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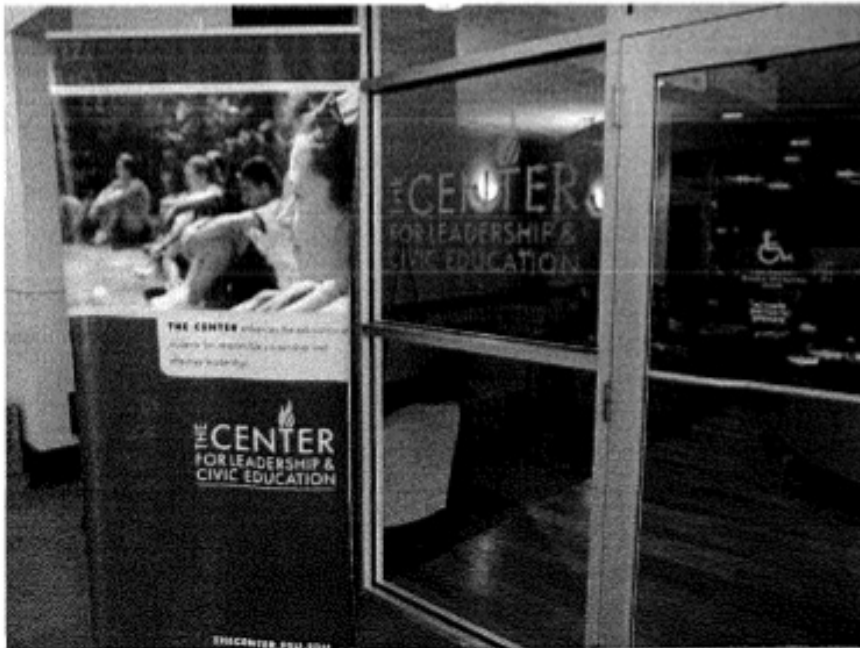
Expanding campus, community involvement

FSU provides many outlets for student involvement on and off campus

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FSView file photo Florida State University's Career Center and the Center for Leadership and Civic Education provide students with invaluable opportunities to make the most of their college years. / FSView file photo

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Written by LINDSAY MARSHALL Staff Writer

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Whether you are a freshman looking to find your way on FSU's gigantic campus, or a senior wanting to boost your resume before graduation, all students can benefit from knowing how to get involved. FSU hosts an array of community service and career fairs, bridging organizations and honor societies to the student body.

For anything career and major related, The Career Center is a source of guidance. Upcoming events include the Part-time Job Fair on August 30, a Spear Your Career Workshop on September 11 and 12, and a spring internship workshop on September 13. The Career Center is a solid connection to finding a job, choosing a major and eventually a career.

....."We try to cross a broad spectrum from freshmen just arriving on campus to seniors preparing for a job," Assistant Director of Employment and Post-graduate Education at the Career Center Christen Perry said.

Just across the hall, The Center for Leadership and Civic Education is a refuge for students looking for community service opportunities. The center hosts a variety of events, programs and organizations ranging from Habitat for Humanity, a service group that builds homes for families in need, and Light the Night, a two-mile walk to fundraise for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The center is home to the Leadership Logic Program, an overnight leadership development program that takes place at The Rez and Alternative Breaks, for students interested in service trips across the country and abroad.

"We help them find out how they can get involved," primary advisor at the Center for Leadership and Civic Education Heather Stitely said. "I interview them and find out what they are passionate about and their experience, which helps me match them with the best possible opportunity."

Stitely says there are many benefits from participating in community service. It can help with career exploration and work experience, and educates students about issues the local community is facing.

"Many students find their way through involvement," said Stitely. "They find something they're passionate about, and they change majors."

The service projects cover a broad range and are on a variety of commitment levels. Some last a full semester, while others only a day. Some projects have to be applied for, and others are based solely on weekly sign-ups.

"The first thing a lot of freshmen do is the community outreach program," said Stitely. "It helps the volunteers find meaning in what they are doing. All transportation is provided, so you don't need a vehicle to be involved."

In addition to volunteer opportunities on campus and around the Tallahassee area, FSU offers diverse clubs and honor societies tailored specifically to different majors and interests. A few include the Debate Team, Model United Nations, the V89 campus radio station, and the legendary, the Flying High Circus. And for those interested in politics, there are the College Democrats, College Republicans, and College Libertarians. Information about where to find most student-run clubs and events around campus can be found chalked on the sidewalks throughout the year.

One unique club is the Lady Spirithunters. The Spirithunters are known for wearing garnet and gold vests at sporting events and painting fans' faces. These ladies also work closely with the athletic department and make buddy bags for the athletes at every game.

"Lady Spirithunters is a really great opportunity to get involved around campus, whether you're interested in sports, community service, or social events," said junior Jen Ferguson. "There's always something going on, and it's also a good way to meet new people."

Whether looking to find your perfect major or career, a way to help in the community, or just a fun way to meet new people, there is something for ev

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