



# Newsletter

Issue 35 • April 2007 • Page 1 of 6

## ***University Center Sets New Enrollment Records***

*More students than ever improving their lives*

*Sioux Falls* – For the first time in history, headcount enrollment at the University Center has exceeded 2,000 students. Spring 2007 shows 2,068 headcount and 1,085 FTE. FTE is calculated by dividing credit hours by undergraduate and graduate factors to determine a full-time equivalent enrollment. For spring 2007, this represents an 11% increase in headcount

and 16% in FTE over the prior spring.

Enrollment increases were influenced by strong demand in the nursing programs and also by strong demand from the core enrollments for UC. Core enrollments are those students who live in and around Sioux Falls and attend only or mainly at UC.

While student growth is not the only important measure, it does validate that UC is meeting the needs of local citizens and employers and helps support the expansion of services and classes. It also demonstrates to the community that UC is a significant provider of the highly educated careerforce this community needs to continue its explosive growth.

## ***Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Update***

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) has the following roll out events scheduled:

- April 27, 1:00-4:00 PM, Open House
- June 8-29, Fridays only, Special Term classes and activities

We are in the process of lining up instructors and establishing courses for the June term, and anticipate that we will have a variety of offerings. In the next few weeks postcard invitations will be sent out. We have a Publicity

Committee that is working on a plan to get the word out about OLLI to individuals and organizations in Sioux Falls and the surrounding communities.

Earlier this month, OLLI received a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council in support of the cost of the program “Sage on the Stage.” The first Sage on the Stage speaker will be Clay Jenkinson, a well known Humanities scholar, author, and cultural commentator. Mr. Jenkinson will present as Teddy Roosevelt on June 22 at the Southeast Technical Institute audi-

torium. More details on this and the courses and activities for the June term will be forthcoming at the OLLI Open House in April.

The membership fee for OLLI has been set at \$130 per year, and this fee gives members access to all courses, activities and special events. The fee does not include books, and some courses may include additional fees for materials. OLLI also welcomes non-members to attend courses, and tuition for non-members will vary depending on the length of the class.

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## ***Most lucrative degrees for 2007 grads***

**Marketing, business administration and engineering students see the biggest increases in average starting offers.**

**By Jeanne Sahadi, CNNMoney.com senior writer**

NEW YORK (CNNMoney.com) -- With less than four months to go before saying sayonara to the quad for good, the class of 2007 is finding it easier than recent classes to get their foot in the work world.

Employers have said they expect to hire 17.4 percent more college grads than they did last year, and in many instances they plan to pay them more, too, according to a survey released this week by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).

The students faring the best are marketing and business administration majors.

The average starting offer for seniors majoring in marketing is up 14 percent from last year to \$41,323.

Those majoring in business administration are seeing a 9.2 percent jump to \$43,523 in average starting salaries.

Others who are seeing pay increases, albeit some far more modest than others, are seniors majoring in:

Mechanical engineering: Up 7.7 percent to \$54,587

Chemical engineering: Up 7.4 percent to \$60,054

Management information systems: Up 5.5 percent to \$46,568

Civil engineering: Up 4.8 percent to \$47,145

Electrical engineering: Up 3.2 percent to \$54,599

Computer science: Up 2 percent to \$51,070

Accounting: Up 1.7 percent to \$46,508

There are no prior year comparisons for two majors because in prior NACE surveys they were grouped together as one.

However, based on prior years' average starting offers in the category (in 2006 it was \$45,191), NACE characterized these average starting salaries as "respectable."

Finance: \$47,905

Economics: \$51,631

There have been slight decreases in the average starting salary offers for just a few majors, but NACE notes that given that it's still early in the hiring season and the job market is strong for college grads, salary offers may improve in the next few months:

Logistics/Materials management: Down 1.8 percent to \$43,294

Liberal arts (including psychology, political science history, English): Down 1.1 percent to \$30,502.

February 8, 2007



### ***Preparing for Your Advising Appointment***

One way to ensure a successful academic career at UC is to utilize an academic advisor. Advisors are here to help explain degree requirements, answer questions, and discuss different academic options with you. Taking responsibility for your education and meeting the requirements of your degree program will help you progress seamlessly through your educational experience. Therefore, it's important for you to prepare for your advising appointment in order to make the right choices. Some preparation tips to consider:

- Find your registration date on Web Advisor so you know when you can begin registering for your classes.
- Be proactive and meet with an advisor before the registration period begins. The closer it is to registration the more challenging it is to get your first choice of appointment times.
- Make your appointment early and if you need to cancel please do so as early as possible so someone else can have your time slot.
- Make a list of questions to ask during the appointment and bring them with you.
- Take a look at the class schedule ahead of time and prepare a tentative schedule using the class schedule planner located at the back of the fall registration booklet. Keep in mind your work schedule and other outside commitments.

## ***Frequently Asked Financial Aid Questions***

### **What do I do if I missed the FAFSA priority date?**

It is never too late to apply for aid. Applications submitted before the priority date would be given first priority consideration for Federal Supplemental Grants, Federal Work Study, and Federal Perkins Loans.

### **Is there a separate application if I take summer classes?**

Each of the universities has a summer application that can be found on their website or you may pick one up at the front reception desk.

### **What does it mean if I am chosen for verification?**

Approximately thirty percent of financial aid recipients are chosen for verification. If chosen, you will be required to send in

additional documents, such as signed copies of your tax returns, W-2 forms. You will also be required to complete a verification form that will be provided to you by the Financial Aid office.

### **What do I do if I don't understand my award letter?**

Please stop by the University Center and talk to Vikki in the Financial Aid office or call her at 782-3233. You may also call your home university Financial Aid office.

### **Do I have to apply for Financial Aid every year?**

Yes. Your financial situation must be reassessed each year. However, after you apply for Financial Aid once, you may complete the renewal FAFSA on the web.

### **My parents are separated or divorced. Which parent fills out the FAFSA?**

The parent that you lived with the most during the last 12 months should provide the parental information. If you didn't live with either one of your parents, use the parent that most supported you in the last twelve months.

### **My parents are divorced, and the parent I'm living with has remarried. Does the step-parent have to report his/her income and assets on the FAFSA?**

Yes, if your step-parent is married to your parent at the time you filled out the FAFSA, you must report their income and assets even if they weren't married to them in the previous year.

## ***5 Most Common Errors on the FAFSA***

1. Do not leave a field blank. If the answer is zero or the question doesn't apply to you, write in a zero.
2. Use the 1040 federal tax return for reporting income and taxes paid, not the W-2 form.
3. Don't forget to report ALL the required sources of untaxed income.
4. Include yourself in the household size, even if you didn't live there the previous year.
5. Sign the application. If you're filing as a dependent, make sure your parents sign too. You can sign the application by using your PIN number.

### ***Information Night***

**\*\*\*\*\* April 9 \*\*\*\*\***

Do you know of someone who would benefit from an education at University Center? Tell them about our Information Night on Monday, April 9th from 5:15-7:30 pm. It's a chance to visit with faculty and staff from the main campuses and learn about all the new programs that are coming to Sioux Falls.



### ***Summer Registration***



Beginning April 2nd, current students may begin registering for summer classes according to their priority registration date which is located on Web Advisor. This summer University Center is offering a 12 week session beginning May 21st and concluding August 10th; plus two six week sessions (May 21st-June 29th and July 2nd-August 10th) with a variety of classes to meet students needs. For the most current, up-to-date schedule of classes and their availability, please log onto [www.SDUniversityCenter.org](http://www.SDUniversityCenter.org) and click on the Web Advisor link. From there, select a link to one of the universities, click on Web Advisor for Students and then click on Search for Sections. Current students may register for their classes on Web Advisor while new students may complete a registration form in the University Center main office.

While you're at it, don't forget to check out our Fall 2007 Schedule!

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## ***Help! I didn't get a tuition statement in the mail!***

Many students have contacted the University Center Business Office this term curious as to why they have not yet received their tuition statement in the mail. This is because as of the Spring 2006 term, the South Dakota Public Universities are no longer mailing paper statements. As of that term, student tuition information was made available through the South Dakota Public University System's SDePay e-Commerce process.

The SDePay e-Commerce Process is simple and convenient:

- Students can view and pay their student charges on-line. No paper tuition statements will be mailed from the University Center Business Office.
- Students can authorize parents, guardians, etc. to view and pay student charges on-line.

- Students and Authorized Payers can pay on-line 7 days a week with e-Check, which is a free service!
- Students and Authorized Payers can pay on-line 7 days a week with a credit or debit card (American Express, Discover, or MasterCard only) A service fee of 2.75% will be charged by infiNET for this service.

***Please note that credit or debit card payments can no longer be processed at the University Center Business Office.***

- Students may still pay their tuition with cash or check at the University Center Business Office. Tuition payments in the form of checks may be mailed to the University Center Business Office.

### **Follow these steps to access SDePay**

1. Go to [www.SDUniversityCenter.org](http://www.SDUniversityCenter.org).
2. Click on your home university tab at the top of the page
3. Click on WebAdvisor
4. Click on WebAdvisor for students
5. Click on SDePay
6. Enter your WebAdvisor ID and Password

The QuickPAY message board will be displayed and from here students and authorized payers can access billing statements, view current activity and make payments.

***Please Note***  
***Parking Permits***  
***Are Not Required***  
***for the***  
***Summer 2007***  
***Semester***

### ***Career Connections***

Watch for our Career Fair! Representatives from seven local companies will be here on Wednesday, April 25th from 2:30-5:00 pm in the Commons Area.

Representatives from Daktronics, CSD Relay, Wells Fargo Educational Finance, Wells Fargo Financial Services, Premier Bank Card, HSBC and CitiBank want to talk to you about potential careers with their company. Come prepared with your resume and professional dress and visit with the reps about your future.

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## ***TEST TAKING TIPS (say that three times!!)***

It's that time of the year again.....MIDTERMS! Now don't freak out. It's going to be ok. I've got some test tips that will help you sail through this semester's tests.

**#1 Breathe...IN and OUT**—You can't possible pass a test without adequate oxygen.

**#2 Prepare**—The 3 R's of Preparation: **READ, REVIEW, RE-WRITE**

✓**READ**—the chapters in your book

✓**REVIEW**—your lecture notes, quizzes, homework, case studies, etc.

✓**RE-WRITE**—your lecture notes

\*\*the key is, the more involved you are

in repetition, the more likely you will retain the material.

**#3 Don't Stress Yourself Out**— Poor grades can be linked to your stress level, not to your actual knowledge level, so keep those positive thoughts coming... "I think I can. I think I can."

**Good luck!!!!**

## ***Staff Spotlight—Nancy Rumney***

Please join us in welcoming Nancy Rumney who recently joined University Center. Nancy's bio follows:

My name is Nancy Rumney, and I am a Secretary with the Student Services team. I am delighted to have joined such a wonderful team and look forward to growing and advancing with the University Center. I believe strongly in lifetime learning and pursued my own degree as a nontraditional student; therefore, I feel very connected with the opportunity the University Center offers in the Sioux Falls area. In fact, I have my eye on the Graphic Design major and the M.A. in Adult and Higher Education.

I finally finished a B.S. degree, in FCS w/a Textiles & Merchandising option at the University of Wyoming in August. I worked briefly in retail, but decided to

return to Education. I moved to Sioux Falls on December 27<sup>th</sup>, with the few articles that fit into my car, found an apartment, and on December 28<sup>th</sup> I began work ... I was a bit frantic .... thank you to everyone who welcomed me!!!!

I have had a varied career and have lived many different places as both an enlisted member of the US Air Force and as a spouse. There was the stint as a military site manager for the University of Alaska, Anchorage; then as a stay at home mom in Fort Walton Beach, Florida; and finally as the Director of the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce; with various jobs in between. My time with the chamber strengthened my interest in economic development, and that is in part what drew me to the Sioux Falls area, as I like

the vision and direction this community seems to have toward future growth.

My home town is Newcastle, Wyoming where my parents have a ranch and accounting/tax business in the beautiful Black Hills. I have a beautiful, wonderful daughter, Katie, whom I am very proud of. She has been married for two years and is attending Black Hills State in Spearfish and just informed me that I will soon be a grandmother!

I find great pleasure in my all consuming hobby of fibers arts and costume design. I have worked in both costume and stage design so it is with considerable anticipation that I look forward to meeting local artists and becoming involved in the artsy community.

## ***Robert & Dr. Judy Nissen Scholarship***

### **Applicants Must:**

- Be 24 years of age or older
- Be pursuing a graduate or undergraduate degree at The University Center and enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours per term
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA
- Demonstrate financial need

### **To Apply, Submit in One Package:**

- A letter certifying you are 24 years of age or older, outlining your career

goals, and describing your financial need, including that caused by family circumstances that rendered you substantially without meaningful financial support for educational expenses

- A description of interests and activities
- An official college transcript

In making awards, the selection panel will give preference to women; however, men who fit the eligibility criteria are welcome to apply. Selections are based

heavily upon career goals and financial need

**Entries must be postmarked by April 15, 2007**

**Award: \$500**

### **Send completed applications to:**

University Center  
Financial Aid Office  
2205 Career Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57107

## ***A Note From The Tutors!***

Students, if you think you may benefit from tutoring, stop in the Resource Center, Room 280E, and sign up for help. Walk in appointments are sometimes available but appointment time slots fill up quickly. Research tells us that students who receive immediate assistance perform better than those students who wait until later in the semester.

We have tutors available for Math, English and Chemistry, as well as basic computer skills. Tutoring is scheduled for regular weekly one hour time slots.

Check out our tutoring website at [www.SDUniversityCenter.org](http://www.SDUniversityCenter.org) (click on current students, Student Services, and then Tutoring).

Faculty, if you know of a student who may benefit from tutoring, please refer them to the Resource Center!

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### ***APRIL***

**April 2-27**—Pre-registration for current students by priority date

**April 6-9**—Easter Recess – Begins on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM – **NO CLASSES**

**April 9**—University Center Open House (Rooms 178/179)

**April 10**—Easter Recess Ends, Classes Resume at 8:00 AM

**April 10**—Last day to withdraw from a full semester course, all classes or University and receive a grade of “W” – **NO REFUND**

### ***MAY***

**May 7-11**—Final Exams Week

**May 21-August 10**—Full Summer Session (12 weeks, standard courses)

**May 21-June 29**—Summer Session (First 6 weeks, standard courses)

**May 28**—Memorial Day Holiday—**NO CLASSES/OFFICES CLOSED**

### ***JULY***

**July 2-August 10**—Summer Session 2 (Second 6 weeks, standard courses)

**July 4**—Independence Day Holiday—**NO CLASSES/OFFICES CLOSED**

### ***AUGUST***

**August 10**—Summer semester ends



### **BATTER UP!**

STAY TUNED TO  
OUR WEBSITE  
FOR MORE  
INFORMATION ON  
UNIVERSITY CENTER  
NIGHT AT  
THE CANARIES,  
JULY 20, 2007

The University of South Dakota  
2205 Career Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD 57107-1304

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