

The Independent Colleges & Universities of Florida 2008-2009 Presidential Fellows Program

Students who actively engage with the state government are good for the state, their communities and independent higher-education. The *Presidential Fellows* program will train and engage **28 campus leaders** during the academic year to boost ICUF's impact in Tallahassee. It can also provide those students with a unique and potentially life-changing experience.

College students are increasingly influential in Tallahassee. College students energized the debate about changes to the Bright Futures and Prepaid Tuition Programs. Funding increases in public university tuition and the Florida Resident Access Grant (FRAG) are affected by college students' efforts. The Department of Education is enticing college students to help solve teacher and nurse shortages.

Six years ago, student leaders from Flagler College, Stetson University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and other institutions worked together to get students active in Tallahassee. Four years ago, the *Presidential Fellows* Program built on this trend. The original twelve ICUF Presidential Fellows were trained and followed the Legislative Session. They organized campus efforts to support the FRAG through letter writing campaigns and became a part of the ICUF team as we worked to secure an additional \$14.1 million for ICUF students that year. The 2005-2006 Presidential Fellows further built on that successful pilot. Their campaigns energized students, parents and alumni to be actively involved citizens in their government's decisions. Their efforts resulted in a large increase in funding for the FRAG, raising the amount to \$3000 per recipient. The 2006-2007 group worked with a legislature that included many new members and a new Governor. The 2007-2008 group is currently working to prevent drastic cuts to the FRAG. The ICUF Presidential Fellows program has become an essential part of the ICUF lobbying strategy in Tallahassee. It enables us to build our own grassroots to "make more noise" in this process.

The goal of the *Presidential Fellows* program is to organize and lead campus campaigns in support of independent higher education. ICUF will host a fall orientation at one of the ICUF campuses for the Fellows in order to introduce them to the fundamentals of the program and Tallahassee decision-making. A second session in Tallahassee will bring the Fellows to the Capitol to advocate ICUF issues to the Legislature. Each of the fellows will work with his or her president's office or mentor and student government on campus to promote involvement in ICUF's agenda. The Fellows will serve as agents on campus to highlight state government issues and decisions that affect students. Their main charge will be to organize and run letter writing campaigns and produce editorials. ICUF will provide resources, materials, and training to support each Fellow.

This year we are asking that each school provide the Fellow with an on campus mentor that will be available to assist them as they work on grassroots projects for the program. The mentor needs to be willing to work with the student and ICUF to ensure that the student is receiving the appropriate information and guidance needed to be successful. If you nominate two to three students, one campus mentor can be assigned to assist the group.

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2008-2009 Presidential Fellows Program

Program Requirements

- Full-time sophomore, junior, or senior student at an ICUF institution who will be on campus for the entire 2008-2009 academic year.
- Florida resident, receiving the FRAG.
- Each institution may nominate up to three candidates for consideration. The application should be submitted through the president's or mentor's office.
- A designated and willing mentor.
- A letter of recommendation from either the president or other approved school official.
- A letter from the candidate that answers each of the following questions:
 - What state government decision would most benefit your institution and why?
 - What is your most significant personal achievement to date and why?
 - Why do you want to be a Presidential Fellow?
 - What would you like to be doing 10 years from now?
- Commitment to work with their president or mentor to guide issue campaigns on their campuses.
- Commitment to work with ICUF staff.
- ICUF will cover the costs of 28 fellows which will include: 2 meetings (lodging and travel expenses); ICUF staff time and training; campaign materials.
- **Applications should be submitted by August 1, 2008.**
- Return applications to Jennifer Mock at the ICUF Office, 542 East Park Avenue, Tallahassee, FL 32301 jmock@icuf.org , 850-681-0057 (fax), 850-681-3188 (phone)

Fellows Calendar 2008-2009

2008

September	Start program. Information sent to students.
October	Orientation session – location TBD.
November	Start planning “Faces of ICUF” campaign campus project. Submit monthly report.
December	Notice of January meeting. Prepare report for January meeting on what projects you have worked on so far and events on campus that might be of interest.

2009

January	Fellows meeting in conjunction with ICUF Council of Presidents meeting in Tallahassee, including a trip to the Capitol to advocate issues with legislators. Submit monthly report.
February	Launch “Faces of ICUF” campaign. Submit monthly report.
March	Continue working on “Faces of ICUF” campaign. Submit monthly report.
April	Wrap up “Faces of ICUF” campaign. Submit monthly report.
May	Send out thank you letters to legislators. Submit monthly report.

***The monthly report can consist of a quick email that should simply give ICUF an update on the issues being discussed by the administration, student body, and/or the student government. You should mention any interesting events or campaigns taking place on your campus that can be highlighted in the ICUF monthly newsletter and/or reports.**

The ICUF Presidential Fellows Program

DIRECTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

The student should complete the ICUF Presidential Fellows Program Application and return it to the President's office along with the following:

- A letter from the candidate that answers each of the following questions:
 - What state government decision would most benefit your institution and why?
 - What is your most significant personal achievement to date and why?
 - Why do you want to be a Presidential Fellow?
 - What would you like to be doing 10 years from now?

- A letter of recommendation from one or more of the following:
 - President
 - Designated Mentor*
 - College Dean
 - Senior Advancement Officer
 - A faculty member
 - Other appropriate institutional representative

*This year we are asking that each school provide the student with an on-campus mentor that will be available to assist the student as he or she works on grassroots projects for the program. The mentor must be willing to work with the student and ICUF to ensure that the student is receiving the appropriate information and guidance needed to be successful. If you nominate two to three students, one campus mentor can be assigned to assist the group.

Completed applications and the required letters should be faxed, mailed, or emailed from the ICUF institution to the Jennifer Mock at the ICUF office by **August 1, 2008**.

Jennifer Mock
ICUF Presidential Fellows
542 East Park Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Fax (850) 681-0057
Email: jmock@icuf.org

Please call Jennifer at (850) 681-3188 if you need additional information.

The ICUF Presidential Fellows Program 2008-2009

NOMINATION FORM

Institution: _____

Applicant Name (Title First Middle Initial Last): _____

Last 4-digits of SSN: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender (check one): Male Female

Permanent
Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Address while at
School: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Class Level in Fall 2008: Sophomore Junior Senior

Major, Concentration, or Field of Study: _____

Florida Resident (check one): Yes No Expected Graduation Date: _____

Florida Resident Access Grant Recipient: Yes No GPA: _____

School Official Who Will Serve as Mentor: _____

Mentor's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4: _____

Mentor Phone: _____

Mentor Email: _____

Mentor Agreement: I promise to provide my Fellow with assistance and mentoring as they go through the program. I will work with the student and ICUF to see that they are provided with the appropriate information and guidance they need to be successful.

Mentor Signature: _____

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Activities, Community Service (attach additional sheets or résumé as needed):

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Work History (attach additional sheets or résumé as needed):

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Hobbies, Interests, and Activities:

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Awards and Honors:

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Career Goals:	
<p>Student Agreement:</p> <p>I understand that being selected as an ICUF Presidential Fellow is an honor and that the activities of the Fellows are very important to my student body and to those on other ICUF campuses.</p> <p>I promise to actively participate in the activities and projects offered through the ICUF Presidential Fellows Program.</p> <p>I understand that if I am unwilling or unable to complete the tasks and provide the leadership needed to appropriately represent my institution, my involvement with the ICUF Presidential Fellows Program will be terminated.</p>	
Student Signature:	