UNF is poised to have a significant impact on the future of the environment in Florida by training its students to examine environmental challenges from various perspectives while working together to devise feasible solutions. Sponsored by UNF’s recently formed Environmental Center, the first Environmental Conflict Resolution Exercise was conducted in November.

Ten students from Dr. Ray Bowman’s Environmental Chemistry course and 35 building construction management students from Dr. David Lambert’s Environmental Issues in Land Development and Construction course participated in the pilot program titled “Out of the Ashes.” In this exercise, students delved into issues surrounding an environmental hazard that hits close to home—Jacksonville’s Forest Street incinerator site.

The incinerator was built in the 1940s to dispose of household garbage. Located about a mile west of downtown, it operated through the 1960s, producing ash which fell on the homes, schools, churches and parks in a poor, largely African-American neighborhood. The ash contained what the EPA now characterizes as unacceptable levels of lead, arsenic, cadmium and other toxins associated with major health problems.

As a result of protests from local church, community and environmental justice groups, the city of Jacksonville recently announced that it settled a class-action lawsuit with more than 3,800 city residents who claimed they had been exposed to the toxic ash. Many stakeholders feel the $75 million settlement doesn’t come close to compensating the area’s residents for their exposure to the dangerous toxins, and it doesn’t address the issue of cleaning up the area.

Students participating in the exercise addressed the following questions: What will become of the EPA’s plan to clean up the Forest Street site and three similar sites in Jacksonville? Instead of enriching lawyers and compensating private homeowners, how might the money have been used to benefit the whole community? What collaborative decision-making processes could have eliminated the need for this sort of litigation in the first place?

The students first visited the Forest Street site and toured the surrounding neighborhood, including the now-abandoned Forest Park Head Start School and a city park facility.

We met at the City Mission building and carpooled so the students could tour the affected area.

Environmental chemistry and building construction management students listen to a presentation by community activist Diane Kerr at the former Forest Street incinerator site in Jacksonville.
set of 14 vice presidential expectations, which have helped to drive the work of the Division of Student Affairs since the arrival of Dr. Mauricio Gonzalez five years ago, served as the basis for employee awards presented during the division’s holiday party in December. Achievement awards were presented to the following staff for meeting or exceeding one of the vice president’s expectations last year:

Oupa Seane (Intercultural Center for PEACE) received the “Promote Respect for One Another Award” for establishing his own special brand of personal demeanor that has won him friends around the world. Betty Garris (Student Government) received the award for her daily work to “Model Proper Behavior to our Students” specifically for helping student leaders cope with the suicide of the student newspaper editor last fall. Coach Mark VanAlstyne (Cross Country/Track) won the “Maintain Open Lines of Communications Award” for his reputation as a voice of reason. Lieutenants Tammy Oliver and Mike Ballentine (UPD) earned the “Support Staff Development Award” for coordinating a UPD training series called “Supervisor’s Boot Camp.”

Michael Boele (Athletics) took home the “Implement Sound Financial Management Award” for her superior fiscal management of Athletics. The Counseling Center’s Richmond Wynn received the “Promote and Support Diversity Award” for his personal and professional work in the area of diversity both on and off campus and as an integral member of UNF’s Equity and Civility Committee.

Three were chosen as recipients for the “Develop Strong Collaborative Ties with Academic Affairs Award”: Sheila Spivey (Women’s Center) for her outstanding work in producing educational Peer Theatre productions; Vivian Senior (Career Services) for her work with students as liaison to the College of Health; and Dr. Annabel Brooks (Women’s Center) for establishing relationships with 11 campus organizations in the center’s programming and other efforts.

Chief Nature Trails ranger Ryan Meyer received the “Create a Strong Learning Environment Outside the Classroom Award” for his ability to instill a respect for nature. Superintendent of Grounds Jorge Rubio-Boitel (Athletics) won the “Strive for Improvement of Programs and Services Award” for making the Recreation and Athletic grounds a showcase not only on a day-to-day basis but also for Super Bowl practices that took place here last year. Pam Bell (CDRC) was awarded the “Explore Funding Sources Award” for efforts to supplement her budget with creative fund-raising projects and grants.

Kevin Modglin (CADIC) was tapped for the “Develop Assessment Strategies Award” for redefining his programs and services with students based on his research and assessment. Shari O’Brien (Campus Ministry) received the “Be a Part of the Solution Award” for her efforts as an OPS adviser for the Volunteer Center and serving on the Equity and Civility Committee.

Two received the “Be a Part of the Team Award:” Robinson Center manager David Crabtree (Student Life), for his conscientiousness in serving audiences at the Robinson Center; and Lindsay Bryant (Student Life), for her teamwork attitude in collaborating with others on such large-scale events as Homecoming and Week of Welcome.

Our division’s awards program was designed to couple very specific performance criteria in the form of stated expectations to actual job performance and attitude,” explained Gonzalez. “I believe it clearly promotes the stated values of our division while assuring us a way of measuring that the winners truly incorporate these values in their work.”

Dr. Mauricio Gonzalez
A campaign to attract more international students to UNF has been selected as the winner of the first “No Place Like This” award by the Integrated Marketing Team.

The International Center, directed by Dr. Tim Robinson, won the award for a brochure, bookmark and CD that are all part of an international recruiting package.

Robinson explained there were two major reasons for the creation of the materials: weight and content.

“While the existing Office of Admissions material is very good-looking, it is often too heavy to carry or ship in quantity, or it presents information relevant to domestic students. In contrast, our brochure and bookmark are meant to capture an international student’s (or parent’s) attention, and then the CD provides a great deal of information in an attractive format, which is light weight.”

Robinson noted the reception among international students and their parents has been very positive. “Students and parents very much like the University’s interest in students as individuals, and that the institution will take care of the students. So the print materials are important backup and ‘at home’ reminders of the message from the recruiters about the University’s commitment to students,” he noted.

Robinson used the graphic design services of Harrington Design Company for the brochure and bookmark and the UNF Office of Marketing and Publications for the CD pocket and face plate. UNF international student Mirko Bonet, a graphic design major from Italy, created the CD itself.

The “No Place Like This” award was created by the Integrated Marketing Team to promote marketing projects that support the new UNF brand commitment. Each winning unit receives $1,000 to be used toward its next marketing project. The award is made in the fall and spring semesters. The deadline to submit entries for the spring semester is April 3.

For more information on the awards, go to the Integrated Marketing Team Web site and click on the awards program link. The site also contains reproductions of the International Center’s materials.

The Coggin College of Business has received a $250,000 gift from Linda and Tom Slade to establish an endowed professorship in the field of entrepreneurial studies.

The state will match the gift by contributing an additional $125,000.

“We’re so grateful for Linda and Tom Slade’s support,” said President John A. Delaney. “This is a particularly significant gift to UNF because Linda is a 1974 alumna. She represents the leading edge of support from our first graduates who went to school when there were only 2,000 students, four building and no sidewalks.”

Coggin College Dean John P. McAllister stated that he was very appreciative of the Slades’ generosity. “This gift strongly encourages us to move ahead in developing ourselves in the area of entrepreneurship, while helping us to attract an outstanding faculty member.”

Linda and Tom Slade’s gift of a professorship is an important step in the long-range goal of establishing a Center for Entrepreneurial Studies within the Coggin College. It’s anticipated that the center will foster economic growth in Northeast Florida, while providing students a practical and relevant educational experience. This professorship will help in recruiting a prominent faculty member to champion, plan and implement the programs of the center. Some of the special initiatives proposed in the center include: venture capital forums, student business plan competitions, family business roundtables, and a small business incubator.
Erin Brockovich, an environmental activist who helped spearhead the largest legal settlement in U.S. history, will be the next UNF Presidential Lecturer.

“An Evening with Erin Brockovich” will be Monday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Arena. The lecture is free, but tickets are required by going to www.unf.edu and clicking on the Distinguished Voices Lectures link.

Brockovich, an unemployed, single mother of three working in a California law firm, rose to fame in connection with a lawsuit against Pacific Gas & Electric. Four decades after the world’s largest utility started dumping 370 million gallons of cancer-causing chemicals into unlined ponds in Hinkley, Calif., the company’s actions were uncovered by Brockovich.

After years of legal maneuvering, an arbitration trial resulted in a global settlement with PG&E. The more than 600 plaintiffs were compensated $333 million. PG&E was required to clean up the environment and stop using the cancer-causing compound.

The story of her investigation and legal triumph were dramatized in the hit movie “Erin Brockovich,” released in March 2000, starring Julia Roberts.
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida recently announced the donation of $600,000 each to UNF’s School of Nursing and the University of Florida. On hand for the announcement were UNF President John Delaney (left), College of Health Dean Dr. Pam Chally and Robert Lufrano, CEO and chairman of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida.

Ron Paige, former U.S. Secretary of Education, came to UNF in January to talk about educational policies and school reform. The lecture was part of the Robinson Eminent Scholar Lecture Series.

Admissions Director John Yancey (below, right) was the honorary coach during the Faculty/Staff Appreciation Night on Jan. 19. He is pictured with Chris Crider from UNF’s intramural program.

UNF President John Delaney meets with Mark Rosenberg, chancellor of the State University System of Florida, during his visit to campus recently. Rosenberg leads a system consisting of 11 institutions and more than 260,000 students.
New director takes helm of IPTM

L. R. “Bob” Jacob is the new director of IPTM while Cammy Pucci has been named associate director.

The Institute of Police Technology and Management has a new director dedicated to the philosophy of sticking with programs that have made IPTM the leading such organization in the nation.

L. R. “Bob” Jacob won’t need a breaking-in period to learn the ropes at IPTM. He has been employed there since 1983 in a variety of positions, most recently as assistant director.

But Jacob’s experience goes back much farther than IPTM. He has been on the road in a variety of jobs ranging from bus driver to state police trooper.

A native of Virginia, Jacob moved to New York City as a boy. After graduating from high school, he joined the Air Force and specialized in aircraft refueling before being discharged in 1966. He went to work for United Parcel Service and later became a bus driver for the New York City Transit Authority. He jokes that he drove some of the same routes that Ralph Kramden did in the “Honeymooners.”

In 1972, Jacob and his wife, Annette, decided to move back to Virginia where he learned the state police were, for the first time, hiring blacks to become troopers. He became a trooper in 1973. At the time, he was one of only four black troopers on the 1,500-member force.

Jacob handled a variety of jobs including a 14-month undercover assignment in which he worked with nine other law enforcement agencies in a sting operation.

In 1980 he was promoted to sergeant. At 36 he became the first African-American sergeant in the 50-year history of the Virginia State Police. As a sergeant, he began teaching at the Virginia State Police Academy and that’s where he met Russ Arend, a co-founder of IPTM.

Arend eventually offered Jacob a job with IPTM and in 1984 he moved to Jacksonville.

“I didn’t know if I would like it at the time I accepted the job. I still loved the state police,” Jacob said.

But Jacob discovered he enjoyed teaching, and taught his first class in 1984 in South Carolina. Since then he has traveled to cities in dozens of states and around the world teaching IPTM courses. He keeps a map in his office with a red dot for each city in which he has taught a course. The map is a sea of red dots, each of which brings back a memory for Jacob.

Today, about 50 percent of IPTM classes are taught on the road.” This means there is a good deal of traveling for many of the 33 full-time employees in Jacksonville and the more than 200 adjunct instructors around the world. IPTM maintains satellite offices in such places as Tempe, Ariz., and Sydney, Australia.

The organization trains between 15,000 and 18,000 police officers each year, offering more than 100 different courses.

IPTM is a valuable asset to UNF. Money generated by the auxiliary has helped pay for campus improvements such as a portion of the new addition to the Carpenter Library. “This marriage has been a good fit for IPTM and UNF,” Jacob said.

Jacob officially took over the director’s position in January from Ahrens and Everett James, the other co-founder of IPTM.

To assist Jacob, Cammy Pucci, who has been with IPTM since 1988, has been named associate director.

As for the future, Jacob says he is looking into limited expansion of a few areas. One area is the possibility of starting a course designed to identify the characteristics of suicide bombers. He’s also interested in developing a police leadership academy. IPTM also may expand its software development work, which has been responsible for designing specialized law enforcement applications especially for small departments.

But Jacob stresses he does not plan to take IPTM far from the basics that have made it successful.

“A lot of organizations stray from what they were doing right and now they are laying off thousands. We will not abandon what we are doing well. We have a niche.”

L. R. “Bob” Jacob
BY TOM CAIN
Staff Writer

D

r. Richard Bizot remembers Jane Britt as a student who attended UNF for the purest of motives — a love of learning. Now, Britt is repaying her former professor for fostering that attitude by donating books for Bizot’s silent auction to benefit the Irish Studies program.

Britt, 72, graduated from UNF in 1987 with a bachelor’s degree in literature. She was one of the students enrolled 20 years ago in the University’s first Irish literature class, taught by Bizot. Britt went with Bizot and several other students on UNF’s first literary tour of Ireland.

“So many of the things I love about UNF are typified by Jane Britt,” Bizot said. “She was doing it [attending college] for a love of learning.” Britt had a full-time job and attended classes at night while she was going to UNF. “Jane was a great student,” Bizot added.

After graduating from UNF and retiring from her job as an accountant for a local CPA firm, Britt opened a bookstore in her hometown of Newberry, S.C. She currently buys and sells books, often first editions.

Britt is donating 80 books, consisting mostly of works by 20th century Irish writers, for Bizot’s silent auction March 9 in the lobby of the Fine Arts Center. Some of the authors included in Britt’s collection are Elizabeth Bowen, Mary Lavin, Edna O’Brien, Frank O’Connor and William Trevor. She said she first became interested in Irish books on the literary tour of Ireland in 1986.

“I nominated him for Professor of the Year,” Britt said of Bizot. “He was so organized and loved teaching. He was also rather innovative.” Britt and Bizot have developed a friendship down through the years. Bizot smiles when he talks about meeting Britt in the parking lot of the Olive Garden restaurant on a cold, blustery December day to move the donated books from Britt’s trunk to his.

“This is an act of generosity of real significance,” Bizot said. “I was touched by the thought and the deed itself.” Bizot said the books have minimum bids ranging from $10 to $40. All of the money raised at the auction will go to the Moriarty Irish Studies Fund, Bizot said. Dervish, a traditional Celtic band, will perform that night at the Fine Arts Center.

A few of the many other items at the silent auction, besides books, include a painting by Basil Blackshaw, a sculptural piece by Irish artist Glenn Lucas and two works of art donated by Niall and Nancy Falloon and Hibernia Handmade of Neptune Beach. Bizot said auction items are being added every day by companies and private donors.

Former student donates books to help Irish Studies

Transformational Learning Opportunities funding approved

Transformational learning opportunities for UNF students will be available around the world and here at home this year.

The latest round of TLO appropriations funded 18 programs: 10 for international programs and eight for locally-based programs. Funding for the 2006-07 year totals nearly $200,000.

The funding is part of President John Delaney’s commitment to provide more transformational learning opportunities, one of the keys of UNF’s commitment to students.

On the international level, students will be able to study abroad in Southeast Asia, take a French language and culture course in Strasbourg, France or enroll in an Honors service learning program in West Africa.

Funding was also provided to internationalize the “Learning on the Rails” experience. Last year, Professors Jace Hargis and Gordon Rakita took 17 students on a nine-day, 7,000-mile Amtrak trip as part of an innovative class.

Closer to home, students in the Osprey Financial Group will travel to New York, while a video-conferencing course will link UNF with Middle Eastern students.

The following lists the projects funding, the faculty/staff members involved and the amount of money allocated:

1) Southeast Asia study abroad, Ron Lukens-Bull, $11,650
2) Summer international travel for student leadership program, Lucy Croft, $20,000
3) Maritime port management course, UNF and Euromed-Marseille students, Steve Paulson, $15,000
4) Strasbourg French language and culture course, Shira Schwam-Baird, $8,000
5) International Learning on the Rails Course, Jace Hargis, $15,000

5) Service Learning West Africa, Chuck Paulsen, $15,000
7) Beyond War: Culture and Cognition, Dan Richard, $35,000
8) Video-conferencing UNF and Middle Eastern students, Paula Horvath-Neimeyer, $10,500
9) The History of the Hastings Library, Nancy Levine, $6,000
10) Service learning research fellowship, Gordon Rakita, $6,000
11) Travel for Osprey Financial Group, Rheinhold Lamb, $8,400
12) Material science students working with local industries, Ajay Adewale, $9,000
13) Common Boundary courses, David Jaffee, $12,000
14) Senior capstone events, Michael Hallett, $5,000
15) Joint student research program, Michael Lentz, $12,000
Chamblin was presented in a session on “Experienced Chairs: Looking Back” at the annual meeting of the Association of Heads of Departments of Psychology in Atlanta in November.

Dr. Debra Wang, with R.W. Proctor and D.F. Pick, presented “Combined Action Effects Determine the Simon Effect Obtained with Wheel-Rotation Responses” at the 46th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society in Toronto, Ontario.

Dr. Iver Iverson, along with M. Boules, A. Oliveros, A. Shaw, K. Williams, J. Robinson, P. Fredrickson and E. Richelson, presented a poster titled “A Neurotensin Agonist Blocks Reward and Reinforcement Behavior in the Rat” at the Neuroscience Meeting in Washington, D.C., in November. The poster reported results from an experimental collaboration between Iverson and a research group at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville.


College of Business
Accounting and Finance: Dr. Charles Calhoun has been appointed in January by the Public Interest Oversight Board as chair of the International Accounting Education Standards Board Consultative Advisory Group.

Management, Marketing and Logistics: Dr. Adel El-Ansary’s book “Marketing Channels,” 7th edition, was published and printed by Prentice-Hall. The book is in print and was adopted for the UNF graduate elective, MAR 6206, Marketing Channels, offered spring 2006. “Marketing Channels” 1st through 7th edition is the standard scholarly reference and the leading text on the subject worldwide. It holds the record of 95 percent market share since its first editions by Stern and El-Ansary released by Prentice-Hall in 1977.

Dr. Gregory T. Gundlach, through the Coggin College of Business’ Sharing Scholarship Series, hosted Professor William L. Wilkie and Kevin D. Bradford, both of the University of Notre Dame, who visited and presented “Countermarketing and Demarketing Against Product Diversion: Forensic Research in the Firearm Industry.”

Dr. Fred Pragasan and the UNF SIFE team awarded a check for $2,000 to Raines High School, winner of I CHOOSE T.E.A.C.H. competition conducted by UNF SIFE during the Duval School Board meeting in January 2006.

Dr. A. C. “Josh” Samli has a new article published in Turkish in the Turkish Journal of Marketing and Communications Culture. Dr. Samli’s article deals with how entrepreneurs all over the world should start a globalization activity from bottom-up rather than top-down, which would improve the conditions that would particularly benefit very poor consumers of the world and enhance world peace.

Small Business Development Center: Dr. Diane Denslow and Dr. Reham Eltantawy (Management, Marketing and Logistics) along with Dr. Larry C. Giunipero of Florida State University, published an article titled “Purchasing/Supply Chain Management Flexibility: Moving To An Entrepreneurial Skill Set” in the Journal of Industrial Marketing Management, Vol. 34, 2005.

College of Computing, Engineering and Construction
Building Construction Management: Dr. David Lambert received an Outstanding Contribution Award from the Intelligent Transportation Society for his service on the board of directors for the past three years. Lambert also made an invited presentation titled “Designing and Building a Florida-Centric Road Weather Information System (RWIS)” at the Florida Intelligent Transportation System Conference in Orlando in December.

Dr. Pat Welsh made an invited presentation titled “The Role of the Road Weather Information System in the Weather Enterprise” at the Florida Intelligent Transportation System Conference in Orlando in December. Welsh also chaired the session on Future Developments in RWIS. In December, Welsh met with IBM vice presidents, staff members of the IBM T. J. Watson Research Center, and representatives of Florida International University (FIU leads the Florida Hurricane Research Alliance) to discuss joint efforts in future research on hurricanes and hurricane mitigation.


Dr. Ken Martin was reappointed to a three-year term as a member of the Computing Sciences Accreditation Board of Directors as a representative of the Association for Computing Machinery. He has also been appointed to the nominating committee for the Association for Computing Machinery and reappointed as a commissioner.
Dr. Behrooz Seyed-Abbassi presented his paper, “XML - An Essential Addition to the Database Systems Course,” at the AIS SIG-ED IAIM International Conference for Informatics Education and Research in December. The paper was published in the conference proceedings and selected as best paper finalist.

Dr. Steve Nix was appointed vice chair of the advisory board to the Florida Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management. The center supports the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in its mission to preserve and protect the state’s natural resources.


College of Education and Human Services

Curriculum and Instruction:
Drs. Marianne and Lehman Barnes completed a series of three workshops on action research for teachers in Las Cruces, N.M.

Dr. Candice Carter was one of five contributors to the latest edition of “Chicken Soup for the Soul: Stories for a Better World.”

Dr. Cathy Cavanaugh joined four other national leaders in the field of K-12 online learning in a Web conference sponsored by the North Central Regional Educational Laboratory. Information is located online at http://www.ncrel.org.

Dr. Cassandra Etgeton presented a workshop titled “Making Math Visual While Implementing the NCTM Standards” at the 45th Biennial National Convocation of Kappa Delta Pi in Orlando in November.

Dr. Katrina Hall presented “Reading Aloud to Emergent Readers: Issues of Power, Culture, and Social Justice” at the National Association for Multicultural Education’s 11th International Conference in Atlanta in November. Hall also appeared on “Ask the UNF Expert” on Channel 4 in November, providing tips to parents working with children getting ready for kindergarten.

Hall and Dr. Susan Syverud (Special Education) teamed up this semester to work with teacher candidates and children at Holiday Hill Elementary School in EEC4213 Teaching Beginning Reading and Writing. As part of their field work, the UNF teacher candidates have been assigned to work with individual students in kindergarten through third grade who have been identified as needing intensive phonological awareness, phonemic awareness and phonics instruction.

Dr. Wanda Hedrick presented a paper titled “Increasing the Content Area Vocabulary Knowledge of Diverse Learners in the Middle School: What Research Says to the Practitioner” at the National Middle School Association Conference in Philadelphia. The paper was co-presented with Dr. Karen Wood of University of North Carolina at Charlotte and Dr. Janis Harmon of University of Texas at San Antonio. At the conference they also previewed proofs of their upcoming book on teaching vocabulary at the secondary level in content areas, which will be co-published by the NMSA and the International Reading Association.

Dr. Lynne Raiser presented “Inclusion in the Arts Classroom” at the National VSA Arts Institute at the Cummer Museum of Arts and Gardens in November.

Counseling and Educational Leadership:
Dr. Russell Mays conducted a three-hour seminar for students in UNF’s nursing, physical therapy, and nutrition programs. The purpose of the seminar, which was the first in a series, was to provide information and exercises to demonstrate concepts of group and team development and the importance of understanding the group process in leadership. Mays was also the primary presenter at a two-day retreat at The Jekyll Island Club Hotel for faculty and staff of the Beaches Episcopal School. The focus of the retreat was the celebration of teaching. The presentation included activities, songs and storytelling. He also presented a paper titled “Julius Rosenwald: Building Partnerships for American Education” and conducted a workshop on Electronic Editing and Reviewing at the 46th Annual Conference of the Southern Regional Council on Educational Administration in Atlanta in October. Mays also served as chair-elect and program chair at the same conference. Mays and Dr. Ken Willburn conducted an information session in Clay County in November to present information about graduate programs in educational leadership.

Dr. Carolyn Stone, program director for the SOAR (Supporters of Academic Rigor) program, was selected as president elect of the largest national professional organization for school counselors, the American School Counselor Association. The ASCA provides global research, professional development and advocacy services. This new position will also allow for national recognition of UNF’s SOAR program.

Office of Student Services:
Dr. John Kemppainen was a guest speaker to a group of 36 international students at FCCJ in November. The students were part of the Cooperative Association of States for Scholarships program in which FCCJ participates along with Georgetown University.

Dean’s Office:
Dr. Marsha Lupi and Dr. Suzanne Martin of the University of Central Florida presented a session which highlighted the chapter authors of their book, “Special Women, Special Leaders: Special Educators and the Challenge of Leadership” at the annual conference of the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, in Portland, Maine, in November. Lupi also presented a session titled “How to Communicate with Your Legislator on Disability Issues.”

College of Health

Department of Public Health:  
Drs. Catherine Christie and Judy Perkin had an article titled “Public Health Practitioner Expert Opinions for Recommending Revisions to a Community Nutrition MPH Curriculum” published in the Florida Public Health Review, Vol. 2, 2005. Desiree Hayes, a graduate of the UNF MPH program, also served as one of the co-authors for this publication.

Dr. Cynthia Nyquist-Battie, with J.P. Soberano, L. Freeman, K. Leckband, D.Lund, and D.V. Lim, presented “Screening Commercial Polyclonal Antibodies Against the Escherichia Coli Reference Collection (ECOR) for Use in Portable, Evansen Wave, Fiber Optic Biosensors” at the ASM Biodefense Meeting in Washington, D.C.
Welcome:
Maria Castro has returned to UNF as the co-op/internship coordinator for Career Services. Castro first came to work at UNF in 1999 as a student assistant.

Elizabeth Foster is the new Student Affairs coordinator in the International Center. She will concentrate on individual student study abroad.

Adonna Gattis was recently welcomed to UPD as the records division secretary. In addition to maintaining daily records for UPD, Gattis coordinates UNF’s lost and found.

Janann Reynolds returned to UNF as a secretary in Student Medical Services. Reynolds served in Student Affairs for several years in the early ‘90s in the Career Services unit then called Cooperative Education and Testing.

Reena Sheth recently began work as a counselor in the Counseling Center. She previously worked with women and children at Eastern Illinois University. She earned her master’s degree in social work in Bombay, India.

Student Life’s Elena Saladino has taken a new job with the Child Guidance Center in Jacksonville, where she will work with children and families.

Births:
Kathy Westberry (Admissions and Campus Events) is now a grandmother to Lucas Kane Westberry, who was born Dec. 29. He was eight weeks early but all is well. He weighed 3 pounds, 4.1 ounces and was 16 inches long at birth.

Crystal Serrano-Hairston (UPD) gave birth to Tiana A. Hairston Oct. 6. She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. Tiana’s grandmother is Evelyn Serrano (Controller’s Office).

Sandie Loach (Coggin College of Business) became a grandmother for the second time this year Oct. 20. Her daughter, Kelly Loach Burch, and husband Bryan welcomed Noah Dean, weighing in at 9 pounds, 3 ounces.

Mary McConville (VP’s Office) became a grandmother last week for the second time. Diesel McConville was born Nov. 23, weighing 6 pounds, 12 ounces and measuring 20 inches. He joins his sister Jadyn.

Weddings:
Bonnie Gregory (Housing Operations) married Darrin LaGasse in Las Vegas in November.

Melissa LaSage (Admissions) married Jeff Hyman in DeLand in October. Both earned B.A. degrees from the Coggin College of Business (2005 and 2003, respectively).

Farewell:
Barbara Wilson (Student Medical Services) left UNF Jan. 27 after three-and-a-half years to become an office manager in an infectious disease practice through Baptist Medical Center.

Officer Bonnie Howell (UPD) retired in December after 13 years of service to UPD and two years with the Institute for Police Technology Management at UNF. She and husband Wayne Johnson, also a UPD retiree, have moved to North Carolina.

Kai Boczkiewicz-Perez has left Community First Credit Union. She accepted a position with the state of Florida.

Lead teacher Suzanne Bevers (CDRC) resigned from UNF to enroll at Jacksonville University and complete a degree in dance education. She worked at CDRC for nearly three years.

Louis Rose (CDRC) accepted a position with Duval County as a ninth-grade reading teacher. Rose served as CDRC’s office manager since 2003, transferring to the center from a position in Admissions. He completed his bachelor’s degree while working at UNF.

Dan Simon left Student Affairs for a position as system/network engineer for the University’s Information Technology Services. Simon worked for Student Affairs for more than five years.

Achievements:
The Library’s Shelley Anderson (pictured at right) is the Employee of the Year for the Technical Services Division and Mark Touchton is Employee of the Year for the Public Services Division.

Spinnaker staff attended the ACP National College Media Convention in Kansas City in November and won first place in the “Best-of-Show” category as a four-year weekly tabloid newspaper. The Spinnaker competed against 450 international college newspapers.

Wendy Aldaiz (Residence Life) was promoted from OPS to USPS office manager, serving as assistant to the director of Residence Life.

Denise George was promoted to program assistant in the Medical Compliance Office. She has been employed at UNF for over three years, as a medical assistant in Student Medical Services and secretary in Medical Compliance.

Samantha Roth (Residence Life) was promoted from OPS to USPS office assistant. She serves as assistant to the associate director of Residence Life. Roth is currently pursuing a master’s degree in public administration.

Women’s softball coach Sonya Wilmoth (Athletics) and her Lady Ospreys were recognized at the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Convention for Wilmoth’s 400th win. She was awarded a plaque at the Easton Victory Club Luncheon as part of the convention’s activities in Orlando.

Dean of students Tom Van Schoor (Student Life) was honored with a certificate from the Association of Fraternity Advisors for 15 years of educational service to students enrolled in fraternities and sororities.

The Institute of International Education announced a privately-funded emergency fund for international students who were victims of Hurricane Katrina. The International Center nominated Nogoye Seck of Senegal for the emergency fund. She received a $1,000 award.

Bettie Adams (Coggin College), Paul Riel (Housing) and Lance Taylor (ITS) were nominated to the board of directors for Community First Credit Union. Members of the credit union can vote for three candidates by Feb. 24 on a ballot provided in the mail.
local environmental conflict

(Continued from page 1)

neighborhood and get a feel for the area," Lambert said. "For most of the students, this was the first time they had heard about this issue and visited this part of town, so it was an eye-opening experience."

They also met with community activists and leaders to hear various viewpoints, including those of Diane Kerr of the North Riverside Community Association, Terri Florio of the MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation, Rev. Elwyn Jenkins, pastor of a local church, and Dave Jones of the Duval County Department of Health.

Two weeks after the field trip, the students met on campus to complete the conflict resolution exercise, playing the roles of various community stakeholders. Randomly assigned to students, the roles included representatives from builders’ associations, the chamber of commerce, city council, city planning and development, environmental justice groups, environmental protection agencies, health departments and neighborhood associations, as well as clergy members and developers.

Natalia Klosak, a junior majoring in biology and chemistry and minoring in health, played the role of an EPA representative. "I was very excited to have been assigned that role because it falls right in line with my interests," Klosak said. "We had two weeks to prepare for our roles and I came in with an entire binder of information. After having researched different methods for clean-up and costs involved, I came up with a best-alternative plan that fit within the budget we were given."

Most students were challenged to explore roles outside their normal comfort zones, according to Dr. Bart Welling, an assistant English professor and Environmental Center fellow who worked with Lambert, Bowman, Abby Murphy and others at UNF to organize and plan the event. "The students had to play the roles they were assigned, which really expanded their horizons and exposed them to valid concerns on opposing sides," Welling said. "I was really impressed with the students' willingness to assume the various roles and take them seriously."

While Lambert said some of his students seemed initially turned off by the roles they had been assigned, such as clergy members and health officials, he said they ended up presenting convincing arguments in support of their roles.

"This exercise included elements of leadership training, ethics, community service and participation in policy-making," Lambert said. "It's really an exercise aimed at encouraging our students to become good citizens."

Alicia Behrens, a senior nursing student, was interested in participating in the exercise because she has spent the last two years working in UNF’s community-nursing program in the Lackawanna area. "This exercise helped to make real something that nursing students learn about in the classroom," she said. "It was quite a challenge to be the only nursing student in the group and try to advocate against a group that outnumbered you. It really helped everyone to examine new perspectives."

The exercise was facilitated by Tom Patton, station manager of WJCT-FM, and Jeannie Fewell, former executive director of Jacksonville’s Housing Commission. They presented an overview and invited stakeholders to present their points of view. Students broke out into small groups and formulated action plans before presenting them to the larger group and making an effort to come to a consensus.

Although the group didn’t arrive at a perfect solution to the problem, the majority of participants indicated that the exercise was well worth the effort. "The students came out of the exercise knowing what the issues were and how they felt about them," Lambert said. "Our hope is that the students were able to put themselves in the shoes of the other stakeholders and seriously think about environmental issues in ways they possibly wouldn’t otherwise have ever considered."
February 27, 1988
Dr. Andrew Adolphus “Andy” Robinson, the University’s first interim president, died at age 57 following a sudden illness. A lifetime resident of Jacksonville, Robinson attended local public schools and began his educational career as a science teacher in a local junior high school. Robinson was the first principal of William Raines Senior High School. Robinson played a part in faculty desegregation during the school desegregation period of the 1960s. In 1970, Robinson joined the University’s planning staff as assistant dean of faculties and associate professor of education and later became dean of the College of Education and Human Services. He served on many boards and commissions including the Jacksonville Transportation Authority. The University recognized Robinson’s many contributions by naming the Student Life Center (Building 14) after him.

February 1, 1991
The University’s administration building, Building 1, was dedicated to Jaquelin James Daniel. Daniel served on the Board of Regents. His leadership was instrumental in the founding of the University and the consolidation of city and county governments during the late 1960s. During the dedication of J.J. Daniel Hall, a plaque honoring Daniel was unveiled at the second-floor front entrance. The plaque describes Daniel as “a leader with vision and integrity who contributed significantly to the State University System of Florida, the City of Jacksonville, and the University of North Florida.” Daniel died six months before the ceremony, but his widow, two daughters and some of his friends were there.

February 29, 2000
Noted animal researcher and environmentalist Jane Goodall spoke at the Arena as part of the Presidential Lecture Series. Goodall is known for her work with chimpanzees at Gombe National Park in Tanzania. In 1960, Goodall began what has become the longest field study of any animal species in their natural surroundings. Goodall has extended her efforts beyond research to preserving chimp populations by becoming founder of numerous chimpanzee sanctuaries in Africa. Goodall is the author of seven books and countless articles and is also the recipient of numerous prestigious awards. At the lecture, Goodall greeted approximately 5,000 people with a chimpanzee call.

February 23, 2001
Martin Luther King III was the keynote speaker at the 20th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship Luncheon. At the time he was president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. At the luncheon he reviewed many of the accomplishments of the Civil Rights Movement and told the audience that everyone must share in the responsibility for continuing that progress. “We are a better nation than the behavior we exhibit. We can and we must do better,” said King.