

# **Division of Student Affairs Orientation & First Year Programs 2009-2010 Annual Report**

## **Department Mission/Vision Statement**

Orientation & First Year Programs (OFYP) assists with the new and challenging college environment that first year students face. The initiatives of OFYP are directly related to enhancing the student's experience in and out of the classroom. This program supports a learning environment that extends throughout the first year and allows for a variety of creative academic and co-curricular activities.

## **Executive Summary**

2009-2010 has been a year of change in Orientation & First Year Programs, as significant modifications have been made to the development and delivery of the orientation program. At the same time, a new software and technology system, Visual Zen was implemented to receive and manage the orientation reservations for incoming students and guests.

University-wide collaboration has been required and will continue to be necessary to accomplish program goals and implement the new initiatives related to the orientation process. Additionally, these changes have resulted in the adjustment of staffing structure and distribution of responsibilities. Staff roles and responsibilities will continue to be monitored and adjusted as required to accomplish the missions of the department and program.

Through these changes, great opportunities exist to reach students and support them in their transition to college life in new and different ways. One new way to assist students and family members is through the development of the Orientation Station. This resource has already proved popular and has been used widely. An additional opportunity is through an expanded Opening Weekend for which planning is underway.

UNIV 1000 continues to be a popular course option for first year students. 27 sections were offered in Fall 2009 with approximately 600 new students enrolled. These sections were developed in collaboration with the following areas: Advising & Academic Success, Multicultural Affairs, College of Health & Human Services, College of Technology, President's Leadership Academy, Recreation & Wellness and Student Athlete Services.

Over 100 First Year Success Series (FYSS) workshops were presented by faculty and staff, as well as City of Bowling Green representatives, during Fall 2009. Programs offered through the FYSS address transition issues that first year students may face both in and out of the classroom. Program topics include - study skills, time management, diversity, wellness, career exploration, and campus involvement.

Several new initiatives and programs were established to better serve off-campus and commuter students during 2009-2010. Off-Campus 101 workshops were held on seven separate dates during both fall and spring semesters. Additionally, the Commuter Connection was launched this past fall, and increasing programming for commuter students was a primary focus this spring semester.

The most significant accomplishment related to Off-Campus Student Services this past year was the development of a Commuter Assistant role for upper-class commuter students. These students will provide mentoring support for incoming traditionally aged commuter students, as well as assist in the development and implementation of Commuter Connection program throughout the summer and Fall 2010.

### Contribution to Division of Student Affairs Action Items and University Strategies

See Appendix A - 2009-2010 Planning Document for Orientation & First Year Programs

### Program Participation and Usage Data

Program/Facility	2009-2010 Count <i>Student Attendance</i>	2008-2009 Count	% Change (+/-)
Orientation & Registration	3,005	3,064	-2%
Fall Welcome	15,653	17,045	-8%
UNIV 1000	583	718	-19%
First Year Success Series	1,186	1,368	- 13%
Off-Campus 101	22	NA (new program in 2009)	-
Housing Fair	606	604	-

Fall Welcome attendance reported is based on most (not all events) offered during the two-week period.

### Major Staff Achievements

#### Jodi Webb

- Member, University Opening Committee
- Member, Enrollment Network
- Member, A-Deans Council
- Co-Chairperson, University Orientation Advisory Committee
- Instructor, UNIV 1000: University Success course
- FYSS workshop – “Goal Setting”, Fall 2009
- FYSS workshop – “BGSU 101”, Fall 2009
- FYSS workshop – “Student Success Tips”, Fall 2009
- Teleconference: Top 10 Teaching Tips - sponsored by Wadsworth Cengage Learning, March, 2010
- Teleconference: Fired Up or Burned Out? Teaching Strategies to Help First-Year Seminar Instructors Rekindle Their Enthusiasm - sponsored by Wadsworth Cengage Learning, April 2010

- Presented information sessions that provided an overview of first year transition issues at the Office of Admissions President's Day, February 2010
- Inducted into the Bowling Green State University Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa

#### Andy Alt

- Member, Alumni Laureate Scholars Scholarship Selection Committee Member,
- Member, Associate Director of Residence Life and Director of Greek Affairs Search Committee
- Member, Graduate Assistant Professional Development Planning Committee
- Member, Leadership Advisory Board
- Member, PNC Bank Implementation Team
- Member, Phase II Orientation Committee
- Member, Student Publications Advisory Board
- Member, University Academic Support Council
- Member, University Discipline Committee
- Member, University Orientation Advisory Committee
- Member, BG Connections
- Administrative Liaison to Falcon Parent and Family Association Executive Committee
- Chairperson, E-Content Committee
- Chairperson, Event Services Coordinator Search Committee
- Chairperson, Fall Welcome Committee
- Chairperson, First Year Success Series Committee
- Chairperson, Off-Campus Student Services Advisory Board
- Instructor, UNIV 1000: University Success course
- COPES Volunteer
- FYSS workshop – “Making Connections as a Commuter Student”, Fall 2009
- FYSS workshop – “Living Off-Campus 101”, Fall 2009
- Leadership Academy – “Leading Completely”, February 2010
- Teleconference: Assessing Leadership Programs
- Participant, Bowling Green State University Leadership Institute
- Attended NODA Conference
- Attended New Professionals in Transitions Conference, Mock Interviewer

#### **Proposed 2010-2011 Priorities/Action Items**

- Effectively deliver the revised Opening Weekend programming.
- Continue to review, evaluate and refine the new student orientation process.
- Continue to review, evaluate and refine the Opening Weekend and Fall Welcome process for new students.

- Review and update all established learning outcomes for program components within Orientation & First Year Programs.
- Implement Orientation reservation system upgrades within VisualZen.
- Build upon communication collaborations with Office of Admissions, Student Enrollment Communications Center, Office of Residence Life, and Marketing & Communications.
- Successfully integrate existing OFYP programs into Phase II Orientation initiative.
- Enhance *Connections* online newsletter with more dynamic and interactive content.
- Develop and define Commuter Assistant role within sustainable parameters.