

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A newsletter for faculty, staff and students of The University of Findlay

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THE OILER EXPERIENCE INTRODUCES FIRST-TIME STUDENTS TO CAMPUS, SERVICES

New students arriving on campus this year will be the first to take part in The Oiler Experience, a one-credit-hour required course designed to intro-

duce all first-time, full-time students to life at UF.

Approximately 30 class sections will be led by a variety of staff members whose expertise is in student services. Undergraduate peer mentors also will serve as campus resources for new students and will attend the class, as well, to answer questions and offer advice. Mentors were chosen through a process that involved recommendations from faculty and staff, completion of an

application and in-person interviews.

Mentors will be available to students before and after scheduled class time and at campus events and events specifically offered for first-year students.

During class meetings, students will learn how to locate resources and services at UF; develop and improve study and time management skills; examine common college-related issues; identify dangers that threaten their success; and develop close bonds with their classmates, among other things.

See *THE OILER*, page 2



2007 KAKE STUDENT EXCHANGE: ONE STUDENT'S REFLECTIONS

This first-person account was written by Kake participant Yekaterina "Katia" Kontar, senior communication major.

At 6 p.m. Monday, July 23, a plane with six tired, happy students and a professor from The University of Findlay landed in Toledo Express Airport. They just arrived from a three-and-a-half week stay in Japan where they survived a culture shock, lost a few pounds, made new friends and gained experience and knowledge.

The Kake Education Institution hosts a group of UF students and faculty in Japan each summer. UF returns

the favor of the Japanese institutions with the Kake Ambassador Program, when Japanese representatives visit Findlay.

After a semester of Japanese language and culture classes, the UF group, consisting of Jennifer Fox, Katia Kontar (myself), Laura Maurer, Holly Siebeneck, Michael Strahm, Erin Taylor and Dr. Chris Ward, flew to the "land of the rising sun."

Our first destination was Okayama City, the capital and the biggest city in the Okayama pre-



Katia Kontar, left, and Erin Taylor, right, were touched by the warm welcome they received from Japanese tour guides in Hiroshima.

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KAKE STUDENT EXCHANGE, CONT.



The UF-Kake group visited Miyajima Island accompanied by UF graduate Zach Pina, who now works for Kake. Pictured in the background is the Itsukushima shrine.

fecture. We stayed in a dormitory called Mitsu International House, which includes two small, cozy one-story buildings and a little cafeteria. During the first several days, breakfast consisted of eggs, toast with butter and jam, juice and freshly roasted coffee. Silverware was eventually replaced with chopsticks, and the menu changed. One morning, without any warning, we were served a traditional Japanese breakfast of misu soup with tofu, rice and salmon.

Food was the primary cultural shock for many people. While I was fond of everything from sushi to udon (wheat pasta made in thick strips) and soba (noodles made from buckwheat flour), others craved a traditional American burger or at least a piece of plain white bread.

I truly enjoyed Japanese cuisine. In fact, that is what I have been missing the most since we came back. I particularly miss rice balls with salmon and pre-sweetened and pre-milked coffee beverages sold in vending machines.

But what all of the Kake participants will miss the most are the people we met throughout the trip. We visited many universities and vocational schools during our stay where we met Japanese students who either already have gone to Findlay or will come to

Findlay this August as part of the Kake exchange program.

Our new friends took us to Nobeoka city during the Tanabata Street Festival, one of the biggest summer holidays in Japan. Every year on July 7, people write their wishes on tanzaku (colorful thin strips of paper) and hang them on bamboo branches with other decorations. The streets were crowd-

ed with people strolling around in national costumes, playing traditional games and eating a variety of treats right off the grill.

UF graduate Zach Pina '06, who now works for Kake, accompanied us to Hiroshima and Miyajima Island. After going through the Hiroshima Peace Museum and Park, the UF group felt deeply affected by all of the images and artifacts that survived the atomic bomb explosion. We also were touched by the warm welcome we received from the Japanese tour guides and visitors.

The Miyajima Island was one of the

most relaxing and joyful destinations we visited. I called it a "deer island," since those creatures with antlers were freely wandering the city streets. We were able to pet and feed them. However, we had to run away several times when they were going after our ice cream. The Miyajima Island is famous for the Itsukushima shrine that appears to float in the water when the tide is high. The shrine was dedicated to the three goddesses of the sea: Ichikishima, Tagori and Tagitsu, who are believed to live in the shrine's sanctum.

We traveled around Japan for two weeks and visited many places. We traveled to the Japanese former capital Kyoto to sightsee. We visited the garden of the imperial palace that many Americans are familiar with from the movie "Lost in Translation." We spent the last two days in Okayama meeting Kake officials during a garden party, which is held once a year.

Tokyo was our last destination. We visited all of the city districts along with primary museums and historic sights. The museums were exciting and had English guides. And last, but not the least, shopping was unbelievable.

Overall, I was really impressed by Japan, its people, culture and customs. Being a part of the Kake exchange program was definitely the biggest adventure in my life.

THE OILER EXPERIENCE, CONT.

Overseeing the program are Brian Treece, assistant dean of students and director of housing and residence life, and Lori Colchagoff, director of disability services and ADA/504 compliance officer.

The Oiler Experience is another step in the evolving freshman seminar program. Piloted in 1971 to promote closer faculty-student contact in small group settings, the program was first extended to include all of the 165 freshmen that registered for classes in 1975.

Colchagoff credited Diana

Montague, Ph.D., professor of English, for her success and commitment in developing UF's First-Year Experience program. "We are hoping to expand on her success," said Colchagoff. "She has been helpful in providing us with support and resources to continue a successful program for our freshmen."

Both Colchagoff and Treece are looking forward to seeing how the class, as a whole, develops and transitions throughout their first semester at UF.

UF STAFF ATTEND CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY SUMMIT

UF's Steve Baum, campus safety and security sergeant; Matt Bruskotter, program manager, SEEM; Dave Emsweller, vice president for student services; Harold Huffman, program manager, SEEM; Randy Van Dyne, executive director, SEEM; and Ken Walerius, director of safety and security, attended the first Summit on Ohio College Campus Safety and Security Aug. 1.

Hosted by Chancellor Eric D. Fingerhut, the summit was held at The Ohio State University. Members of a Task Force on Campus Security reported on their work to make all college campuses as safe as possible.

Gov. Ted Strickland directed Fingerhut to form the task force in the aftermath of the tragedy at Virginia Tech.

Task forces addressed topics such as communications, response, resources and prevention. The purpose of the summit was to encourage Ohio colleges and universities to collaborate in planning for the safety of students.



At left, Wick Colchagoff, head women's volleyball coach, concentrates as the team performs a drill during practice. Findlay will begin its season traveling to Lakeland, Fla., to participate in the Florida Southern Invitational Aug. 23-25.

The football team prepares for the 2007 season, which begins with scrimmages on Aug. 11, Aug. 18 and Aug. 25 before taking the field for its first regular season contest against the University of Charleston on Saturday, Sept. 1, at 1 p.m. inside Donnell Stadium.



MAZZA MUSEUM ART CAMP 2007: COLOR!



Two young artists, Michael and Jes, discuss their poems during Mazza Art Camp.

The Mazza Museum hosted its Mazza Art Camp Aug. 6-10. Children in first through fourth grades learned about the world of picture book art in a fun and hands-on way. The theme for this year's camp was COLOR!

Participants learned how to identify and utilize the dif-



Early childhood education major Kim Balke works with an artist on his book about the color blue.

ferent aspects of color including the different color groups and how to make various tints and hues. The children used their new skills to create unique illustrations for their own picture books, which featured unique poems each student wrote about his or her favorite color.

NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENTS FOR 2007-08

College of Business

Dr. Joseph Blankenship, assistant professor of business; D.Sc., information systems and communications, Robert Morris University; M.S., computer information systems, Boston University; B.S.B.A., business administration, Robert Morris University.

College of Education

Dr. Alice Anderson, dean of the College of Education and professor of education; Ed.D., vocational and technical education, special needs populations, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; M.S., special education, Radford University; B.A., Spanish, James Madison University.

College of Health Professions

Elizabeth Eldakar, instructor of physician assistant; M.P.A.S., physician assistant studies, University of Nebraska Medical Center; B.S., primary care physician assistant, University of Southern California; B.S., medical technology and biology, Clarion State University.

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. James A. Gedra, assistant professor of psychology; Psy.D., clinical psychology, Xavier University; M.A., clinical psychology, Xavier University; B.A., psychology, Ohio Northern University.

Philip Matanick, instructor of English as an international language; Ed.M., teaching English as a second language, State University of New York at Buffalo; D.M. in intercultural studies, Ashbury Theological Seminary; M.Div. in Biblical languages, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary; B.A. in Biblical studies, Central Bible College.

School of Pharmacy

Dr. Richard W. Dudley, assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences; Ph.D., chemistry, University of Toledo; B.P.S., pharmacy, University of Toledo.

Dr. Lori Huber-Ernsthausen, assistant professor of pharmacy practice; Pharm.D., University of Toledo; B.S., pharmaceutical sciences, University of Toledo.

Dr. M. Chandra Sekar, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences; Ph.D. and M.S., molecular pharmacology, University of British Columbia, Canada; B.Pharm. and M.Pharm., Birla Institute of Technology and Science, India.

Dr. Bradley Shinn, associate professor of pharmacy practice; Pharm.D., pharmacy, University of Michigan; B.S., zoology.

Dr. Alexander Vaglenov, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences;

Ph.D., medicine, radiobiology and genetics, Medical Academy and National Center of Radiobiology and Radiation Protection, Bulgaria; M.D., medical doctor, Kharkov High Medical Institute, Ukraine.

College of Sciences

Dr. Edward Bonnette, assistant professor of animal science; Ph.D., Animal Science, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; M.S. and B.S., Animal Science, The Ohio State University.

Dr. Terry Schwaner, dean of the College of Sciences and professor of biology; Ph.D., vertebrate biology, The University of Kansas; M.S., zoology and botany, Auburn University; B.S., zoology, Southeastern Louisiana University; A.A., zoology, Palomar College.

Dr. Armeria Vicol, assistant professor of biology; Ph.D., biology, Bowling Green State University; M.Sc., Babes-Bolyai University, Romania.

Dr. Guofen Yu, assistant professor of physics; Ph.D., electronic physics, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China (UESTC); M.S., electronic devices and physics, UESTC; B.S., applied physics, National University of Defense Technology.

OPENING WEEK SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Full-time UF employees, retired faculty and staff, adjunct faculty, trustees and Winebrenner Theological Seminary employees, retired faculty and staff and trustees are invited to Opening Day events **Tuesday, Aug. 21.**

7 a.m., breakfast buffet, Koehler Complex

8 a.m., opening session, Koehler Complex

1:30 p.m., faculty and staff information session, AMU Multipurpose Room

3 p.m., college or area meetings, as scheduled by colleges

5 p.m., UF and Seminary family

picnic, Koehler Complex

Wednesday, Aug. 22

9 a.m., new faculty orientation, Davis 104

11 a.m., full faculty meeting, WTS

1 p.m., faculty development program, Davis 102

2:30 p.m., faculty development workshops, Davis 181-188

Thursday, Aug. 23

8 a.m., new faculty orientation

10 a.m., new student registration

1 p.m., review and progress on program assessment, Davis 102

3 p.m., college or area meetings, as scheduled by colleges

Friday, Aug. 24

8 a.m., new students begin to arrive
5 p.m., new student orientation begins

Saturday, Aug. 25

8 a.m., new student orientation
Campus Compact Service Projects

Sunday, Aug. 26

1 p.m., welcome of new students by college

3 p.m., new student welcome ceremony, Koehler Complex

3:30 p.m., Arch Ceremony

3:45 p.m., reception for new students, AMU