

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
ADVISOR NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2013

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

A WORD FROM THE OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE

Advisors,

Thank you for all that you do for the students of VSU. Our students thrive from their involvement in campus activities and benefit a great deal from interaction with peers and mentors. I know that many of you serve as an advisor in addition to your daily obligations and willingly balance the demands of personal and professional life in order to save a bit of yourself for our student groups. Please know that your work and commitment are noticed and appreciated.

In an effort to help assist you in being the best advisors that you can be for our students, we will be sending out an advisor newsletter once a semester with updates, noteworthy articles and publications and reminders from our office. If you have suggestions for future topics, or come across things that you think should be shared, please send them my way. Best of luck to a successful spring semester!

Erin Sylvester and the Office of Student Life

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

March 12, 2013: Student Organization Success (SOS) Workshop, Union Ballrooms, 6:00pm

April 1-7, 2013: VSU Presidential Inauguration Week, Full List of Events available online and on Campus Connect (some events require RSVP)

April 3, 2013: Student Organization Success (SOS) Workshop, Union Theatre, 6:00pm

April 9, 2013: Spring President's Council Meeting, Student Org. Office Lounge, 7:00pm

April 18, 2013: Take Back the Night

April 19-20, 2013: Relay for Life, VSU Front Lawn

CAMPUS CONNECT RE-STRUCTURING

You might not have noticed yet, but there are quite a few changes being made to Campus Connect. Internally (and quite literally behind the scenes) we are re-structuring our organization tree to better categorize groups based on purpose and function. This will assist us in providing more specific training to specific groups based on their function, and it will help new students be able to more quickly identify organizations who have a purpose/interest that is specific to their personal goals and passions.

We are also diligently working on providing log-in access for off-campus advisors so that advisors who are not faculty/staff members can join us in our digital world and be more involved and able to support their organizations fully. We appreciate your patience and will send out information s soon as we can.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

Society for International Students

Coming in April, the Society for International Students is putting on the 37th Annual International dinner. The International Dinner began 36 years ago as a way for VSU's International Students to share part of their culture with the Valdosta community. It is a beautiful celebration of cultural diversity that can be found right here in Valdosta. The dinner will feature dishes from each of the 4 Global Regions: The Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe. During the dinner, students will entertain guests with traditional and modern songs, performances, dances, music and skits. If your organization would like to contribute, please contact Lauren Braun at labraun@valdosta.edu

NOTEWORTHY ARTICLES AND LIGHT READING

Astin's Theory of Student Involvement

High Impact Educational Practices: What they are, who has access to them and why they matter.

Arthur Chickering's 7 Vectors of Identity Development

The Responsibilities of Advising a Student Organization

TRAINING CURRICULA COMING FALL 2013

One of the many viable suggestions that came out of our Advisor Forums during the Fall of 2012 was to provide more substantive training for our student groups. Many of the optional trainings that we currently offer are poorly attended, and usually only by organization leadership. However, we want to make sure that any member of a student organization on our campus is afforded the opportunity to learn key skills that will prepare them for life after college.

In response to this desire, we have decided to create a menu of training curricula covering a wide range of topics and skills. We will be publishing the list of the training topics available in the Fall 2013 semester. Student organizations who are interested in any of the trainings will simply need to email the Graduate Assistant for Student Organizations with three possible dates that they would like the training to be given to their organization. We will then provide a knowledgeable facilitator to come directly to your student organization

meeting to deliver a training and materials to enhance the knowledge of your student group.

Organizations will have the freedom to select only those topics that they believe are pertinent to their group and can even ask for specific focus areas to make sure that facilitators address.

Topics include:

- Public Relations & Advertising
- Resume Writing and Networking
- Etiquette
- Public Speaking
- How to Run a Meeting
- Recruitment & Retention
- Budgeting 101
- Event Planning 101
- Leadership 101
- So You Want to Have a Social? (Risk Mang.)
- Fundraising 101
- Student Organization Policy De-coded