The Dale Mabry Campus has yet another wonderful addition: The New and Improved Adjunct Faculty Offices. One office is located on the third floor of the Humanities Building in room 315, and the other office is located on the second floor of the Social Sciences Building in room 245. Dean Bendickson facilitated this wonderful project resulting in spacious and comfortable accommodations for adjuncts at the Dale Mabry Campus.

I was pleasantly surprised as I toured the offices. The new offices provide an inviting environment where faculty and students can interact without the constraints of a small office space. The new adjunct offices have laptop stations and plenty of room for faculty and students to intermingle. The offices come equipped with a printer, a telephone, and a coffee maker. Located outside of the offices, there are bulletin boards where adjunct faculty members can post their office hours and notes to their students.

If you have not had an opportunity to visit the new offices, I recommend that you do. They are truly welcoming places.
Hawks Landing, HCC’s on-campus apartment-style housing on the Dale Mabry campus, is experiencing a great deal of change in 2010. Whether upgrading security protocols, working through leadership transition, or establishing events and activities that meet the needs of the residents, Hawks Landing is working to make a significant impact on campus.

Along with the upgrades to the Hawk Card ID system in February, Hawks Landing will be upgrading the on-site security systems. The vehicle entrance and exit gates will be replaced with more sturdy, sliding gates that can only be activated by Hawks Landing resident IDs. There will also be one designated entrance and exit for vehicles, offering a consistent traffic flow throughout the complex. The current pedestrian gates will become egress only, while the Town Hall will become the main entrance for all residents and guests. This new pattern serves several purposes including the opportunity for the desk staff to get to know members of the community better, restricting non-resident guests from free access the community as well as knowing who is on property at all times. As with any new system, there are bound to be unexpected hitches but the staff is optimistic that these new systems and protocols will ultimately help in making Hawks Landing safe and secure for its community of residents.

Hawks Landing also has some new leadership. Steven Crudup, the new Assistant to the Dean, transitioned into the position in January. Prior to joining the staff at HCC, Steve worked in Student Affairs and Housing positions at Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Binghamton University, Clemson University, and most recently Florida State University. He holds his Bachelors in Social Work, Masters in Higher Education Administration, and has completed several semesters of Doctoral work at Florida State University. Steve also obtained his certification in Law Enforcement from Tallahassee Community College’s Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy in 2009, and he is active in several national and regional Student Affairs organizations. All in all, Steve looks forward to bringing his experience to Hawks Landing and helping the complex grow and prosper into a model for other similar institutions that may be looking toward on-campus housing.

With new leadership often comes new ideas. This is no exception in the case of Hawks Landing. One directive the new Assistant to the Dean has put in place is increasing the feeling of community among the residents – making the complex feel like home rather than simply a place to sleep. It is thought that if people have a sincere interest in one another as well as the community where they live, that positive behavior and respect for one another will prosper. To this end, the focus will shift to community-based programming that starts from the building level and grows to the larger community level. With Resident Assistant staff making more concentrated efforts to get their residents to know one another as well as facilitating “buddy building” events for them to meet the people who live nearby, the long-term hope is that staff will see increased participation in large-scale events and connections being made across the community. With many more layers to be added, such as participating in local community service, connecting Hawks Landing to the larger HCC community, implementing Community Standards based on the HCC Student Code of Conduct, and encouraging Roommate Contracts whenever a new roommate moves into an apartment, the staff is excited to see where new initiatives will lead in increasing the feeling of camaraderie and mutual respect within the community.

For general information about Hawks Landing, please visit http://www.hccstudenthousing.com or call 813-875-6000. For specific comments or questions about this article, please contact Steve Crudup at scrudup@hccfl.edu or 813-348-0326.
The Dale Mabry Art Gallery is displaying America’s foremost African-American artist Ernie Barnes. The exhibit started January 19 and runs through February 26, 2010. The opening program and reception was held on January 19 in conjunction with the Black Heritage Festival. Guest speakers for the opening program were: Dr. Bob Chunn, DM Campus President; Eric Deggans, St. Pete Times TV/Media Critic; Reggie Williams, former professional football player; and Luz Rodriguez, Exhibit Curator.

The exhibit features a wide range of Mr. Barnes’ work, exposing his many interest and talents. Human movement was an important part of Mr. Barnes’ work and can especially be seen in his sports paintings. His particular artistic style has earned him many honors, and one of the most prominent was being named “America’s Best Painter of Sports” by the American Sports Art Museum. Paul Von Blum states that “Mr. Barnes’ specific portrayals of African-American themes have made him one of the most renowned and visible African-American artists of the 20th century.” In 1984, Barnes was appointed official sports artist for the XXIII Olympiad in Los Angeles. His autobiography From Pads to Palette describes how he transitioned from athlete to artist, an excellent read for anyone who wants to expand artistic abilities and wishes to learn about self-expression.

GET INTO FITNESS TODAY (GIFT) by Stephen Gagnon

Steve Gagnon, hospitality management instructor and dietetic technician program manager, and Ms. Barbara Roberts, registered dietician from the Hillsborough County Health Department, began the GIFT (Get Into Fitness Today) program on Monday, January 25, 2010. The GIFT program was featured in the summer edition of the Inside HCC publication as a six-week long group-supported weight loss/health program with access to a registered dietician for professional nutritional counseling. We begin each session with a weigh-in and follow with discussion of the week’s lesson, sharing successes and recipes, and adding a new exercise to enhance your current routine. We began with 20 enrollees, so contact Anne White, Assistant to the Dean of Associate in Science Programs, at awhite10@hccfl.edu or stop by DTEC 433 if you are interested in learning when our next program will be.
Xstatik Student Dance Club at Dale Mabry is stepping into high gear to prepare for two upcoming events on campus. Xstatik dancers will be performing at the Black Heritage celebration on February 23 and at the International Festival on April 8.

Formed in Spring 2008, Xstatic started with eight members and today, two years later, club membership has more than doubled in size. Xstatik club president Janelle Richardson said she chose the name because “the actual word ecstatic means lively, and that’s the kind of dance team it should be.” True to its name, club members practice and perform dance styles ranging from modern to jazz to hip-hop to African dance to contemporary.

In the past, the club performed as part of NAMI Service Learning and for Spring Fling in Spring 2009. Last fall, the group performed during Mental Health Awareness Week and during Rush. The club has also performed at Hawks and Lady Hawks basketball games last November.

During the semester, the club meets for practice on Mondays from 3:30 – 5:00 pm. A typical practice begins with a brief meeting and announcements followed by warm-ups, practice, and rehearsal. The first meeting and set of auditions for Spring 2010 will be February 22, 23, and 24, 2010 from 3:30 – 5:00 pm in DSTU 108 and 110.

For more information on Xstatik membership and/or auditions, please contact Janelle Richardson at jrichardson20@hawkmail.hccfl.edu or Janeatha Robles at jrobles11@hawkmail.hccfl.edu. Advisors for Xstatik are Susan Pierce (Ext. 7525) and Barbara Smith-Palinkas (Ext. 7439).
THE WRITING COMMONS
by Jeffrey Ottmann

With the number of students at Hillsborough Community College on the rise every semester, the demand for resources to assist students learning outside of class is increasing as well. During the Fall 2009 semester, the Dale Mabry campus Writing Commons recorded over 40,000 student visits and more than 3,200 of these were for writing assistance. At times every conference table would be in use, and there would be a line of seven or eight students waiting for writing assistance. So far, the trend is continuing this spring.

The Writing Commons wishes to help students in all disciplines become more effective, more confident writers. We have always encouraged students to visit us before they find themselves struggling in their classes. Professors are even requiring students to visit us after issuing the first writing assignment for the semester. Even though the stigma is changing, most people tend to think of us as the emergency room in a hospital. Instead, students should consider us as their primary care physician, the person they go to see for regular checkups to make sure that they are maintaining their health. Preventive medicine means doing what they should do to prevent themselves from becoming sick or finding problems before it's too late. We offer preventive medicine for all of their writing needs.

VALENTINE’S DAY DINNER: FOOD + LOVE + WINE
by Michelle Padilla

The Valentine’s Day Dinner was presented by the Culinary, Dietetics, Hospitality & Tourism, and Restaurant Management faculty and students on February 11, 2010. The menu included chicken consommé with julienned vegetables, a baby green salad with French baguette, followed by a palette-cleansing lemon sorbet intermezzo. The sorbet was courtesy of Gulf Pacific, Inc. of Odessa, Florida. The main course of the evening was cracked-pecan apple-smoked pork loin topped with grilled shrimp drizzled with lemon sauce and fresh asparagus. And to top off a spectacular entrée, dessert included white chocolate bread pudding with warm dark chocolate sauce laced with frangelica and chocolate-dipped strawberries. The strawberries were compliments of Borchard Farms, Plant City. Guests were offered Sycamore Lane Merlot, Sycamore Lane Cabernet Sauvignon or Sycamore Lane Chardonnay to enhance the flavors of a well-planned menu. The evening was a tremendous success and a wonderful kickoff to the Valentine’s Day holiday. THANK YOU to all faculty, staff and students who worked so very hard to create a lovely atmosphere. Special thanks to all of our guests – we appreciate your support. We will see you at the next Gourmet Room event coming soon. The Gourmet Room at the Dale Mabry campus is open for lunch during the week. Please contact Sandie Mallett for reservations at 813-253-7317. Bon Appétit!
Have a story ...
Please submit articles (MSWord attachment, please) and photos to Joanne Nelson at jnelson45@hccfl.edu or Alex Tavares at atavares@hccfl.edu by the end of the month.

“A Bird's Eye View” is written by the faculty & staff of HCC’s Dale Mabry Campus
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