



# Learning Institute for Elders

## October, 2013

[www.life.ucf.edu](http://www.life.ucf.edu)



*"We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color" ~Maya Angelou*

### **Diversity Week 2013: "Chapter 21: Embracing and Celebrating A New Beginning"**

This year's theme: "Chapter 21, Embracing and Celebrating a New Beginning," is a reflection of the upcoming changes in the Office of Diversity Initiatives due to the retirement of Dr. Valarie King after 20 years serving as Director of UCF's Office of Diversity Initiatives (ODI). This theme was chosen as a symbol of looking forward. ODI and the University are looking towards a future of accomplishments in the area of diversity and inclusion under new leadership. The week begins on Monday, October 21, and runs through Friday, October 25. The annual Kick Off event, The Diversity Breakfast, will be held on Monday, October 21st with **Keynote Speaker, Jennifer Brown**, CEO and Founder of Jennifer Brown Consulting, LLC. In celebration of Diversity Week, on Tuesday October 22<sup>nd</sup> LIFE at 9 am will hear a presentation from **Dr. Valarie King**, former Director of the Office of Diversity Initiatives and **Melvin Rogers**, Assoc. Dean, Personnel & Student Affairs, College of Health & Public Affairs. They will present **The Future: Diversity and Inclusive Excellence at UCF**. In addition **Dr. Richard Tucker** will present "Ageism and the Diversity of Age" on October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-2 pm in the Garden Key 221 of the Student Union.

For more Diversity Week program information go to [http://www.diversity.ucf.edu/diversity\\_week.asp](http://www.diversity.ucf.edu/diversity_week.asp)

The Office of Diversity Initiatives (ODI) was established in 1994 by President John C. Hitt to support the University of Central Florida's (UCF) fourth strategic goal to become more inclusive and diverse. Dr. Valarie King has provided leadership for this office for the past 20 years and retired the end of



Diversity Week Continued....

September. ODI initiatives include faculty development and training, mentoring and support for ethnic minority students, diversity resources and community outreach.

This year (2013),UCF/ODI received the Institutional Excellence Award from the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education (NADOHE). This award "recognizes institutions like the University of Central Florida who have shown demonstrable progress in promoting and sustaining innovative diversity efforts within their campus community."

~By Ian King

## DIVERSITY WEEK PRESENTATION

Diversity Lecture  
By  
Dr. Richard Tucker

"Ageism and the Diversity of  
Age"

October 22  
1:00-2:00



"We may have different religions, different languages, different colored skin, but we all belong to one human race." ~Kofi Annan



## Knights Pantry

LIFE will be holding their semi-annual food drive for Knight's Pantry on **October 22<sup>nd</sup>**. This is the fourth year Life has been involved with the Knight's program. Through our twice a year collection drive we have averaged collecting over 330 pounds of food per session. This effort provides support for students struggling with the cost of their education and living expenses.

### Preferred Food Items:

- Protein items such as canned tuna and chicken
- Peanut butter
- Canned fruits
- Pasta & pasta sauce
- Macaroni & cheese
- Rice
- Hamburger & tuna helper
- Pancake mixes
- Cake and brownie mixes
- Cereal
- Cereal bars
- Canned beans (not green beans)
- Soup
- Dehydrated meal
- Individual applesauce, pudding, and fruit
- Oatmeal
- Pop Tarts

### Personal Items

- Soap or body wash
- Deodorant
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Mouthwash
- Toilet paper
- Razors
- Shaving cream
- Laundry Detergent/Tide pens
- Hand Sanitizer
- Feminine hygiene products



**LIFE@UCF BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2013, 9 AM  
FAIRWINDS CREDIT UNION,  
ALAFAYA TRAIL**

TREASURER'S REPORT (Pat Fluno) LIFE is in a good position cash-wise—**PRESIDENT:** Judy Thames reported having made several appointments. Ian King will assume LIFE representation on the UCF Diversity and Diversity Week Committees. Lucy Pulido will chair the Nominating Committee. Carol Parker will be special events coordinator for two events—the Grants/Awards Banquet and the Member Awards Ceremony.

**EX OFFICIO:** Dr. Dick Tucker suggested that more publicity about Roads Scholars be directed to our membership—there is already a link on our Webpage. Dick reported some LIFE members have had difficulty accessing some UCF library materials. Mike Hampton later clarified this—the student ID card plus the PIN number should make all library material available

**BY/LAWS-POLICIES:** Ray Jones announced the upcoming annual review of our by-laws and policies.

**CHIEF TECHNICAL CHAIR:**

Steve Hall discussed two hearing-assistance technologies being tested for LIFE lectures: the use of smart phones or FM radios tuned to 88.8, and the use of hearing aids that are blue-tooth transmitter friendly. Steve is also checking into the need to purchase new microphones for LIFE lectures.

**(Board Meeting highlights continued)**

**MEMBERSHIP:** Gerri Jamieson asked for an informal campaign to persuade members to use the LIFE website as the most reliable information. She reported 89 paid members have not appeared yet. 160 are on the waiting list—Gerri strongly recommend that we close membership applications until October 1, 2014.—A motion was made and passed to close membership applications.

**GRANTS/AWARDS:** Judy reported for chair Doug Garner. He has set deadlines for the G/A process: distribution of application information will be on Sept. 17th. Oct. 25 will be the absolute deadline for return of applications. On Nov. 7th applicants will be notified of acceptance and invitation to the Grants and Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting. The budgeted awards amount is \$40,000, and the maximum individual grant amount is \$5000.

**ATTENDANCE/GREETERS:** Beverly Bressant reported for Lucy Pulido. 364 members attended the Sept. 2 LIFE lecture in the Cape Florida room (capacity 400).

**MEDICAL TOURS** Clay Craft has planned a tour of the UCF Medical School on October 11th.

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**Grants and Award Banquet-November 26<sup>th</sup>**

This is the time to celebrate those programs and individuals within UCF that support Life programs. We recognize faculty and student grant recipients. **Please come and support this activity. Tickets will be on sale four weeks prior to the event.**

Carole Parker, LIFE Special Events Coordinator will need some help with the details. Please volunteer to help.





## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

LIFE needs participants to volunteer to serve on various committees and program areas. We all need to help to make our organization run smoothly.

**Membership Committee**-(Gerri Jamison chair) Provide help with registration, manning welcome desk, collection of dues, and data collection.

**Audio visual committee**-(Steve Hall chair) Assist Steve with AV needs and assisting presenters with set-up. Currently Steve has no back-up and needs assistance.

**Special Events Committee** (Carol Parker chair)-Need help in signing people up and collecting money for the Awards Banquet, setting up for the events, and welcoming guests.

**Newsletter Committee**-(Vonda Bradbury-Editor) –Help with interviews, writing articles, taking pictures, and identifying events for the newsletter.

**Curriculum Committee**-(Lee Cross-Chair) Identify and contact potential speakers and topics for LIFE

**If interested, fill out the goldenrod sheet at the WELCOME TABLE.**

### SAVE THE DATE!! CARFIT EVENT

LIFE members will have an opportunity to participate in a Carfit event on January 21<sup>st</sup> at Brighthouse Stadium. **CarFit** is an educational **program** sponsored by AAA, AARP, and AOTA that offers older adults the opportunity to check how well their personal vehicles fit them.

