



CAMPUS CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 2013

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ORGANIZATIONS EXCELLENCE AWARDS!

Seven outstanding student organizations were recently recognized by the Office of Student Life as the 2012-2013 Organizations of Excellence. Russell Mast, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students presented the awards to the president of Hearts Everywhere Reaching Out to Children (HEROs), Four Directions, the Black Student League (BSL), Gay Straight Alliance (GSA), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Collegiate Women of VSU and in the president's absence, Collegiate 4-H.

The **Organization Excellence Program** recognizes student organizations that fulfill its mission while making outstanding contributions to student development and the community.

Each president received a certificate of Excellence and a leather VSU portfolio provided by the VSU Bookstore. John Wright, Associate Director in the Office of Student Life and Erin Sylvester, Assistant Director of Student Development, were present to congratulate the recipients. Continues page 2...



Vice President for Student Affairs, Dean Russell Mast, presents India Green, president of Collegiate Women of VSU with the certificate of Excellence

BE A PERSON OF INFLUENCE

Who would have thought that a professional mixer built around a professional development workshop would feature one of VSU's most influential business professors.

Dr. James 'Jim' Muncy, noted speaker, author and professor of Marketing, recently presented to members and leaders of several student organizations. If you want to be a person of influence, "Never argue" he said, "Either you win the argument and loose goodwill or you loose the argument." Dr. Muncy

used colorful stories and anecdotes to walk his audience through the essentials for the person of influence. He de-

scribed the connection between influence and leadership as inextricable. If you want to... (continues page 3)

NOTED AND QUOTE IT!

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

~ Aristotle

"Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves."

~ Confucius



ORG. EXCELLENCE: FOUR DIRECTIONS & VSU HEROs



President **Pamela Johnson** of Four Directions is awarded by Dean Mast, Vice President for Student Affairs.

Mission Statement: Four Directions "is a student organization designed to work with the Native American Studies program at VSU. Students will actively gain an understanding of issues in Native American communities. Also, students will assist in the designing and implementation of programs involving Native American issues as well as working with Native American com-

munities to promote better communication and community interaction."



Nevel Phillips, president of **HEROs** recognized for Excellence. **VSU Hearts Everywhere Reaching Out for Children, Inc.** is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of children infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS through enriching programs, unforgettable experiences, and connections to the community.

ORG. EXCELLENCE: GSA & DELTA SIGMA THETA



Megan Pugh, president of GSA receives her Excellence certificate. The mission of

Gay Straight Alliance is to foster an active and diverse culture at VSU and the surrounding community. The GSA provides opportunities for students to build friendships, find a safe place to discuss issues, and foster communication through an assortment of activities, while encouraging open-mindedness and diversity, with an emphasis on educating and informing students,

faculty, staff, and community about the diversity among gender and sexuality issues.



Tara Fletcher, president of **Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.** receives award. The organization's purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. A sisterhood of more than 200,000 predominately Black college educated women, the sorority currently has over 900 chapters worldwide.

ORG. EXCELLENCE: BLACK STUDENT LEAGUE

Micah Howell, president of the **Black Student League** receives certificate of Excellence from Erin Sylvester, Assistant Director of Organizational Development in the Office of Student Life. The mission of BSL is the promotion of a more fluid transition into and throughout college life, increasing participation

in campus and community



activities, increasing an awareness of the accomplishments and contributions of minorities in each aspect of American society, and coordinating between student concern and the administration while keeping within the ideals of Valdosta State University as stated in the student handbook.

Visit Campus Connect at valdosta.collegiatelink.net to learn about the 2014 Excellence Awards and how your Student Organization can become an **Organization of Excellence**.

Contact the **Student Life Office** at 229.333.5674

Kirk Johnson, GA for Student Orgs.
kirkjohnson@valdosta.edu

Erin Sylvester, Assistant Director of Organizational Development

BE A PERSON OF INFLUENCE... (continued from page 1)

...know that you are a leader, look behind to see if anyone is following.

Dr. Muncy differentiated between two types of leaders: **Positional and Influential.** The first relates more to a title and the second, the position with more likelihood to achieve desired outcomes.

He identified two important Do's of Leadership:

1. "Put their frog in your tent"

The principle of giving people what they want while getting what you want.

2. "Lead with your ears and not with your mouth." Emphasizes the importance of effective communication.

In emphasizing that "leaders are readers," Dr. Muncy recommended two books: *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie and *How to Have Confidence and Power in Dealing With People*



by Les Giblin.



Dr. Jim Muncy, Professor of Marketing, public speaker and author of the book '[A Few Keys to All Success.](#)'

CURRICULUM MENU FALL 2013

What is Curriculum Menu?

Curriculum Menu is an interactive skills-building program offered exclusively to student organizations by the Office of Student Office.

The training is tailored to the personal and professional development interests of each organization and features a growing collection of courses. The training schedule requires a formal request

at least two weeks prior to the desired date. Email or call the Student Life office for more information. Tel. 229.333.5674

Curriculum Menu includes:

- Advising 101
- Budgeting 101
- Creative Fundraising
- Building Membership
- Recruitment & Retention

- Leaders Lead 101
- Effective Marketing & Public Relations
- The 'H' Word (Hazing)
- Event Planning
- Resume Writing and Networking
- Social & Professional Etiquette
- Confronting Non-Performers

VSU Video

JUST Having Fun!
~ Flash Mob ~



Submit your VSU Video to

studentlife@valdosta.edu

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

'In the Spotlight' recognizes VSU registered organizations who are fulfilling their mission, contributing to the VSU community, collaborating with others and helping to develop its membership.

The **College PanHellenic Council (CPC)**, a cohort of six Greek sororities is active in the community by donating



grocery filled schoolbags to the '**Hungry at Home**' backpack program. The program

began in 2011 at Lake Park Elementary School and continues to grow due to the philanthropy of individuals and organizations like **Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Chi Omega, Kappa Delta, Phi Mu, and Zeta Tau Alpha.** We salute the **CPC**, for being '**In the Spotlight.**' Nominate your choice and reasons why at studentlife@valdosta.edu.



We are on the Web!

www.valdosta.edu/student/student-life/

FIND US....

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Interesting Articles

⇒ [13 Social Media Networking Sites You Should be Using](#)

⇒ [Effects of Student Engagement with Social Media on Student Learning: A Review](#)



“Education cost money, but then so does ignorance.”
~ Claus Moser

The Office of Student Life offers the opportunity for students to enhance their collegiate experience with co-curricular activities. Students can become involved in more than 200 organizations which will aid their academic and personal development.

The Office of Student Life promotes student development and leadership by providing quality programs and services that fulfill the diverse educational, recreational, social, and multicultural needs of the student population and the university community.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Q&A)

Q: How can I learn more about VSU student organizations?

A: Online Campus Connect valdosta.collegeiatelink.net

Q: What are the university requirements for student organizations?

A: The Office of Student Life recently announced the requirements for all registered student organizations.

During the summer of 2013, select faculty, staff and students met to audit the current student organizations system, requirements and benefits. From these meetings came the following guidelines which will go into effect on **January 1st, 2014** as part of the required organization re-registration.

Organizations will have until midnight on **Feb. 15, 2014** to

re-register for the calendar year. 4 of the 9 categories are explained below. Please visit Campus Connect for the complete document.

GPA: 2.0 members, 2.5 leaders (semester GPA). Organizations are allowed to create higher GPA requirements. - All students who have below a 2.0 will have their names emailed to the organization advisor at the close of each semester by the Assistant Director of Student Life. Membership decisions will be left to the discretion of the advisor.

Membership: Minimum of 10 at any given time; new organizations will have one semester from the date of registration to meet requirement.

Advisor(s): All advisors must complete an online Blazeview training module each year that will cover: Student Or-

ganization Policy, Student advising practices, Advisor expectations, Finances, Hazing Prevention, and Office of Student Life procedures. Successful completion will take place with their attendance at the Mandatory Student Organization Meeting each fall. All organizations must have an advisor who is a full-time faculty/staff member.

Financial Management: All organizations are required to show proof of a bank account. While any financial institution is allowed, an account at the VSU Foundation is strongly encouraged. Any organization receiving funding from the Allocations Committee is required to have a VSU Foundation Account.

If collecting money for (dues, t-shirts, travel, etc.) a meeting with a professional staff

Student Life includes the following departments:

- Volunteer Services
- Greek life
- Campus Activities Board
- Special Events
- Student Union
- Student Clubs and Organizations



Help Change the Face of Men's Health

<http://us.movember.com/>

For newsletter related questions or suggestions, email kirkjohnson@valdosta.edu