

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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COE STUDENTS TEACH VOCATIONAL SKILLS

The benefits are mutual for students taking The University of Findlay's Vocational Transition and Daily Living Skills education course and for the Findlay High School students they've mentored since September.

In the program, 10 UF sophomores and juniors who are planning to become special education teachers serve as job coaches for the 17 students in JoAnn Welker's sophomore English class at Findlay High School.

According to Assistant Professor of Special Education Susan Brooks, who teaches the University class, UF's job coaching program is the only program of its kind currently in place in the nation's college campuses.

The FHS students volunteer on the UF campus each Tuesday and Thursday from 7:45 to 8:45 a.m. This year students worked with University vehicles and the groundskeeping staff and at the Clauss Ice Arena, the Village Café, the Cave, the Oiler Mart and the College of Education.

The program has proved so popular with University staff and faculty that more departments have requested volunteers than are available.

Each FHS student is paired with a UF student and placed in a volunteer job that best fits his or her interests. The education students conduct surveys with the high schoolers to determine which jobs and which personalities will best fit together.

University students work alongside the high school students, monitoring their progress, attendance and attitude, among other things.

The UF students practice tasks that they will use in their future classrooms, those in which they help students make the transition from school to work, college or the military.

Over the course of the 10-week program, the education students meet with the high school students' parents, create plans for each student's transition, complete weekly job evaluations and write professional letters of recommendation for the FHS students' future jobs.

While this is the sixth year that UF has offered the program, this year has been the program's most successful, according to Welker.

"The phenomenal thing is that every year something gets



Findlay High School sophomore Brandy Jones has volunteered in the Cave with UF junior Jil Kin as part of a job coaching program.

better and better," she said.

What has made this year a standout is the University students' willingness to go above and beyond the requirements laid out in the course and program descriptions. This year's education students have taken their students on field trips to potential employers' places of business and to University activities such as sports events and concerts. The UF students also made visits to FHS to check in on students.

According to Welker, the benefits for the high school students are tremendous. Long-term benefits include improved behavior, writing skills and self-esteem, plus an understanding of how to get along with people in a work situation, she said. The FHS students also have gained exposure to the college atmosphere, sparking their interest in someday going to college.

For the UF students, the benefits of the mentoring program are also high. They gain experience in dealing with students early in their college careers.

The practical experience has been invaluable for the UF students, because they have the chance to adapt what they've learned in lectures and books to the needs of actual students.

"The unknown is what students are going to be like," Lima native and education major Nick Morris said.

Welker said, "My kids feel that their job is to make [UF students] better teachers."

409 WILL RECEIVE DIPLOMAS AT DEC. 11 COMMENCEMENT

Four hundred nine students will graduate from The University of Findlay during fall commencement ceremonies on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 2 p.m. in the Koehler Fitness and Recreation Complex.

Among the graduates are 61 international students, representing 10 countries.

A total of 201 graduate degrees will be awarded. These include 106 master of business administration degrees; 61 master of arts in education degrees; eight master of science in environmental, safety and health management degrees; 15 master of TESOL (teaching English to speakers of other languages) and bilingual education degrees; nine master of occupational therapy degrees; and two master of arts in liberal studies degrees.

A total of 213 undergraduate degrees will be conferred, including

126 bachelor of science degrees; 25 bachelor of arts degrees; 24 bachelor of science in business management degrees; 10 bachelor of science in environmental management degrees; one bachelor of science in criminal justice degree; and 27 associate of arts degrees.

Dr. Dwight L. Moody, professor of natural science, will be the commencement speaker. A member of the UF faculty since 1974, Moody will discuss "Open to Possibilities."

Mr. George M. Whitson will receive an honorary doctor of business development degree. A native of Lansing, Mich., and a longtime Findlay resident, Whitson owns a real estate development company which has developed land for numerous projects in Northwest Ohio. He was named a Distinguished Associate of the University in 1991 and became a trustee of the University in 1992.

INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS SERVES THANKSGIVING MEAL

As going home over University holidays isn't an option for many of UF's 430 international students, the University's Office of International Admissions and Services offered its second annual Thanksgiving luncheon Wednesday, Nov. 24 in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary auditorium.

This luncheon was also the international students' introduction to the American Thanksgiving holiday.

Although the Office of International Admissions and Services hosted the meal, all UF students who didn't go home for the holiday were also invited. All faculty and staff were invited to attend.

Approximately 200 people attended the luncheon.

The Office of International Admissions and Services provided turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy and



International students were treated to a huge Thanksgiving buffet Nov. 24.

Dr. Freed's office provided beverages, while the faculty and staff brought favorite Thanksgiving dishes to share.

CONCERTS AND RECITALS MARK END OF THE SEMESTER

The University of Findlay Concert Bands will present their annual Christmas concert, "Sounds of the Season," on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 3 p.m., in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary auditorium.

The concert will feature seasonal music, including selections from the *Nutcracker Suite*, *Babes in Toyland* and other holiday favorites. Steve Beck, assistant professor of communication, will narrate the program. Professional harpist and adjunct harp instructor Nancy Glick will provide harp interludes during the concert.

Professor of Music and Director of Bands Jack Taylor will direct the concert.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors and non-UF students and free for University faculty, staff and students.

Contact the Box Office at 419-434-4531.

Also, 60 UF students will present instrumental recitals Dec. 8 and 9 at 7 p.m. in Old Main's Ritz Auditorium.

The performers, who will play woodwind, brass and percussion instruments, will present solo and ensemble interpretations of a variety of classical pieces.

Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

UF's Concert-Chorale sang to a capacity crowd Sunday, Nov. 21, performing numerous sacred and holiday pieces.

Also, 28 students presented a vocal recital on Nov. 30, while 17 students performed piano solos at a recital Dec. 1.

LATE NOVEMBER BRINGS MUSIC, SPEAKERS



Students in Phil Sugden's drawing class used a motorcycle displayed in Lape Hall as a model.



Members of the Toledo Opera sang on campus Nov. 17 as part of the Concert and Lecture Series.



Leslie Droll presented "Leadership: A Survivor's Guide" for the O.I.L.E.R Leadership Lunch Nov. 18.



UF's Concert-Chorale, the Old Millstream Ringers bell choir and the Washington Intermediate School Chorus presented "Sing and Ring in the Season" on Nov. 21.



Members of the U.S. Paralympic Team, including swimmer Cheryl L. Angelelli, second from left, spoke at UF Nov. 18.



Kyle Kutchenritter sang "Fifty Million Years Ago" from the musical Celebration at the studio voice recital Nov. 30.

Photo courtesy of Summer Douglass

STAFF, STUDENTS TAKE BUS WITHOUT WHEELS

UF Students and staff have joined with the Jacobs/Washington Community Task Force in a program that helps Washington Intermediate School children walk home safely.

UF students Brittany Martz and Diana Musgrave and Sharinda Welton, director of student activities and commuter student services, and Crystal Jones, AmeriCorps VISTA Service Leader with the Campus Compact Center volunteer for the program once a week.

In the Walking School Bus program, which began Nov. 8, area volunteers escort the school's third- through fifth-graders home from school on a specified route.

The need for such a program was established after the children experienced problems with incidents like bullying on the way home.

Each volunteer contributes one-and-a-half hours per week to walk a specific

route with the children, after school dismissal. On every afternoon of the school week, two adult volunteers report to the school office by 3:15. These volunteers are given safety equipment, first-aid supplies, a two-way radio and a packet including names of children on the route and a map of the route.

The volunteers walk along the specified route with the children and return to the school to turn in the supplies for the next day's volunteers.

The pilot Walking School Bus is one route at Washington School, and nine children are currently participating in the program, according to Washington School Principal Steve Seagrave.

The Task Force hopes to expand this program by offering more routes at Washington School and by starting new routes at Jacobs Primary School.

"The Walking School Bus is a per-

fect example of community members identifying a need and finding a feasible solution to that need," Jones said. "The Walking School Bus grants various community members the opportunity to make a real difference in children's lives, by 'simply' taking a walk with them."

Jones, who helped organize the program, is also a walker for the bus. Volunteers are being recruited from local churches, support groups, non-profit agencies, and UF. Volunteer training includes fingerprinting and BCI background screening, safety procedures and basic first-aid training.

People interested in volunteering for the Walking School Bus, and who have the 3:15-4:30 p.m. time slot open once a week, should contact Crystal Jones, AmeriCorps VISTA Service Leader at the Campus Compact Center for Service and Learning, at 419-434-6671 or cjones@findlay.edu.

SNEATH AND CARRIGAN RECOGNIZED

Wayne Sneath, academic coordinator of Campus Compact, was honored for his environmental efforts in Hancock County by the Hancock County Commissioners' Special Projects Office. He was awarded for his work to coordinate the UF Recycles! program and community clean-up days through the New Student Orientation Service Projects.

A paper written by **Martin Carrigan**, associate professor of law and business, has been accepted for the 2005 Business and Health Administration Association meeting in Chicago. The paper is titled "Six Sigma and Health Care Management and Strategy."

AUDITIONS SET FOR MUSICAL

The theatre program will hold open auditions for the musical comedy *Promises, Promises* on Dec. 6 and 7 at 7 p.m. in the Frank J. Egner Center for the Performing Arts.

Those wishing to audition should prepare a song and be ready to do choreography, read from the script and sing selections from the score. A copy of the script is on reserve at Shafer Library.

Promises, Promises, with music by

Burt Bacharach, lyrics by Hal David and book by Neil Simon, is based from the 1960 Academy Award-winning motion picture, *The Apartment*.

The cast will be composed of a large dancing chorus and 32 named roles.

Performance dates are set for Feb. 23-27.

For more information, contact Micheal F. Anders at 419-434-4717 or anders@findlay.edu.

STUDENTS NETWORK DURING BUSINESS AFTER HOURS EVENT

UF Students polished their networking skills during the Business After Hours Showcase on Thursday, Dec. 2.

The event was co-sponsored by the Findlay-Hancock Chamber of Commerce and UF's Career Services, Student Activities and Commuter Student Services offices. During the event, students met with representatives

from 15 Findlay and Hancock County businesses and the Chamber.

FYI is published by the Office of University Relations. Contact Summer Douglass at x4731 or sdouglass@findlay.edu to submit information.