

FLORIDA CAREER PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION

CONNECTION

KEEPING FLORIDA FIRST

2008 WINTER EDITION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Having spoken to many of our board members and conference volunteers this past term, I realize just how much work from so many volunteers it takes to run our association. Florida's state association has always set an example for our sister state organizations, thanks to a large pool of talented and committed volunteers. As this calendar year comes to a close, we can reflect upon the many successes FCPA has seen this past year and look forward to much more to come in 2009.

In August, your Board of Directors met at the 2009 conference site, the International Plaza Resort in Orlando. This annual meeting is always one of the most exciting as it is the first time the new board has assembled since their election. Many of us stayed overnight at the site and can report that this conference location will be a lot of fun, for you and your family and friends. With our host resort being just a short walk from SeaWorld, Discovery Cove and the new Aquatica Water Park, this summer's conference is guaranteed to make a splash.

Aside from surveying our host hotel, we covered quite a bit of ground during this meeting and I wanted to share some highlights with you. As you may remember, for work related reasons, Ruby Villanueva and Brooks Hoffman stepped down from the two employer positions on the board this past summer. The new board unanimously approved the appointment of Heidi Harkins, Area Recruitment Specialist with Sherwin Williams to fill the position of Employer Member and Colleen Oles, Group Campus Recruiter with Target to fill the position of Employer Member at Large. Congratulations to both Heidi and Colleen. They are welcome additions to our 2008-09 Board of Directors team.

During the August meeting, the board also passed an ambitious set of goals that built upon our efforts from last year in completing our non-profit status, rewriting board member positions, aligning our fiscal year with the business cycle of our association and continuing to build the general membership of FCPA. We also added new goals for this year that strive to improve our online credit card payment system for conference registration and membership fees, upgrade the appearance of our association website and identify and execute a plan to earn interest from FCPA's annual reserves. I am very proud to announce that a great deal of work has already been accomplished toward completing these goals, all of which should help FCPA continue to be an efficient and thriving organization--meeting the needs of its members while ensuring our stability for the future.

As our Vice President and Conference Chair will discuss later in this newsletter, Andrea Alfano and her committee are hard at work on producing this summer's annual conference in Orlando. The location, theme, cost and content of this year's conference are well aligned with the economic waves we have been riding this past year. I would especially like to thank Jonathan Thornburg, past FCPA president and Brownlee winner, for stepping up to head the efforts of this year's President's Council.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

I am pleased to report that all 2008 FCPA Conference transactions have been completed. Our current balance, as of the September SunTrust statement, stands at \$39,500.86. Last year's post-conference balance was \$30,050.

The Association was fortunate to again experience a great conference in June! The 2008 Conference Committee should be commended on a job well done!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Last year's President's Council was one of the most successful in our history and was primarily responsible for affording us a first class conference in Naples last summer. While we are expecting this year to be somewhat more challenging in the area of fundraising, I am hopeful that each of your institutions considers contributing to the 2009 President's Council.

Sandi Jakobow has agreed to host the winter board meeting at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton this January. We will discuss progress made on our annual goals, continue planning for a successful 2009 conference, and discuss potential 2010 conference sites. If you have any suggestions for locations or host sites for the 2010 conference, please feel free to pass your ideas along to me as we will begin reviewing and visiting prospective sites early next spring.

If you will be attending this year's SoACE conference at Disney, be sure to stop by the Florida Welcome Table, hosted by FCPA. We will also be holding a short state meeting during the conference on Tuesday December 9, from 3:45-5:00 p.m. Check the conference program for the meeting room location.

Hopefully, we all can celebrate and take some well deserved rest over the holiday break. My best to you and those close to you in 2009.

Ray Rogers
FCPA President

FCPA CONFERENCE UPDATES

BY ANDREA ALFANO

KEEPING FLORIDA FIRST: BRINGING OUT THE BEST

June 17-19, 2009 • International Plaza Resort & Spa • Orlando, Florida

Yesterday I walked into Home Depot and came close to hyperventilating when I saw the displays of Christmas trees, inflatable Santa Clauses, twinkling lights and various other holiday paraphernalia. Didn't we just celebrate Halloween? With every major retailer gearing up for the holidays, it's hard to think of the summer months, but June will be here before you know it, and so will the annual FCPA conference!

Given the current budget issues many of our members are facing, the site selection committee was committed to finding a conference location that would keep travel expenses low while also offering our members beautiful accommodations.



After visiting hotels in several cities, the site selection committee chose the International Plaza Resort & Spa in Orlando as the site for our 2009 conference. We are confident that this resort will be a wonderful backdrop for our conference. The hotel is currently undergoing a major renovation so by the time our members check-in, all rooms will be newly furnished in a contemporary, tropical style that is guaranteed to melt your stress away.



Keeping Florida First is more than just a slogan; building and supporting a high quality workforce is the primary goal of the Florida Career Professionals Association. With this goal in mind, I'm pleased to announce the theme of the 2009 conference:

“Keeping Florida First: Bringing Out The Best.” I truly believe that the few days a year we spend together really ***Bring Out The Best*** in all of us. I can think of no better topic than to focus on how we can provide the best services to students, the best support to each other and develop the best of ourselves.

CONFERENCE UPDATES CONTINUED

The Programs Committee has already begun working on selecting our key note speakers and finalizing our call for programs. I encourage each FCPA member to consider submitting a program proposal.

Past programs have included topics on: best practices, new programs/services, recruiting techniques, online services, professional panels, etc. The formal call for programs will be sent in the coming weeks. In addition to email, the program proposal form will be available on our website, please check www.fl-cpa.org/conference.html to download the form. The deadline for submitting program proposals is March 6, 2009. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mark Colvenbach, Professional Development Director/Program Committee Co-Chair, at mcolvenbach@ut.edu.

Our conferences would not be as enjoyable as they are without the support that our members continuously provide to the President's Council. These donations allow us to include the wonderful conference meals and provide for a few extra touches each year. JT Thornburg is the chair of our President's Council this year. JT will be contacting the membership to solicit your donations; I hope you will continue to support FCPA's President's Council again this year. If you have any questions about the President's Council or would like to sponsor a conference event, please contact JT at jonathan.thornburg@siemens.com.

I would like to express a special thank you to those members who have agreed to serve on our conference committee. With all that goes into planning a three day conference, no one person can do it alone. It takes many people working together to bring the high quality programs, lively networking events and entertaining social activities to fruition. There is still time to volunteer to serve on a committee. If you would like to work on a committee, please contact myself or the chair of the committee with which you are interested in volunteering.

Online conference registration will open in January. Please keep an eye out for our conference update emails as these messages will provide all the information you will need to stay in the FCPA loop. Also, the FCPA conference webpage, www.fl-cpa.org/conference.html, is always available to provide you with conference information.

I hope to *Bring Out The Best* with you in Orlando!



FCPA | 2009
*Keeping Florida First:
Bringing Out The Best*

CONFERENCE SITE • INTERNATIONAL PLAZA RESORT & SPA • ORLANDO, FLORIDA



The International Plaza Resort & Spa is a 28-acre tropical oasis located in the heart of Orlando's theme park district. Between conference sessions you'll be able to enjoy two sparkling pools, a mini golf course and the L'Esprit Day Spa. When you're ready to retire for the night, you'll be able to relax in a newly renovated guest room with luxurious furnishings and complimentary wireless internet access.

Reservations can be made by calling the International Plaza Reservations Department at 1-800-327-0363. In order to receive the conference room rates of \$109 (exterior room) or \$139 (tower room), you must inform the reservation agent that you will be attending Florida Career Professionals Association (FCPA) Conference.

Keep in mind, these rates are also good for 3 nights before and after the conference so it's an excellent opportunity to incorporate a family vacation with your conference attendance!

CONFERENCE SITE • CONTINUED

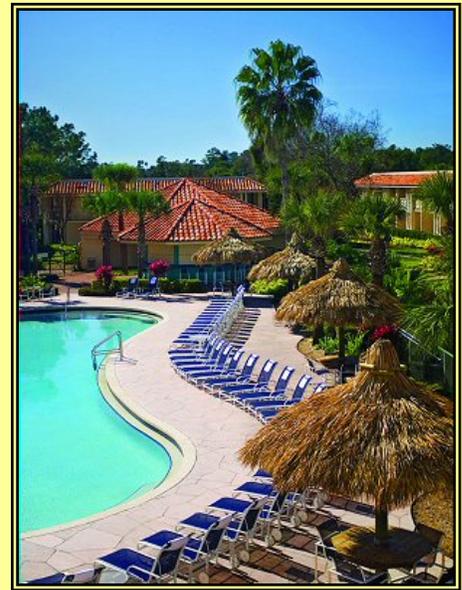
In order to receive a tax exemption on your room charges, you must fax a copy of your organization's tax exemption certificate before attending the conference. It is also required that you pay for your charges using a credit card or check issued by your organization.

To learn more about the International Plaza Resort & Spa, please visit their website at:

<http://www.intlplazaresort.com/>

Make your reservation today!

The FCPA rate is guaranteed until May 20, 2009



FCPA 2009 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Serving on a conference committee is a great way to get involved in the organization and establish relationships colleagues. It's not too late to volunteer! Contact Andrea Alfano, Conference Chair, at aalfano2@valenciacc.edu to select a committee.

Thank you so much to our 2009 Conference Committee Chairs & Volunteers!

Programming Committee

Mark Colvenbach- University of Tampa
Eric Hall- University of Florida
Jennifer Zeigler- Enterprise Rent A Car
Elizabeth Boggs- Rollins College
Bill Blank- University of Central Florida
Tracy Joinson- Palm Beach Community College
Jackie Herold- University of Central Florida
Lauren Hubacheck-Butler- FIU

Registration Committee

Elizabeth Farney- FIT
Merisha Baldwin- Siemens
Robin Kazmarek- Stetson University
Colleen Oles- Target
Amy Diepenbrock-Barry University
Sheila Hood- University of Tampa

Exhibitors

Xuchitl Coso- Florida Southern College

President's Council

Jonathan Thornburg- Siemens
Denise Irby- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Nancy VanKoughnet-FSU

Facility Logistics

Jennifer Browning-Rollins College
Jane Colson-Eckerd College

Door Prizes

Lisette Guillen-Dolby-Seminole Community College
Andrea Koegel- Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Andrea Zito-Lake Sumter Community College
John Moriarty-Barry University

Local Information

Omyy Cruise-Embry Riddle Aeronautical University

Recreation

Katie Meyer-Griffith-Florida Community College
Marsha Sherman-University of Tampa
Susan Blakey- Siemens Energy
Kevin Guthrie-University of Florida

Evaluations

Alicia Smyth-Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
Kyra Spence-Florida International University

New Members

Sandy Jakobow-Florida Atlantic University
Lori Bush-Warner Southern University
Pamela Alvarez-Wal-Mart

Awards

Dona Gaynor-Florida Institute of Technology
Toni Briley-Lake City Community College

Photography

Paula Shoman-GEICO
Tim Harding-University of Tampa

The nomination deadline is April 17, 2009

The highlight of any FCPA Conference is always the presentation of the awards. Last year, we made some significant changes to our awards process. We consolidated the student awards into one award and created a New Member Award to recognize new members who make a significant contribution to FCPA. We also created the Awards Lunch at the conference and made the awards presentations during lunch on Thursday instead of at the Business Meeting. This change allowed us to spend more time recognizing the achievements of our award winners.

Brownlee Award

This prestigious award was established in recognition of a past member who made significant contributions to FCPA and provided exemplary leadership while serving as a member of the Board of Directors. John T. Brownlee served FCPA from 1977-1986 and was known for his energy, enthusiasm and high professional and personal standards. FCPA presents this award each year as a way to recognize one of our members that have gone above and beyond in their dedication to and support of FCPA and their profession.

Nominees for the Brownlee Leadership Award must be FCPA members for at least three years and cannot currently be serving on the Board of Directors. Nominations should be made via letters of recommendation/support from at least two current FCPA members. The selection will be based on an evaluation of the nominee's contributions to specific programs, projects or activity within FCPA, professional contributions made to the placement/recruiting field and FCPA, and overall leadership qualities.

Student of the Year Award

This award recognizes outstanding achievement by students in a major-related work experience. Eligible students will have worked with a current FCPA member during the past year and have demonstrated achievement in the professional, personal and/or academic skills in a learning environment to include internships, co-ops, and general student employment positions. Employer members who supervise student workers and college members who help place students in major-related positions can nominate outstanding students. The winner of this award receives a \$300.00 cash prize and a recognition plaque.

New Member Award

FCPA's newest award is the New Member Award which recognizes a new member who has helped keep FCPA strong by volunteering for conference committees and/or special projects. Anyone who has been a member of FCPA for less than four years and has served on projects and/or conference committees is eligible. Selection will be based on an evaluation of the type and quality of the new member's contribution to FCPA.

Please start thinking now about outstanding students who should be recognized and fellow FCPA members who should be considered for the Brownlee and New Member Award. I would especially like to encourage everyone to give serious thought to the Brownlee Award which is our highest recognition of professionalism and service to FCPA. One of my goals this year as Chair of the Awards Committee is to have several outstanding nominations for all these award categories.

More information about all the awards, including applications, is available on the FCPA website. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions about the FCPA awards process.

Dona Gaynor

FCPA Past President & Awards Committee Chair

dgaynor@fit.edu

321-674-8102



FROM OUR MEMBERS

Awakening the Career Development Process through Game Shows

Students entering the college environment for the first time concentrate on several aspects of undergraduate life. At Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Boca Raton campus, the freshmen interviewed on the campus stated their primary concerns were about classes, living away from home, campus organizations or social activities. Not one person mentioned career development as a topic of concern.

Too often, professionals serving in the field of career services encounter students in the final year of study concerned about their lack of foresight in planning for a career or the difficulty of making up for lost time. The question that always arises is how to reduce the number and nature of these concerns.

The first step career advisors need to take is to reach out to all first year students. Providing verbal insights with paper handouts is no longer an effective technique to reach today's younger student, especially those who are part of Generation Y (also known as the Millennials). According to the *California State University– East Bay*, Millennials are holistic learners, responding to graphic and visual presentations and possess short attention spans. In response to this perceptual modality, I have developed a dynamic, interactive method to inform students about the services offered at FAU's Career Development Center (CDC). Each encounter is divided into two parts over a 50-minute period.

The first portion of the period lasts approximately 10-15 minutes presenting how the services CDC offers can assist FAU students. The audience interacts with a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation containing colorful graphics and information highlighting the different services and programs available at the Center. The topics listed on the slides are shaped to meet the needs of the specific group in attendance and may include, but not limited to, choosing a major for first semester freshmen or job searching resources for students taking upper divisional courses. Examples drawn from the experiences of others, illustrating the benefits to students of the Center's services, are integrated into the dialogue. While this method may seem slightly similar to techniques used today in many college classes, the difference involves motivating the group at the outset with the upcoming activities of the second portion of the period, thereby ensuring better retention of the material discussed during the opening phase of the class.

The second part of the session involves hosting an interactive game show approach built on the Microsoft PowerPoint platform. At FAU, the game show formats that have been specially modified include *Jeopardy* and *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*. Students are selected randomly from the audience as contestants. The students answer questions based on information from the previous segment of the lecture, facts about the university and career data from the real world, which may provide a shocking perspective. Students compete against each other over several rounds to win various prizes with at least one champion per class. The objectives of these games are not just limited to assisting with the retention of previously presented material, but also to create a greater awareness of CDC's presence on campus and real time involvement with students. The amount of time required to create an exciting game show format requires only a few hours.

As offered at most state universities in Florida, SLS or freshman introductory courses are the perfect opportunity for career staff to make contact with students. Since FAU has over 50 sections of this class with an average of 20 students per class, Brian Montalvo, Assistant Director at the CDC, devised a strategy of grouping these classes together into larger sections over several weeks during the program's second year. The new arrangement made it simpler to communicate with the same number of students with only 19 presentations scheduled compared to 58. This scheduling system makes it easier to reach a large body of students in a short time span and provides a vibrant atmosphere with a live, participating audience during the game show portion of the class.

These presentations have been offered at FAU for two years and reactions from both students and faculty have been extremely positive. This year alone over forty SLS instructors requested the interactive presentation of the CDC's services and programs for their classes. Many requests were received even before the fall semester began. Overall, showcasing a career center using methods that match the learning styles of today's college students will create more awareness and encourage them to utilize career services and programs earlier and more often.

Article contributed by **Farley S. Leiriao, M.A.C.**, a Career Advisor at Florida Atlantic University's Career Development Center, Boca Raton campus.
fleiriao@fau.edu.

Job Searching in the 21st Century

Eight years into the 21st century, career development and advancement has been revolutionized by the amplified use of the one thing we can't live without...the Internet. At Keiser University and around the country, students who are entering or re-entering the job market upon graduation have to face different obstacles than those who graduated in the years in which the use of the Internet did not play a major role in finding employment.

As a recent college graduate, my job searching experience simply revolved around the Internet: searching online for job opportunities and job fairs in my area, for submitting my resume, for following up by e-mail, or to simply keep track of all the job opportunities I was considering. To me, my knowledge and use of the Internet was the key to my finding the perfect job after graduation and this holds true for many college graduates, but not for all.

Little did I know that my knowledge of the Internet and job searching would play a crucial ingredient in my current job. Career Placement is a main focus at Keiser University. Daily I catch myself telling graduates to use the many different web sites that are available to them to find employment, our online career center College Central Network, Careerbuilder.com, Monster.com, Indeed.com, so on and so forth. And everyone between the ages of 20-35 seems to know exactly what I am talking about. Who doesn't know about these great websites, right? When dealing with the ages of 20-35, online job searching is 'just what the doctor ordered', easy access, 24/7, any time, anywhere. Sounds perfect!

A couple of days after I began working, I sat in my office reviewing the resume of a recent Radiology Tech graduate. After providing him with his final resume and with a list of web sites to start his job search, he raised a very valid question: "Do you think I will find a job in the newspaper ad section? I didn't know the answer. Yes? No? Maybe? I asked him, if he was interested in using the wonderful resources that were available to him on the web. He simply said, "Back in the day, the newspaper was really the only way to find a job and the Internet is a

complete new source for me." And he was right! Before the Internet revolution, potential employees found jobs by fill-in applications in response to "Help Wanted Ads" in the newspapers or outside a window and to him and others like him the online job searching was not so perfect!

It was his response that made me appreciate the dramatic differences between generations, the pro and cons of online job searching, and my need to learn to accommodate the many diverse needs of our non-traditional students at Keiser University. I knew then if I was going to be successful in helping graduates and students find employment, I would have to educate myself about their unique needs. To me it was simple: I had to learn to strike a balance between the past and the future of job searching.

I found in a short period of time that when helping graduates find employment it is important to be able provide them with printed and electronic sources. Tips on writing resumes, writing cover letters, picking the appropriate e-mail, or simply providing them with a copy of the job opportunities should be available in formats that can accommodate everyone across the board. It can't just be electronically or on paper, it has to be both.

So that is what we do at Keiser. Our Career Resource Center is filled with printed articles such as "How to Improve Your Response Rate" by Beverly Harvey published in the October 2008 Career & Performance Management Newsletter and "Hip E-mail Addresses Bad for Resumes" by Jeanna Bryner published by MSNBC, as a way to accommodate those students who may not be Internet savvy and have a more challenging time researching tips online.

Job opportunities from our online career center are made available to students and graduates in a bi-weekly newsletter titled "Quick Jobs" allowing them to take it home and review it without the need of the Internet or a computer. We host seminars and workshops in order to provide information about the current trends in the job market and how to be an effective job seeker on the web.

Continued on next page...

Above it all, the most important aspect of making a successful job seeker is educating students and graduates on the remarkable shift career development and advancement is making. I am a true believer that knowledge is power and valuable knowledge of the Internet is a vital aspect for finding the key to opening the door to the perfect job we are all searching for.

In a world where an e-mail address such as 'sexymama101@gmail.com' or

'drunkensquirrel2005@hotmail.com' or not having the proper guidance for online job searching could cost anyone their dream job, as career advisors we must find a way to close the gap between the past and the present of the incredible revolution occurring in the field of career advising.

Article contributed by **Florence M. Rubio**
Keiser University, Fort Lauderdale Campus
Student Services Coordinator

Using E-portfolios for Job Searching

E-portfolios can serve many purposes for their creators, one of which is to showcase students' skills, experience, and accomplishments to potential employers. All students in Florida have access to an e-Portfolio through FACTS.org. The e-Portfolio on FACTS.org is referred to as a Career Portfolio and students can include evidence of their skills and accomplishments. Employers that interact with the Florida State University Career Portfolio have provided us with useful feedback on how students can build a portfolio that will reflect their qualifications for employment. As a career services professional, we hope that you find this information about e-Portfolios helpful as you assist students at your institution.

With Internet-based services and social networking sites being increasingly utilized and heavily relied upon, the idea of only submitting a paper resume and cover letter to an employer is becoming a notion of the past. Employers want to know more; not only do they want to know if potential employees have the skill set to perform their job, they want to know *who* these candidates are, *what* they are interested in, and *how* they will represent the company. E-portfolios can serve to remedy an employer's compulsion to Google search their candidates, and may satisfy their desire to know potential new hires on a more personal level. A completed e-portfolio is valuable to employers; the process of creating, expanding, and sharing the e-portfolio is valuable to students.

In creating an e-portfolio, students have the opportunity to develop, chronicle, and communicate their career attributes to others. The process of reflecting on their skills when creating their portfolios can assist students in preparing for interviews with potential employers. When students practice relating their skills and experiences and providing examples of those relationships, they are gaining experience in answering potential questions they may be posed by an employer in an interview. Even if an employer does not view a student's portfolio, the process of creating an e-portfolio has provided the student with an invaluable experience in preparing for the job search process.

Through the use of e-portfolios, students can reflect on their experiences both in and outside of the classroom, painting a more complete picture of what their skills are and how they identify the experiences in which they have developed life-long skills. For example, students may demonstrate how they developed communication skills by reflecting on the completion of a class project in which they were challenged to interact with group members throughout the semester and present the final project to the class. In addition, students can include examples of their work such as writing samples, PowerPoint presentations, links to personal websites they have created, articles in which they have been featured, pictures, and videos. This allows them to reflect on the skills they have developed, as well as demonstrate their applied learning through work samples.

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In addition to the growth experienced while creating an e-portfolio, students benefit from being able to show employers their completed e-portfolios. If a student plans to use an e-portfolio for the job search, here are some hints, based on feedback from employers:

- Make the first page welcoming and relevant – it should attract the employer’s attention and give them a reason to keep looking.
- Target the opening page toward a specific industry, field, or employer.
- Make sure that the remaining parts of the e-portfolio support the student’s goals and objectives.
- Keep things fairly concise.
- Explain why artifacts are important, what role the student played in creating artifacts, and what the student gained from them.
- Ensure that there are no errors in any parts of the e-portfolio, including spelling, grammar, proper sentence structure, etc.
- Keep it professional – students should separate more personal e-portfolio items so that the “job search” portfolio is a professional reflection of who they are and what they have to offer.

A student who created an e-portfolio at Florida State University had this to say about creating a portfolio for the job search: “The portfolio has been so useful in helping me realize what skills I’ve learned through the experiences I’ve had and classes I’ve taken. Having my classes and jobs organized according to the skills I’ve gained from them allows me to see what I’ve actually accomplished through my education. I’ve been able to use my portfolio to write more effective personal statements for internships and create a descriptive, impressive resume. I’ve gotten great responses in the form of obtaining two excellent internships! The portfolio really has proven to be a powerful tool that forced me for the first time to consider what I’ve done with my college career. It brings a whole new way of thinking about classes; instead of just evaluating success through test scores and completed requirements I’m seeing what valuable skills I’ve gained that will help me in the future.”

References:

Brown, A. (February, 2006). Personal Communication. Tallahassee, FL.

Garis, J.W. (2007). E-Portfolios: Concepts, designs, and integration within student affairs. *New Directions for Student Services*, (119), 3-16.

Article contributed by: **Candace Ford, Sarah Lucas Hartley, & Jill Lumsden** Florida State University Career Center

Successful Student Organizations

While it is true that many students do not have a lot of time in their schedules due to an assortment of commitments, it does not curb their desire to participate in community events and volunteer opportunities, as it is a way to impact their peers. By joining the Student Government Association at their campus, students are not only active in the community but they learn how to write agendas, conduct meetings and keep the minutes, and how to navigate an organization’s by-laws. Not to mention, this involvement will help build and enhance their resume with skills that truly set them apart from others.

Fortunately, our on-campus Student Government Association (SGA) has been a great success thanks to the students taking ownership of it. With the communication skills they have learned from participating in SGA they have been able to advocate for improvements to the campus and have developed innovative ideas that will benefit the entire student body. Their enthusiasm shows in their recruitment efforts and encouragement of other students to get involved at the campus. In essence, the skills they have learned will turn them into better leaders for tomorrow.

Article contributed by **Murielle Pamphile**, Director of Student Services, Keiser University

Former Brownlee Winner Launches New Career

After the last five years in workforce development and previous 15 years as the director of Florida Southern College's career center, Marsha Leap has taken the next step to start her own business, Leap Ahead Professional Development, LLC. As unemployment rates continue to increase, the demand for career assistance for those being laid off has skyrocketed. There are few professional career management organizations available to help this eager population to develop competitive resumes, perfect their interviewing skills, or determine a new career direction. Leap Ahead's services will be available nationally via virtual technology as well as locally by appointment. For more information, visit www.LeapAheadToday.com.

Lake City Community College holds Grand Opening of Career Center



Toni Briley, Academic and Career Advisor at Lake City Community College is showing off some of the new books in the career library to Briana Violette, an Associate in arts (A.A.) student and Katrina Mallory, a student working on her certificate as an office management specialist.



Lana Walton (middle) and Michelle Sims (R), both A.A. students, with assistance from Briley, look through degree track notebooks listing requirements for each program offered at LCCC.

Lake City Community College held its Grand Opening of their new Career Center on September 29 and events continued during the week. Each day featured a career center oriented presentation. Monday was the Grand Opening where students, faculty, and staff were encouraged to come for a tour of the center. Students were eligible for door prizes that were awarded at the end of the week. Tuesday featured a demonstration of the center's mock interview capabilities and Wednesday provided students with a workshop on the Florida CHOICES program. The events culminated on Thursday with a workshop on Resume Writing. Thanks to the Perkins Grant Lake City CC can now offer new and innovative career services to our students. The Center offers up-to-date videos and books on choosing a career, resume writing, and interviewing, as well as videos and books that are occupation specific.

Here's what the students were saying about the new Career Center: "The career center has some very useful resources in it. The back room has a huge flat screen TV with a DVD player and a video camera hooked up so that you can practice public speaking or interviewing". "They have an interview workshop available that includes a practice run with the camera and then a final run so that you know what to watch out for when you go into your interview". "The front room has several computers and several college/career resources in it. I completed the workshop on résumé writing with Mrs. Briley. She introduced us to the website facts.org. It has a program set up that will walk you through the résumé creating process, which of course we went through together. At the end of the workshop I stayed a little longer playing on the website. I must say that if you have never been there I would strongly recommend it".

Article contributed by **Toni Briley**, Lake City Community College

FCPA Website Receiving an Updated Look

Exciting things are happening behind the scenes: With the help of E-launched & the FCPA Board members, we've been working to give the FCPA website an updated look. Here's a sneak peek of what you can expect to see in the near future! Broadcast emails will be sent to the membership periodically to keep you informed and update you on our progress. Stay tuned!



Want to be a part of the next Connection? This newsletter is a great way to communicate with FCPA members, so why not educate the membership on exciting new happenings in career services or recruiting by writing a brief article?!

informationmanagement@fl-cpa.org

2008- 2009 FCPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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