

inside unf

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OCTOBER 2004

New center fosters manufacturing innovation

A \$600,000 grant to UNF by the National Science Foundation will establish a manufacturing innovation partnership program on the First Coast that may become a major economic stimulus for the region in the future.

The grant to the Division of Engineering in the College of Computing, Engineering and Construction already has garnered widespread support in the manufacturing community and is being hailed by business and community leaders as a project that will pay dividends far into the future.

The grant is the first from the NSF for the Division of Engineering and one of only 15 funded this year out of more than 200 applications to NSF's Partnerships for Innovation Program.

Drs. Daniel Cox and Alexandra Schonning are the co-principal investigators for the Manufacturing Innovation Partnership, which will formally begin in October with the receipt of more than \$240,000 as the first year's installment.

Cox explained that the project has two primary objectives. One is to develop a center that provides resources for the local design and

manufacturing industry to aid in the economic and technical development of the region. The other is to improve the technical education and preparation of the future work force in the region.

Schonning added that participating companies will share in the benefits of innovative technology that they may not have been able to develop on their own. "This partnership will serve as a catalyst for future economic growth," she said.

While the college has maintained a close relationship with area companies through such organizations as the Engineering Advisory Council, this partnership brings cooperation to a much

higher level, noted Dr. Neal Coulter, dean of the college.

Coulter added that the new state-of-the-art facilities in the Science and Engineering Building make the University well-positioned to form these types of partnerships. The list of area business leaders supporting the application for the program is long and impressive. Lad Daniels, president of the First Coast Manufacturers Association, exemplifies the support that has been received from the business community.

"Our members are constantly inquiring about technical vitality

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Dr. Daniel Cox (right) and Dr. Alexandra Schonning from the Division of Engineering explain the workings of a gyroscope of lab equipment to students (from left) Joe Lewandowsky and Truong Nguyen.

ELAINE POPPILL

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awards & honors

Irish Studies plans October events

The John Francis Reilly Irish Studies Performance and Lecture Series will feature three internationally known and respected artists in October.

Irish dramatist/actor Macdara Valley presents "Peacefire" on Friday, Oct. 8. The production mixes words and music in a fast-paced, darkly comic version of life in Northern Ireland. It played to rave reviews at the famous Edinburgh Fringe Festival, where it received a Fringe First Award, granted to only 15 of 1,700 eligible productions. It also has been performed in New York, Belfast and Derry in Northern Ireland, and in Dublin. This is the first Florida performance.

Valley appeared previously at UNF under the name Macdara Mac Uibh Aille. He produced one of his earlier plays, "The Voice of the Sea," during that appearance.

Virtuoso musicians Paddy League, on guitar, bodhran and vocals, and Laura Risk, on fiddle, return to UNF by popular demand, playing an evening of Irish traditional music Friday, Oct. 15. Filmmaker Ken Burns has called Risk's fiddle music "a revelation and aching beautiful."

Both performances are free and begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Robinson Theatre.

The John Francis Reilly Irish Studies Performance and Lecture Series was established in 1995 through a gift from the Schultz Foundation. Reilly is the father of prominent Jacksonville resident Nancy Schultz, who is vice chairwoman of the Schultz

Foundation. Reilly was a well-known New Orleans businessman who was involved in numerous civic organizations and had a lifelong interest in Irish music and theater.



Laura Risk, above, and Paddy League will return to UNF Friday, Oct. 15

Jazz Ensemble 1 invited to play in China

The UNF Jazz Ensemble 1 has been selected to be a representative of the state of Florida in a major 2005 international music festival in the People's Republic of China. The director, Dr. Keith Javors, recently was notified of the invitation based upon the ensemble's high achievements and strong reputation.

"We are proud of this latest invitation as a continuing testament to the caliber of the UNF jazz program," Javors said. "It looks to be an unbelievable, high-profile performance experience for our students and will hopefully enrich their lives and careers."

JE1 will perform in China's two imperial cities: Beijing, the modern capital, and Xi'an, the ancient capital, from July 1-13 in the American Celebration of Music in China, a festival recognized by the governments of Beijing, Xi'an, Guilin, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Shanghai and Hong Kong. This festival is allied with the most prestigious music conservatories in Beijing, Xi'an and



Keith Javors

other major cities to provide musical and cultural interactions between the musicians of both countries in musical and educational settings.

The ensemble will perform at least seven concerts in major concert venues and will have opportunities to attend the performances of Chinese musical groups.

Interested individuals are being invited to join the ensemble on the tour. Sightseeing in Beijing, visiting the Forbidden City and the Great Wall, as well as seeing Xi'an and viewing the Terra Cotta Warriors will be included in the tour. For information on JE1, contact the Music Department or visit www.unfjazzensemble.com.

The China trip will be the latest in a series of international appearances for the ensemble. It has performed by invitation at some of the most notable music venues, including the Montreux Jazz Festival, the North Sea Jazz Festival and the Vienna Jazz Festival.

The UNF Jazz Studies program is chaired by Bunky Green.

newfaces

New Facilities Planning director emphasizes environment

UNF's new director of Facilities Planning has an international perspective. Not only does he know construction from both sides of the Canadian-U.S. border, he also has experience in several countries, including Egypt and China.

Through all of that experience, Zak Ovadia has developed a strong respect for the environment, which will play a major role in his work at UNF.

Ovadia, who officially begins his job at UNF on Oct. 18, is a strong proponent of the U.S. Green Building Council. The USGBC is the nation's foremost coalition of leaders from across the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible and healthy places to work.

The environmental issues facing UNF as it drafts a new master plan and continues to accommodate growth were major factors attracting Ovadia to the position.

"This is a pedestrian-friendly campus, and we need to maintain that characteristic as we continue to grow," he said. This eventually may mean a change in culture in which the University explores alternative methods of transportation rather than allowing cars to travel to the core of campus, he added.

Ovadia is not new to the world of academia. Before coming to UNF, Ovadia was the assistant director of project management in the Facilities Planning Office of Dartmouth College, a position he held for about two years. This university experience was coupled with two years of experience as senior project manager for the University of Washington in Seattle. In that position, he

handled about \$91 million in projects in one year.

His other service in the public sector includes a stint as a capital budget assistant to the governor of the state of Washington

and nearly 13 years working in Alberta Public Works, Supply & Services, in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Ovadia also was a principal and general manager of an 18-person national consulting firm in Edmonton specializing in laboratory planning and design.

His international experience is evident in his ability to speak Arabic, French and beginning Spanish.

He is a graduate of the University of Maryland, where he received two bachelor's degrees, one in architecture.

"I'm looking forward to meeting with faculty and staff and learning about their needs for facilities planning as we continue to develop this campus together," he said.



IVONE MOUTELA

Zak Ovadia is the new director of Facilities Planning. He officially begins Oct. 18.

Strother spreads news about athletics

Tom Strother, the University's new sports information director, wants to spread the good news about UNF athletics.

"My goal is to grab our piece of the pie," Strother said, referring to additional media exposure for the athletic programs. "I've heard some tremendous things about UNF."

Before coming to UNF, Strother, 32, was the director of media relations for the athletics department at Troy State University in Alabama. He supervised the media relations operations for the university's Division I program, which has 17 sports.

His duties included managing the production of media guides and game programs for all sports, supervising the maintenance of the athletics department Web site and coordinating all game-day press activities. Strother was at Troy State for five years.

"Tom Strother is a welcome addition to the UNF athletic family," said Dr. Richard Gropper, the University's athletics director. "He brings excellent experience and the right temperament to do a difficult job. Tom Strother's NCAA Division I background will serve UNF well as we anticipate and plan our own transition to the rank of D-I."

Strother graduated from Auburn University in 1994 with a degree in journalism. He was a sports writer for the Montgomery

Advertiser from 1995 to 1998 and has worked as the sports editor for the Natchez Democrat and Andalusia Star-News. Strother and his wife, Kristina, have a 4-year-old daughter, Hailey.

"It's really a seven-day-a-week job," Strother said of the sports information position. "That doesn't bother me a bit. Every day is a different challenge. I absolutely enjoy it."

Strother started at UNF in early August. He has made a point of trying to meet two or three people every day on his treks around campus.

He and his wife already have purchased a house in Jacksonville. Strother is no stranger to the community. He lived in Orange Park for several years when he was younger and has a sister who lives in Jacksonville.

"There are some fantastic people in the athletic department," Strother said of the people he will be working with. "Dr. Gropper is incredible. He is a great leader."



IVONE MOUTELA

Tom Strother

osprey images

PHOTOS BY IVONE MOUTELA

COURTESY PHOTO



UNF DRUMLINE DEBUT

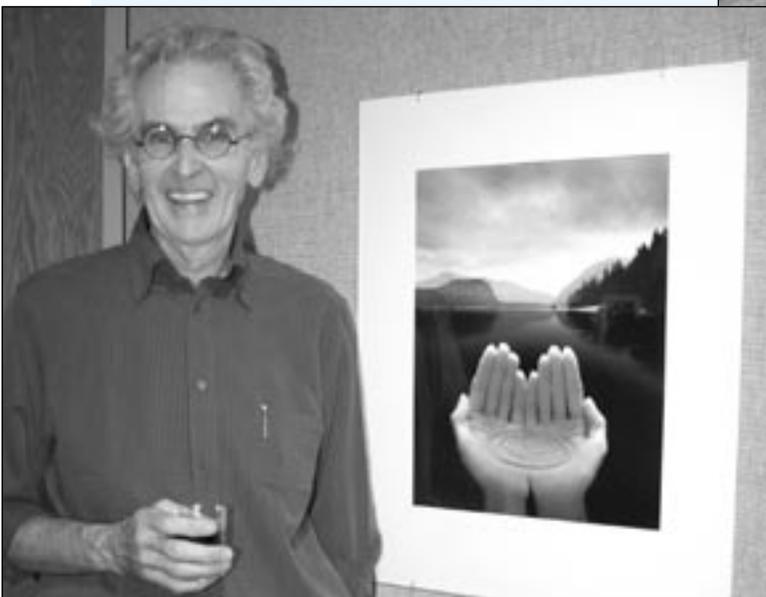
The UNF Drumline debuted before an enthusiastic pre-season crowd at Alltel Stadium. The D-Line, as it is called at football games, will perform at all Jaguars home games this season.



TREE DEDICATION

Dr. Larry Daniel, left, leads the tree dedication ceremony for Dr. Kathe Kasten, who recently stepped down as dean of the College of Education and Human Services after serving in that role since 1995. The tree was planted outside of Schultz Hall, Building 9. Daniel took over as dean in August.

CLUB FEST - CAMPUS OUTREACH
During Club Fest this past September, representatives from the different clubs set up booths on the Green and handed out information. Campus Outreach is only one of the many clubs that is available for UNF students to join. Lisa Dunn (from left), Roy Kistner and Kim Cutchens greet students and hand out fliers about Campus Outreach.



JERRY UELSMANN RECEPTION

Jerry Uelsmann poses next to one of his photographs during the opening reception in the UNF Gallery on Sept. 16. He will also deliver a lecture on Oct. 15 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lazzara Hall of the UNF Fine Arts Center. The Art of Jerry Uelsmann will be on display through Oct. 21.

community commitment

Lipkin's, Caldwell's efforts add up to success

(This is the first in a periodic series of stories illustrating the many ways in which UNF faculty contribute to the community)

By TOM CAIN
Staff Writer

Drs. Leonard Lipkin and Bill Caldwell have a lot in common. They came to UNF within a year of each other, will retire in 2005, have been department chairmen and, most importantly, both have been active in the community to advance the cause of education.

Lipkin, a mathematics professor at UNF since it opened in 1972, started the Advanced Placement Statistics Summer Institute for high school teachers in 1997.

The weeklong institute, taught by UNF professors and College Board-certified instructors, helps high school teachers enhance their effectiveness in the classroom. Part of the class time is spent showing them learning activities they can share with their students. Teachers receive 32 hours of instruction.

Instructors at the institute also go over what students need to know to pass the national exam AP students take at the end of the school year to receive college credit. Questions from previous national exams and students' responses to them are discussed.

"We do provide, if I say so myself, a first-class institute," said Lipkin, the 2004 recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award from the Florida Section of the Mathematical Association of America.

He is proud of what is written on the evaluations the high school teachers are asked to fill out at the end of the institute.

"On the basis of the evaluations, people love it – just love it," he said. They love it so much there is a lot of repeat business, with teachers returning to the institute.

This summer, 36 people, optimum enrollment, attended the Statistics Institute at UNF. On the last day of class each summer, Lipkin makes a short speech during which he passes out what he calls "publicity stuff" for UNF. The high school teachers come to the institute from across Florida. There also have been teachers from Georgia, Alabama, Nebraska and Idaho attend.

Lipkin received a National Science Foundation grant for the period 1995-98. The three-year project titled "Technology, Discovery and Communication in Secondary School Mathematics" showed teachers how to use technology to teach mathematics; how to incorporate discovery techniques in their teaching; and how to get students writing about mathematics.

Caldwell's office is just a couple of doors down from Lipkin's. Caldwell, also a math professor, started at UNF in May 1973.

In 1997, Caldwell got together with a representative from the Florida Department of Education and faculty from the University of Central Florida and Florida International University to develop the idea for what became the Sunshine State Scholars Program.

The program, with Caldwell as its director, recognizes the



Leonard Lipkin (left) and Bill Caldwell

JWONE MOUTELA

achievements of high school seniors in the areas of math and science through regional and state competitions. Letters are sent to the state's 67 school superintendents asking them to identify the top graduating senior in their districts. These students take an exam administered regionally throughout Florida after which six advance to the state competition.

The competitions recognize and reward high-achieving students. Parents also are introduced, and students receive cash and other prizes for their academic excellence.

"We really need to continue to recognize our strong students as well as recognize those in need," Caldwell said. "Everybody benefits from recognizing students with knowledge of math and science.

Putting on competitions that ultimately result in one person being named Florida's Statewide Sunshine State Scholar is a large undertaking, and it is done entirely by volunteers. Included in these volunteers are nearly 40 university faculty members, government officials and business people who make up and grade the examinations.

Caldwell also has developed a summer program that focuses on working with academically at-risk middle school students.

"Middle school is where they fall out completely," Caldwell said. "We can catch them before they do, and we can also talk to them about the future."

When asked his motivation for organizing the Sunshine State Scholars Program, now administered through the Florida Institute of Education, Caldwell said in a quiet voice, "I taught my first class in 1960. That's been my life; something I believe in. I think it's important to recognize the value of education."

Professors welcomed on trip to Cuba

A trip to Cuba for an academic conference this summer reinforced Dr. Gordon Rakita's conviction that the U.S. embargo is not working and altered some of the preconceived notions which Dr. Jace Hargis had of the island country before the trip.

"I don't see the purpose in it," Rakita said of the trade embargo and travel restrictions imposed on Cuba by the United States. "It's been going on for 40 years, and Castro's ability to stay in power has not diminished. From a purely practical viewpoint, the embargo is not doing what we want it to do."

Rakita, an anthropology professor, and Hargis, director of the Office of Faculty Enhancement, were in Havana in June to present a research paper on "The more we change, the more we remain the same: The electracry model of teaching and learning."

The Cuba visit itself was a learning process for Hargis, who admitted to prior notions from limited media coverage throughout his life. Hargis was not certain what to expect, but he was braced to encounter an unfriendly environment, both in people and living conditions, as well as streets filled with old American-clunker automobiles.

In actuality, Hargis observed Mercedes, BMWs and Toyota Land Cruisers on the streets of Havana. The countries making

those cars are not participating in the U.S. embargo. The majority of the older cars Hargis saw were 10-14-year-old Russian models.

As for the Cuban people, Hargis said, "They were incredibly kind and caring. They made it clear that they viewed us as very fortunate people, and that we lived in the best country in the

world. These people were very happy, much happier than most people I meet here in the United States and other industrialized countries in the world."

Rakita, too, was struck by the friendliness of the Cuban people. "I expected negative attitudes toward Americans, but there weren't any. I don't believe we had any negative experiences."

When Rakita got off the plane in Havana, an official of the Cuban government took him aside and asked what Rakita's opinion was of the U.S. policy toward Cuba. Rakita told the official that he considers the U.S. policy very unusual since Cuba is treated differently from

other communist countries due to the embargo.

Rakita said the official told him, "No, no, it's not you; not the U.S. It's Bush."

Rakita said this was during a time when the Bush administration was imposing additional restrictions on Cuba.

"I think it was her way of making a statement," Rakita said.



Drs. Gordon Rakita and Jace Hargis in Cuba

Get to Know...

Elaine Poppell

Department: College of Computing, Engineering and Construction

Job: Senior broadcast technologist (I get to make TV!) **Years at UNF:** One year

WHAT'S/WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE

Author – Brian Lumley, Dean Koontz, Dr. Seuss

Novel – *Mysteries and thrillers*

Movie – Drop Dead Fred, American Pie – Made me laugh so hard that I snorted!

Actor/Actress – I really dig Antonio Banderas, (the dark, brooding type), and Anthony Hopkins is great in everything he does. As for a favorite actress, it's Anne Archer.

Musician/Musical Group – I don't necessarily have one favorite — my musical interests are quite varied, depending on what the voices in my head tell me to listen to.

Sports Team – Sorry, I'm not a sports kitten. Wait — is channel surfing considered a sport?

Vacation destination – Anywhere that has room service.

Most Memorable Moment at UNF – I really love my job here at UNF and those with whom I work. I find it challenging, rewarding, and every day presents a unique opportunity to meet new people and have fun while I'm working. It's important to have a sense of humor. You can laugh at yourself and disarm others at the same time!

Most Favorite Thing in the World – Chocolate chip cookies!



Elaine Poppell

Professor spearheads efforts to save diamondback terrapins

By MARCIA MATTSON
Freelance Writer

A gorgeous resident of Northeast Florida's salt marshes has struggled for hundreds of years to survive. The diamondback terrapin, hunted to near extinction in the 1800s for use in the delicacy terrapin soup, faces a new threat these days – the crab trap.

UNF biology professor Joe Butler has studied the terrapins for a decade and has become one of the nation's foremost experts on the species – and one of its most passionate protectors. Butler said the terrapins, already struggling with a loss of habitat and predators, also are entering crab traps and drowning. These drownings are now thought to be a major cause of death throughout the species' range along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts from Cape Cod to Texas.

Butler helped organize a conference in September at the Jacksonville Marriott to present 20 researchers' papers on the terrapins and to display another 17 researchers' poster presentations.

The Third Workshop on the Ecology, Status and Conservation of Diamondback Terrapins also launched a national Diamondback Terrapin Working Group that will lay the foundation for a conservation plan for the beleaguered species, Butler said.

The group will divide the 16 states that are home to diamondback terrapins into five regions that researchers will study.

"For each region, we're going to find out what are the most important problems," Butler said. "Then we hope people in each region will go after these problems."

UNF, Chelonian Research Foundation and Conservation International provided financial support for the workshop. The Florida Turtle Conservation Trust helped strategically with the effort.

Though Butler studied snakes early in his career as a herpetologist, he has worked mainly with turtles since he joined the UNF faculty in 1989. He first studied gopher tortoises on the UNF campus.

He has studied diamondback terrapins in Duval and Nassau counties since 1995, when the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission saw them as a possible indicator of the health of saltwater habitats and funded Butler's study of ways to capture them for research.

The diamondback terrapin is named for its distinctive shell, which is covered with plates patterned with diamond-shaped growth rings. But the terrapin is unique for another reason. It is the only turtle in North America that lives exclusively in brackish waters, such as the salt marshes of Northeast Florida.

During his work on terrapin capture, Butler and colleagues discovered an important nesting beach that led to extensive study of the terrapins in the marshes and tidal creeks of the Intracoastal Waterway. The terrapins breed in water. Females bury their eggs in beach nests. Hatchlings return to the water two or three months later.

There are no accurate estimates of diamondback terrapin populations in Northeast Florida. But the researchers captured more than 400 female diamondbacks on the nesting beach over six years. Butler and his students used radio telemetry to follow and study adults.

A New Jersey researcher first noted in the mid-1990s that terrapins

were drowning in crab traps.

"People have turned up crab traps with as many as 50 dead diamondback terrapins in them," Butler said.

He started testing devices that limit the size of the trap openings to prevent most terrapins from entering. That work, funded by the Florida Sea Grant program, the National Wildlife Foundation and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, continues through 2006.

All studies are showing the devices prevent 70 percent to 80 percent of terrapins from entering the traps and yet have no effect on the number, size or sex of crabs caught, Butler said. After next year, the data will go to the state for consideration.

"We want to see the devices required on all commercial and recreational crab traps," Butler said.

New Jersey and Delaware now require the devices on commercial and recreational crab traps, Butler said. Maryland and South Carolina require the devices only on recreational traps.

Maryland still allows terrapins to be sold commercially for food and pets, but they are a protected species in Florida today. About five years ago, the state determined a person can possess only two of the creatures at one time. Terrapins can no longer be sold, but the loss of habitat to development, the crab industry and predators are making it hard for the species to bounce back, Butler said.



Joe Butler and a terrapin turtle

IVONE MOUTELA

"People have turned up crab traps with as many as 50 dead diamondback terrapins in them."

JOE BUTLER

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

ENGLISH: **Dr. Keith Cartwright's** article "Voodoo Hermeneutics/The Crossroads Sublime" appears in *Mississippi Quarterly*, Vol. 57.

MUSIC: Wind and percussion music publisher C. Alan Publications has published **Dr. Gordon Brock's** wind band version of *Tu pauperum refugium*, taken from the motet, *Magnus es tu, Domine*, by Josquin des Prez.

J. B. Scott performed at the Panama City Jazz Festival as a headliner with the Lisa Kelly-J.B. Scott Jazz 5tet.

PSYCHOLOGY: **Dr. Iver Iversen** gave an invited symposium presentation on "An automated sorting task for chimpanzees (Pan Troglodytes)" at the International Primatology Society in Torino, Italy, in August.

Dr. Lori Lange, with co-authors Drs. Loren Toussaint and Raymond Fleming, published "Perceptions of Accident Foreseeability and Stress and Coping During the Evacuation Period of a Technological Disaster" in *Environment and Behavior*, Vol. 36.

Dr. C. Dominik Güss presented "Cultural Influences on Disaster Management in the Philippines: The Mount Pinatubo Eruption" at the annual convention of the Asian American Psychological Association in Honolulu. Güss also presented "Cultural Influences on Dynamic

Decision Making" at the 112th annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Honolulu in August. The paper was co-authored with student Emma Glencross. Güss published the article and made a poster presentation on "Task Complexity and Difficulty in Two Computer-Simulated Problems: Cross-cultural Similarities and Differences." It is in the Proceedings of the Twenty-Sixth Annual Conference of the Cognitive Science Society. This paper was co-authored with **Drs. Teresa Tuason** and **F. Dan Richard** and students Glencross and Lauren Summerlin.

Dr. Ma. Teresa Tuason presented the research posters "Who is the Filipino American? Relationship and ethnic identity processes," co-authored with students Laura Rollings, Temma Harris and Carling Martin, and "Jeepneys: Values in the Streets," co-authored with **Dr. C. Dominik Güss**, at the 112th annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Honolulu in August. Tuason also presented "Why do some become rich? Why do others stay poor? A qualitative study on Philippine poverty" at the symposium "Filipino cultural components in the Philippines and in America" at the annual convention of the Asian American Psychological Association in Honolulu in July.

SOCIOLOGY, ANTHROPOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE: **Dr. Elizabeth Stearns**, Kara Bonneau and Claudia Buchmann presented "Do Birds of a Feather Still Flock Together Once They Leave the Nest? Interracial Friendships in the High School to College Transition" at the American Sociological

Association's annual meeting in San Francisco. Stearns, Stephanie Moller and Judith Blau presented "Retention and School Dropout: Examining Connectivity between Children and Schools" at the same meeting.

Dr. Krista E. Paulsen published "Making Character Concrete: Empirical Strategies for Studying Place Distinction" in *City and Community*, Vol. 3, No. 3. Paulsen and alumna Amanda L. Watson presented "Selling Segregation? Plantation Suburbs as White Flight Destinations" at the 99th annual meeting of the American Sociological Association in San Francisco.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Will, director of the Northeast Florida Center for Community Initiatives; **Irma Hall**, assistant director of research programs; **Maura Driscoll**, coordinator of research programs; and **Tim Cheney**, assistant director of research programs, presented "Flower Power: Assessing the Impact of Magnolia and Azalea on Minority Health Disparities in the Urban Core of Jacksonville, Florida" at the Society for the Study of Social Problems' annual meeting in San Francisco. Will, **Dr. Richard Phillips** and Andrea Henderson presented "All God's Children: Race, Religion and the Changing Face of Race Relations in a Southern Metropolis" at the Association for the Sociology of Religion's annual meetings in San Francisco. Will and **T. Mason Brown**, undergraduate research assistant, presented "The Arts Mean Business: How the Arts Add Up in the River City" at the American Sociological Association's annual meetings in San Francisco.

Coggin College of Business

Drs. Gary Fane, Reza Vaghefi and **Louis Woods** co-authored two research papers that were presented in England in August. Fane and Vaghefi presented "Labor Productivity, Asset Utilization and Global Competitiveness" at Greenwich University and presented the invited paper "Thriving on Chaos, Differential Values that Underpin Sustainable Competitiveness in Global Markets" at Oxford University. Fane and Vaghefi received plaques issued by the Oxford University Round Table Conference in appreciation of their contribution to the conference. Woods could not attend the conferences.

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE: **Dr. Jeff Michelman**, along with co-author Pauline Rosenberg from Blue Cross Blue Shield, presented "Nursing Dilemmas in a HIPAA Environment" at the Research in Healthcare Financial Management 10th annual International Symposium and Workshop 2004 in Baltimore. Michelman and Rosenberg also presented "HIPAA and Nursing in Florida Hospitals" at the Florida Healthcare Financial Management Association's Almost Fall Institute in Palm Beach Gardens.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER: **Janice Williams Donaldson** was included on the list of "2004 Women of Influence." Donaldson was one of 25 First Coast-area women selected by The Business Journal. She was recognized at a breakfast in September.

MANAGEMENT, MARKETING AND LOGISTICS: **Dr. A. Coskun "Josh" Samli** organized and chaired a special

session, "Emerging World Markets: Opportunities and Problems," at the American Marketing Association Summer Educator's Conference in Boston in August. Samli also presented "Entering Emerging World Markets through Globalization."

Dr. Lou Alabbassi was appointed faculty adviser for Delta Sigma Pi, the international business fraternity.

College of Computing, Engineering and Construction

Dr. Susan Vasana had "Diagonalizer for Correlated or Unbalanced Diversity Branches in Rayleigh or Rician Fading Channels and Wireless Communication" published in the IEEE 2004 Electro/Information Technology Conference Proceedings in August. Vasana also presented this paper at the conference.

Dr. Daniel J. Cox presented "A Geometric Control Algebra for Cooperative Manipulation" at the 10th International Symposium on Robotics and Applications at the World Automation Congress 2004 in June and July. Cox also served on the Program Committee for the 2004 International Symposium on Robotics and Applications.

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES: **Dr. Roger Eggen** presented "Efficiency Considerations of PERL and Python in Distributed Processing" at the International Conference on Parallel and Distributed Processing Techniques and Applications in June.

Dr. Behrooz Seyyed-Abbassi presented "Enhanced Learning of

Database Systems Using Project Development and E-Learning in an Information Systems Curriculum" at the International Conference on Education and Information Systems in July. The paper was published in the conference proceedings. He also chaired a session on education technologies.

Dr. Charles Winton presented "Using a Breadboard to Extend the Handy Board for Digital Logic, Multiple Sonars, and Other Things" at the National Conference on Educational Robotics in July. Winton also presented the poster "Hexabot: Using Multiple Sonars for Obstacle Avoidance" and chaired three conference sessions. Winton also was an invited participant in the Pyro Robotics Workshop in August.

College of Education and Human Services

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION: **Dr. Sandra Gupton** presented a roundtable discussion on "Department Chairs as Instructional Leaders: Mission Impossible or Critical Role?" at the annual conference of the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration in Branson, Mo., in August.

Dr. Jace Hargis and Mark Hall, a chemistry teacher at Terry Parker High School had their article, "Infusing

Student-Centered Learning with Digital Technology in Secondary Chemistry," published in the *Journal of Science Education*, Vol. 5, No. 2.

COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP: **Dr. Lynne Carroll** presented two papers at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Honolulu in August. The papers, "Relational Intimacy in the Personal Lives of Women Therapists" and "Judgments of Therapists' Self-Disclosure of Sexual Orientation," were co-authored by Drs. Paula Gilroy and Jennifer Murra at the University of Northern Iowa.

SPECIAL EDUCATION: **Dr. Kristine Webb** was elected vice president of the Council for Exceptional Children, Division on Career Development and Transition. Webb will serve as president of DCDT in 2006-07. She also was invited to present her research about college-bound high school students with disabilities at the Capacity Building Institute, sponsored by the University of Hawaii and University of Minnesota in July. Webb and **Dr. Janice Seabrooks** participated in a summit meeting hosted by the University of Connecticut about issues in postsecondary education and college students with disabilities.

College of Health

SCHOOL OF NURSING: **Drs. Pam Chally** and **Catherine Hough** had their chapter "Nursing ethics" published in K.K. Chitty's *Professional Nursing: Concepts and Challenges*, fourth edition.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH: **M. Fottler, K. Scharoun** and **Reid Oetjen** had their chapter "Multi-provider systems as first line responders to bioterrorism events: Challengers and strategies" published in *Bioterrorism Preparedness, Attack and Response: Advancing Theory and Practice*, edited by J.D. Blair, M.D. Fottler and A.C. Zapanta.

DEAN'S OFFICE: **Dr. Pam Chally** and **J.M. Carlson** published "Spirituality, rehabilitation and aging: A literature review" in *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*, Vol. 85, No. 7 (Suppl. 3).

Student Affairs

Kevin Modglin of the Campus Alcohol and Drug Information Center has been invited to serve on the 12-member board of directors of the Northeast Florida Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. Modglin has been a NEFCADA member for four years.

inside unf

DEADLINE

*Information to be included in the November 2004 issue of **inside unf** must be received in the Office of Marketing and Publications by noon Oct. 15 and is subject to space limitations. Please submit information to Dan Dundon or Julie Williams.*

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Senior Service recipient helps variety of charities

Eden Levine crams a lot into an average workweek, but she never forgets to make charities part of her commitment.

Levine, who is the recipient of the Alumni Association's Senior Service Award for the summer 2004 graduating class, completed a 40-hour workweek on two internships at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement while finishing up her semester course work.

One internship with FDLE involved public relations, where she helped public information officers with media relations. The second internship involved her criminal justice studies in which she floated around the department learning about the different divisions.

Levine came to UNF in fall 1999 and graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences with degrees in communications and criminal justice.

While at UNF, Levine assisted with the Earth Music Fest Concerts and other artistic productions as a member of Osprey Productions, and she was a member of Golden Key International Honor Society, the Student Criminal Justice Association and the Presidential Envoys Student Alumni Association. In addition to her club participation and academic work, Levine has contributed many volunteer hours since high school.

As a member of the Presidential Envoys, she assisted with many UNF-sponsored events and participated in numerous community service projects, including UNF Kids Fest, a UNF inter-organizational event that benefits underprivileged children from the First Coast. Levine also participated in food

drives; adopt a family and stuffing stockings for the Salvation Army; Autism walks; making valentines for the elderly; and planning campus activities for children from the Jacksonville Boys' Home.

Although Levine believes all volunteer experience is important, she said her most rewarding work was being a part of Kids Fest. This annual event provides disadvantaged children with an opportunity to visit a college campus. It also provides them a chance to interact with college students through a variety of fun activities. Levine has been involved with this project since its conception four years ago.

"Ever since the first UNF Kids Fest, each year continues to be as gratifying as the previous one. In addition, I take with me smiles, laughter, and a sense of community which helps to encompass a richer life," she said.

Levine believes without hesitation that her experiences of volunteerism and community support have shaped her life.

"The friendships formed and the relationships built will forever hold a place in my heart," she said.



Eden Levine

ELISABETH SLATER

Robersons

(Continued from page 12)

to taking the children to school every day, the Robersons drive three children to piano practice and four to karate lessons.

When they aren't in the kitchen or on the road, the Robersons often can be found at the neighborhood grocery store. They go through three gallons of milk a week. Bread and cereal also disappear quickly.

Meiching Roberson, 39, originally from Taiwan, admits there are times she feels overwhelmed by it all.

"I stop and say, whew. To me, to have a big family, you have to be a bit crazy," she said with a laugh. Like her husband, Meiching seems to thrive on the hectic pace.

"Knowing they are going to get a chance to have a better life is rewarding for me," she said, referring to Meiah and Micah. "For my siblings, God gave them two more to love on."

Len Roberson said he and his wife have a history of working

with children, even prior to their marriage. "We've always loved kids," Roberson said. "All of our lives we've been involved with kids."

The Robersons agreed before they got married that they wanted at least six children.

Because of their ages, Roberson hasn't talked to Meiah and Micah about being adopted. He said he will when they get older. When he asks Micah, "What's in Guatemala?" Micah replies, "pizza, burritos." He thinks Guatemala is an American restaurant. As for their future plans, the Robersons, soon to move into a larger house, haven't decided whether there will be any more additions to their family.

Bedtime for the Roberson children is 8 p.m. That's also when Len and Meiching Roberson share some quiet moments together.

"When the nighttime comes, I just reflect on the blessings God has given me," Meiching Roberson said.

"Knowing they are going to get a chance to have a better life is rewarding for me."

MEICHING ROBERSON

New center

(Continued from page 1)

and work force issues, and we believe the UNF project-centered approach of having students work on technically challenging projects in collaboration with member companies provides a unique, focused resource for our member companies,” Daniels said.

The FCMA represents more than 300 manufacturers and related businesses in the region. Many of these manufacturers are small concerns with fewer than 50 employees. Small companies often lack the staff and resources to develop advanced design and manufacturing solutions, making this center particularly helpful, Daniels added.

Some of these small companies are in economically distressed areas of the city. Fresh Ministries, a Jacksonville organization dedicated to assisting such areas, sees many benefits through the UNF program. Michael Bryant, director of Fresh Ministries, said the organization’s Beaver Street Enterprise Center, an incubator established to help launch minority businesses, would benefit from this UNF partnership.

“There are many bright young minds in the community looking for opportunities to excel. I think that this program can offer a valuable service to foster new talents in science and engineering,” he said.

In fact, students are one of the biggest beneficiaries of the MIP program. Cox pointed out that undergraduate students will have opportunities to participate in the projects in the classroom and as undergraduate research assistants. The students will increase their experience in applying theoretical knowledge and also learn more about the regional employment opportunities, he said.

Although the first project has yet to be formally identified, there are several eager companies waiting in the wings. Potential projects include development of automated drug testing kits and devices to measure pool cue performance. Some of these interested companies already have been working with UNF. The MIP is expected to add more resources to an expanding base of partnerships.

briefs

OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING AWARDS

Nominations are being accepted until 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 20, for the 2004-05 Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Awards. Guidelines for the awards are on the Faculty Association’s Web site at www.unf.edu/groups/unffa. Nominations may be downloaded at the site and sent via e-mail to facassn1@unf.edu or delivered to the Faculty Association Office in the Arts and Sciences Building, Building 11, Room 1328.

DISTINGUISHED VOICES BRINGS 3 TO CAMPUS

The Distinguished Voices Lecture Series continues in October with three nationally known speakers.

Stanley Katz, a professor at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University will speak on “The Just University” on Thursday, Oct. 7, at the University Center. His research focuses on the relationships of constitutionalism and civil society in the United States and in emerging democracies around the world.

On Friday, Oct. 15, Detroit-born photographer Jerry Uelsmann will discuss his international career. His work has been exhibited in more than 100 individual shows in the United States and abroad. The lecture will be in the Lazzara Performance Hall.

John Andrews, West Coast editor of *The Economist*, will lecture on how Europeans see the United States at the University Center on Monday, Oct. 18. In his 20 years with *The Economist*, Andrews had lived all over the world, working as the South-East Asia correspondent, the China editor and the Asia editor, as well as a Washington correspondent. Andrews’ lecture is co-hosted by the World Affairs Council/Global Issues Forum.

All lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. and are free. No tickets are required.

dateline

Compiled by Angela Pompey

HR News

Admissions – Debora Dodd as computer operations supervisor and Pamela McCutcheon as secretary.

Athletics – James Scholler as head athletic trainer; Joseph Collins as coordinator; and Shawn LaFata as coordinator.

Center for Professional Development – James Starr as training specialist.

Curriculum and Instruction – Norma Marble as senior secretary.

Financial Aid – Cassandra Stephens as financial aid officer and Michelle Dix as senior financial aid officer.

Fine Arts Center – Michael Boyles as graphic designer; Toni Pestine as director; and Amy Mitchell as senior secretary.

General Counsel – Marcus Snow as associate general counsel.

Health Advising – Theresa Wolff as senior secretary.

Information Technology Services – Jeremy Duckworth as senior computer program analyst.

Library – Theodore Hornoi-Centerwa as senior library technical assistant, Ted Centerwall as senior library technical assistant.

Physical Facilities – Jeanne Charleus as custodial worker, Dominique Miller as custodial worker, Charles Byrd as custodial worker, Yvonne Perry as custodial worker.

Sponsored Research – Valerie Bennett as coordinator.

Student Affairs – Dana Johnson as program assistant.

UPD – Adam Kline as law enforcement officer.

Promotions

Controllers – Felicia Kilgore as collections/loan manager; Janalene Phillips and Douglas Short as accountants; Loucelyn Strange as senior

fiscal assistant; and Donna Beasley as associate controller.

ESR – Patricia Robbins as office assistant.

Florida Center – Jacqueline Dorey as coordinator.

Human Resources – Nicole Norman as coordinator.

Information Technology Services – Scott Peden as coordinator.

Physical Facilities – Suzanne Vancuran as senior custodial worker.

Sponsored Research – Dawn Boatman as interim director; Chantel Cummings as coordinator; Sandra Wirth as coordinator; Kelly Loach as senior grants assistant; and Sonja Avery as senior secretary.

Student Medical Services – Nancy Strawser as senior registered nurse.

UPD – Crystal Serrano as senior police communications officer.

Births

Donna Cobis of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration and her husband, Stephen, became the parents of Ian James on May 23.

Lewis Hoffman of the Library, his wife, Kathy, and daughter Faith welcomed Hope Alexis on Sept. 14. She weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces.

Achievements

Continuing Education’s **Ruth Harrold, Peggy Armstrong, Adriana Giles** and the **English Language Program’s August Conversation Month students** conducted community service projects to help the homeless and less fortunate at the Sulzbacher Center and City Rescue Mission’s Clothes Closet.

Martha Solomon of the UNF Library completed 33 years of service to UNF on Sept. 13.

Robersons thrive on challenges of raising six children

By TOM CAIN
Staff Writer

Dr. Len Roberson, program director for deaf education, cried tears of joy when he participated in the birth of his four children. He experienced that same emotion when he went to China to meet the newest addition to his family, 7-year-old adopted daughter Meiah.

"I think I was sobbing," said Roberson, talking about the day in August when Meiah, who is deaf, ran into his hotel bedroom in China, snuggled under the covers and gave him a kiss. Meiah had been living in an orphanage since the police found her abandoned on the street when she was 3.

That kiss was particularly significant for Roberson and his wife, Meiching, because Meiah had been crying off and on for several days about leaving her friends at the orphanage.

"Your heart breaks for her," Roberson recalled. "We held her and she just slowly warmed to us."

The Robersons specified at the beginning of the adoption process that they were looking to adopt a deaf child. Roberson said most deaf children are born into hearing families who don't communicate with them for a variety of reasons,

one of which is no knowledge of sign language.

The Robersons have six children — Sarah, 10, Jonah, 9, Leiah, 7, Meiah, 7, Micah, 5 and Bekah, 4. Micah, who is from Guatemala, joined the Roberson clan in 2001.

Roberson remembers the first time he and Meiching saw Micah. "He pointed and said 'mama and papa.' Oh, we cried. We were both in tears," Roberson said.

The assimilation of Meiah and Micah into their new family and American culture has been seamless, according to Roberson. Micah made a beeline for the playroom and was having fun with his brother and sisters shortly after arriving at his new home. Meiah, who signed in Chinese, is now learning American Sign Language.

The Robersons' birth children have had no problems in accepting their new brother and sister.

"We don't distinguish between those who come to us by adoption from those who come to us by childbirth," Roberson said, "because they are all our children. We couldn't imagine life without any one of the children."

Life is a tad more complicated, however, when you are raising six children. The Robersons, who have been married



LYVONE MOUTELA

Len and Meiching Roberson now have six children ages 4 to 10. They are (from left) Sarah, 10, Jonah, 9, Meiah, 7, Micah, 5, Leiah, 7 and Bekah, 4.

11 years, seem to be able to handle it quite well. Roberson, 36, smiles and talks about an "assembly line" in the kitchen as he and Meiching prepare six lunches. In addition

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