CDRC pilots remote-monitoring program with Nemours/JEA

By JULIE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Through a collaboration with Nemours, JEA and the Brooks College of Health, UNF’s Child Development and Research Center will soon take part in a remote-monitoring pilot program which could help save the lives of critically ill children in years to come.

The Nemours Children’s Clinic will install two-way video computers at the CDRC in early October to help monitor the condition of children with chronic, ongoing diseases like asthma and cystic fibrosis.

Children at the center who have special medical needs (and whose parents have opted to participate in the program) will sit at a private remote-monitoring station in the CDRC’s parent library once a week to communicate with a nurse at Nemours during a live, interactive video-conference, or e-visit. The nurse will record various medical data, which will be collected at the remote-monitoring station with the assistance of UNF nursing students, who will measure such things as the child’s blood pressure, heart rate, weight and lung capacity. The child’s physician will have access to the data collected, via the Internet and a Nemours Web portal.

The hope is that by collecting this medical data on a regular basis and having the data reviewed by a medical professional who can speak with and see the child in real-time during each e-visit, parents and child-care providers will receive an advance warning when a child’s chronic medical condition worsens. When this happens, parents will be advised to see the child’s regular physician immediately to prevent the condition from escalating to a more dangerous or life-threatening situation.

“We have had several children on nebulizers here at the center, as well as a child who was diagnosed with type-1 diabetes,” said Pam Bell, director of the CDRC. “This program allows medical experts to assess the health of participating children, providing a service that will benefit the children, the parents and the childcare providers. It’s a win-win situation for everyone involved.”

According to Francis Koster, vice president of innovation and special projects at Nemours, remote-monitoring programs have been tested across the country for 20 years, showing favorable results. “The literature reports a 50 percent reduction in emergency room visits and hospital stays in children who participate in remote-monitoring programs,” he said. “There also is a 50 percent reduction in school absences due to illness.” This is an attractive statistic to educators, who realize the importance attendance plays in school, particularly for increasing or maintaining high FCAT scores.

Usually implemented via telephone lines, remote monitoring has proven very successful at improving patient outcomes. But in order to provide the program in areas where the transmission of data via telephone lines is either inconvenient or nonexistent, new technology has recently been introduced. It’s called Broadband over Power Lines (BPL), and it utilizes a simple electric wall socket to transmit medical information. It’s this

(Continued on page 2)
Gabor/UNFF Awards announced

The 2006 Gabor/UNFF Employee Excellence Award winners were announced at a ceremony Sept. 5 in the lobby of the Fine Arts Center. Awards were presented to USPS employee Dorothea Kent from the Department of Internal Auditing, and A&P employee Paul Riel, director of Housing Operations. Both Kent and Riel received $600 in cash, plaques, framed certificates and reserved parking spaces of their choice for a year. Runners-up were USPS employee Bonnie LaGasse from Housing and A&P employee Vivian Senior, assistant director of Career Services. LaGasse and Senior received $300 in cash, plaques and framed certificates. All finalists and nominees received framed certificates and recognition from the University.

Remote monitoring (Continued from page 1)

technology that is being tested through the pilot program at the CDRC. The program is also being piloted at three additional local day care centers, two middle schools, two high schools and 14 homes.

“What we have learned in past remote-monitoring programs [in home settings] is that one-third of the participants had their phones disconnected during the course of the monitoring project,” Koster said. “What often happens when a child becomes critically ill is that it becomes very economically difficult for the parents—they often have to stay home to take care of their children and lose their employment, health insurance and income” so they are forced to terminate their phone service. With the new BPL technology, the only required utility is electric service.

Koster said that because families with critically ill children are protected by state law from having their electric service shut off, BPL is a potentially useful method for transmitting medical data. It’s also an ideal method of transmitting other important data needed by utility companies (locations of downed power lines, broken water pumps, etc.), which is one reason JEA is teaming up with Nemours to experiment with broadband technology.

The project is funded by a $680,000 federal grant, with JEA and Nemours each contributing matching funds. The purpose of the grant is to see if BPL technology can successfully carry data from one point to another. Koster said the health data is only a vehicle in that demonstration. “The Department of Commerce is primarily interested in finding out that the BPL technology works,” he said.

“The CDRC was chosen to participate in the program because we’re a small center with only 100 children, and the technology is already set up here,” Bell said. “With the University Police right next door, all we had to do was run a few cables across the street and we’re ready to go.”

Koster, who is on the advisory board for the Brooks College of Health, said UNF was a natural fit as a potential test site. “UNF is always looking to pilot new and innovative ideas and technology and I feel comfortable working with UNF.”

Upon completion of the pilot program, Koster said Nemours will conduct retrospective surveys with participating families, day care staff, doctors and nurses, “to capture lessons and insights they might have regarding remote monitoring.”

2006-07 Outstanding Teaching Awards nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2006-07 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards and the 2006-07 Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award. Guidelines for the awards are located on the UNF Faculty Association Web site at www.unf.edu/groups/unffa. (click on Faculty Awards). Nominations may be submitted online or sent via-email to facassn1@unf.edu. They also can be delivered to the Faculty Association Office in Portable 849. The nomination deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct.18.
Student’s Big Fun Box Foundation benefits hospitalized children

By Erika Torres

Grant Prather talks on his cell phone and exchanges e-mails in between classes, something that most college students seem to be doing these days.

During his study time, the 24-year-old will probably talk to his mom, board members, potential donors and corporations for the non-profit organization he co-founded, the Big Fun Box Foundation.

Juggling time for the foundation and a full term at UNF would seem to be Prather’s biggest challenge. “If I’m not doing class work, I’m doing foundation stuff,” said the sophomore, who studies marketing and logistics at UNF.

Calculus, public speaking, business law and literature courses are the least of Prather’s worries, even if he is a little intimidated by calculus. His biggest concern is how to live with cystic fibrosis, a genetic disease that he was diagnosed with when he was 7 months old.

Six years ago, a double-lung transplant made living with Cystic Fibrosis a lot easier, but Prather describes the transplant as another malady. “A common cold could really cause problems,” said Prather, who on average is treated once a year with medical-IV therapy since the transplant. His childhood was a different story.

“No matter what he ever has to do or endure, he ‘puts his game face on,’ as he calls it, and does it, usually starting with the thing he likes least or that is the hardest,” Jo Anne McKinney said. “No matter what he ever has to do or endure, he ‘puts his game face on,’ as he calls it, and does it, usually starting with the thing he likes least or that is the hardest,” McKinney said. “It’s been a source of his self confidence and personal growth and it’s a source of comfort to me knowing he will get himself through something.”

In addition to running a foundation, Prather also runs races. Since last December, Prather has completed eight runs. The one road race he hopes to run one day is the 15K Gate River Run, a race he said would raise the bar for what he could accomplish.

“A few months ago I went to the gym and this guy came up to me and asked me, ‘What are you training for?’ I thought I’d never be asked that.”
many Transformational Learning Opportunities involve trips to foreign countries. Students in a Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice TLO don’t even have to leave campus to benefit from the program.

The goal of the Criminology and Criminal Justice TLO program is to provide opportunities for students to engage professionals working in real-world settings and to explore academic subjects. Two examples of the department’s TLO projects were last year’s program with Patrick McGuiness and Ann Finnell and the department’s first Career Day.

In April, McGuiness and Finnell of the Duval County Public Defender’s Office gave a lecture and participated in a question-and-answer session about the Brenton Butler case. McGuiness and Finnell were the defense attorneys for Butler, a 15-year-old Jacksonville youth who was wrongly accused of the 2000 robbery and murder of a Georgia woman as she walked to her room at a local motel.

The case drew national attention and was the subject of a 2001 Academy-Award-winning documentary “Murder on a Sunday Morning,” which was shown prior to McGuiness and Finnell’s lecture. “For those who came, it was transformational,” said Dr. Michael Hallett, chair of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. “It gave students the opportunity to see a prosecution gone wrong.” The event in the Fine Arts Center was also open to the public.

The Criminal Justice Career Day was in March. More than 20 city, state and federal agencies had representatives at the Career Day to discuss internships and job opportunities. Some of the agencies represented included the Florida Division of Law Enforcement, Florida Department of Corrections, Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

All criminal justice and criminology students are required to do an internship. “Our TLO agenda has transformed our curriculum,” Hallett said. “As a result, we’ve developed our internship into a ‘capstone’ [crowning achievement] experience for students, providing structured opportunities for students to interact with professionals working in the real world.”

UNF student Amarilys Victoria spoke at the Career Day about her experiences as an intern with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. “I’d never had any work experience,” said Victoria, who has graduated and now works for the Florida Guardian ad Litem Program. “Because of the internship, I could see what NCIS does. ‘It was wonderful to see things I had read about in class come alive.’

Catherine Chadeayne-Goldman is an instructor in the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice and also is in charge of the internship program. She played a major role in organizing the Career Day. “I am awed and thrilled by how much each student grows over the course of their internship,” Chadeayne-Goldman said. “If the definition of a capstone experience is ‘the crowning achievement or final stroke,’ our criminal justice internship experience is certainly that.”

UNF students connect with Middle Eastern students to dispel stereotypes

Given the current state of world affairs, no Transformational Learning Opportunity could be more topical than Dr. Paula Horvath-Neimeyer’s Communicating Across Cultures course.

Horvath-Neimeyer, an instructor in the Department of Communication, has taught Communicating Across Cultures for several years. Now, there is an extra component to the course. UNF students, beginning this month, will engage in weekly discussions with students from universities in the Middle East and other U.S. universities through videoconferencing. This involves students sitting at a computer with a Web-cam so they are able to see real-time images of each other.

The program, called the Connect Program, is available through Soliya, a nonprofit, non-governmental organization that promotes cross-cultural understanding.

Horvath-Neimeyer said UNF is the first university in the Southeast to take part in Soliya’s Connect Program. The other U.S. schools in the program are Ohio State, Tufts, Virginia Commonwealth and the University of Maine-Machias. Students from Middle Eastern universities in Egypt, Kuwait, Morocco, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates are also participating in the Connect Program.

“The program is plugged into what I believe is a pressing need right now — communications between the West and Middle East,” Horvath-Neimeyer said. “I’d like them [her students] to gain a greater understanding of the world view of someone from another culture. It’s vitally important for students to have firsthand knowledge of another culture. I’ve seen how it can change people.” The last statement referred to her observations of students on study-abroad trips.

Eight students, four from U.S. universities and four from Middle Eastern universities, get together weekly via the videoconferencing technology to talk about topics ranging from politics to religion to media coverage of the ongoing conflicts in the Middle East. UNF students will be required to co-author opinion pieces with Middle Eastern students on U.S.-Middle Eastern issues. They will also do a video news report on U.S.-Middle Eastern relations, using raw news footage from around the world provided by Soliya, whose name is a combination of the Latin word “sol,” which means sun, and an old Arabic word “iya,” which means beam of light.

Sophomore Whitney Gorham is one of the 13 UNF students taking the three-credit Communicating Across Cultures course and participating in the Connect Program. “I think it’s going to be really interesting to videoconference with kids from the United States and the Middle East. It is going to be great to learn about Middle Eastern culture. I think it’s really important,” Gorham said. “Ignorance, fear and hate are the real weapons of mass destruction.”
Dr. Gordon Rakita couldn’t help noticing the curious expressions on his students’ faces one semester when he carted a replica skeleton of a chimpanzee from a cabinet in Portable 849A into a chemistry lab in the Science and Engineering Building.

“Our chimpanzee won’t need to go on any excursions anymore,” he said. The chimpanzee has found a new home in the recently opened Social Sciences Building. “Now he can breathe easier,” joked Rakita.

On Oct. 10, Rakita and his colleagues will gather for the dedication.

The Social Sciences Building is the first LEED-registered green facility in Jacksonville. LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, represents buildings that reduce storm water run-off, use materials that do less damage to the environment, provide user-friendly recycling stations and reduce energy use.

“I’m excited that the University is paving the way in Jacksonville with a new learning facility that is environmentally responsible,” said UNF President John Delaney. “Not only is this a high-tech facility outfitted with the latest technology, but it’s also a healthy place for UNF students to learn and faculty and staff to work.”

“It’s the best physical anthropology lab I’ve ever seen,” Rakita said. “Being a new facility is a factor, but it’s also the size of the space, the arrangement and infrastructure of this building.”

Rakita occupies one of three teaching laboratories in the 63,000-square-foot building. Also in the Social Sciences Building are five classrooms that can hold 49 students and two theater-style classrooms that can hold 80 students. The building also has the latest wireless technology. “The end result was worth the wait,” said Rakita who has worked in a portable for the last three years.

UNF’s newest facility also provides offices for faculty, staff and administration, in addition to five large conference rooms, study rooms for students and staff lounges, study areas and storage.

Building 51, described as the signature building for the College of Arts and Sciences, accommodates several departments, including sociology, anthropology, psychology, criminal justice, and political sciences and public administration. Last semester those departments were located in various buildings throughout the campus. Bringing them together under one roof is said to encourage greater collaboration as well as interdisciplinary dialogue and programs.

“I’ve had more chats with some of my colleagues in the last couple of weeks than I have during any semester in the last three years,” Rakita said.
Clubfest: UNF Photo Club President Mario Peralta (right) and Kristen Sawyer man the club’s table at the annual Clubfest.

Ornithology Lecture: Dr. Pierre Allaire, vice president of Institutional Advancement, gives a lecture on ornithology Sept. 15 as part of the Natural Sciences Seminar Series.

Before and After: Sandro Turriate, assistant Webmaster in Marketing and Publications, donated a head full of hair this summer to Locks of Love, a non-profit organization that makes hairpieces for children with long-term medical hair loss. Turriate said he was inspired to donate his locks by other UNF students who had done the same.
Enzo Torcoletti:
UNF alumnus Frank Donato admires a sculpture by Enzo Torcoletti at the opening of the artist's exhibit in the University Gallery.

LGBT Open House:
Students gather at an open house for the Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Transgender Office Sept. 6. Top row (left to right): Ashley Lewis, Natalie Nguyen, Dane Boog, Education Coordinator Emily Rokosch, Nicole Vargas and Rebecca Koransky. Front row: Dean Bonilla, Kirsten Greenlee and Adrienne Silverman.

Building 11 Demolition:
Debris from classrooms falls into the courtyard of the old Social Sciences Building as it is being leveled.
Dr. Keith pub-ic, Dr. Doria F. S presented the Dr. Barbara J. F served on the H Institute on Disability and Panel for the National Capacity Building Expert 11-member national Transportation and Logistics North American presented “The State of the Arms Act” was published in Dr. Ronald J. Adams’ book, “Tell Meninak Club of Jacksonville luncheon meeting of the Nursing’s annual conference in Palm Beach Gardens.

College of Arts and Sciences

BIOLOGY: Dr. Doria F. Bowers and her graduate student, Erica Laird, presented an invited poster “Mechanism of Sindbis-Associated Pathology in the Salivary Glands of Mosquitoes” at the 25th annual American Society for Virology meeting in Madison, Wis.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Dr. Gary Harmon published “Miami” in “AMERICAN ICONS: People, Places, and Things that have Shaped American Culture,” edited by Dennis R. Hall and Susan Grove Hall.


Dr. John Parmelee published two articles, “Examining ‘Meet the Candidate Videos’ at the Gubernatorial Level” and “Understanding Symbolism in Magazine Coverage of President Reagan,” in the Florida Communication Journal, Vol. 34.

Dr. Judith Sayre presented “Incorporating Communication Skills Training into the Curriculum of a Palliative Medicine Fellowship in a Large Multi-specialty Academic Medical Center” at the 12th Regional Conference of WoncaEurope: World Family Doctors, in Florence, Italy.

CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE: Dr. Michael Hallett gave two invited presentations at the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University in England: “Policy Convergence in Late Modern England and America: Profit Prisons and the Dangerous Classes” and “Peacemaking Criminology in the Late Modern West.”


Dr. Dean Swinford’s book “Through the Daemon’s Gate: Kepler’s Somnium, Medieval Dream Narratives, and the Polysemy of Allegorical Motifs” was published by Routledge.

Dr. Bart Welling presented “‘They Are Not to Lose It’: Faulkner, García Márquez, and the Politics of Amnesia” at the 2006 Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference on “Global Faulkner” in Oxford, Miss.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS: Dr. Dan Dreibelbis presented “Conjugate Asymptotic Directions of Immersed Manifolds” at the ninth annual Workshop on Real and Complex Singularities at the Instituto de Ciencias Matematicas e de Computacao at the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil.

Dr. James Gleaton presented “Proportional Odds Families of Lifetime Distributions” at the National Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle.

Dr. Mahbubur Rahman presented “Markov Versus Gaussian White Noise in Propagation of Wave Arising in Mathematical Neurosciences” at the Third International Conference on Neural, Parallel and Scientific Computations in Atlanta.

Dr. Pali Sen presented the poster “A General Probability Distribution Using Bü-ermann Power Series” at the National Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle.

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES: Dr. Daniel Callcut presented “Toleration and the Ideal of Neutrality” at the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften.

Dr. Hans-Herbert Kögl presented the invited lecture “Roots of Recognition: Cultural Identity and the Ethos of Hermeneutic Dialogue” at the 29th International Wittgenstein Symposium on Cultures: Analysis/Conflict/Discourse in Kirchberg, Austria, where he was also interviewed by Austrian national TV and national public radio. Two of his articles were published, including “Normalitaet als Normalisierung” in Mitteilungen des Instituts fuer Wissenschaft und Kunst, and “Unconscious Power of Language: Foucault, Hacking,

Dr. John Maraldo presented two papers and gave an invited colloquium this summer in Europe: “Searching for the Dharma of History in Chan Recorded Sayings” at a conference in Leiden University in the Netherlands; “Aikido Meets War, in Theory and Practice” at the Academie du Midi Conference on War and Peace in Alet-les-Bains, France; and “Philosophy In Traditional Japan – Is There Such A Thing? The Early Meiji Debate And Beyond” for the Groupe de recherché sur la philosophie dans le Japon moderne, in Paris.


Sociology and Anthropology: Dr. Ronald Kephart conducted a workshop on the relationship between English Creole and Standard English and their place in education for teachers in the English Department at Bishops College, a private secondary school on Carriacou, Grenada. The Grenada Ministry of Education organized the workshop.

Dr. Ye Luo presented “STD Knowledge Among the General Adult Population of China” at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in Montreal.


Dr. Jenny Stuber presented “Smoking, Social Norms and the Emergence of a Stigmatized Identity” at the American Sociological Association’s annual meeting in Montreal, Canada.

College of Computing, Engineering and Construction


Dr. Nick Hudyma presented a research report titled “Sinkholes in Dry Retention Ponds Phase 2 - Ground Proving State-of-the-Art Geophysical Techniques” at the 20th Annual Florida Department of Transportation Geotechnical Research in Progress (GRIP) meeting, hosted by UNF.

Dr. Susan (Chun-ye) Vasana, along with Wang Chuan-xu, Zhang Xiang-guang and Liu Yun, presented “Adaptive Noise Canceller for Cardiac Sounds of Fetus” at the IASTED International Conference on Applied Simulation and Modeling in June.

Dr. Pat Welsh participated in the National Design Review for the “FHWA Clarus Initiative,” a national effort to combine state road weather information systems. The design review was conducted as part of the 2006 Florida Mesonet Conference at UNF.

Computer and Information Sciences: Dr. Bob Roggio presented “So You Think You Know What a Use-Case Really Is: An Interactive Discussion” to the International Institute of Business Analysts (IIIA) in Jacksonville.

FEEDS: Dr. Donald Farshing closed a partner-ship agreement with the Florida Engineering Society and the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers whereby the UNF video production classroom will be employed for the development of a number of short seminars such as Engineering Pitfalls in Stormwater Design, Wind Load Design, and Florida Laws and Rules.

College of Education and Human Services

Childhood Education: Dr. Nile Stanley published an article “Interview with John Archambault: Making Words Sing is a Magical Thing Teaching the Legacy of Bill Martin, Jr. (1914-2004) and Beyond” in the Florida Reading Quarterly, Vol. 42, No. 4.

Drs. Wanda Hedrick and Katrina Hall (with Sharon Sanders, principal at Holiday Hill Elementary School) presented “Head and Heart United: University and Schools Working Together to Prepare Pre-service Teachers” at the Florida Teacher Education Conference in Ocala in August.

Leadership and Counseling: Dr. Sebastian Foti published “Educational Technology: Is This What We Were Dreaming?” in the Massachusetts Computer-Using Educators publication, On Cue, Spring 2006.

Get to Know: Dorothy Brasher

Department: Human Resources
Job: Personnel Representative
Years at UNF: Eight

WHAT’S/WHO’S YOUR FAVORITE

Author - I like to read a good mystery book, and am reading one now by Elsa Klensch. The book is “Live at 10:00-Dead at 10:15.” I don’t look at the last page either; very tempting.

Movie – I like a lot of different kinds of movies. I think “Star Wars” would be up at the top of most liked movies. I watch a lot of movies at home and really like all the Steven Seagal movies.

Actor/actress – Steven Seagal

Musician/musical group – I like a lot of different kinds of music too. Country is my favorite, but not the only one that I listen to. I love the oldies, when I can find a station that plays them.

Sports team – I am a big fan of football. I try to watch all the Gator games and the Jag games on TV. I have been to some of the Jag home games and really had a good time.

Vacation destination – My favorite place for a vacation is the mountains. Such a change every time you round a curve. You really don’t mind the drive.

Hobby - My hobby is arts and crafts and, of course, kayaking. I have been going almost every Saturday. A lot of times we go to the St. Mary’s River. It is such a serene place and a good workout too.

Most memorable moment at UNF - The most memorable moment at UNF was when I met Archbishop Tutu. I even had my picture taken with him. That was very exciting.
**Sponsored Research**

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has announced the following grants and contracts:

- J. David Lambert (Building Construction Management) and Ray Bowman (Environmental Center), “Wetlands and Conservation Easement Mapping Pilot Study,” Preservation North Florida, $25,000
- Dan Cox and Alexandra Schönning (Engineering), “First Coast Manufacturing Innovation Partnership,” National Science Foundation, $183,291
- John MacArthur and Bobby Waldrup (Accounting and Finance) and Jeffrey Michelman (Coggin College of Business Dean’s Officer), “JEA Information Technology Department Process-based Costing Initiative,” JEA, $99,395
- Dennis Gay (Chemistry and Physics), “Undergraduate Space Research Grant: Detecting Metals in Water Using Photo-induced Charge Movement Sensors,” Florida Space Grant Consortium/National Aeronautics and Space Administration, $3,000
- Thomas Pekarek (Chemistry and Physics), “Acquisition of a Physical Property Measurement System (PPMS) for Research and Education,” National Science Foundation, $269,780
- Gabriel Ybarra (Psychology), “Behaviorist Intervention Services for Family Counseling Services,” Family Counseling Services, $15,600
- Adam Shapiro (Sociology and Anthropology), “Establishing Algorithms for the Cost-Benefit Analysis of In-home Services for Elderly in Florida,” Florida Department of Elder Affairs/US Department of Health and Human Services, $40,000
- Adam Shapiro and Nancy Winterbauer (Sociology and Anthropology), “Research and Evaluation for the Duval County Health Department,” Duval County Health Department/Florida Department of Health, $23,532
- Jeffery Will (Sociology and Anthropology), “Healthy Start/Magnolia Infant Mortality Reduction Project 2006-2007,” Northeast Florida Health Start Coalition, Inc./Health Resources and Services Administration, $92,370
- Lehman Barnes (Curriculum and Instruction), “Reflective Practice Project,” Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Florida, Inc., $10,000
- Jeffrey Harrison (Public Health), “Dean’s Professorship: The Impact of Quality and Efficiency on Value in Healthcare,” UNF Foundation/Brooks Health Foundation, Inc., $18,000
- Julia Watkins (Public Health), “Dean’s Professorship: Association of Situational Self-efficacy and Binge Eating Severity in College Students,” UNF Foundation/Brooks Health Foundation, Inc., $27,000
- Mei Zhao (Public Health), “Dean’s Professorship: Nursing Home Financial Condition and Quality,” UNF Foundation/Brooks Health Foundation, Inc., $22,000

**Dr. Michael J. Hallett receives GKI Award**

During the opening celebration for the Gandhi, King, and Ikeda (GKI) Legacy of Building Peace exhibit Sept. 18, Dr. Michael Hallett was presented with a GKI Award for his work in areas of human rights. Jacksonville’s Stetson Kennedy was also presented with an award. Dr. Lawrence Edward Carter Sr., dean of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College in Atlanta (MLK’s alma mater) was the featured speaker (pictured to the left of Hallett). The traveling international peace exhibit was on display through Oct. 1 in the lobby of the Science and Engineering Building. The purpose of the exhibit was to deliver a message about individual leadership and the difference that one person can make in promoting peace through non-violent action. The event and exhibit was sponsored by UNF’s Intercultural Center for Peace and the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College.
Not every rose has its thorn

Do you think that a rose is a rose is a rose? If so, you should look a little closer at these traditional garden flowers. In "The Plant Book" D. J. Mabberly states that 100 species of rose grow around the world in temperate areas and tropical mountains. In addition to these wild species, people have created thousands of hybrids. Gardeners can choose from miniature rose plants and creepers that grow a few inches tall to large shrubs, and vines that can climb 50 feet or more into tree canopies. Flowers may have five petals or have so many petals they look like colorful little cabbages. The range of flower colors is remarkable. Roses almost cover the spectrum but lack a true blue. Despite poems and songs to the contrary, there are even a few thornless roses. One has flowers that open yellow, then turn light pink and finally change to dark pink before falling.

In general, I have considered roses to be demanding garden plants and tended to avoid them in my gardens. It is true that many of the modern hybrids require regular applications of pesticides and plenty of water and fertilizer to flower and grow well in Florida. Recently, however, I see more and more disease-resistant roses in local landscapes and nurseries. These are both antique roses (old hybrids) and new hybrids. I tried a few in my Jacksonville yard and have been impressed with their long seasons of bloom with just a little care. As a result, we are planting some of the disease-resistant shrub roses on campus. Most of these have single flowers with just five petals and yellow stamens in the center. So far, these roses have flowered well and demonstrated good disease resistance. They are fairly drought-tolerant but respond to a little irrigation and fertilizer with more flowers.

On campus, you can see the dark pink flowers of Red Knockout, light pink flowers of Blush Knockout and the coral-pink flowers of Lady Elise May. At the University Center, we have planted the yellow-flowered Carefree Sunshine, a hybrid called Angel from a local grower with large clusters of small pink flowers, an antique rose named La Marne, and Vincent Godsiff, a Bermuda mystery rose. These are just a few of the antiques and modern hybrids that are reported to be suitable for general landscape use.