On June 30, 2007, Dr. Eddie Collins, Assistant Professor of Sociology, officially retired from UNF after 35 years of service to the University of North Florida. As the last founding faculty member in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Dr. Collins brings an end to an era which saw dramatic change and growth. What was once a fledgling program in an upstart university grew into a program with nearly 150 majors serving a larger university community of over 16,000 students.

Born and raised a son of a sharecropper in North Carolina, Dr. Collins graduated from North Carolina A&T University and the University of Florida. Over the years Dr. Collins has taught and mentored literally thousands of students in a variety of courses such as Sociology of Human Interaction, Racial and Cultural Minorities, and Social Structure and Personality. He has dedicated much of his professional life to his students and to the cause of education in the U.S. Following his retirement, Dr. Collins plans to spend more time with his family, including his wife Myrtle, children and grandchildren. In addition, he plans to continue his work as a consultant and advocate on issues of higher education. Congratulations and happy retirement Eddie!

In honor of Dr. Collins’ contributions to UNF, the **Eddie Collins Sociology Scholarship** has been established. This scholarship will assist talented and deserving sociology students who are committed to the principles of the discipline and who expect to make valuable contributions to their communities. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to this fund. A contribution form appears on the last page.

We’ll miss you Eddie!!
New Faculty: Dr. Suzanne Simon

Dr. Suzanne Simon is a cultural anthropologist who works on issues concerning economic development and sustainability in Mexico. She received a Ph.D. from the New School for Social Research in 2005. Prior to joining the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of North Florida in the fall of 2007, she taught at the School for International Training in Brattleboro, VT. Her dissertation research examined the effects of the NAFTA side accords on environmental and labor justice activism on the Mexican side of the US-Mexico border. In the summer of 2007, she launched a new research project exploring ongoing resistance to wind parks on the Isthmus de Tehuantepec in southern Oaxaca, Mexico. Her teaching interests include cultural anthropology, anthropology of Latin America, applied/development and environmental anthropology.

Congratulations to Dr. Jeff Will on his promotion to Full Professor
Department News

Social Welfare
Career Day

On March 12, 2007, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology hosted the first annual Social Welfare Career Day to celebrate Social Work Month and to provide UNF students with an opportunity to learn about career options in the field of social welfare. Representatives from eighteen public and private social services agencies operating in the Jacksonville area participated in the event, providing information about internship and employment opportunities to more than fifty Sociology, Psychology, and Criminal Justice majors.
Selected Faculty Accomplishments

Suzanne Simon was the recipient of a Mexico North Research Network 2007 Transnationalism Fellowship. The fellowship allowed her to launch a new research project exploring controversy surrounding regional development initiatives in the southern Mexican state of Oaxaca.

Dr. Jeffry Will, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center for Community Initiatives, began his term as President of the Association for Applied and Clinical Sociology, the primary Applied Sociology organization in the US, at the Association’s Annual Conference in Ypsilanti Michigan October 7, 2007. Dr. Will also presented the paper “Sustaining a Community Partnership: The Continued Assessment of the Magnolia Project on Reducing Racial Disparities in Birth Outcomes,” co-authored with Ms. Irma Hall, Assistant Director, CCI.

Dr. Adam Shapiro co-authored an article with Thomas Hansen and Torbjorn Moum entitled "Relational and Individual Well-Being Among Cohabitors and Married Individuals in Midlife: Recent Trends from Norway." The article was published in Journal of Family Issues, 28:910-933.

Dr. Rosa DeJorio (UNF) and Dr. Maria Grosz-Ngaté (IU) had “Memory, Women, and Community: Sub-Saharan Africa” published in Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures. Volume 6, Leiden, Brill 2007, pp. 47-51


Dr. Rick Phillips at the Sociology Club Luncheon.

Presentations


Aleksandra Sasha Milicevic organized a panel on “Fieldwork after fire: Doing research in the Balkans” at 12th Annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, Columbia University, New York, April 12-14, 2007. At the same panel, she presented a paper on “Arrested Ethnography: Conducting a Research in a Post-Conflict Society.”

Publications

Dr. David Jaffee published the article “Peer Cohorts and the Unintended Consequences of Freshman Learning Communities” in the journal College Teaching, Spring 2007.

Student Accomplishments

Caring Award Winner

**Jacquelyn Simmons** is a senior majoring in Sociology and Psychology, and a member of the Honors program at UNF. She has served with at risk youth with the Sanctuary in 8th street, Bridge of Northeast Florida, and mentors for the Jaguars Foundation/UNF Community Scholars Program. She has also worked in the heart of the Amazon with the development organization FUNDEISIN. She has accumulated over 890 hours of service not only to address social issues but to better understand them and more importantly, work on having a better community through each individual. Congratulations Jacquelyn!

Sociology Student Wins Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship

The Department is proud to recognize **Doyvon (Dee) Montgomery**, a recipient of the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King Junior Scholarship. A junior sociology major, Dee is a talented and ambitious student with interests in religion, race, and social welfare. Outside the University, Dee maintains a commitment to community involvement, volunteering for a number of organizations and working as a tutor or teacher for diverse students. This January, Dee also worked with the Center for Community Initiatives as they conducted the annual Homeless Census and Survey. Dee approaches all these endeavors with care and enthusiasm, and notes that her voluntarism has led to a real passion for teaching. Though Dee’s multiple ambitions make her uncertain about her eventual career, we feel confident that she will make a mark in whichever field she chooses.
Beating out several Sociology applicants for the position, Lindsay Moriarty (B.A. Anthropology ’07) is currently working in the Chronic Disease Epidemiology Group at Duke University’s Department of Community and Family Medicine. Heavily involved in research design and results analysis, Lindsay is collaborating with a team of health researchers to explore issues related to health literacy, post-partum nutrition, obesity prevention and wellness intervention. With plans to attend graduate school next Fall, Lindsay is in the process of applying to PhD programs in Social Epidemiology.

Previously known as “Captain Anthropology”, recent graduate Rob Gillespie (minor Anthropology ’07) is gainfully employed at the Duke Center for Nicotine and Smoking Cessation Research. To reduce the incidence of smoking related disease, Rob is currently involved in the development of novel nicotine replacement therapies, and intervention efforts to reduce nicotine dependence. With a future so bright, sunglasses are required, Rob plans to further his education with studies in Protein Engineering at the graduate level next Fall.

Jackie Cetera (B.A. Sociology 06), now a graduate student at Appalachian State University was recognized for her outstanding work with the North Carolina Housing Officers’ Student of the Year Award.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Would you like to be included in the next issue? Let us hear from you!
Email: j.spaulding-givens.52042@unf.edu
Alumni News

What a small world!! I’m in Killeen because my husband is active duty Army. We’ve lived in several states and one foreign country since I graduated from UNF. I finished with a Master of Science-Strategic Leadership from Mountain State University while we were stationed there. I have hopes that one day I’ll be able to continue my education in Sociology.

- Rebecca Buckland (BA Sociology 1997)

I came back to Argentina a year and a half ago. A month later I got a job in a non-profit organization that works with peasants in Northern Argentina (the poorest region of the country). It was a great experience! I discovered rural sociology and peasant theory and I loved it! This year I’ll be taking courses in educational research, all part of a PhD in Agrarian Social Studies at the Nacional University of Corboda (UNC), one of the best schools here in Argentina.

-Facundo Videla (BA Sociology 2005)

Hello Dr. Shapiro, good to hear that the Sociology Dept. is alive and well!

-David A. Dunkley Jr., (BA Sociology 1991)

Planner and Environmental Coordinator: Jacksonville Aviation Authority

Thank you for sending out the news letter. I am an Episcopal Priest currently serving St. James’ Episcopal Church in Lake City, FL. After leaving UNF, I went to Virginia Theological Seminary to get my Master in Divinity and then was ordained. I tell all potential clergy to get their degree in sociology, I find it very useful.

-Susan Claytor (BA Sociology 2001)

This Summer I will be in Panama City, Panama working on a redesign solution for a road that currently runs right through through the middle of Panama Veijo. It is a UNESCO World Heritage archaeological site and the oldest European settlement on the west coast of the America’s.

-Kevin Salzer (BA Anthropology 2005)

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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.

Make a Gift

If you believe in our mission and share our enthusiasm for what we do, please consider making a gift to one or both of the Department’s funds. Your gift will make it possible for us to continue and enhance our mission. Please complete this form and send to: Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Attn: Chair, 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

YES, I would like to make a gift to the Department of Sociology & Anthropology.
Enclosed is a gift of $______________________________

Please check fund to which gift will be made:
☐ Sociology & Anthropology Foundation Fund (Provides funds in pursuit of the Department’s Mission)
☐ Eddie Collins Sociology Scholarship Fund

Name:______________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________

Address          City          Zip
☐ Check (payable to UNF Foundation)  ☐ VISA  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ American Express

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Card Number          Expiration Date
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Signature