

# inside unf

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MAY 2005

## Environmental Center emerges with ambitious agenda

**R**ay Bowman's name has been affiliated with environmental initiatives for as long as UNF has existed. He played an important role in the creation of the UNF Nature Trails and has been a long-time advocate of preserving undeveloped parts of campus.

The recently established UNF Environmental Center may be his legacy to the University. After many years of proposals to different administrations, President John Delaney gave the project a green light this year.

Although in its infancy, the center already has moved forward with a variety of projects, ranging from a comprehensive natural resources inventory of campus to plans for community partnerships and student internships.

But Bowman is clear about one issue — the center will not be an advocacy group; it will be a resource group. "We will not be taking positions on controversial environmental issues," he said. "We will respond to the pressing need for research relevant to environmental issues and help design thoughtful solutions. We want to encourage responsible stewardship and help prepare the next generation of environmentally literate leaders."

Bowman isn't alone in this effort. The center has attracted a cross-section of faculty and staff who share his optimism and vision and have distinctive expertise in a variety of fields. "Perhaps our greatest strength is that we are governed by an executive board representing all five UNF colleges," he said.

"I am more optimistic about the future of the UNF environment than I have been in decades," he said, referring to his 1982 effort to launch such an initiative.

In the process of forming the center, Bowman has obtained the endorsements of each of the deans of the five colleges as well as former provost David Kline. With that kind of backing, progress has been apparent on a number of fronts.

For example, team teaching and team research on the environment will occur next spring with a multidisciplinary approach. For the first time, two faculty members from different colleges may teach a single course. Both faculty members will be present at all class meetings and frequently participate together in classroom activities.

*(Continued on page 11)*



**New programs sponsored by the UNF Environmental Center may be housed at the John M. Golden Environmental Education Pavilion. This is an artist rendering of the pavilion that will be constructed along the UNF Nature Trails this year. Golden was a long-time Nature Trails ranger. Donations made in his honor are partially financing this project.**

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## honors & awards

# Mock Trial Team has good year



HAND IN PHOTO

**Caption**

**U**NF's highly successful Mock Trial Team has taken home some impressive honors this year in competition with more established universities throughout the country.

The team placed second at the Miami Invitational Tournament and garnered three individual awards. Kristin DiFrancesco and David Thompson won top attorney awards and Dominique Scalia won a best witness award for her portrayal of a medical expert.

At the regional tournament in Tallahassee, the team received the bronze award and earned a bid to the national tournament at Stetson Law School in Gulfport, Fla. One team member, Kristin DiFrancesco, won an award as the top attorney in the region.

At the national competition the team faced some unusual problems when some members were late after getting tied up in traffic on their way to the tournament.

Dr. Glenn Coffey, the team's educator-coach, said the team was able to do "a little patch work" and survived the first round against the University of Richmond. They went on to face the University of Virginia, Yale University and St. Thomas University.

"All of these schools are not only somewhat elite, but also have prominent law schools," Coffey noted. The team finished in eighth place. DiFrancesco took honors again as one of the top attorneys in the tournament.

"The students did UNF proud and were recognized as a force to be reckoned with by the elite teams," Coffey said.

# Wilburns receive national award for exemplary research

**F**ive years of hard work paid off for Drs. Sharon and Ken Wilburn, recipients of the 2005 Program Evaluation/Research Award from the National Student Assistance Association. The Wilburns were selected by the NSAA for their exemplary research in the student assistance field.

The Wilburns' five-year study provided a post-hoc analysis of the Zeroing In on Prevention (ZIP) program of the Duval County Public School District.

"The ZIP program is targeted at high-risk youth, or students whose behaviors might interfere with their academic performance," said Sharon Wilburn, associate professor of public health. "This kind of model is used to create an intervention and, in this case, to help increase academic performance."

Their research and analysis focused on the secondary and tertiary components of the ZIP program, which includes intervention via a Student Assistance Program as well as more intense counseling. Their goal was to determine which of the program components had the greatest impact on participating middle and high school students.

"This was a rather large case study, which is one of the main reasons we were selected for the award," said Ken Wilburn, chair of the Department of Counseling and Educational Leadership. "No one had really ever done a long-term study of a program with this size population. We analyzed over 1,400 cases of students who had gone through the program in the last five years."

At the conclusion of the five-year period, the data collected was organized into a comprehensive evaluation matrix that allowed the team to make judgments about the effectiveness of the ZIP program and to analyze trends.



**Sharon and Kenneth Wilburn**

"Sharon is a health and substance use specialist from the College of Health and I come from the area of program evaluation and school leadership in the College of Education, so this was a cross-college project," Ken Wilburn said.

It also was a family project. Their son Dax Weaver also played an important role in the study. "I mainly worked behind the scenes constructing surveys and doing data analysis," Weaver said. "I also conducted focus groups and pilot tested the surveys."

Although the five-year study is complete, the project doesn't end there. The Wilburns plan to follow up with a more experimental study examining the progress of individuals as opposed to groups.

"We've now redesigned the study so it can be more experimental in nature and more specific about what is being accomplished," Sharon Wilburn said. "We took the descriptive part of our original study and now we're making it into something even more legitimized."

### inside unf

#### DEADLINE

*Information to be included in the June 2005 issue of **inside unf** must be received in the Office of Marketing and Publications by noon May 13 and is subject to space limitations. Please submit information to Dan Dundon or Julie Williams.*

#### inside unf STAFF

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## honors & awards

# Darkatsh named athletics' first director of marketing and promotions

**T**he University's first director of marketing and promotions for athletics has a quick, succinct response when asked what his job duties are.

"I can describe my duties in three ways," said Elliot Darkatsh from his office in a portable across the street from the Arena. "Increasing revenue through advertisers and sponsors; increasing attendance; and enhancing game atmosphere."

Sounds simple enough, but Darkatsh, who started Feb. 21, and his staff work each day developing strategies to accomplish those goals. Darkatsh is somewhat hush-hush about some of the ideas they are working on since they are still in the developmental stages.

Other ideas to make money, put fans in the stands and generate excitement at sporting events are contained in a document called the 2005-2006 UNF Athletics Marketing Plan. Darkatsh, a very organized sort, has Issues listed on the left side and Action Plan on the right side.

"What I like most about my job is having a new idea, planning it out and watching it come to fruition. It is enor-

mously satisfying," Darkatsh said. He called his department "fantastic" and praised them for their cohesion and creativity during daily brainstorming sessions.

"I'm excited about the addition of Elliot Darkatsh to the UNF athletic staff," said Athletic Director Dr. Richard Gropper. "Elliot brings great enthusiasm and a solid background in athletic marketing and promotions. I'm confident that he will prove to be an outstanding addition to the UNF athletic family."

Darkatsh, 31, was the director of marketing and promotions for athletics at Jacksonville University for nearly four years prior to coming to UNF. His wife, Jill, is the associate director of the aviation



**Elliot Darkatsh**

IVONE MOUTELA

program at JU. The couple has two children, Macy, 21/2, and Reese, 1.

"This school has some great stuff in store," Darkatsh said, when asked if had anything he'd like to say to students, faculty and staff. "Get on board now because this train is going."

Anyone interested in advertising with UNF athletics can call Darkatsh at 620-1051.

## Allen attains honorable mention status for Student of the Year

**F**lorida competed in the awards program. The award recognizes students who excel academically, are involved in community service and political activism and support themselves financially in college.

Allen was one of 13 honorable mention recipients. The qualifications of this year's Student of the Year applicants were reviewed by a panel of judges, which included educators, business leaders and journalists. Nearly 140 students submitted applications.

Allen, a graduate student in public administration, maintains a 3.71 GPA and is the director of the African-American Student Union. The organization now has more than 250 members, 40 of whom are



**John Allen**

IVONE MOUTELA

non-minority members.

"I was determined to promote unity, cultural appreciation and leadership within the UNF and Jacksonville community," Allen told the "Florida Leader." Allen also works as an instructor for the Nike Jaguar Community Scholars Program, mentoring at-risk high school students and college freshman.

The "Florida Leader" is distributed throughout the state to 86 colleges and 550 public and private high schools. Matthew Collier of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University was named the 2005 Florida College Student of the Year. Allen, Collier and the other finalists and honorable mention winners will receive more than \$55,000 in scholarships and prizes.



# osprey images

PHOTOS BY IVONE MOUTELA



FREELANCE PHOTO







## SOAR program brings UNF students into the schools

**F**ew greater challenges face educators today than giving all students an opportunity to soar academically. The roadblocks are formidable, but the rewards of providing life-changing experiences for students are immense.

That's the motivation behind SOAR, a UNF school counselor program that stands for "Supporters of Academic Rigor." It is not a theoretical educational program, but one that operates in Duval County school classrooms helping students every day, while providing prospective school counselors with a real-life glimpse of the challenges ahead of them.

Dr. Rebecca Schumacher is the coordinator of the program, and she is proud of the accomplishments of the UNF students in working with students and parents at Ribault and Robert E. Lee high schools. Schumacher is quick to pinpoint the many ways in which SOAR is a "win-win" program for UNF students and the community.

For example, SOAR sponsors parent nights at the two schools during which presentations are made about college financial aid, graduation requirements, SAT and ACT tests and even how to fill out an online college application. Getting parental involvement in the success of their sons and daughters is a critical element for any school counselor, Schumacher said. Because of the diversity of cultural backgrounds of the parents of Duval County students, the program was offered in Creole, Vietnamese and Spanish as well as English.

Other examples include SOAR counselors conducting classroom lessons on test taking strategies for 530 ninth-graders and resume writing and interview techniques for 270 11th- and 12th-graders.

Perhaps the best way to describe SOAR is to allow the UNF counselor students to describe it.

Carol McLeod Orso has been a teacher for 20 years in the public schools of Florida with the last 17 years in Duval County public schools. Two years ago she decided to pursue her master's degree but didn't want to leave education and had no desire to be an administrator. She enrolled in the UNF program in fall 2003.

SOAR appealed to McLeod Orso because of its emphasis on reaching out to students from low socioeconomic backgrounds as well as ethnic and racial minorities.

"In the past I have viewed some students as lacking the desire to improve their futures," she said. "I have found through the classroom guidance lessons and working with the counseling office that this is absolutely not the truth. It is a matter of getting the information out to the students and emphasizing it over and over and over. The more the students hear it, the more likely they are to act on the opportunities available to them,"

Another counseling student, Caroline Farmer, went straight from her undergraduate work at the University of Virginia to graduate school at Columbia University. She immediately got a job as a therapist working in a grant funded program in a Jacksonville elementary school. Farmer discovered that her role was strictly therapeutic, while guidance counselors had a more varied role. "They have the ability to work with many more students than I could," she said.

Farmer entered the SOAR program and is also teaching full-time



**Caption**

IVONE MOUTELA

at Raines High School. "My experience at Ribault has been great. The experience of going to Ribault is good for SOAR students who either have no teaching experience or no teaching experience in an inner-city school," she said.

In one program in which Farmer participated, the importance of post-high school education was emphasized.

"We gave each student a 'check book' and a salary. Each salary corresponded to a different job. Each job required a different level of education. Obviously the high school jobs had lower salaries than the college jobs. We then had the students brainstorm to decide what expenses they would have to pay. For each one, we had them write us a check and subtract the monetary value from their salary. The students quickly realized that you have more money left over when you get ore education," she said.

Sandi Fina is a counselor student who thrives on the parent involvement. "I have had a great experience seeing parents get involved and excited about the great things their children will be experiencing in the coming years," she said.

The benefits of the program to SOAR students are also clear when talking to Fina. "My experience with the program has been awesome. I have attained the knowledge about what to expect as a high school counselors. We are trained to always look for ways to improve students' success in school and not only help them improve their academics, but also be aware of planning for the future," she said.

## Faculty serve as advisers for freshman orientation

**U**NF professors who teach upper-level courses sometimes go years without coming in contact with freshmen. A new program begun last summer enables faculty members to meet freshman students and serve as their advisers during freshman orientation.

"The faculty who participated thoroughly enjoyed it," said Karen Reedy, executive director of the Academic Center for Excellence, which includes academic advising for freshmen and sophomore students. "They enjoyed meeting the students and their parents. The students loved meeting the professors. It went really well."

Dr Berrin Beasley, an assistant professor of communication, was one of seven faculty members who served as advisers last summer. Beasley also intends to advise the freshmen again this summer. She seconds Reedy's glowing assessment of the program.

"I had a wonderful time participating in last year's freshmen orientation program," Beasley said. "I teach only juniors and seniors in the Communication Department, so being

able meet the incoming students and assist them in selecting courses that met their interests and their needs was a terrific change of pace for me."

Beasley added that parents seemed to relish the opportunity to speak with professors on a one-to-one basis. "It's great fun, and it's enormously beneficial to the faculty who participate, the students and their parents, and to the perceived image of this university as a whole," she said.

Twelve faculty members, including five who participated in the program last summer, have been hired as advisers for this summer's freshman orientation. They are paid on a sliding scale according to how many terms they work. Reedy said a professor who works as an adviser for the summer C term can make \$3,500.

The faculty advisers talk to 10-15 students at a time, working in concert with a professional adviser from the Academic



**Caption**

Center for Excellence, about the value of general education and strategies and tips on how to be successful in college. They also advise them on academic matters like what prerequisites are appropriate for specific majors. Faculty members receive 10 to 12 hours training prior to the start of orientations.

"I don't know of any negatives," Reedy said of the program. "The students and parents were happy; the faculty were happy; and our professional ACE advisers were happy."

## UNF, high school students resolve international crisis

**S**tudents from Nease High School, Paxon School for Advanced Studies and Stanton College Preparatory School joined UNF students recently for an interactive project called an "International Crisis Management Exercise."

For the exercise on the UNF campus, 19 high school students and four college students played the roles of top-level U.S. policy officials who had been briefed on a hypothetical crisis in the Middle East.

As the officials talked about their policy options, they had to deal with facts and rumors as UNF professors and World Affairs Council of Jacksonville members phoned in breaking news, passed along reports to key cabinet secretaries or served as members of Congress or the press demanding information.

The high school students had to balance the delicate political situation in Iraq and the extended deployment of U.S. troops with the need to be prepared for possible hostile action from Iran. They also had to forestall further pre-emptive strikes from Israel and deal with domestic political pressures and rumors of terrorist activities in the United States.

In the end, the students managed to prevent further military operations by the Israelis, opened channels for secret negotiations to

defuse the military crisis with the Iranians and had moved to prevent a confrontation in northern Iraq between nationalist Kurds and neighboring Turkey.

The student participants in the project have been involved in the "Great Decisions Discussion Group Project, sponsored by UNF and the World Affairs Council of Jacksonville. The program brings UNF professors, former diplomats, military officers and international business people from the World Affairs Council to area high schools for discussions of current political issues.

"Ambassador Marilyn McAfee, a member of our Foundation Board, conceived the idea, said Dr. Mary Borg, director of the Undergraduate Academic Enrichment Program. "The masterminds behind creating the exercise were retired Foreign Service officers, George and Cheri Chester. I can't think of a better way for the University to combine the expertise that exists among our faculty and in our local community to enhance the education of our UNF students and students in our community."

The project was coordinated by the Undergraduate Enrichment Program, the Florida Center for Public and International Policy and the World Affairs Council.

## faculty&staff

The Faculty & Staff page appears each month in Inside UNF and is designed to recognize professional achievements and accomplishments of faculty and staff. To submit items, please contact Julie Williams or your college dean.

### College of Arts and Sciences

COMMUNICATION AND VISUAL ARTS:

**Dr. Oscar Patterson** presented "It Doesn't Matter: Responses to Issues of Lying in the Media" at the PCA/ACA international conference in San Diego in March.

**Dr. Stephynie Perkins** published "Un-presidented: A Qualitative Framing Analysis of the NAACP's Public Relations Response to the 2000 Presidential Election" in Public Relations Review, spring 2005.

**Dr. Judith Sayre, R.P. Shannon** and **J.W. Sayre** presented "Incorporating Communication Skills Training into the Curriculum of a Palliative Medicine Fellowship in a Large Multi-specialty Academic Medical Center" to the Association for Marketing and Health Care Research in Lake Tahoe, Nev., in March. The article was also published in the association's proceedings.

ENGLISH: **Dr. Keith Cartwright** gave an invited paper, "Travels, Shouts, Saraka: Geechee Ministration and Spiritual Parentage in the Initiation of Afro-Atlantic Baptist Congregations," at the annual conference of the Atlantic Studies Initiative at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

**Dr. Chris Gabbard** presented "Warlike or Effeminate: Masculinity in Aphra Behn's Comedy, The Dutch Lover," at the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies' (ASECS) annual conference in Las Vegas

**Dr. Nancy Levine** participated in a panel discussion on the subject of "A Faculty Immersion Model for Growing Partnerships: Communities and Scholars Learn, Serve, and Prepare the Ground Together" at the Appalachian Society's 2005 annual conference in Radford, VA.

**Dr. William Slaughter** chaired a panel on "E-Lit in the Future" at the "Other Words" conference sponsored by the new Florida Literary Arts Coalition (FLAC) for Editors of Literary Magazines, Independent Publishers, and Writers at FSU in Tallahassee. Slaughter was also elected to the FLAC board.

**Dr. Bart Welling's** article "'Squeal Like a Pig': Manhood, Wilderness, and Imperialist Nostalgia in John Boorman's Deliverance" is in the new issue of Green Letters, the journal of the British division of the Association for the Study of

Literature and Environment.

HISTORY: **Dr. David**

**Courtwright** gave a talk, "Pilots as Gladiators: Flying and the Masculine Subculture of Risk," at the Southwestern Social Science Association meeting in New Orleans in March.

**Dr. Philip Kaplan** delivered a paper on "Geographical Ekphrasis in the Odyssey" at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Midwest and South in Madison, Wis., in March.

MUSIC: **Dr. Gordon R. Brock** conducted the Florida Bandmasters Association District 3 Honor Band in Tallahassee in January and adjudicated at the 35th annual Alberta International Band Festival in Edmonton, Alberta in March.

**Dr. Marcus Dickman** performed with the Modern Jazz Tuba Project at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg and at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Dickman was a featured jazz artist at the Southeast Regional Tuba/Euphonium Conference at the University of Georgia in Athens.

**Dr. William Prince** performed at the American Bandmasters Association in Gainesville.

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC

ADMINISTRATION: **Dr. Matthew Corrigan** published a book chapter "Executive Appointments Receive Too Much Scrutiny" in "Debating the Presidency" published by Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2005. Corrigan presented "Race and Morality in the Politics of a Southern City" at the annual meeting of the Florida Political Science Association in Tallahassee in March. He also

was an invited discussant at the "Florida Politics" roundtable at the same meeting.

PSYCHOLOGY: **Dr. Susan Borsky** gave an invited talk, "How to Milk a Coat: The Effect of Sentence Meaning on the Perception of Speech Sounds" at the fourth annual Sandhills Regional Psychology Conference in Laurinburg, N.C. in March.

**Dr. Linda A. Foley** and undergraduate students Kelley Cook, Nicole Feldman, and Rebecca Martin presented the paper "Mothers who Kill: Number of Victims, Sexism and a Just World" at the American Psychology-Law Society in La Jolla, Cal., in March. Foley and graduate students **Morgan Bohn** and **Dawn Hurst** presented the paper "Legal Authoritarianism: Deliberation & Juror Decisions" at the same conference.

WORD LANGUAGES: **Martin**

**Camps** published "Narrativa chilena y femenina de la frontera: La Genara de Rosina Conde y Peregrinos de Aztlan de Miguel Méndez." in Con-textos: Revista de Semiótica Literaria. Vol.16. No. 33.

### Coggin College of Business

**Dr. Gary Fane** (Dean's Office), **Dr. Lou Woods** (Economics and Geography), **Dr. Reza Vagehi** and **Dr. Cheryl Van Deusen** (Management, Marketing and Logistics) had "Keiretsu Effect in Globalization: A Local Phenomenon with Global Outreach" and "While Detroit Slept Keiretsu Thrived: The Competitive Power of Keiretsu and Supply Chain of Japanese Auto Makers in Global Market Success" accepted for presentation at the Academy of International Business World conference to be held in Quebec in July. Also accepted was an article by **Dr. Steven Williamson, Van Deusen,** and **Alexa Perryman.** The article is titled "Religion: Its influence on National Culture, Gender Roles and Entrepreneurial Affinity."

CENTER FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION:

**Mollie Lawrence** presented "Florida Sunshine Standards' Correlation to Economics, Personal Finance, Language Arts, Reading and Mathematics" and "Stock Market Game to Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test" to the National Association for Economic Educators in Baltimore in March.

ECONOMICS AND GEOGRAPHY:

**Sharon C. Cobb** presented "GIS and Allocation Modeling for the Financial Services Industry" at the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Denver in April.

MANAGEMENT, MARKETING AND LOGISTICS: **Dr. Gregory Gundlach** was named to the Advisory Board of the Antitrust Bulletin.

**Dr. A. C. "Josh" Samli** had an article translated and published in Turkish. The article, which deals with the inadequacy of infrastructure development in third world countries that is interfering with all important logistics functions, was published in Marketing and Communications Culture.

**Dr. Valerie Spittler** co-authored an article with colleagues entitled "Does IT Training Really Matter? A Social Information Processing Analysis of Coworkers' Influence on IT Usage in the Workplace" which will appear in the Summer 2005 issue of Journal of Management Information Systems.

### College of Computing, Engineering and Construction

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

MANAGEMENT: **Dr. J. David Lambert, Dr. John Alexander** and **Dr. Jerry Merkel** received a Notice of Allowance from the U.S. Patent Office on their patent application, "Modular Architecture For Rapid Deployment and Coordination of Emergency Event Field Surveillance."

ENGINEERING: **Dr. Mike Jackson**

presented "Measuring Pavement Characteristics at Elevated Speeds" as part of the FAMU/FSU Civil and Environmental Engineering Seminar Series in January.

**Dr. Susan Vasana** was awarded a patent, "Method and Apparatus for Gain Normalization of a Correlation Demodulator", along with Chris Thomas and Clint Powell. The patent is based on research conducted while at Motorola. Vasana also published and presented "Conversion of Correlated and Unbalanced Antenna Diversity for Wireless Communication" at the International Association of Science and Technology for Development conference. Vasana also chaired the session on communication systems at the conference.

**Dr. Daniel Cox** presented "Testbeds for Modular Reconfigurable Actuator Systems" at the American Society of Naval Engineers Reconfiguration and Survivability Symposium in February. Cox served as a member of the Technical Program Committee and chaired a session on testbeds. Cox and Dr. Alexandra Schonning presented "Development of a Mentoring Program to Improve Engineering Education and Training Among College and Pre-College Students" and "Industry Collaboration as a Basis for Florida's First Coast Manufacturing Innovation Partnership" at the 11th International Conference on Industry Engineering and Management Systems in March. Schonning also served as the chair for the session on education and training at this conference. Schonning served as a judge and member of the organizational committee for the Florida Regional Robotics Competition sponsored by For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) in March.

**Dr. Pat Welsh** made a presentation on the high-resolution rainfall results from a new atmospheric model, Weather Research and Forecast Model, during the



Hurricanes of 2004. The talk was given at the Federal Interdepartmental Hurricane Conference sponsored by the Office of Federal Coordinator for Meteorology. **Dr. Steve Nix** held the first "Division of Engineering Vision Workshop" at UNF, to help develop a proposed strategic direction for UNF engineering.

#### COMPUTER AND INFORMATION

SCIENCES: **Dr. Yap Siong Chua** and **Dr. Behrooz Seyed-Abbassi** served as judges for the UNF Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) programming contest in March.

**Dr. Susan R. Wallace** was one of four local women selected by the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women and honored at the Women's History Month breakfast at UNF in March.

#### College of Education and Human Services

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION: **Dr. Cathy Cavanaugh** has completed "Clips from the Classroom: Learning with Technology," a DVD that will be published by Prentice Hall in the fall. Cavanaugh also served as a State Science and Engineering Fair judging captain in Orlando in April.

**Dr. Terry Cavanaugh** presented "Integrating Technology Literacy Standards into Literacy Instruction in Preservice Education -- Technology Enhanced Literature Circles" and co-authored "A Journey of Design: Developing a Technology Based Unit Assessment System: Designing and Implementing a Teacher Education Unit Assessment System" with **Cathy Cavanaugh** and **Larry Daniel**. The paper was presented at the Society for Information Technology and Teacher (SITE) meeting in Phoenix, Ariz., in March. **Gigi David's** children's book "Peter and the Secret Siren" was featured in the Florida Times Union in March. The book is the first to be published by the Life: Act 2 MELC Project, to be used to counter negative stereotypes of the elderly.

**Dr. Dennis Holt** received a 2005 Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning and Technology presented by The Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at the 16th International Conference on College Teaching and Learning in Jacksonville in March. Holt presented "Using Digital Technology to Improve the Accomplished Practices of Pre-service Teachers" at the conference.

**Dr. Otilia Salmón** was the guest speaker on "The Role of Women in Latin America" at the International Women's Day celebration in Jacksonville in March.

**Dr. Chris Weber** was invited as the keynote speaker for the Symposium for Parents and Teachers on Gifted Education in Tallahassee in February. She addressed "Nurturing Your Child's Creativity at Home." She was also invited to present two workshops for teachers on "Performance Assessment: Designing Engaging Tasks for Gifted Learners" and "Developing Quality Rubrics."

#### COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL

LEADERSHIP: **Dr. Carolyn Stone** and **Carol Dahir** (New York Institute of Technology) presented the results of a three-year, multi-state research project on school counselor accountability at the American Educational Research Association conference in Montreal, Canada.

SPECIAL EDUCATION: **Dr. Janice Seabrooks**, **Dr. Kristine Webb** and **Carol Moser** made a presentation at the Florida Division on Career Development and Transition VISIONS Conference in February. Webb also delivered a workshop for teachers and stakeholders about Dare to Dream for Adults. In February, Webb conducted three workshops for the South Carolina Department of Education in Greenville, Columbia, and Charleston. Her presentation was titled "Infusing Self-determination Strategies into Standards Teaching." DEAN'S OFFICE: **Dr. Larry Daniel** has been elected to serve on the Special Interest Group Executive Committee of the American Educational Research Association.

**Dr. Claribel Torres-Lugo's** "Principals' Reactions to Florida's Model of Accountability: An Overview of School Factors Associated with High-Stakes Accountability," was chosen as the outstanding middle level dissertation by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

#### College of Health

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH: **Dr. Elissa Barr** co-authored (with **M. Kittleston**) a high school textbook "The Truth about Sexual Behavior and Unplanned Pregnancy," published by Facts on File in April. Barr also co-authored (with **B. Rienzo**, **R. Pigg** and **D. James**) "Teacher Beliefs, Professional Preparation, and Practices Regarding Exceptional Students and Sexuality Education" in the Journal of School Health, Vol. 73, No. 3.

## dateline

Compiled by Angela Pompey

Information for Dateline can be sent to Angela Pompey at [apompey@unf.edu](mailto:apompey@unf.edu).

#### Welcome

Career Services – **Valerie Earnest** as senior secretary.

#### Goodbye

Student Life's **Bart Andrus** resigned in March to accept a position as associate director of the Leadership Program at Western Carolina University.

**Nichole Fretz** (Career Services) resigned in April in order to stay at home and parent her first child, Preston.

Senior Library technical assistant **Lewis E. Hoffman** resigned in April after three years of service to UNF. Hoffman is completing his bachelors degree in history.

Professor **Lou Alabbassi** (Coggin College of Business) has decided to go back to the corporate world and has landed the highest position of his career with a global company.

#### Achievements

**Dr. Joel Beam** (Athletic Training and Physical Therapy) was selected as the College/University Athletic Trainer of the Year by the Athletic Trainers Association of Florida.

**Dr. Daniel Cox** (Engineering) was recognized as the 2005 Professor of the Year by the Northeast chapter of the Florida Engineering Society.

**Pritchey Smith** (Curriculum and Instruction) was invited as a guest lecturer at the University of Montana-Western in Dillon on Tuesday, April 5. He spoke to three classes in the College of Education during the day and in the evening, delivered an address titled "Who Will Have the Moral Courage to Heal Bigotry in America?"

**Mag Malek** (CCEC) was promoted to associate professor.

**Chiu Choi** (CCEC) was promoted to professor.

**Sanjay Ahuja** (CCEC) was promoted to professor.

**Judy Solano** (CCEC) received the Life Time Achievement Award for her dedication and contributions to the UNF Women's Center. Dr. Solano is only the second person to be recognized by this award in the history of the Women's center.

#### Following are the recipients of the 2004-05 faculty awards:

##### Distinguished Professor Award:

Winner: B. Jay Coleman (Management, Marketing, and Logistics)

Runner up: Theophilus C. Prouisis (History)

##### Outstanding Faculty Scholarship Awards:

Louise F. Brown (Art and Design)

Thomas M. Pekarek (Chemistry and Physics)

##### Outstanding Faculty Service Awards:

Kathleen C. Bloom (Nursing)

Pamela S. Chally (Health)

##### Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards:

Faiz B. Al-Rubae (Mathematics and Statistics)

Catherine Cavanaugh (Curriculum and Instruction)

David T. Courtwright (History)

Jace Hargis (Curriculum and Instruction)

Christopher J. Joyce (Athletic Training and Physical Therapy)

Donna M. Keenan (Curriculum and Instruction)

Anthony M. Rossi (Biology)

#### Births

**Pat Gardner** (Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice) became a first-time grandmother Feb. 22. MaKenzie Lorelai LaPointe weighed nine pounds, four ounces, and was 20.5 inches long.

**Linda Sciaratta** (COEHS Dean's Office) became a first-time grandmother Feb. 26. Hayden Raine Petrick weighed seven pounds, 10 ounces and was 20.25 inches long.

**Amy Weatherford** (COEHS Student Services) gave birth to Joshua Brock Weatherford March 19. He weighed seven pounds, eight ounces and was 21 inches long.

#### Sympathy

**Dr. Robert Drummond** (Counselor Education) passed away on March 14. He was a retired professor who served the UNF community for twenty years.

# Students put investment skills to work for UNF

By Julie Williams  
Staff Writer

**T**hey're not your typical bunch of college students. On the same sunny afternoon hundreds of UNF students were taking in Springapalooza, 11 finance majors chose instead to don suits and spout off financial statistics to a group of distinguished guests at the University Center.

They missed the chance to tie-dye T-shirts and climb into gigantic Sumo wrestler costumes at the annual spring festival, but they weren't complaining. They were busy presenting the 2004-05 Osprey Financial Group's annual report to an audience including some of Jacksonville's most influential business leaders.

As members of UNF's third class of the Osprey Financial Group (OFG), this select group of two undergraduate and nine graduate students spent six months managing an investment fund which rose in value over \$36,000 from October to March.

The fund was established in 1999 through a \$500,000 gift to the UNF Foundation from the late Jody and Layton Smith. The gift specified the creation of a special program for business students to gain valuable experience managing a real portfolio of assets. OFG was formed and the first class began operating in the fall of 2002.

"The students interacted very well and worked together as a team throughout the year," said Dr. Reinhold Lamb, OFG's faculty adviser. "They were thorough in all of their activities and kept their focus on doing a professional job of managing money for the Foundation."

Undergrad Alan Hartley acted as the group's chief economist for the North American sector, working with OFG's analysts to establish the degree of international diversification and provide weekly updates of the region's economic condition.

"This was not a simulation. It was not fake money in a passive environment," Hartley said. "It was real money in an exciting, relentless, uncertain and volatile marketplace."

Lamb said the students had to deal with dramatic economic and market environments during the six-month period they managed the fund. "They had to navigate through national elections, natural disasters, corporate scandals, interest rate hikes and skyrocketing oil prices," he said. "Their approach to managing the portfolio throughout this volatility and uncertainty was first-rate."

The fund grew from \$663,167 to \$669,683 during the six-month period ending in March, representing a gross return of nearly six percent. OFG outperformed the benchmark by .65 percent. Lamb said an estimated 80 percent of professionally managed funds

under-perform their established benchmark, so OFG should be very pleased.

"I think we had a good year," said grad student Tim Giles, OFG's accountant. "The numbers speak for themselves."

Giles said his decision to get involved with OFG was a no-brainer. "It was a subject I was really interested in with a professor I knew was excellent," he said. "I think I have definitely gained an increased understanding of the investment world and what it takes to be a successful investor."

In addition to learning firsthand how markets and individual securities behave, Lamb said, "Students learned the importance of accountability to each other and to a client, communication of information in a convincing presentation, how to disagree respectfully and how to integrate state-of-the-industry data and resources into effective decision-making."

## Get to Know:

### Debra Lenahen

**Name:** Debra Lenahen  
**Department:** Disability Resource Center  
**Job:** Assistant director of the DRC and University sign language interpreter  
**Years at UNF:** Nine years

### WHAT'S/WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE

**Author** - Dan Brown  
**Novel** - "The DaVinci Code"  
**Movie** - I don't go to the movies; I much prefer reading a good book or doing something fun with my family.

**Actor/Actress** - Johnny Depp  
**Musician/Musical Group** - I love all kinds of music, especially the '80s groups.  
**Sports Team** - I love baseball, so it has to be the Boston Red Sox. I hope no one tells my family in the New York/New Jersey area. I am also a big fan of my son's soccer team. Once a soccer mom, always a soccer mom.

**Vacation destination** - Caribbean Islands. I do enjoy cruising. It is a very relaxing way to get around to many Caribbean Islands. I always enjoy the scenery, the cultures and the shopping at the various islands, to say nothing of the food and entertainment on the ships.

**Hobby** - Reading and doing crossword puzzles

**Proudest Accomplishment** - Having my sons and raising them with my husband  
**Most Memorable Moment at UNF** - I have had the opportunity to interpret for many internationally renowned speakers who have been guest lecturers at UNF. The absolute best memory was interpreting for Elie Wiesel. I was in such awe of this man, his presence and what he had to say (I almost forgot that I had to interpret for some members of the audience). He was very gracious and spoke to me at the end of his lecture.



Debra Lenahen

IVONE MOUTELA

## Environmental Center

(Continued from page 1)

One of the classes is likely to involve an environmental crisis management simulation. In such a simulation, perhaps a major toxic spill on the St. Johns River, students through role-playing will seek to resolve the crisis. Political science students might examine pollution control regulations, engineering students could research technologies to confine and clean up the pollution and pre-law students might represent the EPA and the city of Jacksonville as well as the owner of a hypothetical cargo vessel that spilled the toxic substance.

But the center's activities go far beyond the classroom. Perhaps one of the most ambitious undertakings is to create the campus natural resources inventory. Through the use of Geographic Information System (GIS) technology and the services of Dr. David Lambert, the inventory will include many layers of data including roads, utilities, buildings, nature trails and ecological zones. The finished product will be accessible via the Web and possibly through touch-screen kiosks located around campus. This was one of Lambert's ideas.

In addition to providing general environmental information, the database could be used for student research, environmental education and habitat restoration. "We hope the final product will be useful to a broad range of campus and community members," Bowman said.

The community also will benefit from plans to collaborate with the Public Trust Project. An initiative of Warren Anderson of the Jacksonville law firm of Anderson & Howell, the Public Trust Project seeks to protect public lands from development. While the law firm has an abundance of legal expertise, they are seeking individuals with science backgrounds. Bowman sees the potential of UNF students doing field work

such as taking water samples or taking photographs of pipes leaking into waterways.

The Public Trust may be just one of a variety of organizations for which UNF students could serve paid internships starting as early as this summer.

Although the center itself is part of the College of Arts and Sciences, Bowman sees its strength coming from across the University.

"There are a great number of environmental activities going on at UNF. I see this center as becoming a clearinghouse for students, faculty and staff," he said.

In Bowman's vision, the center will not only enrich the campus academic experience for students but could also become one of the area's most valuable environmental resources.

### Executive Board Members

Ray Bowman - Arts and Sciences  
Cindy Nyquist-Battie - Health  
Jayce Hargis - Education and Human Services  
Christopher Johnson - Coggin College of Business  
David Lambert - Computing, Engineering and Construction

### At-large Board Members

Kelly Smith - Biology  
David Fenner - Philosophy

### Associates

Jerry Watterson - Student Government  
Malcolm Everett - Student Affairs  
Ryan Meyer - Recreation  
Richard Crosby - Administration and Finance  
Charles Bear - Physical Facilities.

## briefs

### ART EXHIBIT FEATURES WORKS CREATED BY BARON'S STUDENTS

The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville and the Ponte Vedra Cultural Center are presenting an exhibit featuring art created by juvenile offenders, some of whom have studied creative writing with UNF professor Dr. Mary Baron while incarcerated.

The exhibit titled "Captured Talent: A Retrospective of Work Created in the Duval County Jail" will be at the Ponte Vedra Cultural Center (50 Executive Way, Ponte Vedra Beach) through May 13. It will feature 20 visual art works, 15 creative writing pieces and an audio poetry reading done by Baron's students.

"They have done terrible things, but these kids have things to say. If people see it, they can judge for themselves what kind of people they are," Baron said. She is part of a group of people brought together to provide youthful offenders in the Duval County Jail with an outlet for creative expression. The program, originally funded through a grant from the Cultural Council, is called Living Inside.

Along with Baron, Tarick Khadra, a UNF graduate student in English and local artist Tony Rodriguez go to the jail to conduct classes for the young inmates. The Living Inside program is part of an ongoing collaboration between the Cultural Council and the State Attorney's Office.

"We really believe in this program," Keto Porter said in a Cultural Council press release. Porter is the special projects coordinator for the State Attorney's Fourth Judicial Circuit of Florida. Many of our juveniles have benefited tremendously through their involvement with Living Inside."

## United Way campaign update

Jacksonville Jaguars' radio announcer Brian Sexton visited UNF Wednesday, April 13, and spoke to a group of University employees about the importance of giving to the United Way. Scheduled near the end of UNF's two-week United Way campaign, Sexton's visit was an effort to boost donations toward the \$40,000 annual goal.

"The United Way is the backbone of charity and helping others in Jacksonville," he

said. "This is the second year I've agreed to be the leadership giving chair for the United Way. Two years ago I would have thrown my United Way donation form in the trash, because I had some misguided notions about the organization. But today I'm a firm believer in the United Way."

Sexton said the United Way of Northeast Florida serves over 70 local agencies and funds more than 100 programs. The organization

works in partnership with volunteers, community organizations and leaders to address critical issues facing children and families.

As of April 20, the campaign raised \$22,678 - 56 percent of UNF's overall goal. Although the campaign has officially ended, it's not too late to contribute. For a contribution form, contact UNF campaign chair Lindsay Bryant at ext. 1760.



# Doran pessimistic about reform in Saudi Arabia

One of the United States' foremost experts on Saudi Arabia painted a generally pessimistic picture about the prospects for meaningful political reform in the bitterly divided country.

Michael Doran, associate professor of Near Eastern Studies at Princeton University, spoke to a UNF audience recently as part of the Distinguished Voices Lecture Series.

Doran carefully detailed the political and religious tensions in Saudi Arabia today and the potential implications they have on the United States. The implications for the United States are extensive because Saudi Arabia is not only a major oil supplier, but also a major creditor helping to finance the federal budget deficit.

Doran said there is a major story not being told in the United States about an ongoing struggle between Crown Prince Abdullah, who leads a camp of liberal reformers, and the Wahhabi religious establishment that has much in common with al Qaeda. Doran outlined the tremendous power radical clerics have in Saudi Arabia. "They control the mosques, they control the morality police, they control the schools. There are huge resources in the hands of clerics," he noted.

For example, he pointed out that the average high school student in Saudi Arabia spends 60 percent of his time in religious studies. This assures that the increasingly disaffected youth are fed a constant diet of radical Islamic teachings.

Contributing to this problem is the decline in Saudi Arabia's economy. Doran said the economy cannot keep pace with the population growth and the welfare state is rapidly deteriorating. "There is more urban poverty, and for the first time many youth are not enjoying the standard of living of their parents," he said.

All of this frustration and anger is directed by clerics to the United States because it is considered a primary backer of Saudi Arabia and its more liberal business interests, Doran noted. While Crown Prince Abdullah favors allowing more political freedoms for

the minority Shiites, the clerics consider any plan that gives voice to non-Wahhabis as idolatrous. "Official Islamic teachings in Saudi Arabia are a wellspring of intolerance," he said.

The Princeton scholar said the most tolerant segment of Saudi Arabia society is the business community. It is the segment that has the most contact with Americans and leads to the erroneous conclusion that gradual reform is possible.

Such reform is unlikely because the current Saudi government is patronage based. "There are no opportunities for talented administrators so the role of the clerics is only increased," Doran said.

The United States is in a no-win position with Saudi Arabia. In Doran's view, the United States has no choice but to press for democratic reforms. But the very attempt to allow liberal reforms will only generate more anti-American feelings. "I don't see an evolution of reform because of the control of clerics over every day life in Saudi Arabia."

Doran's appearance at UNF was co-hosted by the World Affairs Council of Jacksonville's Global Issues Forum.



Michael Doran

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