across the country. Bring your friends. The event is open to the campus community!

SSS Hosts Project Hope Students

Student Support Services hosted 19 students from Edison College’s Project Hope program on Feb 5th. After meeting at the Welcome Center, the students were given a tour of campus by university tour guides. After the tour the students returned to the Welcome Center where they heard presentations from Admissions and Financial Aid representatives. They also had the opportunity to meet personally with representatives from FGCU’s Colleges of Business, Education, Health Professions, Arts and Sciences, and the School of Engineering. Information was also made available to them about SSS, hoping that many of these potential transfer students will apply to FGCU and eventually become members of Student Support Services. Prizes were awarded to five lucky students. Many favorable comments and evaluations were received at the conclusion of the event.
It is time to file your 2007-08 FAFSA!

Please watch your email for the mid-term review schedule in March. Mid-term reviews are required of all SSS participants!