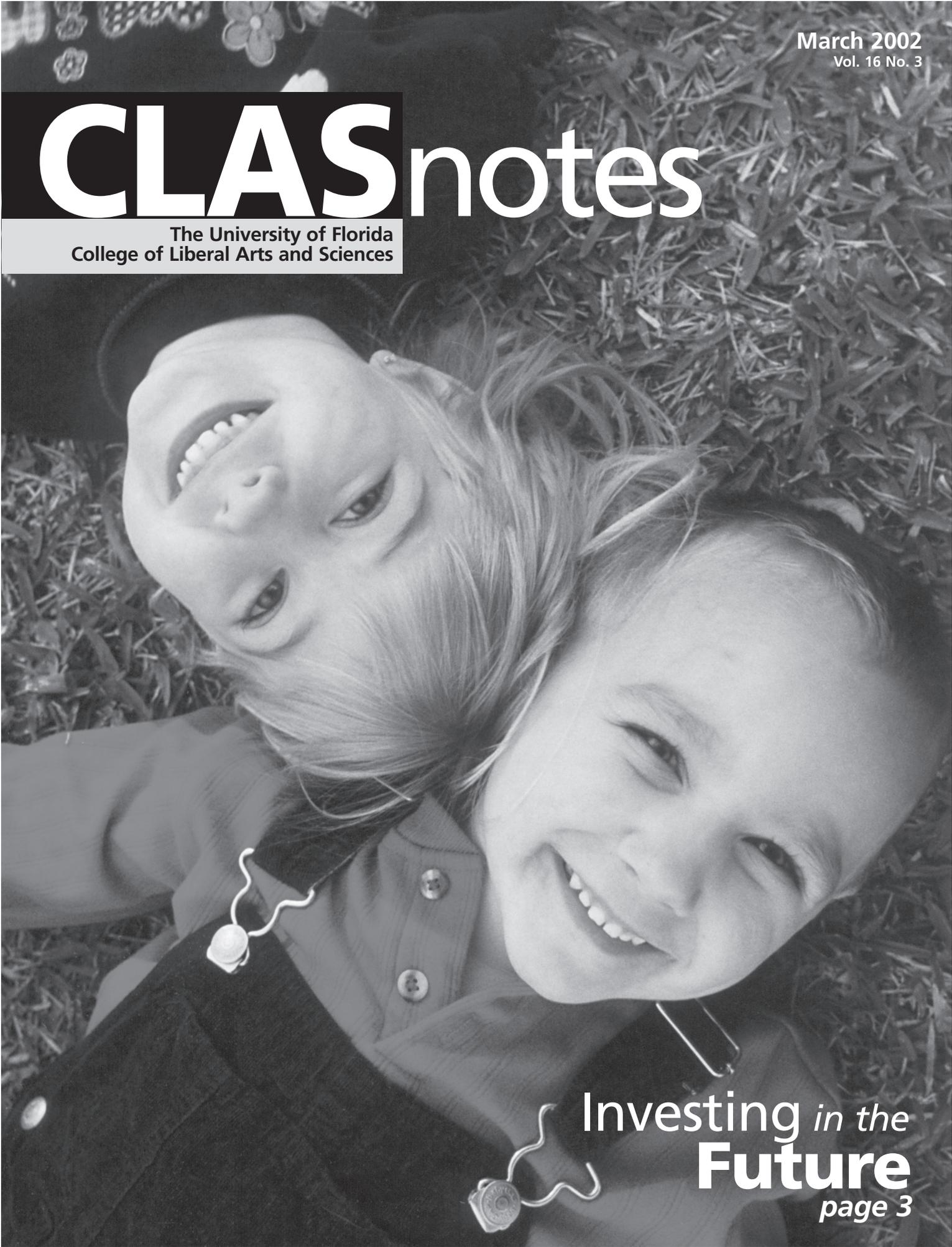


March 2002  
Vol. 16 No. 3

# CLASnotes

The University of Florida  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



Investing *in the*  
**Future**  
page 3

## **In this Issue:**

Investing in the Future .....	3
In Memory: Barbara Noreen Roth.....	4
Women In Science Retreat .....	6
Celebrating 25 Years of Women's Studies .....	6
Enriching Botany's Garden .....	7
Around the College .....	8
Grants Feature: Wasting Away .....	10
Bookbeat Feature: Bridging Linguistics and Anthropology .....	11
Humanitarian Award .....	12

**E-mail [editor@clas.ufl.edu](mailto:editor@clas.ufl.edu) with your news and events information for publication in *CLASnotes*. The deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month prior to the month you would like your information published. Don't wait! Send us your news and events today!**



UNIVERSITY OF  
**FLORIDA**

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
News and Publications

2008 Turlington Hall  
PO Box 117300  
Gainesville FL 32611-7300  
[editor@clas.ufl.edu](mailto:editor@clas.ufl.edu)  
<http://clasnews.clas.ufl.edu>

*CLASnotes* is published monthly by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to inform faculty, staff and students of current research and events.

Dean:	Neil Sullivan
Editor:	Allyson A. Beutke
Contr. Editor:	Patrick Hughes
Layout/Photography:	Jane Dominguez
Intern:	Jenny Oberhaus
Copy Editor:	Lynne Pulliam

### **Additional Photography and Illustrations:**

Courtesy Terry Mills: p. 3  
Courtesy Elizabeth Guillette: p. 5  
Courtesy Marta Wayne: p. 6  
Jeff Gage: p. 7  
Courtesy Department of Philosophy: p. 9  
Courtesy Department of Chemistry: p. 10



Printed on  
recycled paper

# *The* Dean's **Musings**

## **Children and Families: Florida's Future**

Few areas will have greater impact on the future of our citizens, the university and the state than our study and understanding of the issues facing children and families. The growth rate of Florida's population, its unusual needs resulting from the combination of the young and the old, and our fragile economy place a sense of urgency on researching solutions to the challenges confronting families in Florida today. Many of the issues that Florida faces are common to other rapidly developing populations in the US and abroad. In-depth research at UF on children and families could easily have an impact at state, national and international levels.

Recognizing the important place research on children and families has in our state, we have been looking at ways to provide better institutional support for sharing knowledge among scholars and professionals in various disciplines and colleges. CLAS faculty members and graduate students are collaborating with researchers in other colleges on a variety of research studies related to children and families. They are exploring issues and proposing solutions to the many problems facing families in our state, such as the sharp reduction of traditional parenting, the geographic mobility of the population, the increase in teenage and domestic violence and the rising gap between the rich and the poor. These challenges are alarming. And despite efforts to reverse the recent trends, more must be done. Understanding the origins of the socio-economic and socio-cultural factors that are responsible for these problems is the central goal of the proposed UF Institute on Children and Families.

The general public is very much aware of these issues because they can affect all of us in some way. As a public institution, the community and the state look to UF to provide the necessary leadership in identifying the factors affecting the welfare of our children and in offering long-term solutions. By developing the Institute on Children and Families, CLAS and UF can encourage more interdisciplinary work, expand curricula, forge strategic partnerships and monitor the needs of the state's most delicate population.

*Neil Sullivan*  
[sullivan@phys.ufl.edu](mailto:sullivan@phys.ufl.edu)

### **On the Cover:**

Five-year-old Kira Carusone and her three-year-old brother Alex. Their dad, Joe Carusone, is a computer systems programmer in the chemistry department.

# Investing *in the* Future

More than 3.5 million children live in Florida, according to the 2000 US Census, yet on many indicators of child well-being, Florida ranks in the bottom half of all states. On some indicators, such as the percentage of children living in poverty, the number of teenage pregnancies and the juvenile crime rate, Florida has made the "worst ten" list.

"There are many problems facing Florida's children and families, and it's a growing concern for everyone," UF Provost David Colburn says. "Much emphasis has been placed on the older population in our state, and while this segment is important, we need to solve the problems related to children, especially since they are our future."

Last year Colburn, who directs UF's Askew Institute on Politics and Society, sponsored a statewide symposium that focused on the challenges facing Florida's children. The meeting energized the state's key policy makers to work together and set an agenda for research, community education, advocacy and social services pertaining to children. After the meeting, Colburn spoke to CLAS Dean Neil Sullivan about assembling a group of faculty to discuss interest in establishing an institute on children and families at UF.

Sociology Professor Connie Shehan, who is also the director of the University Center for Excellence in Teaching, chairs this task force and says an institute would efficiently utilize UF's resources. "Since there is no campus-wide directory of faculty who are involved in research and teaching about children and families, scholars often work in isolation with little or no awareness of other related efforts. There is no mechanism for regular communication among these professionals, nor is there any effective way for those outside the university to tap into the large and multi-faceted research of UF's professionals."

Shehan says many of the nation's largest and most prestigious universities have multidisciplinary institutes devoted to the study of children and families. "The task force has looked at what is arguably the most successful institute in the country at the University of Minnesota. It has set a standard for others, in that it not only has widespread participation among academic researchers and educators from many colleges on its

own campuses, it has also built a very strong partnership with the business community and the state government, including the public schools."

Many private foundations are stepping forward to help universities establish institutes related to children and family studies. Shehan recently attended a conference on families that was co-sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. "One of the remarkable initiatives the Sloan Foundation has undertaken in recent years is funding a number of institutes or centers for the study of families at universities such as Berkeley, UCLA, Cornell and Michigan," she says. "We believe that UF is well-positioned to join these prestigious academic institutions as leaders in the understanding of family life."

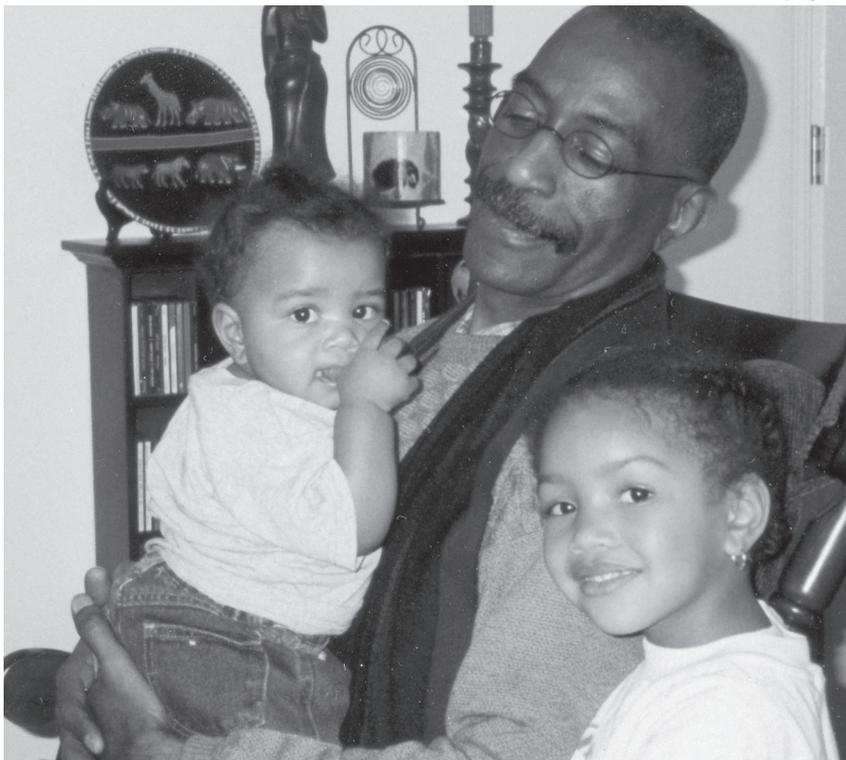
There are more than 200 faculty members at UF, representing at least 11 colleges, who are actively engaged in research that seeks to understand and address the needs of children and families. "The research is so diverse, not only at the university level, but right here in CLAS," Shehan says. "So many faculty members are already investigating issues that have implications for the children and families of Florida and elsewhere, and these efforts could be magnified in scope and public visibility if they are linked through a central unit on campus."

We recently talked with CLAS researchers leading a variety of research initiatives to see what sorts of projects would constitute the new Institute on Children and Families.

## **Grandparents and Grandchildren**

Sociologist Terry Mills, another member of the children and families task force, focuses his research on relationships between grandparents and grandchildren. The 2000 US Census reported that roughly 5.5 million children under the age of 18 are being raised in households headed by grandparents. More than 1 million of these children live in households where neither biological parent is present. Mills says this social phenomenon has touched virtually every segment of society. "Among all the grandchildren being raised by their grandparents, 12% are African American, 4%

*see Future on page 4*



Sociologist Terry Mills with his grandchildren, 18-month-old Kielle (left) and 5-year-old Lala (right). Mills' research examines the relationships between grandparents and grandchildren.

## In Memory: Barbara Noreen Roth 1950-2002

Barbara Roth, an adjunct political science professor, died at her home in Gainesville on January 24. In addition to teaching classes in the political science department, she was also a research analyst for the Center for Humanities and Social Sciences at UF and conducted research on children and families.

Roth, who had worked as a social worker for many years, decided to return to graduate school at UF in 1993. Her dissertation thesis, which she successfully defended last summer, looked at the role fathers play in the welfare system. Using statewide computer records, Roth studied factors affecting the case outcomes of more than 700 families in eight Florida counties that received welfare assistance. "The woman who has children by more than one man has become a pariah in society," she said. "Yet this study found that men who have more children by multiple partners and remain absent from the home are a key factor in reducing the chances of a family getting off welfare."

Throughout Roth's coursework, Political Science Professor Jim Button served as her advisor. At the memorial service held for her January 31, Button spoke about Roth's sense of humor, compassion and understanding of people, saying he often felt that he learned more from her than she from him. "She was a unique student, dedicated to understanding—and to helping others understand—the complexities of life facing the disadvantaged. She had a spirit that brought life and love into the lives of her friends, professors, students and to everyone she touched."

The political science department has established the Dr. Barbara Noreen Roth Award and plans to present it to a political science student.

Donations may be sent to Department of Political Science, PO Box 117325, Gainesville, FL 32611. Please make checks payable to the UFF Fund #1039, and write "Barbara Roth Award" on the check.

## Future continued from page 3

are white and 6% are Hispanic. Some of the explanations for this emerging 'kinship structure' include parental drug abuse, incarceration, child abuse, parental divorce, abandonment, and physical and mental health problems."

Mills has explored how the traditional grandparent role is being transformed. "This is an important issue given the significant role that grandparents play in the lives of their grandchildren," Mills says. "Many grandparents are considered to be the transmitters of family history and values, providing their grandchildren with a sense of 'who they are.' However, although more grandparents have assumed responsibility for raising their grandchildren, they have virtually no legal standing. Furthermore, many of these care-giving grandparents experience tremendous burdens and stress as a consequence of having to re-enter the parenting role. Some even maintain a sense of guilt that they themselves were failures as parents, since their own children are unable to provide care for the child."

Mills has authored several articles about his research that have appeared in a special edition of the *Journal of Family Issues* titled "Grandparent-Grandchild Relationships in the New Millennium." He also co-authored a study of the portrayal of grandparents in children's literature, and *Time Magazine's* December 31, 2001 issue mentioned his work.

## Family Conflict Resolution

---

Several CLAS researchers have already joined forces with other university and community researchers, with the support of a Department of Education (DOE) grant. Principal investigator Scott Miller (psychology) along with co-principal investigators Mark Fondacaro (criminology/psychology) and Jen Woolard (criminology/psychology) are collaborating with researchers from the colleges of Health Professions and Education and the Alachua County Public Schools.

The group is looking at how lessons learned in the context of family conflict resolution, both positive and negative, are linked to how middle school students perceive and attempt to resolve conflicts with peers and teachers at school.

Fondacaro says the DOE grant will help him extend the work he has already done on family-conflict resolution. "We know that adolescents learn a great deal about how to manage and resolve interpersonal conflicts through interactions with their parents. Youngsters who report that their parents treat them with personal dignity and respect (regardless of the outcome of a particular family dispute) are less likely to engage in aggressive behavior outside the family context than those who don't feel respected. One important objective of this work will be to obtain new knowledge that can be used to help develop more comprehensive conflict resolution interventions aimed at youth violence prevention and the promotion of social competence."

Miller says the project, while focused on questions of school violence and safety, is intended to be broad in scope. "We plan to tap into a variety of issues and concerns in the lives of today's middle-school students. We hope that it will provide information about this age group that has not been available in previous large-scale survey projects."

The group plans to use data collected from schools districts in Florida, California, New Jersey and Texas. Woolard says they have already conducted some initial student surveys at schools in Alachua County. "We've asked questions relating to the atmosphere of school, the experiences the students have had with violent behavior, their attitudes and beliefs about aggression and resolving conflict, racial and ethnic identity, and the kind of relationships they have with their parents, peers and teachers."

Fondacaro says the opportunity to collaborate with other professionals in the health and education fields has allowed members of the research team to advance the pace and quality of the research at levels that would not be possible if pursued independently. "This is exactly the kind of synergy that is likely to result from the college's efforts to establish an Institute for Children and Families. In my view, leadership and resources are likely to drive the ongoing scope and pace of the Institute's success."

## Pesticide Exposure

---

Research on children and families extends well beyond Florida and the US. Elizabeth Guillet, an adjunct professor of anthropology, has spent six years examining the effects of pesticides on children in Mexico. "When Mexico's Yaqui Indians split into two different agricultural camps in the 1950s, their children became an unusually perfect test group for the effects of pesti-

cide exposure,” Guillette says. “Some embraced the new methods and formed towns in the valley. Others preferred the customary ranching and agricultural methods and congregated in a separate town in the valley foothills.”

In a recent article in the journal *Alternatives*, Guillette explains how the two groups are similar in genetic make-up, diet and technological skills. However, the group living in the valley has used insecticides, herbicides and other agricultural chemicals. The foothill population has rejected the use of these chemicals. In order to determine the possible impact of pesticide exposure, Guillette asked children from the two groups, ages four and five, to perform a series of play activities representative of their developmental skills. “The differences this revealed were significant,” Guillette says. “The valley children exhibited more neuromuscular and mental deficits than the foothill children. They were less proficient at catching a ball, reflecting poor eye-hand coordination. Stamina levels, measured by jumping contests, were also lower.” Drawings made by the children illustrate their development differences (see picture below).

Guillette evaluated the same children two years later, and the group exposed to pesticides was still behind and also faced more health problems. “The exposed children exhibited symptoms of illness at a rate three to four times that of the others. Of special concern was the high rate of upper respiratory infection, suggesting a suppressed immune system and other symptoms such as allergy and rash.”

Guillette plans to conduct additional research in India and Puerto Rico on the relationship between reproduc-

tive problems in women and exposure to chemicals.

### Typical Teenagers

It may seem that the majority of research related to children and families explores problematic issues. Sociology graduate student Kristin Joos is trying to change that. “The vast majority of the more than 88 million youth who comprise more than one quarter of America’s population are not ‘delinquent.’ Often, the existing literature approaches adolescence as a difficult life stage and casts teenagers as potential problems,” Joos says.

Joos received a 2002 McLaughlin Dissertation Fellowship through CLAS for this research. She decided to examine the attitudes of teenagers from advantaged backgrounds, seeking to understand how these future leaders perceive themselves and their communities. “My goal is to look at the ‘typical’ teenager since typical is a term that has many assumptions behind it. Part of my research is to question some of these notions of what it means to be an ‘average’ or ‘normal’ teenager.”

Joos began with an analysis of the 1999 *Monitoring the Future* surveys of 60,000 high school students. In its 25<sup>th</sup> year, *Monitoring the Future* is an annual survey of a representative sample of high-school seniors in the US. It explores changes in values, behaviors and lifestyles of contemporary American youth. Joos is focusing on the students’ responses to the questions regarding the “importance of being a success” versus the “importance of making a contribution to society.” Her preliminary results indicate that a vast majority of youth, around 90%, consider being a success

“very or extremely important,” but only one third of students rate “making a contribution to society” as “very or extremely important.” Interestingly, these trends seem to have flip-flopped since the 1960s, when a majority of youth considered it more important to make a contribution to society.

Since this concept of “success” was apparently so overwhelmingly important to young people, Joos began to wonder how they defined success and why it seemed so significant in their lives. “I interviewed 90 high school students and asked them to define success and to discuss how being a success was (or was not) important in their own lives.”

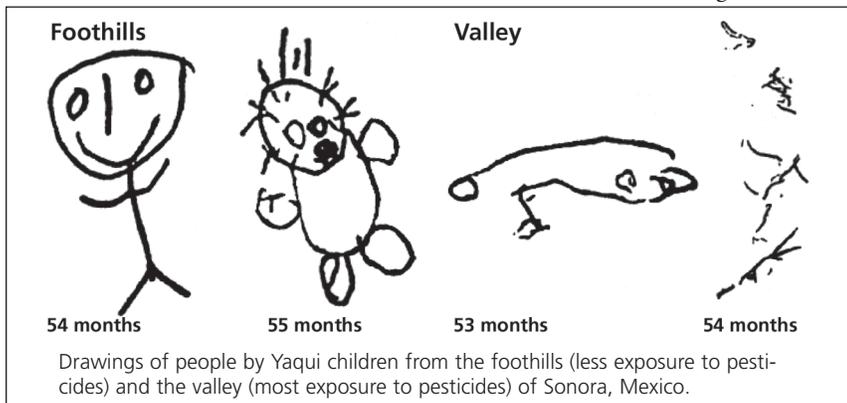
She has not analyzed all of the data yet, but so far Joos has found that many of the teenagers she interviewed define success not merely in terms of their financial or career goals, but also in terms of making a contribution to society. Joos says, “The most common response I have found is that being a success is being happy.”

Joos recently received Institutional Review Board approval to ask the students follow-up questions about how the events of September 11 have possibly changed their thoughts about success and making a contribution to society. She plans to finish her dissertation this fall.

Solving the problems related to children and families cannot be done overnight, but Colburn says that because many UF researchers are already studying these concerns, the university would make an ideal home for the Institute on Children and Families. “Other states look at Florida as a model to see how we address and solve our problems because we have such a diverse population,” Colburn says. “UF should be the lead institution on this initiative because we have many talented faculty who study problems and situations, analyze the data and then make recommendations for improvements.”

Shehan says by combining UF’s unparalleled strengths in the health sciences, law, education and the social and behavioral sciences, the university can build a team of scholars who will be able to approach these complex problems from multiple perspectives. “Florida’s status as the most populated state in the Southeast and its position as a gateway to Latin America and the Caribbean is so relevant here. Many of the problems that confront Florida’s children and families involve migration into the state from other states and nations,” she says. “UF’s status as the flagship university in the largest state of this region demands that we step forward to take a leadership role in understanding and addressing the socio-economic issues facing children and families.”

—Allyson A. Beutke



# Women in Science Retreat

January 12 was a milestone for CLAS women in the sciences. A committee of graduate students and faculty, with representation from the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research (CWSGR), organized a retreat for CLAS graduate women in the sciences at the Austin Cary Memorial Forest Conference Center. The goal of the retreat was to improve the climate for graduate women in the sciences in CLAS by building community and acknowledging and exploring some of the unique challenges facing women in the sciences.

The botany, chemistry, geology, physics and zoology departments, along with the Quantum Theory Project and the CLAS dean's office, participated by sending students and helping sponsor the retreat.

The format was a combination of formal presentations, breakout groups and discussion. After a welcome by CWSGR Director Angel Kwolek-Folland and Chemistry Professor and CLAS Associate Dean Lisa McElwee-White, zoology graduate student Laura Sirot led a forum on communication between graduate students and advisors. Topics that sparked the most discussion included authorship, changing thesis advisors and responses to unprofessional behavior.

Mary Wyer, an assistant professor in the Women's and Gender Studies Program in the multidisciplinary studies department at North Carolina State University, also led a session. Wyer is a specialist on issues related to women in science and has been awarded several NSF grants to research the topic. She directed an exercise called "Rules of the Master Culture," where students and faculty described their perceptions of the unwritten expectations of themselves and each other as scientists. Examples included the perceptions that graduate students should be in the lab at the same time as their advisors ("face time") and that they should not have a life outside the lab. Wyer also described the outcome of a similar exercise at Duke University and noted the continuities between our climate and theirs.

Zoology professors Jane Brockmann and Marta Wayne led a session about the myths and realities of being a woman in science. They highlighted progress

made in the last 50 years, but they also documented the ongoing lack of equity in salary and appointments to higher ranks such as full professors and department chairs. The groups discussed possible explanations for these phenomena, such as lower publishing rates, and suggested such solutions as changing the standard for determining merit of publications from the simple counting of articles to more qualitative approaches. Among the suggested standards were ranking journals within specific fields, comprehensiveness of work presented and paradigm shifts resulting from the publications.

Also discussed was the importance of balancing professional and personal lives to avoid burnout and future steps that women in the sciences might take. During the discussion, it became clear that institutional support was needed in order to achieve the ultimate goal of an improved climate for women graduate students in the sciences. The group suggested that the college dedicate a graduate student to coordinate activities related to women-in-science issues. They also proposed a university-wide committee on women in science or placing a permanent science member on a committee monitoring the status of women at UF. Immediate actions include facilitating mentoring networks between faculty and graduate students in CLAS science departments, exploring an NSF ADVANCE funding program designed to promote institutional change for women in the sciences and offering a graduate seminar on feminist science studies next fall through CWSGR.

Jenny Lybeck-Brown, a graduate student with the UF Counseling Center, conducted an assessment of the retreat. Her exit survey showed high enthusiasm and an eagerness to attend future gatherings among the participants, who gave the retreat an overall rating of excellent. Several participants also commented that they had learned some new practical guidelines and valuable information on mentor-student relationships. More than 80 percent of the participants want to be involved in future activities.

—Marta Wayne, Professor of Zoology



Participants in the Women in Science Retreat

## Cultivating Knowledge(s)

Celebrating 25 Years of Women's Studies and Gender Research at the University of Florida

October 24-26, 2002

The Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research will mark its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a research symposium this fall featuring the knowledge (both theoretical and community-based) created by UF faculty, students and community members. This symposium is intended to be a place where researchers, community members, teachers, performers, students, administrators and activists can examine the variety of ways in which we develop and cultivate knowledge about women and gender. The three-day event will focus on three aspects of women's studies and gender knowledge(s): reclaiming knowledges, creating

knowledges and action knowledges. Networking sessions for women's studies and gender researchers are planned as well as community-organized conversations. In conjunction with the symposium, the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts and the University Gallery will host performances and art exhibits. Everyone is encouraged to participate, whether by creating a panel or workshop about research, organizing a meeting of community organizations, developing a performance or just by attending the numerous events. Visit [www.wst.ufl.edu/cultivatingknowledges/ck.html](http://www.wst.ufl.edu/cultivatingknowledges/ck.html) for more information. —Angel Kwolek-Folland



# Enriching Botany's Garden

Flowering plants gain allies  
Doug and Pam Soltis

As part of the National Science Foundation-funded Floral Genome Project (FGP), a couple of recent additions to UF are working to pinpoint the origins of flowers.

And this couple really is a couple. Husband-and-wife team Doug and Pam Soltis now bring their reputations as top researchers to UF's botany department and the Florida Museum of Natural History.

Florida Museum of Natural History Curator Pam Soltis says there are now more opportunities for their kind of work than ever before. "The types of tools being developed for the study of the human genome are becoming more and more available for other fields," she says. "You can start asking, and perhaps answering, questions that a few years ago weren't even possible to think about."

Botany Professor Doug Soltis says coming to UF was another great opportunity "With the FGP, we'd like to be the first to sequence the entire genome of a flowering plant, so we'd have a better idea of how the entire genome emerged and evolved," he says. "And we think we can do that sort of thing at UF. We wouldn't have been able to do it at Washington State University, where we were before."

Botany Chair George Bowes says the FGP may study the earliest flowers, but its results can have a significant impact on the world of today. "This project is looking at the architecture of flowers from 100 million years ago to determine what genes are responsible for flower production in plants," he says. "This is quite important, because flower production is involved with the production of seeds, which touches on the major food sources for the entire planet."

Doug Soltis says the FGP will also look at relatives of flowering plants. "Hopefully we can put together a whole picture for how the flower evolved and diverged. This is important because if you know what controls flower production you can make a plant flower later, or

you can make its stamens produce more pollen. These are things that can be important for crop improvement," he says.

The couple is involved in other projects at UF and will co-teach classes in molecular systematics through the botany department this fall. "In molecular systematics, we use DNA sequences to try and unravel the family tree of plants. It's the same type of data that is used in the FGP, but what we're trying to do is figure out how different species are related to each other," Pam Soltis says.

Another project they are involved with is called Deep Time. "We're trying to integrate fossils into this tree of relationships that we have for living flowering plants," Doug Soltis says. "We're trying to determine where fossils fit in, and what kind of computational advances we need to make better placements of fossils."

Pam Soltis adds that they are also involved in plant conservation. "Northern Florida has one of the highest rates of endemic species anywhere in North America. We've got a lot of rare species, and most of them are being threatened by housing developments," she says, agreeing that disappearing plants are often overlooked by even the conservation-minded. "We looked at one rare plant that was really ugly. It's not like a panther or a dolphin that's going to get a lot of sympathy!"

Bowes says UF was fortunate to convince the couple to bring all of this work here. "Their hiring makes us one of, if not the, foremost plant systematics programs in the country," he says. "They have already proved to be fantastic additions to the department, and they're really nice folks as well."

Doug and Pam Soltis will be giving the presentation "Floral Genomics: Addressing Darwin's Abominable Mystery" at the CLAS College Forum Tuesday, March 12 at 3 pm in the Keene Faculty Center.

—Patrick Hughes

## Letters to the Editor

---

Dear Editor,

I have long admired your publication, and now having it on the Web is a particular treat.

Reading the recent Web edition, a thought came to me, and hence, I have a suggestion. It may be a good idea to have a permanent page that offers Web links for the various CLAS departments. A number of departments, including history, have a "News & Events" link which some of your readers, I believe, might find useful. Why not make it easier for everyone?

Please consider the idea, and let me know your thoughts.

With thanks,  
Bob Hatch  
*Webmaster, History*

Dear Bob,

Thanks for writing. We have added a link on our publications page at <http://clasnews.clas.ufl.edu/news.shtml> called "Other Online Publications." Clicking the link will take you to a list of departments, centers and programs in the college that have online publications. We've included every publication we know about, but not all departments have online newsletters or news pages. We'll add more as we find out about them.

---

Dear Editor,

I thought the tobacco article in February's issue of *CLASnotes* was great! I was wondering if you interviewed each person separately or all together? Anyway, nicely done; interesting picture too.

Paula Palmer  
*Program Assistant, Women's Studies*

Dear Paula,

We're glad you enjoyed the article. The anthropology undergraduate students, graduate students and professor were all interviewed together. In addition to posing questions to the group, each of them were asked individual questions about their part of the overall project.

The anthropology students interviewed some of the teenagers in groups, and others were interviewed alone. There were usually two anthropology students conducting the interviews.

---

*CLASnotes* encourages letters to the editor. E-mail [editor@clas.ufl.edu](mailto:editor@clas.ufl.edu) or send a letter to *CLASnotes*, PO Box 117300, Gainesville FL 32611. *CLASnotes* reserves the right to edit submissions for punctuation and length.

# Around the College

## A New Look

You may have noticed a few modifications in the format of *CLASnotes* this month. In addition to these changes, CLAS Publications also has a new Web site. Visit <http://clasnews.clas.ufl.edu> to read *CLASnotes* and *Alumni CLASnotes* online and learn about the publications services we offer. Our Web site also features press releases about college news and events as well as a comprehensive set of links to other online publications from CLAS departments, centers and programs.

## Mark Your Calendars

---

### Upcoming International Relations Conference

The Department of Political Science is holding the conference "Knowledge and Power in the Discipline of International Relations" on March 22-23. It will explore the history of international relations and the relationship between social scientists and the US government.

Members of UF's political science department, along with national and international researchers, will present and discuss papers. All sessions will be held in 216 Anderson Hall. For more information, contact Ido Oren at 392-0262, ext. 252 or [oren@polisci.ufl.edu](mailto:oren@polisci.ufl.edu).

### McGovern to Speak at History Lecture Series

Former US Senator and presidential candidate George McGovern will speak on Tuesday, March 26 at 7:30 pm in the New Physics Building, room 1001. His talk is part of the annual Gus Burns Memorial Lecture Series sponsored by the history department. For more information, contact Julian Pleasants at [jpleasan@history.ufl.edu](mailto:jpleasan@history.ufl.edu) or 392-6584.

### Need a job?

Opportunities Fair, a new career fair hosted by the Career Resource Center (CRC), is a special recruiting occasion for non-profit, government and local organizations to connect with UF students and alumni. This fair will be held on April 10 from 9 am-3 pm in the J. Wayne Reitz Union Ballroom. It is open to all students and alumni seeking full-time, internship and cooperative education positions. Workshops for CLAS majors include Careers in Government on April 2 and Careers in the Non-Profit Industry on April 4. They will be held in the CRC Workshop Room at 4:05 pm. Visit [www.crc.ufl.edu](http://www.crc.ufl.edu) for more information, or stop by the CRC on the 1st floor of the Reitz Union.

### Graduation Announcement

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will hold Spring 2002 Commencement on Friday, May 3 at 6 pm in the O'Connell Center. Since CLAS will have its own graduation ceremony, the annual Baccalaureate ceremony honoring spring graduates will not take place. For more information, please contact Carol Binello in the dean's office at 392-0780.

## Teach for America

Teach for America, a national organization that places outstanding recent college graduates in urban and rural public schools to teach for two years, has selected seven UF students for its program.

Among the seven are five CLAS students: **Lauren Chianese** (history), **Jeremy Kaplan** (microbiology and cell science), **Joseph Serra** (mathematics), **Lana Swartz** (English) and **Sarah Vidal** (English).

"This is a rigorous and highly selective process. As a result, we are certain this group of outstanding students will make a significant difference in the schools in which they are placed," says Aisha Blanchard, Teach for America's southern recruitment director.

The recent grads will join the more than 1,600 others who are already teaching at one of 16 sites around the country.

## CLAS Teacher of the Year Awards

CLAS had nine college-level teaching award winners for 2001-2002. The awards recognize excellence, innovation and effectiveness in either teaching or advising. Nominations were collected from students, faculty, department chairs and administrators. The winners were then selected based on an evaluation of their teaching portfolio.

**Ronald H. Carpenter**, English

**Marsha Bryant**, English

**Peter Waylen**, Geography

**Steven Noll**, History

**Pham Huu Tiep**, Mathematics

**Alexandre Turull**, Mathematics

**Lise Abrams**, Psychology

**Terry L. Mills**, Sociology

**Marta L. Wayne**, Zoology

Waylen and Carpenter have been nominated for the university-wide Teacher of the Year Awards, which will be announced in April.

## Fulbright Awards

CLAS students **Heidi Dunlap** (anthropology), **Elwaleed Mousa** (political science), **Anna Pagano** (Latin American studies), **Dean Swinford** (English) and **Adam Reitzel** (zoology) have been nominated for International Fulbright Awards. The awards, which fund research and study abroad for up to one year, become official after approval from the specified host countries. UF had a record number of nominees this year, with 14 out of 26 applications accepted.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Germanic and Slavic Studies

**Keith Bullivant** recently lectured to senior students of German at the University of Mainz about ethnological elements in the work of German author Uwe Timm. He also gave a public lecture titled "Apocalypse Now: The Nuclear Holocaust and German Literature of the 1980s."

### Mathematics

A one-day conference was held February 9 in honor of Mathematics and Physics Professor **John Klauder**, who recently celebrated his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Klauder came to UF in 1988 and is best known for fundamental contributions to several areas, including quantum theory, chaotic dynamics, coherent states and path integrals. International scholars spoke at the conference about Klauder's influence on their own work.

On February 13, Emeritus Professor **Heini Halberstam** from the University of Illinois, Urbana gave a Special Mathematics Colloquium on the Riemann Hypothesis, which is one of the most celebrated unsolved problems in mathematics. The fame of the Riemann Hypothesis arises from the fact that it has far-reaching consequences in many areas and has eluded the grasp of many gifted minds who have attempted to solve it. In the recent movie *A Beautiful Mind*, there is a reference to the main character, John Nash, having made attempts to solve it. The Clay Mathematics Institute has offered \$1 million to anyone who can solve the problem.

Halberstam is the author of numerous fundamental papers and two books. In his lecture, he described major phases of development in number theory that have resulted from attempts to solve the Riemann Hypothesis and also presented evidence for and against the problem.

### In Memory:

#### Richard Marvin Hare, 1919-2002

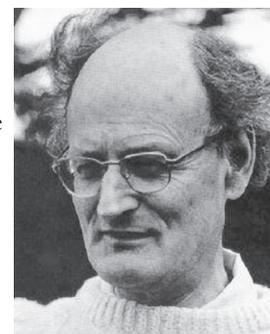
Graduate Research Professor Emeritus of Philosophy Richard Marvin Hare died on January 29 at his home in England. He was 82.

After being held as a prisoner of war by the Japanese for more than three years during World War II, Hare returned to England and completed his studies at Oxford University. He joined the Oxford faculty in 1947 and was White's Professor of Moral Philosophy there from 1966 until 1983. He then came to UF, where he spent 10 years on the faculty.

Known as one of the greatest moral philosophers of the postwar era, he wrote such classics on moral theory as *The Language of Morals* (1952), *Freedom and Reason* (1963) and *Moral Thinking* (1981). When he joined UF's philosophy department, he taught a graduate seminar in ethical theory, regularly admitting undergraduate philosophy majors as well as other interested students.

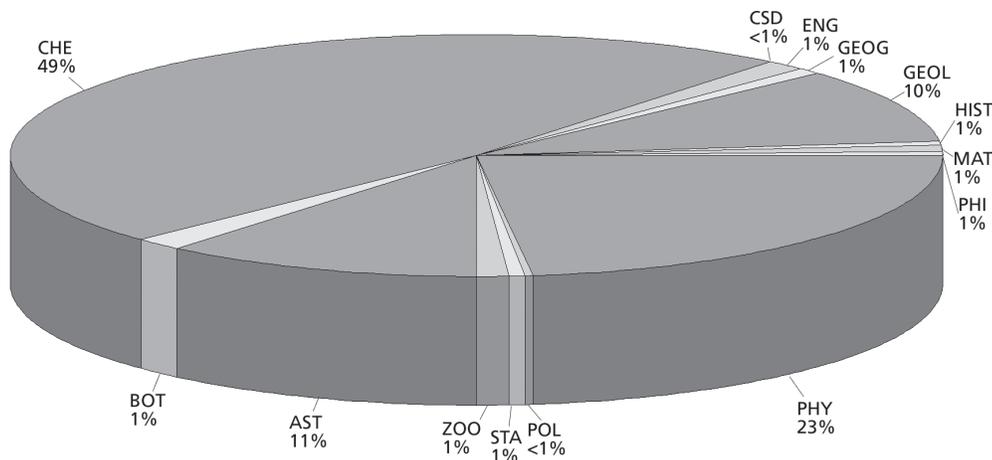
Philosophy Chair Robert D'Amico describes Hare as one of the greatest intellectuals of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. "I remember him as unfailingly energetic, generous with his time and devoted to philosophical discussion."

Hare is survived by his wife Catherine, four children and six grandchildren.



# Grants through the Division of Sponsored Research

January 2002  
Total: \$2,058,571



Grant Awards for January 2002 by Department



Tomas Hudlicky

## Wasting Away

A lot of people probably consider their garbage aromatic—too aromatic, if anything. So converting aromatic waste to something useful sounds like a good idea, right? Well, Chemistry Professor Tomas Hudlicky has received several federal grants to fund his work converting a very specific kind of aromatic waste into compounds impor-

tant to pharmaceutical manufacturing.

“The waste products we convert are chlorinated and brominated aromatic compounds, which are usually the by-products of pesticide manufacture. These compounds have a bad connotation and they’re considered toxic,” Hudlicky says. “But they happen to be very

good starting materials for pharmaceutical compounds. Rather than spend money on waste disposal, we convert them into something that can be used to make money.”

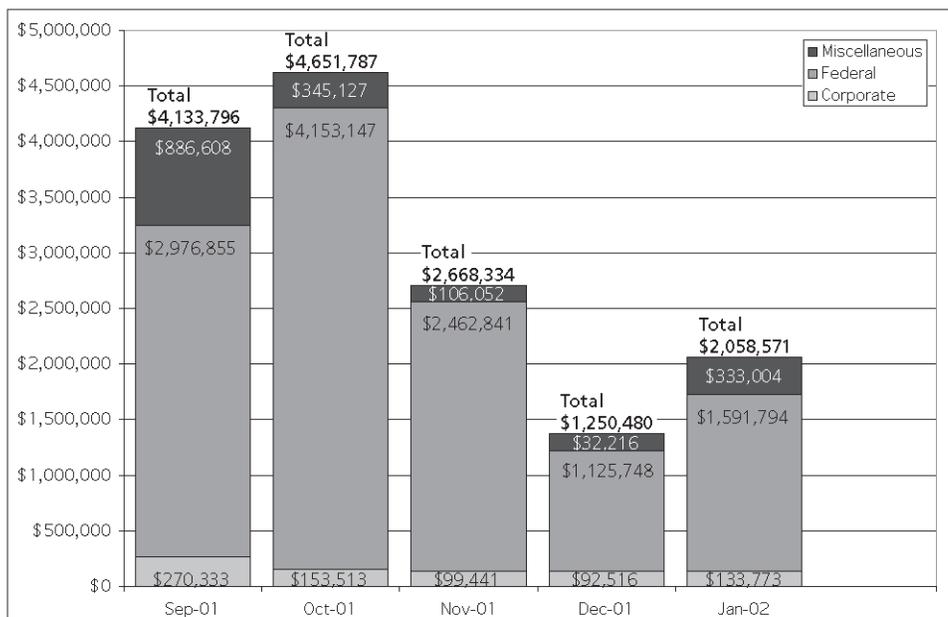
Hudlicky has been working in this field for 13 years, the last seven at UF. “The work has yielded 25 patents during that time, so it’s of

interest to somebody,” he says. “The program supports synthesis of some anti-tumor compounds that have been used in Phase II trials at the National Institutes of Health. The compounds we produce are also used in what could become a practical preparation of morphine, which as an anesthetic and analgesic has a lot of value in the medical community. That’s the major workload under that grant.” Phase II trials test for effectiveness and safety and are conducted after dosage range and basic safety are established and possible side effects are identified.

The National Science Foundation is an independent US government agency responsible for promoting science and engineering by investing in almost 20,000 research and education projects.

—Patrick Hughes

“The work has yielded 25 patents during that time, so it’s of interest to somebody,” he says. “The program supports synthesis of some anti-tumor compounds that have been used in Phase II trials at the National Institutes of



Grant Award Totals: September 2001 – January 2002

Read the full grants listing in this month’s issue of *CLASnotes* online at <http://clasnews.clas.ufl.edu/news.shtml>.

# Bookbeat

## Recent publications from CLAS faculty



M.J. Hardman, author of *Aymara* (Lincom Europa).

### Bridging Linguistics and Anthropology

Between the Andes Mountains and Lake Titicaca lies the high Andean plain, where Aymara is spoken. UF Linguistics and Anthropology Professor **M.J. Hardman's** new book *Aymara* describes the grammatical structure of its titular subject, which is the first language of one-third of Bolivia, the dominant language of southern Peru and the indigenous language of northern Chile.

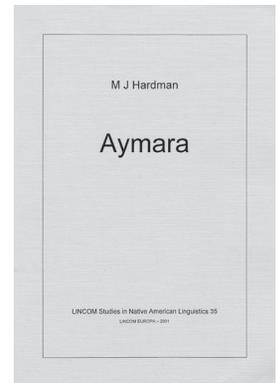
Hardman, who has been at UF since 1969, says that the target audience for *Aymara* is linguists. But she adds that the study of linguistics underlies many other disciplines. "Many aspects of the social sciences grew from the discoveries of linguistics," she says. "Especially that there could exist patterned behavior outside of human awareness, which was a product of early linguists working out the history of Indo-European languages." Hardman adds that at their roots, anthropology and linguistics are not separate. "The founder of modern anthropology, Franz Boas, came to that field of study because of his fascination with the Eskimo language."

And the connection is not only at the two disciplines' roots. Hardman sees a lot of convergence between the two in her work.

"All that I do is simultaneously linguistics and anthropology. Discovering the structure of *Aymara* required fieldwork—learning the language and discovering the culture as I discovered the structure of the language," she says. "Separation of the two disciplines is a very recent phenomenon. I would still like to see bridges between linguistics and anthropology—both need each other."

Hardman says publication of *Aymara* is a natural outcome of decades of research. "The goal of all scientific work is to make that work available to the scientific community and to the public in general. At long last there is an Aymara grammar in English—it is a language with nearly 3 million speakers, and only now is there access to its grammar in English."

—Patrick Hughes



### Minority Literatures and Modernism: Scots, Breton and Occitan, 1920-1990

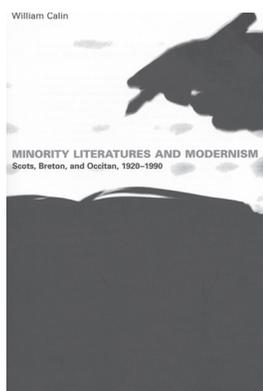
**William Calin** (Romance Languages and Literatures)

University of Toronto Press

Graduate Research Professor of French William Calin's book *Minority Literatures and Modernism: Scots, Breton and Occitan, 1920-1990* examines European minority languages. "We in America associate minority languages with recent immigrants," Calin says. "In Europe they also have minority languages that have survived hundreds of years."

These languages have a rich cultural past, but Calin is interested in their literary revivals. "Each of the three languages in my book has, independently of each other, tried to create a modern literature. They threw out the notion that they were inherently different from the dominant culture – rural, folksy, emphasizing popular ballads and romantic stories of adventure," Calin says. "Some found that notion condescending and limiting and followed the path of modernity. First, they had to enrich the language and formalize the grammar so that people could write in it, and it could be taught in schools so people could read it."

Calin says Paris and London literary establishments are not especially interested in these revivals. "Universities give a great deal of attention to medieval writings in these languages, but 20<sup>th</sup> century literature is largely neglected," he says. "As translations appear, some



names are being recognized, which certainly wasn't the case 25 years ago. But it's a long process."

Calin feels that this neglect does a disservice to the minority literatures. "I am fascinated by the extraordinary literary quality of the writing in these languages, a really fine literature being produced at the same time that the languages may in fact be dying."

—Patrick Hughes

### Muse on Madison Avenue:

#### Classic Mythology in

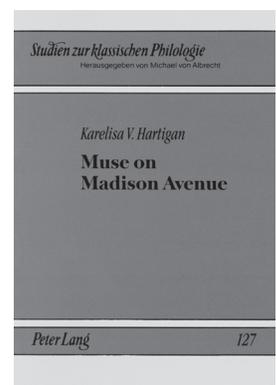
#### Contemporary Advertising

**Karelisa V. Hartigan** (Classics)

Peter Lang

As Classics Professor Karelisa Hartigan thumbed through a magazine several years ago, something caught her eye. Hartigan noticed a cologne advertisement modeled after a mythological figure—the half-man, half-bull Minotaur. Curious whether this was an isolated occurrence or a pattern, Hartigan began paying close attention to other magazine ads, conferring with colleagues and requesting that her students collect examples. What she noticed was a trend using mythological elements in contemporary advertising campaigns. *Muse on Madison Avenue* examines this incorporation of classical myths into modern advertising.

—Jenny Oberhaus



On January 15, CLAS Distinguished Alumni Professor **Carolyn M. Tucker** and biochemistry senior **Scott Feldman** were each awarded the UF President's Humanitarian Award.

Tucker, who has been at UF since 1976 and teaches both graduate and undergraduate psychology courses, received the award for her two major research projects. "The first is the Culturally Sensitive Teacher Training Research Project, which measures the impact of training teachers to use a culturally sensitive student-empowerment approach for the academic performance and behavior problems of children in their classrooms," she says. "The second is the Culturally Sensitive Health Care Research Project, which defines, assesses and evaluates whether providing culturally sensitive health care to minority patients affects their treatment adherence and health outcomes."

Feldman received the award for his efforts to improve the climate for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students, faculty and staff at UF. "My partner and I formed the Gator Gay-Straight Alliance in 2000. We have organized a wide range of activities like Same-Sex Hand-Holding Day, which encourages everyone, gay or straight, to hold hands and experience the underlying heterosexist attitudes of the campus," he says. "We also organized a workshop for resident assistants on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues, and we worked with Assistant Dean of Greek Life Kara Cupoli to hold a meeting where lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students had one-on-one conversations with Greek students to clear up stereotypes both groups have about the other."

The President's Humanitarian Awards recognize UF students, faculty and staff as well as local community members who exemplify the ideals of People Awareness Week, which is held each spring in an effort to encourage acceptance, respect and appreciation of diversity.

—Patrick Hughes

## Humanitarian Award



UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
News and Publications

2008 Turlington Hall  
PO Box 117300  
Gainesville FL 32611-7300  
editor@clas.ufl.edu  
<http://clasnews.clas.ufl.edu>