



Honors Alumni Newsletter

OCTOBER 20, 2008

'A Knight's Quest' Home for Homecoming 2008

Written by Carissa VanBalen

Homecoming season is in full swing at UCF as several student groups (including the Honors Congress) gear up for the weeklong festivities November 1-9, 2008. "A Knight's Quest: It's Our Journey" is the theme which is meant to bring UCF students back to the medieval origins of knights.

This year's festivities begin on Saturday, Nov. 1 with an off-campus service day event, which will bring over 400 UCF students into the community for a morning of cleaning up a park. Homecoming week will include the usual events of Movie Knight, Comedy Knight, Skit Knight, Concert Knight, Spirit Splash, and the Homecoming Parade. This year, there will be two football

games within the week: Sunday, Nov. 2, against East Carolina, and Saturday, Nov. 8, against Southern Mississippi (the official Homecoming game).



Homecoming Logo 2008

Another addition to the schedule is Festival of Knights, which is going to be the first ever Homecoming tailgating event and promises "fun activities, competitions, lots of free food and performances".

Homecoming is meant to bring all knights together and

HOMECOMING EVENTS open to alumni/community:

- Nov. 1** - Mr. UCF Competition, UCF Women's Volleyball, or UCF Men's Soccer
- Nov. 2** - Football Game vs. East Carolina
- Nov. 4** - Comedy Knight
- Nov. 5** - Skit Knight
- Nov. 6** - Concert Knight
- Nov. 7** - Spirit Splash (3:30 pm)
- Nov. 8** - Homecoming Parade (10 am), Festival of Knights (noon), Homecoming Football Game vs. Southern Miss (3:30 pm)

alumni, as well as community members, are encouraged to check out the many spirited events. For more information on UCF Homecoming 2008, check out the website at www.ucfhc.com.

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As UCF grows and changes, so do the options for eating on campus. With the 2007 additions of the UCF Arena and Brighthouse Network Stadium, Knight's Plaza has become a hot location for all kinds of restau-

New On-Campus Restaurants

rants. Several fast-food style restaurants offer a few seating areas, and there are two new sit-down restaurants this fall.

Knightro's is located in the Arena building with an outside entrance. For those who have experienced the Marketplace Dining Hall, Knightro's is a similar idea. Specifically located as a meal plan for Towers' residents, the menu is almost identical to the Ferrell Commons din-

ing area. The atmosphere is cleaner than the traditional Marketplace and feels more like a nice buffet than a school cafeteria.

Running just \$7.25 for lunch and \$8.25 for the dinner buffet, Knightro's is a great place to visit for any occasion and offers seating for small groups or larger parties.

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Alumni Accomplishments



Dr. Carol Mancero, the 2008 Burnett Honors College Rising Star



"His passion for perfection and excellence extends to all aspects of his life."



Dr. Carol Mancero, BHC's 2008 Rising Star Award Winner!

Congratulations to **Dr. Carol Mancero**, the 2008 Burnett Honors College Rising Star Award nominee. Carol will be recognized at the 2008 Black and Gold Gala during Homecoming Week.

Currently, Carol is a second year family medicine resident at Florida Hospital

South in Orlando, FL. She is a proud UCF Knight of 2002 and a 2007 alumnus of the University Of Miami School Of Medicine. She plans on practicing medicine in Orlando after her residency. Her future plans include volunteering at under-served clinics, the UCF medical school, and medical mission trips.

Carol is originally from Florida but has also lived in Illinois and New Mexico. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, swing dancing, indoor rock climbing, running, hiking, and snow skiing.

Carol would like to thank her family and friends for their support over the years.

J. Carlos Gittens, BHC's 2008 Professional Achievement Award Winner!

Carlos Gittens (pictured left), PE graduated from UCF earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in civil engineering, with University Honors, in 1998 and Masters of Business Administration in 2000.

Upon graduation, Gittens began his career with URS Corporation as an engineering intern, worked his way up to transportation engineer and CEI Bridge Inspector. He currently serves as a Project Manager for Jacobs in Orlando.

Gittens has been a member of the Florida Engineering Society (FES) since 1994, when he joined the UCF student chapter. While at UCF he served as chapter president for two years and Student Board Representative to the State Society. After graduation he remained active in FES, serving on several local and state committees including Student Professional Development, Leadership Advisory, Centennial, and Annual Conference Steering Committee, of which he is chair for 2008-2009. He has

additionally held all officer positions in the Central Florida Chapter.

Gittens enjoys giving back to the community and speaking to students at all levels about engineering. His passion for perfection and excellence extends to all aspects of his life. The dedication for the profession, the many achievements in his young career and passion for engineering and serving others led to him being selected as the 2008 FES Young Engineer of the Year.

Birth Announcement: TRIPLETS!

Dr. Jill Norburn, Director of Honors Student Affairs, gave birth to triplets on September 15, 2008. Charles Edward, Kaitlyn Elizabeth, and William James were born at Winnie Palmer Hospital at 5:28, 5:29, and 5:30 a.m.

Jill has worked at the UCF Burnett Honors College since 2001. Jill's husband (Charles Norburn, '01, '04) also works at UCF as Division IT Manager for Student Development and Enrollment Services.

The babies were born a few months early, but all are doing well! They are expected to come home in November.

If you are a parent of multiples, she would love to hear from you for advice. Email her at jnorburn@mail.ucf.edu.



STAY CONNECTED TO YOUR ALMA MATER

Where did our Alma Mater come from?

In 1972, President Dr. Charles Millikan appointed an Ad Hoc Alma Mater Committee, made up of students and faculty, who sifted through songs based on a need for an easily recognizable song which is singable and reflects the dignity of the school.

After looking through over a dozen submitted songs, FTU faculty member Dr.



Burt Szabo was the chosen composer and lyricist. The lyrics were eventually changed when the school's name changed in 1978.

The alma mater is used as the anthem of the university, and can be heard at various academic events, including commencement ceremonies.

Official UCF Alma Mater

*All hail to Alma Mater
Whose banner black and gold,
Will wave in fame and splendor
As the passing years unfold.
May loyalty and friendship
Within our hearts unite
And light the star to guide us
Ever upward in our flight.
With honor and affection
Our friendship will renew;
We sing of thee our Alma Mater,
Ever true!*



Film Series: Female Sociopaths



Are you still in the area and want to stay connected to the Burnett Honors College? You are welcome to join us at various events including the upcoming film series. Feel free to view the events listed on the BHC website: www.honors.ucf.edu.

All four fantastic films listed will be shown by Professor Barry Sandler and all are FREE. We will also provide ice cream goodies and popcorn. Feel free to bring your favorite pillows to the Honors Reading Room in the Burnett Honors College. A fun, short discussion from our film expert will commence after each film. This is a great way to gear up for Halloween right around the

corner! Plus it is FREE! You do need to RSVP though to mcnieves@mail.ucf.edu!

Misery - Wed., Oct. 29 @ 7pm
Written by Stephen King. A famous novelist is "rescued" from a car crash by an obsessed fan. Don't be the last person on Earth to see this classic starring Kathy Bates!

Basic Instinct - Wed., Nov. 5 @ 7pm
A police detective is in charge of the investigation of a brutal murder, in which a beautiful and seductive woman could be involved. Don't be the last person on Earth to see this classic starring Sharon Stone & Michael Douglas!

Fatal Attraction - Wed., Nov. 12 @ 7pm

A married man's one night stand comes back to haunt him when that lover begins to stalk him and his family. Don't be the last person on Earth to see this classic starring Michael Douglas & Glenn Close. Join us for free ice cream and popcorn!

Body Heat - Wed., Nov. 19 @ 7pm
In the midst of a searing Florida heat wave, a woman convinces her lover, a small-town lawyer, to murder her rich husband. Don't be the last person on Earth to see this classic starring William Hurt.

New Restaurants Continued...



Right across the road from Knightro's is the newest sports – bar style restaurant appropriately named Tailgaters. Creating an under the stadium type feel, the walls look like the underside of stadium bleachers and the televisions keep the action within view. With a wide-selection of alcoholic beverages and a signature hamburger, the food will fill you up while the atmosphere



Tailgaters Chicken Cheeses Nachos

gets you pumped for the game! Prices vary offering something for everyone. Check www.tailgatersatucf.com for more details on the menu and specials.



Honors Alumni Association

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Happy 10th Anniversary!

Celebrate the Burnett Honors College's 10th Anniversary by giving an anniversary gift to the BHC. Even better, if your company matches charitable



giving, your gift will have twice the impact! For more information about giving to the Burnett Honors College or to become involved in the BHC Development, contact Melissa Hinson Leitzell, '98, at mleitzel@mail.ucf.edu or (407) 882-2856.

Where Are They Now?

Do you want to let everyone know where you ended up so that former buddies can contact you? Then please e-mail your information to jnorburn@mail.ucf.edu See if any of your friends are listed on our website already: www.alumni.honors.ucf.edu/Where_are_they_now.asp

Upcoming Event

The Annual Honors Alumni Reunion will be held on Thursday, November 6, 2008 at 6:30pm in the BHC. The event will be catered by Moe's. Free food and fun now that's a deal! To RSVP, email mcnieves@mail.ucf.edu.

UCF Knights Home Football Games Remaining

Nov. 2, 08 @ 8:15 p.m. Against East Carolina
Nov. 8, 08 @ 3:30 p.m. Against Southern Miss -
(Homecoming)

Nov. 29, 08 @ 3:30 p.m.
Against UAB

**Craigslist.com is a good place to check for tickets!



HONORS FILM SERIES PRESENTS.

PLANET OF THE APES
OCTOBER 23RD, 7PM

OMEGA MAN
NOVEMBER 13TH, 7PM

SOYLENT GREEN
NOVEMBER 20TH, 7PM

JOIN FILM MODERATOR, POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR, DR. DWIGHT KIEL AS WE GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE WITH THIS CHARLTON HESTON FILM SERIES. ICE CREAM AND POPCORN WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE READING ROOM



RSVP BEFORE THE FUTURE GETS HERE... MCNIEVES@MAILUCF.EDU

What is new with you?

The faculty advisor for the Honors Alumni Chapter maintains an alumni database to help keep track of where our Honors alumni end up. This is done for The Burnett Honors College Annual Report to help track the statistics of how many of our alumni go on to graduate schools and in what degree programs; what states our alumni move to; if an alumni is interested in being a speaker or mentor; what types of employment our alumni accept; and to help us flag potential alumni for awards- just to name a few. Please send us an update with what is new with you! Just send to jnorburn@mail.ucf.edu.