FROM THE DIRECTOR

I hope your semester is going well. We had an amazingly busy summer and this fall semester has been even busier. Your program is growing and evolving and becoming recognized nationally as a model for interdisciplinary studies. We have been growing as well. Since our last newsletter, we have been fortunate to have a new Adviser, Ashley Eden, join us. She is a wonderful addition who is bringing new ideas, insights, and energy to the program and office.

This semester we launched the new Leadership Studies Minor and Leadership Studies Certificate. This is the beginning of what will be a long term collaboration between Interdisciplinary Studies and Student Development and Enrollment Services. Both the minor and the certificate include two core courses. The first of those, LDR 2001, was offered for the first time this semester and has been going very well. Next semester the second core course, LDR 2002, will be offered for the first time and it also promises to be a great course.

I am sure you know that the first class of our new medical school has started now. Did you know that 4 members of that class earned undergraduate degrees in Interdisciplinary Studies? One of those students, Shawna Bellew, earned her degree in Interdisciplinary Studies here at UCF. In August we had a small IS student gathering. It was held during the day on campus and therefore competed with classes resulting in a small turn-out. However, those who attended reported that they enjoyed it. The event involved a film, “The Day After Peace”, which is a documentary about the work of Jeremy Gilley in establishing the International Day of Peace. The film was to be accompanied by a presentation by Dr. Noel Brown, former Director of the Environmental Program of the United Nations, North America. He was called to Tbilisi, Georgia and Nina Streich, Director of the Global Peace Film Festival filled in. The audience had a good conversation with Nina about all the sides of film making and film festivals. The film was also well received.

Have a successful and enjoyable rest of the fall semester and do great things.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael D. Hampton
Interdisciplinary Studies graduates walked across the stage marking their last symbolic act as Undergraduates at UCF during the summer commencement ceremony on August 8th, 2009. Over 170 I.S. students graduated this summer and we want to congratulate all of our graduates. Good luck in your future endeavors!

**Summa Cum Laude honors designees (top 2.5 percent of their graduating class) include:**
- Michelle Lee Curtiss
- Kimberly Anne Dixson

**Magna Cum Laude honors designees (top 5 percent, but not in the top 2.5 percent) include:**
- Sarah Elizabeth Cox
- Elodie Marie Gabrielle Littee
- Molly Michele McLaughlin

**IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES**

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The first Interdisciplinary Studies gathering was a great success! Held on Wednesday, July 15 at 6:30 p.m., 22 people attended the event at Showalter Flying Service. The audience was composed of undergraduates (mostly seniors) and grad students along with some friends of IS.

The evening began with partaking of the party platters and soft drinks provided by the Director, Dr. Hampton. He then, briefly, welcomed everyone, thanked the host (Kim Showalter and Showalter Flying Service) and the sponsor (Wolf Aviation Fund), and then told everyone about our goals of helping to create a sense of community and cohort with the gatherings.

Next, Kim Showalter explained that she and Dr. Hampton were the Co-PI’s on the Wolf Aviation Fund grant. Kim spoke a bit about the airport and then introduced Tim Shea. Tim talked about his background and how his job has required him to learn many things outside of his education. He then stressed the value of interdisciplinary education and talked about how he prefers to hire people with interdisciplinary backgrounds due to their broad thinking and capable mind-set.

Tim spent a lot of time discussing environmental issues at and the history of Orlando Executive Airport. After Tim, there was a lively question and answer period. The students were a terrific audience—they were attentive and respectful in deportment and with their excellent questions and discussion.

Before Dr. Hampton’s closing remarks, he returned to explain a bit about airport design and issues at Orlando Executive Airport from the point of view of a pilot who uses the airport. He then thanked everyone for coming and asked them to fill in and submit evaluation forms of the event. Most people stayed long after the session ended and continued some very good discussions.

If you missed the first I.S. student gathering, make sure you attend the next event during the Global Peace Film Festival (September 22-27)!
Lee Logan’s Goodbye: An Exceptional Advisor Retires

I want to say good-bye to all the great Interdisciplinary Studies/Liberal Studies students I have had the honor to work with over the past nine years. Due to the unique aspect of our degree, each of you gave me an opportunity to meet a “special” student. I constantly was impressed with the many fine students I met on a daily basis.

If you ever had the chance to hear me “preach” about this degree program, then you know how special I think the Interdisciplinary Studies major is. To me, it is clearly the best way to prepare you for the future. The chance to display your many sides permits you the chance to paint a special picture that is unique only to you.

I will miss my colleagues in the office and of course the students I advised. I will continue to work with the UCF athletic programs and try to stay out of my wife’s way.

Warmest regards!!

New Advisor in Interdisciplinary Studies

Ms. Eden became an Interdisciplinary Studies advisor in July of 2009 after completing her master’s degree in Higher Education at UCF. Ashley found a path in higher education after completing two service learning courses at Rollins College in Sociology. In those courses she saw the value of co-curricular programs and the development of the whole student which lead to her career path in higher education.

2nd Annual Florida Student Education Policy Conference

This year the conference will be held in Tampa, Florida and we in ENLACE are excited to see this conference continue with funding available to support the students' travel to Tampa and Tallahassee for the ENLACE days at the capitol. On Thursday, February 25, 2010, 66 college students from across the state of Florida will convene on the campus of the USF, Tampa for the conference to deliberate the state of public education in Florida and recommend the ways and means by which it can be improved. The purpose is to develop student leadership and advocate for education reform. Students will study and debate critical policy issues, including Florida’s high school curriculum and the financial aid system. More importantly, the students will draft and approve resolutions that they will take directly to Tallahassee. Eligible students must be currently enrolled undergraduate or graduate students. In addition to their participation in this conference (all travel expenses paid), students who participate will be eligible for cash awards and honors presented for distinguished and notable contributions to the student conference. View the application packet here or email Dr. Gloria Laureano (glaurean@mail.ucf.edu) with your questions.
LEADERSHIP STUDIES
MINOR AND CERTIFICATE

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Now you can indulge your curiosity for academic credit!

Learn about your own personal values and their relationship to your leadership style. Prepare yourself for the workplace after college with problem solving, decision-making skills, and training in organizational ethics.

Sign up today for: Foundations of Leadership

LDR 2001

For More Information Contact
Ashley Eden
Phone: 407-823-0144
E-mail: aeden@mail.ucf.edu
www.is.ucf.edu
Help our students make the CONNECTIONS they need!

In the 2008-2009 academic year, Interdisciplinary Studies was the 3rd most popular major and one of the top 10 Bachelor's degrees awarded to University of Central Florida's undergraduate students. With over 560 degrees awarded during the same year, Interdisciplinary Studies is poised to become one of the top programs at UCF with students who are the leading achievers at the University. Contributions from our alumni around the world help ensure we create programs to help build a sense of community and cohort among majors, introduce them to role models, and connect them to future employers.

BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Show your continued support of Interdisciplinary Studies students with a donation:

Mail:
Dr. Michael Hampton, Director
Interdisciplinary Studies
P.O. Box 161998
Classroom Bldg. 1, Suite 302
Orlando, Florida 32816-1998

Call:
1-407-882-2771

Log on:
www.foundation.ucf.edu/give
Name: Jennifer Paster
Major: Interdisciplinary Studies, B.S.
My life long dream has been to work with children with special needs. My recent graduation May 2009 from UCF with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies has allowed me to achieve my dream. After first attending career counseling to explore the various career options and after many visits to my I.S. advisor to map out courses, I chose exceptional education as my minor and health, behavior and social science as my two areas of study. This approach allowed for a broad educational background in many areas that interested me and provided a strong foundation for a career in exceptional education.

In spite of today’s economy I am proud to state I have been offered a position as a lead teacher assistant at United Cerebral Palsy’s East Orange/Bailes Campus where I will be working with exceptional four year olds. I believe my experiences at the University of Central Florida and my passion for helping others has lead to my success.

Name: Sumayya Qadri
Major: Interdisciplinary Studies, B.S.
Choosing this major and being a Burnett Honors College student, was a good decision because it helped broaden my areas of education. My Health Sciences minor exposed me to courses outside of the narrow scientific arena which many pre-medical students feel they must adhere to in order to get accepted into medical school. It allowed me to take interesting courses which are an important part of the medical field. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to take these courses prior to beginning medical school. In addition, my major/minor track allowed me to balance my rigorous science courses with other courses associated with issues observed in our every-day lives and covered topics relating to nutrition, health care needs of the elderly, and healthcare in the United States, to name a few. I feel that these courses will be an asset for me when I become a medical doctor.

After graduating from UCF, I worked as a Writing Consultant at Valencia Community College for a few months before heading off to medical school. Currently, I am a first year medical student at the Georgia campus of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Name: Robert Santiago
Major: Liberal Studies, B.S.
I received the spring issue of the IS newsletter and thought I should share my story with fellow IS graduates. Since graduating in 1996 I have been working in the Information Security career field. I held several positions to include VP of Information Security for TracFone Wireless, Inc. But more interesting is where I find myself today. Currently I am working as an independent contractor in Iraq, supporting US forces in the fight against terrorism. My responsibilities include conducting combat forensics on captured enemy media. I am one of the few civilians able to go out into enemy territory and conduct forensic investigations to identify and defeat the IED (Improvised Explosive Device) cells in Iraq. I am including a picture to share with others. GO KNIGHTS!!
Welcome to the second edition of the new newsletter! Enjoy and please give us your feedback. We would love to know of stories, information items, etc that you would like to have included in the newsletter. Also, please be sure to keep in touch so we can be sure you receive your newsletter and so that we can highlight your successes.

Keep doing great things.
Sincerely,

Dr. Michael D. Hampton

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Have something you’d like to share with other Interdisciplinary Studies Students?

The Office of Interdisciplinary Studies is looking for writers for our newsletter. What I.S. Up is published online each semester with news and information regarding current and future I.S. students. We welcome submissions from students and faculty. To propose or submit an article, send an email to: maturner@mail.ucf.edu.
CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Congratulations to the Interdisciplinary Studies Summer 2009 Master’s Degree Recipients!

Michael Christopher Allgood
Deborah Leigh Bauer
Alexandra Nicole Hill
Brandon Norris Hinchman
Mayra Elena Hoffman

COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES ON TWITTER

Stay in touch with College of Graduate Studies. Now you can, we're on Twitter! Follow us and we'll keep you up to date about the latest events and workshops helpful to graduate students. Learn more about our nearly 200 programs as we tweet about them daily.

Follow on Twitter: @UCFGradStudies

ALL OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NOW THROUGH KNIGHTS E-MAIL

Effective Monday, September 28, 2009, all official communication from UCF offices (including academic advisers, financial aid, registrar’s office, etc. will be sent only to your Knight's E-mail account. Knights E-mail is the official campus e-mail. No communication will be sent to any other e-mail address.

Get your free Knights E-mail account by visiting the website at knightsemail.ucf.edu. If you have already registered for an account, you can log into your Knights E-mail or reset your password by going to the login page at http://mail.live.com.

Contact the Service Desk website or by phone at 407-823-5117 for additional assistance.

NEW! ELECTRONIC THESIS AND DISSERTATION TRAINING VIDEOS

In continuing efforts to provide graduate students with the resources necessary for electronic thesis and dissertation (ETD) preparation, the Office of Instructional Resources (OIR) and College of Graduate Studies have prepared Microsoft Word training videos!

These training videos will help students learn how to use styles and other Word components so that conversion to the required PDF format goes smoothly and creates an acceptable final document.

To view the videos, please visit the OIR website. For more information contact the Thesis and Dissertation Office at (407) 823-2739 or editor@mail.ucf.edu.
UCF Stands for Opportunity: The University of Central Florida is a metropolitan research university that ranks as the 6th largest in the nation with more than 48,000 students. UCF’s first classes were offered in 1968. The university offers impressive academic and research environments that power the region’s economic development. UCF’s culture of opportunity is driven by our diversity, Orlando environment, history of entrepreneurship and our youth, relevance and energy.

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