

Student Center Spotlight

UIC Student Centers Newsletter

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Welcome



Rob Rouzer

Director
UIC Student Centers

Greetings! We're now well into the fall semester, even if you can't tell by the weather! I want to thank all of our Student Center employees for all the hard work that seems to come at the start of the academic year.

Foot traffic through the Student Centers and the Sport and Fitness Center has been very high, Campus Programs has had terrific participation at their events, and turnout for Campus Recreation group fitness and intramural programs has been high as well. Our campus extended a welcome to around 100 students displaced from campuses in the Gulf by hurricane damage and some of those students have become participants in our programs and activities.

If you have any questions about the concepts raised in the article below or about any aspects of our operations, feel free to contact me at rmrouzer@uic.edu.

Thanks again for all that you do to make the Student Centers successful!

Sincerely,
Rob Rouzer

Feature Article

"Good to Great"

It is generally agreed that we have a **good** organization, but we at Student Centers want to be a **great** organization. To get to that level, we have decided to implement and incorporate the concepts below (taken from **Jim Collin's** book "Good to Great") as a way of improving upon what we are already good at doing.

1. **LEADERSHIP** – putting and keeping staff in leadership positions who will have the **determination** and **focus** to do what is right for our organization to be **successful**;
2. **FIRST WHO.....THEN WHAT** – we will get the **right people in the right places** in our organization and the **wrong people out**; only then will we be

able to take our organization in the direction of greatness;

3. **CONFRONT THE BRUTAL FACTS (BUT NEVER LOSE FAITH)** – we will **confront and deal** with our current realities, no matter how unpleasant, and **maintain our desire and focus** as an organization;
4. **THE HEDGEHOG CONCEPT** – we have to strive to be **more than just good** at what we do to become great at what we do
5. **A CULTURE OF DISCIPLINE** – a great organization has **disciplined** (focused)

people whom have **disciplined** (focused) **thoughts** and in turn produce **disciplined** (focused) **actions**; we are going to strive to have all three to establish our *culture of discipline*;

6. **TECHNOLOGY** - we will determine what **technology** to use that allows us **to be the best** at what we do.



Booker T. Suggs

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Happenings @ Student Centers

Orientation/New Academic Year Kick-Off

(by Joseph Phillips)



On Friday, August 19, 2005, the Student Centers student employees participated in our annual Orientation/Kick-off in the newly renovated room 302 in the Student Center East Tower. It was a wonderful success. This year's theme was "Fall Fiesta: Enjoy Your Work While You Do It!"

During the morning portion of the program, while snacking on a continental breakfast we had a welcome from Robert Rouzer and the directors of the Student Centers departments along with brief introductions of all the staff.

This year we were very pleased to welcome Mr. Wallace

SEDT

The *Student Employment and Development Team (SEDT)* is a group of full-time staff and student employee representatives who plan and conduct the components of the student staff program primarily consisting of the Orientation/New Academic Year Kick-Off, Student Development Sessions throughout the semester and a year-end Recognition/Awards Banquet. Currently our staff representatives are Natalie Dachniwskyj, Mike King, Melissa Csoke and Joseph Phillips.

SEDT wants you! Join the SEDT Committee! To become a part of the team and add your input to student-staff development, see a SEDT member or talk to your supervisor.

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Good, the Associate Dean of Students for the University of Chicago, as our keynote speaker. Mr. Good shared a breathtaking perspective on college life with a hint of what to expect beyond the classroom.

Following our morning portion, students from each department were able to assemble together in breakout sessions where they participated in a variety of activities for information and training. After some hearty training sessions during our "breakouts" our famished students were able to feast on a **Mexican banquet** for lunch. **What's a fiesta without a piñata?** Well, throughout lunch we had a Student Centers van piñata laden with candy and small gifts driven about (actually carried) for all to enjoy, and there were also a number of raffle prizes given away as we dined.

With the music, the food, and the roaming Student Centers van piñata, the atmosphere was fun and interesting, and the **orientation was a promising sign of the productive year** that we anticipate ahead of us.

Student Centers Building Operations Annual Kick-Off (by Booker T. Suggs)

On September 14, 2005, Student Centers Building Operations held its **third Annual Staff Kick-Off**. Two sessions were held, one at 7:30 am in Student Center East and the other at 3:30 pm in Student Center West.

The Kick-Off is used as an "official" start to begin the school year. Management shared with the staff the successes we were able to accomplish last year, the goals we will attempt to reach for the upcoming year, new staff development programs, employee handbooks and our operating theme for this year which is "Attitude is Everything".

Also discussed at the Kick-Off was a **new initiative of concepts** we will incorporate into the nuts and bolts of what we do while managing the Student Center East, Student Center West and Student Services Building.