Welcome back! I hope you had a relaxing and restful summer. Please enjoy this latest edition of Student Life Developments.

Each year the Student Life Division at Duquesne chooses a theme to incorporate into its programs, activities and interactions with students. For some years we have concentrated on the theme of respect and this will continue. This year, however, we will step up our campaign and focus on civility and respect.

The purpose of the campaign is to promote a community of civil and responsible citizens and to heighten awareness of the relationship between personal conduct and the quality of community (university) life.

We want to encourage students to be respectful and honor the values of civility, respect and pride. Several offices, including Residence Life, Greek Life, Commuter Affairs and Student Activities, will offer programs focusing on civility and will include a pledge to be profanity free, random acts of kindness, and a speaker series, to name a few.

If you would like to be included in the planning or have suggestions for ways to promote civility throughout campus, please contact Susan Monahan, Director of Judicial Affairs at x6642.

Best wishes for a great semester.

Executive Vice President
Student Life

Lastly DUV is embarking upon the second year of our Campus Compact AmeriCorps*VISTA program, which provides a full-time volunteer to both the DUV Office and the Brashear Association of the South Side. Our AmeriCorps*VISTA member for this year is Dale Maxfield. Dale is a 2006 graduate of the McAnulty College of Liberal Arts. During his time at Duquesne, Dale served as the service chair of the men’s service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega. He also worked for the Chrysler Corporation Small Business Development Center. Throughout this year, Dale will continue to work with programs in South Pittsburgh Communities. He will also be involved with assisting the Office of Service-Learning in facilitating several community partnerships.

If you are interested in any of the programs listed or would like to become involved with DUV in a different way, please do not hesitate to contact Leigh White, Duquesne University Volunteers Coordinator at x5853 or whitela@duq.edu.

Dear Members of the Duquesne Community:
During the summer, four members of the Career Services Center Staff were trained to administer and interpret the Myers Briggs Type Indicator and Strong Interest Inventory instruments or surveys. Both of these surveys are commonly used by college and university career services centers to assist their students and alumni. The Myers Briggs Type Indicator is used to identify the type of work environment(s), including managerial philosophy, operational policies and personalities in which an individual would be most comfortable, effective and successful. The Strong Interest Inventory survey identifies the type(s) of work for which an individual is best suited considering the person’s personality, skills, and interests.

Either or both surveys will be given to students who request them or appear to need this support.

The Career Services Center will conduct or help conduct the following events during the Fall Semester 2006:

- **Wednesday, Sept 20:**
  2006 Pharmacy Job and Internship Fair, Duquesne Union

- **Wednesday, Sept 27:**
  Fall 2006 Job and Internship Fair, Duquesne Union

- **Tuesday, Oct 17:**
  Graduate Business Career and Internship Fair, Duquesne Union

- **Friday, Oct 27:**
  Creative Careers Seminar and Workshops, University Center, Carnegie Mellon University

- **Thursday, Nov 9:**
  WestPACS Fall 2006 Job Fair, ExpoMart, Monroeville

- **Wednesday, Nov 15:**
  Pittsburgh Federal Career Day 2006, University Center, Carnegie Mellon University

He brings a decade of experience in higher education to Duquesne, having worked in student affairs at Slippery Rock, Illinois State, Case Western Reserve and Carnegie Mellon universities. He received a bachelor of science in kinesiology and a master’s degree in college student personnel from Slippery Rock University. He is enrolled in Duquesne’s Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program for Educational Leaders and is on the Board of Directors at the Sarah Heinz House Boys & Girls Club and the Homewood YMCA.

A graduate of the Pittsburgh Public Schools and a loyal Steelers fan, Hart grew up on the North Side of Pittsburgh and resides in Plum with his wife, Nneka, and three children, Brooke, Rahmon Jr. and Nia.

Rahmon is currently engaged in a strategic planning process for the OMA and is intending to build upon the existing programs and services offered to the campus community. If you are interested in collaborating or supporting the OMA, please don’t hesitate to contact Rahmon at x1117.
By sharing her experiences and observations, she helps fraternity and sorority members explore their values and their reasons for being part of a fraternity or sorority. In addition to her keynote program this fall, Dr. Callais will be giving an additional seminar presentation to the fraternity and sorority leadership earlier in the day.

Dr. Callais holds a doctorate in Educational Leadership & Research from Louisiana State University. She is currently the Fraternity/Sorority Housing Advisor for Capstone Development Corporation. She has experience in various areas of higher education including fraternity/sorority life, student affairs, graduate programs/faculty and leadership development, and has served in various leadership roles for both professional and volunteer organizations.

Duquesne is very excited about her visit to the Bluff!
University Prepares to
Welcome Back Freshman Parents!

Each year departments across the campus spend the majority of their summer months planning and preparing for the class of incoming students. The Office of Freshman Development and Special Student Services is pleased to welcome the entire class of new students during its annual Orientation program in August. And then throughout the next two semesters, the department continues to work closely with these freshmen through individual meetings and numerous programs and activities.

In late October, after the freshmen have settled in and have begun to adjust to their new surroundings and to college life at Duquesne, the University will welcome their parents back to campus for a special weekend program, Freshman Parent Weekend.

This carefully planned weekend provides the parents with a chance to meet informally with the Dean and advisors from their student’s school, as well as representatives from various departments that provide additional student support. This year’s program will also showcase a Freshman Talent Show and a musical concert from the Pappert School of Music, both free of charge for all those attending. Newly added is a “Fall Festival,” an outdoor marketplace that will include food, games and fun for students and parents alike. The weekend provides an array of informative, social and entertaining events, but it also allows parents “free” time to spend with their son or daughter.

The celebration begins Friday evening, October 27 and concludes Sunday, October 29 with a brunch hosted by the University president, Dr. Charles J. Dougherty. Freshman Parent Weekend has become a tradition at Duquesne and we hope that you will all join us in welcoming the parents of our new freshmen back to campus.

Student Organization Annual Registration

Did you know that there are approximately 150 recognized student organizations at Duquesne? These groups range from organizations related to academic departments to special interest groups. Each recognized student organization is required to annually register with the Office of Student Activities in order to continue their recognition. Registration consists of completing a registration form with contact information for officers and faculty/staff advisor and with a list of members. The faculty advisor must also sign the registration form as proof of his/her willingness to serve as advisor. Registration forms are due in to the Student Activities office by the third week of September each year and again when new officers are elected. A list of recognized organizations is available in the Student Activities Office, 305 Union.
People go through many developmental stages along life’s journey. Students are no exception and may find that life coaching in dealing with normal transitions can be helpful. For example, living on one’s own for the first time is exciting, provides new freedom and many challenges. How do I meet and make new friends? Is this a healthy relationship? Will my parents treat me as an adult allowing me to make my own decisions? Will I be able to make good decisions for myself? What are my new responsibilities and how can I meet them? Will peer pressure influence me to do risky or unhealthy things? There are many challenging life questions that the University Counseling Center can help you address. You don’t have to have major issues or be emotionally disturbed to get help, so feel free to call 412 396-6204 to talk to a counselor about any of your concerns.
Should I worry about being sued?
A review of case law for the past 30 years reveals no case in which faculty, administrators or students have been assessed damages for reporting acts of academic dishonesty.

Should I be concerned about defamation accusations?
Faculty need not for fear defamation suits when the student, after being accused by a faculty member of dishonesty, is found not responsible. Faculty and administrators enjoy a qualified immunity from suits and will not be held liable for actions taken in good faith in carrying out their assigned duties. Maintaining academic integrity is certainly a duty of all faculty.

But isn’t it just my word against the students?
Many questions of fact come down to one individual’s word against another. Hearing panels may, for a variety of reasons, attach more weight to one individual’s testimony over another. The courts will generally not overrule a fact finder’s decision.

What are the risks if I ignore institutional policy?
Faculty who choose to ignore campus policies and procedures expose themselves to a real possibility of damages and actually encourage academic dishonesty. A faculty member who independently assigns an “F” to a student suspected of committing an act of dishonesty rather than going through the proper campus procedures risks liability for violating the student’s constitutional or contractual rights as well as abridging his or her own contractual obligations with the university. The result could be money damages or termination of employment.

What if I disagree with the outcome of the campus procedure?
Faculty must comply with the outcome regardless of whether or not they agree. Having a fair procedure for reporting and resolving offenses is worthless if faculty ignore the results.

What due process is required in acts of dishonesty cases?
Due process in campus disciplinary procedures does not require full adversarial hearings, technical rules of evidence, multiple appeals and the “beyond a reasonable doubt” standard of proof. A good outline for basic requirements is:
- Provide written notice of charges.
- Make a student aware of the grounds that would justify expulsion or suspension.
- Provide a hearing that allows the student the opportunity to hear and confront evidence and the opportunity to offer evidence.
- Afford the student the right to have someone from the college community assist in the proceedings.
- Inform the student, in writing, of the decision and sanction imposed.

Are there uniform policies and procedures that should be followed by all units within the institution?
Different institutions have different missions based on different value systems. Each institution should be free to develop its own definitions, standards, policies and procedures for defining and resolving violations of academic integrity. All members of the institution, however, should agree on definitions. Graduate and professional schools may legally hold their students to a higher standard than other students within the same institution.

How should I respond to academic dishonesty when it occurs?
- Promptly inform the student (in private whenever possible)
- Document the incident
- Report incident to department chair
- Review campus and/or department procedures and initiate required action
In order to improve our service to students, faculty, staff, and visitors, the Duquesne Union needs your feedback. During the 2006 – 2007 academic year we are asking you to complete two customer satisfaction surveys.

The first survey will be available to everyone at the Information Center on the third floor of the Union. This survey will evaluate the services provided by the Information Center. If you regularly use the services at the Information Center, please take a few minutes to provide your feedback.

Another survey will be provided via e-mail to those who plan events in the Union. This survey will be e-mailed to anyone who has booked an event through the Office of Student Activities the day after the event takes place.

Both surveys will take very little time to complete. The information that we compile from these surveys will help us to improve the services provided by Duquesne Union staff.

As a new school year approaches, the Office of Student Activities is busy planning for another successful year of the SPIRIT Emerging Leaders Program. During the Spring 2006 semester, 75 students completed the SPIRIT Program (nearly double the size of 2005), and many of these students have gone on to be elected to, or selected for, leadership positions in a variety of organizations.

The SPIRIT Program is designed to help prepare freshman and sophomore students assume leadership roles, not only within Duquesne student organizations, but throughout their respective communities as well. Students who participate in this program are required to attend seven workshops and write a brief reflection paper.

Each workshop will focus on a selected topic that student leaders will encounter, such as event planning, time management, diversity and the history and mission of Duquesne University. In addition, the workshops will be presented by Peer Educators (upperclass student leaders) or University administrators.

If you would like to nominate someone for the SPIRIT Leaders Program, or for more information, please contact Marc Grandillo, Assistant Director of Student Activities at x5853 or via e-mail at grandillom@duq.edu. Nominations will be accepted during the fall semester.

A committee composed of faculty, administrators and staff has been formed to respond to the threat of Avian flu. Meetings have been held regularly since last spring and this effort will continue throughout the next semester. This group will be meeting with other local colleges as well as the Allegheny Health Department to formulate plans in the event of an epidemic. The campus will be kept informed and updated as this effort progresses.