

STUDENT AFFAIRS Connections

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
NOVEMBER 2007 EDITION



Use of FGCU Career Development Services Popular Among Students



Students are able to network with employers who offer jobs in their field of study at our job fairs.

We are pleased to see an increase in attendance at many of our events. Over 675 students attended the fall Part Time Job Fair, making it the best attended employment related event we have ever hosted. Our Law School Fairs, Majors Fairs, Medical School Expos, and Etiquette Dinners have also been popular, attracting hundreds of students each year.

We also reach thousands of students each year through our class presentations, where we present on a wide variety of job search and employment topics. Another aspect of our services that is highly utilized is our website, which attracts over 80,000 visitors annually.

Career Development Services Gets High Marks

At the end of the fall and spring semesters, our office collects feedback from graduating students to help measure how helpful our services have been to their career planning and job search efforts. Graduates from Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 rated our services a 3.75 and 3.87, respectively, on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest score. These results compare favorably to the national average. In a survey of over 7,000 new college graduates across the country by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, the average score for university career centers was 3.4.

A Message From:

Dr. Mike Rollo, Vice President of Student Affairs -

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Student Affairs Connections Newsletter. The goal of this publication is to provide information to the University Community on the activities of the division that are enhancing the student experience at FGCU.

We will be publishing six editions of the newsletter a year, with each edition highlighting the activities of one of our departments. It is my hope that you find this information valuable and interesting.

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Connections is available online at studentservices.fgcu.edu

For comments or suggestions regarding this issue, please contact:

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Connections may be obtained in an alternative format by contacting the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance at 239-590-7405 or 800-590-3428, or the Office of Adaptive Services at 239-590-7956.

FGCU Graduates: Employment and Earnings

The majority of FGCU graduates remain in Florida, at least initially, after graduation. The rate at which graduates have obtained employment and their average salaries within one year of graduation continues to be high. According to data collected by the Florida Department of Education*, FGCU graduates rank favorably in relation to graduates from the ten other state universities that remain in the state of Florida to work.

For more information about FETPIP or to view the State University Reports, go to:

<http://www.fldoe.org/fetpip/sus.asp>

Year/Degree	% employed in the state	Wage rates
2004-2005 Bachelors	#2	#3
2004-2005 Masters	#1	#1
2003-2004 Bachelors	#1	#3
2003-2004 Masters	#2	#1
2002-2003 Bachelors	#1	#1
2002-2003 Masters	#1	#1
2001-2002 Bachelors	#1	#3
2001-2002 Masters	#1	#2

*The Florida Department of Education administers a data reporting system called FETPIP, or Florida Education and Training Placement Information Program. FETPIP collects data that describes the employment rates and earnings of Florida university graduates whom remain in the state of Florida.

An Update from Career Development Services...



The Virtual Career Center

Career Development Services is committed to making resources available to students in forms and methods that meet their expectations. As technology plays an increasingly larger role in delivering services and instruction, we continue to implement creative and effective web-based resources. To that end, Career Development Services has assembled a package of online career planning and job search resources, giving students and alumni virtually everything they need to prepare for and get connected to the professional world.

One popular virtual connecting point for students and alumni has been our web-based job/internship listing system called College Central Network. It has been highly successful in connecting students and alumni to employment opportunities on a local and national level.

Currently, over 1700 students and 700 alumni are registered in the system, along with 2100 recruiters.

In June 2007, we added a web-based career-planning resource, MyPlan.com. Over 600 users have registered in this system, and we have received feedback from students that it has been effective in helping them identify a major and/or career track. Soon, we will be adding a web resource to help students build customizable resumes, as well as an interview training program that uses multimedia interview scenarios.

For more information, check out the virtual career center at studentservices.fgcu.edu/careers

“Job Placement” vs. “Career Management”

University career centers are sometimes, inaccurately, referred to as “placement centers.” That term may have been accurate sixty years ago, when university career centers were charged with plugging seniors into corporate careers characterized by stable, secure, long-term employment. Identifying the highest and best use of an individual’s skills was the priority, rather than long-term career satisfaction.

Career planning in the 21st century requires a new perspective. The U.S. Department of Labor anticipates that current college graduates can expect to hold between 7 – 10 jobs and could work in 3-5 different careers before they retire. American workers, perhaps more specifically, those with college educations, have more freedom and more career choices than in any other time in history. In exchange, however, the American worker must now assume responsibility for their own career choices and the consequences of those choices.

FGCU Career Development Services strives to help students and alumni understand and navigate this new career management

process, which is fast-becoming a requisite life skill. Students who learn the skills necessary to effectively manage their careers may experience:

- A reduction in the amount of time spent undecided and/or a reduction in the frequency of major-switching, both of which can contribute to reducing excessive time to graduation rates.
- Better academic performance and greater persistence to graduate as they develop a clearer sense of purpose and start establishing or implementing plans toward a particular career.
- Higher employment and salary rates after graduation.
- A reduction in the instances of “underemployment” after graduation, which is closely linked to poor “self-marketing” abilities and an unfocused career plan.
- An enhanced likelihood of lifelong career success and satisfaction, measured over their total working career.

The Division of Student Affairs - Completing the University Experience

ADAPTIVE SERVICES
CAMPUS RECREATION
CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES
DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE
EAGLE PARENT OFFICE

EAGLE VIEW ORIENTATION
FIRST YEAR ADVISING
GREEK LIFE
HOUSING & RESIDENCE LIFE
JUDICIAL AFFAIRS
MULTICULTURAL STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT
PREVENTION & WELLNESS
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
STUDENT SUPPORT & OUTREACH
STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES
TESTING SERVICES