Welcome Home!

Students make UCA their home once again; staff primed and ready

Over the past month, over 3,600 students have moved to campus, either returning or moving here for the first time.

A significant chunk of these students moved in over Move-In Weekend, which occurred on August 16th & 17th. This included both new freshman students, as well as returning upperclassmen who chose to return early. Freshmen moved in to participate in Welcome Week activities leading up to the first day of class.

Student Orientation Staff, UCAPD, Housing & Residence Life, as well as university and community volunteers worked together to make the move-in process operate smoothly.

Many who had worked with Move-In in the past talked about how smoothly everything seemed to go this year. Last year, a new system was introduced that broke Move-In up into different shifts, based on what building students were moving into. This year showed that the new system definitely works and is continually improving.

Students moving into UCA’s 14 residence hall and apartment complexes were eagerly welcomed by HRL’s Student Staff, who were fresh off two weeks of training to prepare for the year. Student Staff received training on topics such as emergency and crisis response, diversity and harassment awareness, UCA campus resources, Title IX and FERPA compliance, programming and leadership training, as well as a multitude of teambuilding and communication exercises to help build a cohesive staff team.

Housing & Residence Life would like to thank the many campus partners who presented and helped make #UCATraining2k14 a success!
A Week of Welcome

HRL sponsors Welcome Week activities, including Wet-n-Wild and #DoSomething Carnival Night

Welcome Week 2014 saw the continuation of two UCA traditions, as well as a new addition to the festivities.

Billed as “The most popular campus attraction in history!”, PLAYFAIR, sponsored by RHA, took place the evening of Freshman Move-in. PLAYFAIR takes all the typical orientation icebreakers, and combines them into one jam-packed 90 minute production. Taking place in the Farris Center, PLAYFAIR guarantees that you’ll leave knowing 300 more people than when you came in.

Moving into the week, HRL partnered with UCAPD and Division of Student services to bring a new addition to Welcome Week this year. The #DoSomething Carnival is intended to provide students with information regarding sexual assault awareness and the campus resources available. Last year, the Carnival was held during Campus Safety Week in September, but was moved to increase participation and help build off the energy of Welcome Week.

The event featured carnival-style games that each held an educational component, such as bystander awareness or how to identify sexual violence. Students who completed 4 or more of the games received a free t-shirt. There were also prizes such as candy, stuffed animals, and Arkansas Pineapple Whip.

Residence Hall Association (RHA) and the Social Justice League (SJL) once again partnered to host Wet n’ Wild, which is quickly becoming a tradition and is now in it’s third year.

The event, which serves as the Closing Ceremony to Welcome Week, featured inflatable water slides, yard games, music, food, prizes, and DJ and more to give students one last chance to relax before classes started the next day.

Above: Students line up to check-in during Carnival Night. Students who completed 4 of the activities designed to educate on topics such as sexual violence and bystander awareness received a free t-shirt.
Right: Students work to identify potentially unhealthy relationships as depicted in movies and on TV.

The UCA Class of 2018 spent Move-In Night getting to know their classmates during PLAYFAIR, held in the Farris Center.

Above: Students line up to check-in during Carnival Night. Students who completed 4 of the activities designed to educate on topics such as sexual violence and bystander awareness received a free t-shirt.
Right: Students work to identify potentially unhealthy relationships as depicted in movies and on TV.

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