



**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Profile of Transformational Learning Opportunities for students
- Alumni profile and updates
- Student Accomplishments
- Faculty Accomplishments

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UNF Sociology & Anthropology Newsletter

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A Time of Change, An Opportunity for Progress

It is a tremendous time for the Department. We've recently split from Criminal Justice and have the opportunity to forge our own identity as a new department. We have also recently hired four new outstanding faculty who will be joining us this Fall. We are also anticipating the opening of our new home — the Social Sciences Building.

All of these changes are positive for the Department. It means that we can continue to do what we already do better — provide meaningful educational experiences to students and engage in quality scholarship — and improve our department. In the next few years we will be building our Social Welfare program with the addition of a full-time Social Welfare Director; we will

be growing the international and cross-national angle of our department; we will widen our course offerings; and we will provide more meaningful re-



Dr. Adam Shapiro
Associate Professor Chair

search experiences for our graduate students.

But the story of our department is really about what we already do well. This year alone, our faculty have won university-wide

teaching awards, have engaged dozens of students in transformational learning experiences in our community and around the world, have secured hundreds of thousands of dollars in sponsored research, and have published their research with nationally prominent journals and publishers. Meanwhile, our graduates continue to do wonderful things; they work for major corporations, have earned Ph.D.s from prominent universities, and have become active community advocates.

We look forward to a productive and fruitful year in 2006-2007. I especially encourage our alumni to get involved in the life of the Department. Feel free to contact me at ashapiro@unf.edu or (904) 620-2850.

New Faculty for 2006-2007

Jenny Stuber (Ph.D. Indiana University). Assistant Professor of Sociology. Social stratification, sociology of culture, sociology of education, qualitative methods.

Ye Luo (Ph.D., Tulane University). Assistant Professor of Sociology. Quantitative methods,

medical sociology, aging and the life course, Chinese society.

Aleksandra Sasha Milecevic (Ph.D., University of California-Los Angeles). Assistant Professor of Sociology. Political sociology, nationalism, gender, social theory, qualitative methods.

Jennifer Spaulding-Givens (MSW, Ph.D. candidate, Florida State University). Instructor/Social Welfare Director. Mental health policy, program evaluation, social work education.

Transformational Learning: New at UNF? Not in this Department



Dr. Ronald Lukens-Bull
Associate Professor of
Anthropology

“These experiences can be more than transformational; they can be life-defining”

Earlier this year, UNF President John Delaney announced a new branding campaign built around the promise of individual attention and transformational learning. This campaign would build upon what is already outstanding about UNF—our tradition of creative and intellectual collaboration between faculty and students—and take it to the rooftops. Certainly for UNF Sociology and Anthropology transformational learning is nothing new.

A number of faculty have worked with students on individual research projects that have led to presentations at national conference, graduate school admissions, and even publications.

Kristin Staggs (2006) worked with Professor Paulsen to win a UNF Undergraduate research grant for a project comparing the domestic workload of both partners in dual-income households in rural Florida. Following in the tradition of well-known studies in the area, Kristin conducted interviews with men and women in households where both work inside and outside the home. She found that while sharing arrangements still leave women with the bulk of domestic responsibilities, many households are working toward equitable divisions of labor. This is not the first collaboration for Paulsen and Staggs—last year they co-authored a paper based on Paulsen’s fieldwork at county fairs, which was published in *Poetics*, an international journal of cultural sociology.

Ron Lukens-Bull has had 6 students get UNF Undergraduate Research Grants. Finishing up this year was Naima Brown and her 10-month ethnographic study on the Jacksonville Muslim community. Naima discovered that the community in Jacksonville is relatively unique in its multi-ethnic, multi-national, multi-sectarian nature. Others have done studies on Japanese dolls, Disney Gay Days and Cyberspace, Christian theme parks, and immigrants. Recently, Andy Magee received a new Dean’s Council grant to conduct fieldwork in Thailand.

Adam Shapiro and sociology graduate student Rajah Yarborough-Hayes presented a paper entitled “Marital Transitions, Marital Histories, and Health: Age and Gender Variations” at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America annual meeting in Orlando, November 2005.

The longest-running experiential learning project in the department is the annual archeological field school. Professor Buzz Thunen typically takes a group of students out every summer. Over the past several years, the student-faculty teams have been looking for Fort

Caroline, an important and celebrate historical landmark. And the end result, they have established that the hard to find fort is located nowhere inside the Ft. Caroline National Park. Well, that’s the nature of science.

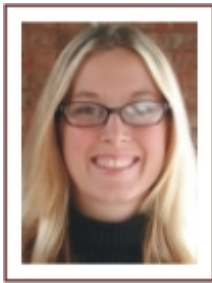
A new archeological field experience joins the menu of choices for students this year as Professor Rakita takes a group of students to Mexico. With support from a UNF College of Arts & Sciences Dean’s Leadership Council Faculty Fellowship, Rakita will co-lead a joint UNF – University of Missouri archaeological survey that will explore the prehistoric Casas Grandes culture of northern Chihuahua. The involvement of students in this project will provide them with a unique and transformational learning experience. Students will be exposed to and actually be able to participate in archaeological site survey and data collection. This will give them hands-on experience in this process and will train them in skills that are useful both within Archaeology and outside of the discipline. Students will also be exposed to and indeed immersed in a new and different cultural world; providing them with an exciting new perspective on their own culture and society.

With the support of a UNF Transformational Learning Opportunity Grant, Professors Thunen and Rakita will be overseeing funded student fellowships for students currently enrolled in UNF. Student fellows will engage in a combination of service-learning and research activities in the UNF Archaeology and Physical Anthropology laboratories during the tenure of their fellowship. Each student fellow will be required to provide 5 hours of service-learning activity per week for 12 weeks. Additionally, students will be expected to complete an independently developed and completed research project.

In 2006 and again in 2007, Professors Lukens-Bull and Winterbauer will lead groups of students to Southeast with the support of a UNF Transformational Learning Opportunity Grant. These field courses will examine health, faith, and wellness in both rural and urban contexts in Southeast Asia among Buddhists, Animists, and Muslims. Lukens-Bull knows well the impact of such trips. His interests in Southeast Asia started 20 years ago on a similar trip. These experiences can be more than transformational; they can be life-defining.

Alumni Profile: Miles Taylor, Ph.D.

Miles G. Taylor graduated from UNF in 1999 with degrees in sociology and psychology.



Miles G. Taylor, Ph.D. (BA Sociology, 1999)

became involved in many other research projects conducted by the Center for Community Initiatives on the subjects of infant mortality, race relations, alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and homelessness. Through this experience, I gained invaluable knowledge and experience with interview collection and survey methodology, writing reports and publications, statistical analyses and advanced management of vast data sources including small samples of program participants and large data sets such as the National Survey of Families and Households (NSFH), and county level Census data. I still draw on these experiences when I am faced with a new project, writing grants, asked to review someone else's work, or consulting or mentoring students or other faculty on projects. In many ways, UNF prepared more than graduate school in exposing me to the broad and exciting field that is sociological research.

After graduation, Dr. Taylor was awarded a fellowship to Duke University, where she earned a Ph.D. in Sociology in 2005. She is currently a post-doctoral scholar at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill's Carolina Population Center. We spoke with Dr. Taylor about her current work and her memories of UNF.

SAN: What are you currently studying?

MT: Right now I'm working on a number of projects centered around inequality and health/well-being across the life course. My main projects, stemming from my dissertation research, is on disability trajectories among older adults and the differential causal pathways predicting them in the population.

SAN: How did your experience at UNF prepare you for your career?

MT: UNF prepared me in more ways than I can count, and did a better job of it than some of the larger or more prestigious schools. Specifically, the environment allowed me to get involved in research that is essential to application and success in graduate school or in any research occupation. At UNF I was involved in funded research with Adam Shapiro on older adult services and intergenerational relationships and well-being among older adults (topics that I still work on almost a decade later). I also

SAN: What are your fondest memories of UNF?

MT: My fondest memories of UNF as an institution are linked to both research in the Sociology and Anthropology Department and the wonderful music there, both classical and jazz. I took a year off between graduating with my Sociology degree and leaving for graduate school and during that year I was able to take music classes and work on tying up the CPOAS project (research that evaluated a services program for low-income elders). At the end of that research project, I was able to run analyses and witness a change that had happened in participants' lives. Although I was dealing with numbers and not people, the work was so gratifying since it was something I believed in. I knew for sure then that this was the work I wanted to do...that I wanted to use what I was good at to make a difference in society on some level.

"[The faculty] allowed me to get involved in research that is essential to application and success in graduate school or in any research application"

Alumni Update

Andrea Henderson (BA Sociology, 2005) is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Sociology at the University of Texas at Austin. She is studying sociology of religion and mental health.

Rita Ivonne Jenkins (BA Anthropology, 2001) is currently working for a Jacksonville company and plans to enter graduate school in the coming year.

Elizabeth Albright (BA Anthropology, 2005) was recently accepted into the PhD program in Anthropology at the University of New Mexico.

Tracy Milligan (MS Applied Sociology, 2005) is currently Coordinator of Research Programs and Services at the Northeast Florida Center for Community Initiatives (CCI) at UNF. She also serves as an adjunct instructor of sociology at UNF, where she has taught social problems and data analysis courses.

WANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT ISSUE?? TELL US WHAT YOU ARE UP TO.

2005-2006 Outstanding Graduates



Dr. Shapiro presents the Outstanding Anthropology Graduate Award to Mark Kieran

Each year, the department recognizes those students whose commitment to their academic work and discipline. This year, the faculty nominated the following students for the Outstanding Graduate award:

Outstanding Anthropology Graduate: Mark Kieran

Mark graduated from UNF with a 3.9+ GPA. Mark was an exceptional student in the 2005 summer Archaeological field school, resulting in the project director, Dr. Thunen, hiring him for subsequent work in the Archaeology laboratory. As part of that work, Kieran taught himself how to

use sophisticated Geographic Information System software, enabling him to produce a series of complex maps for the project.

Outstanding Anthropology Graduate: Naima Brown

Naima graduated from UNF with a 3.7+ GPA. She has spent the last 10 months conducting an in-depth study of the local Islamic center. She will enter the Middle East Studies graduate program at the University of Chicago in the Fall.

Outstanding Sociology Graduate: Kristin Staggs

Kristin graduated with a

3.9+GPA. She co-authored (with Prof. Krista Paulsen) "Constraint and reproduction in an amateur craft institution: The conservative logic of the county fair," in the journal *Poetics*. She will enter the graduate program in Applied Sociology at UNF in the Fall.

Outstanding Applied Sociology Graduate: Beth East-erling.

Beth's Master's thesis examined the link between employment and mental health among military spouses. She is currently a stay-at-home mother, having recently celebrated the birth of her first child.

What Do You Do With That Major??

Sociology and Anthropology majors have a world of opportunities available to them. Here are some examples of this year's graduates will be doing next year.

Naima Brown (Anthropology) has been accepted into the Ph.D. program in Middle East-

ern Studies at the University of Chicago.

Jackie Cetera (Sociology) has been accepted into the Masters Program in Educational Administration at Appalachian State University.

Lucy Paltoo (Sociology) has been accepted into the Mas-

ters Program in Educational Administration at the University of Florida.

Kearney Hoover (Sociology) has enrolled in the Graduate Program in Applied Sociology at UNF.

2006 Alpha Kappa Delta Inductees

Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD) is a national sociological honorary society that recognizes outstanding achievement in the discipline. The following students were inducted into AKD at this year's awards banquet:

- Kearney Hoover
- Kristin Staggs
- Jackie Cetera
- Regina Walls
- Kara Tucker
- Jeremy Chaplin



Dr. Rick Phillips presents AKD Inductee Regina Walls with her Honor Cords



Alpha Kappa Delta was founded in 1920 at the University of Southern California

Faculty Accomplishments



Awards

Faculty Receive Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards.

Professors Gordon Rakita and Krista Paulsen have each been selected to receive the 2005-2006 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award. These highly prestigious awards recognize high quality undergraduate instruction.

Anthropologist Awarded Major Federal Grant.

Professor Nancy Winterbauer and a colleague from UNF's College of Health have recently been awarded a major grant from the National Institutes of Health

Lukens-Bull Becomes UNF Honors Fellow.

Professor Ronald Lukens-Bull has been selected to become the 2006-2007 UNF Honors Fellow. As the Honors Fellow, he will be assigned to the Honors Program to work with both Honors students and faculty from across the university to develop and implement unique and important learning opportunities.

Professor Will awarded Irish Studies Fellowship.

Professor Jeffrey Will has been awarded the John Francis Reilly Fellowship for Curricular Development in Irish Studies. Prof. Will plans to travel to Ireland in the fall while on sabbatical to study how class and religion intersect to form "troubles" in Ireland. The ultimate goal from this fellowship is to develop a course on this subject.

Publications

Prof.

Gordon Rakita and Jeffrey Will **Rosa De Jorio** (2006) "Politics of remembering and forgetting: The struggle over colonial monuments in Mali." *Africa Today*, 52(4).

Rosa De Jorio (2006) "Introduction to special issue on 'Memory and formation of political identities in West Africa'". *Africa Today* 52(4).

Ronald Kephart (2006) Review of "Creole Recitations: John Jacob Thomas and Colonial Formation in the Late Nineteenth Century," by Faith Smith. *Wadabagei: A Journal of the Caribbean and its Diasporas*, 8(3): 113-116.

Ronald Kephart (2006) Review of "The Brothers and Sisters Learn to Write: Popular Literacies in Childhood and School Cultures" by Ann Haas Dyson. New York: Teachers College Press. *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, 15(2): 286-287.

Gordon Rakita, J. Buikstra, L. Beck, S. Williams (eds). 2005. *Interacting with the Dead: Perspectives on Mortuary Archaeology for the New Millennium*. University of Florida Press.

Gordon Rakita (2005). Phylogenetic research techniques & methodological lessons from bioarchaeology. In *Mapping our Ancestors: Phylogenetic Methods in Anthropology and Prehistory*, edited by Carl P. Lippo, Michael O'Brien, Mark Collard, and Stephen Shennan. Aldine Transaction Press, NJ.

Jace Hargis & **Gordon Rakita** (2005). The more we change, the more we remain the same: The electracry model of teaching and learning. *The International Journal of Learning*, 11: 309-314.

Rick Phillips (2006). Review of "The Rise of Mormonism" by Rodney Stark. *Journal of Mormon History*.

Rick Phillips (2006). Review of

"Religion and public life in the southern crossroads: Showdown states. Edited by William Lindsey and Mark Silk. *Sociology of Religion*.

Krista E. Paulsen & Kristin Staggs (2005). "Constraint and reproduction in an amateur craft institution: The conservative logic of the county fair." *Poetics: Journal of Empirical Research on Culture, the Media and the Arts*. 33(2):134-155.

Krista E. Paulsen (2005). Review of "Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight: Fear and Fantasy in Suburban Los Angeles" by Eric Avilla. *City and Community*, 4(2):220-221.

Robert Thunen (2006). Grant mound: Past and present. *Florida Anthropologist*, 34.

Jeffrey Will, Charles Owens, and Tracy Milligan (2006). "The song remains the same: The resistance of racial attitudes and perceptions to change over time." *International Journal of Diversity*, 4: 701-711.

Andrea Henderson, **Rick Phillips**, and **Jeffrey Will** (2005). "Does religiosity affect perceptions of racism in the New South?" *Sociation Today: The Journal of the North Carolina Sociological Association*.

Jeffrey Will, Irma Hall, Tim Cheney, and Maura Driscoll (2005). "Flower power: Assessing the impact of the Magnolia Project on reducing racial disparities in birth outcomes." *Journal of Applied Sociology/Sociological Practice*. 22(2).



Dr. David Jaffee, Professor of Sociology & Associate VP of Undergraduate Education



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Mission Statement

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology seeks to provide greater understanding of human behavior with a focus on its social and cultural contexts, both locally and globally. We strive to accomplish this through our commitment to excellence in undergraduate and graduate education and scholarly research; through the development of practical and applied skills in which our students and faculty draw upon their knowledge to critically analyze and enhance the diverse communities in which they live and work; through the focused use of available resources; and through a process of continual self-reflection and improvement.

Let Us Hear From You!

Name: _____ UNF Graduation Year/Degree: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

What are you doing now? _____

Please return to:

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