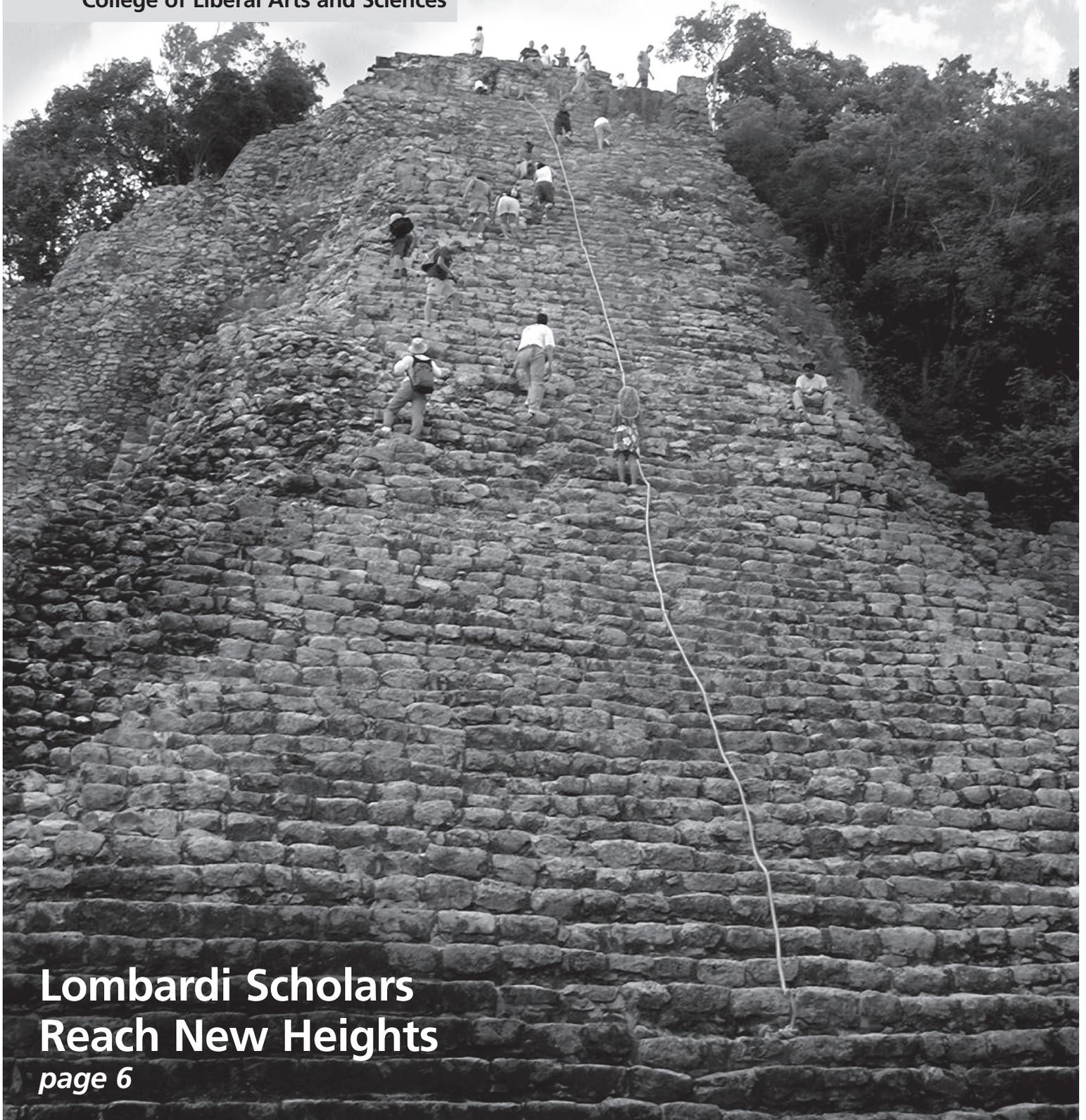


September 2002
Vol. 16 No. 9

CLASnotes

The University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Lombardi Scholars
Reach New Heights**

page 6

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E-mail editor@clas.ufl.edu with your news and events information for publication in *CLASnotes*. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the month you would like your information published. Don't wait! Send us your news and events today!



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The Dean's Musings

Welcome Back to a Year of Promise and Challenge

The return of the campus to full life and the somewhat chaotic beginning of a new academic year is always a special occasion. New life and new aspirations surge through the halls, and this year could be a historic year for UF, with the promise of restructuring the university to move us to a higher level of excellence.

Many of the college's planned areas for growth resonate with those spelled out in the President Young's UF Strategic Plan. The plan also charges the college, as the intellectual core of the university, to build on areas of excellence in the most fundamental academic disciplines. As stated by the president, "The academic quality of any university is largely tied to the reputation of the academic disciplines found in this college. Without a first-rate College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, UF will not achieve the goals we pursue, nor will it fulfill its fundamental obligation to the state."

The responsibility of CLAS is clear, and it is a challenge we can embrace eagerly. We must use scarce new resources to build areas of national and international prominence where UF can be unique and attract leading scholars and students in selected areas of growth. The college has done well in a few specialized areas during a very difficult two-year period. Now we will step to a higher level, particularly in areas of collaboration with other university units in the humanities, environmental and genetic sciences, societal needs and transnational studies, and the nanosciences.

As we start this new year, we set our sights on these initiatives that are designed to bring our college and the university to national eminence in key fields of study. These areas will set CLAS and UF apart from other public institutions and move us clearly on a path toward a higher level of excellence and international recognition.

Neil Sullivan
sullivan@phys.ufl.edu

On the Cover:

Lombardi Scholars scale the Mayan ruins of Cobá in Mexico this summer.



James Mueller New Associate Dean

James Mueller is the new CLAS associate dean for administrative affairs. He succeeds Chemistry Professor Lisa McElwee-White, who has held the position since 1998. Mueller is an associate professor of religion and also serves as a faculty member in the Center for Jewish Studies. He earned his PhD in early Christianity and Judaism from Duke University in 1986 and was a visiting professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke before coming to UF in 1988.

Several years ago Chuck Frazier, the CLAS “space czar” and Lisa McElwee-White’s predecessor, came to meet with the Department of Religion to ask us to consider moving from our home in Dauer Hall to a soon-to-be-renovated Anderson Hall. Many of us had doubts about the proposal, but we agreed to the move. That agreement set into motion a hectic few years of design and renovation under

“While it is wonderful to point to new buildings and rejuvenated older ones as signs of progress, it is important that we maintain, and hopefully upgrade, other spaces.”

the watchful eye of Lisa McElwee-White. As a part of the departmental committee charged with seeing the project through from blueprints to occu-

pancy, I found myself intrigued by every aspect of the project. I immensely enjoyed imagining how we might transform the gutted building into our departmental “home.” As the walls went up and the space we had envisioned became a reality, I think the whole committee felt a very real sense of both pride and accomplishment as Anderson Hall came back to life in service to the college. Even though there were setbacks and difficulties along the way, I found the intellectual and strategic challenges fascinating.

Admittedly, the renovation of Anderson Hall was just a small piece in a much larger enterprise, but I hope to translate what I learned from that project into the numerous projects to be undertaken by the college in the next few years. CLAS is moving ahead on several fronts in terms of new construction and renovation, and it will be exciting to play a role

in bringing about the successful completion of those endeavors.

I will also have to be educated by the departments, so I can assist them in finding ways to enhance their research, teaching and service missions. While it is wonderful to point to new buildings and rejuvenated older ones as signs of progress, it is important that we maintain, and hopefully upgrade, other spaces. I will be meeting with chairs and directors during the next few weeks to learn about their needs, and I will work diligently to discover how the college office can be of service.

Another major part of my portfolio as associate dean involves classrooms and scheduling. In my years at UF, I have endured many scheduling conflicts which tried to negotiate between the needs of the professor and those of the students. Given that the college is only one scheduler

among many at UF, the scheduling dilemma, and its impact on CLAS, is a challenge that I am looking forward to tackling.

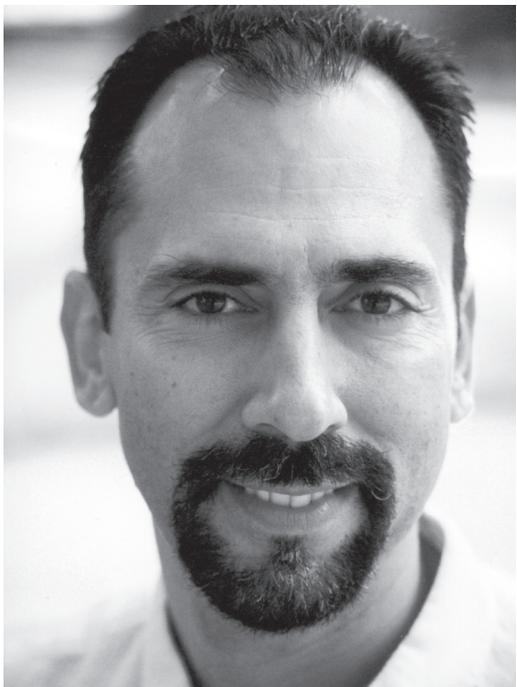
The final pieces of my particular puzzle will be to continue my work as general editor of the *Dictionary of Early Judaism*, a one-volume guide to the world of Greco-Roman period Judaism. I also serve as co-editor of the *Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha* and hope to complete a critical text, translation and commentary on a medieval apocalyptic “tour of hell” attributed to the prophet Ezra.

All of the above should keep me overly busy for the next several years, but I am eager to take on the challenges. I look forward to working with the faculty and staff to pursue solutions to the space and facility problems that face our college.

—James Mueller
jmueller@religion.ufl.edu

Leonardo Villalón

New Center for African Studies Director



Leonardo Villalón is the new director of the Center for African Studies, as well as a faculty member in the Department of Political Science. Before coming to UF, he was an associate professor of political science at the University of Kansas and also directed the undergraduate major in international studies. While at UK, he received the Provost's Award for Leadership in international education.

Villalón earned his BA from Louisiana State University and his MA from the School of Advanced International Studies at The Johns Hopkins University. He also received his DEA (Diplôme d'Études Approfondies) from L'Institut d'Études Politiques de la Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques in Paris in 1985 before earning his PhD from the University of Texas at Austin in 1992, where he specialized in comparative politics and international relations. As a Fulbright professor and visiting professor, Villalón has taught at two universities in Senegal and also has lectured at other institutions in a number of countries in West Africa. His research focuses on the politics of the former French colonies of West Africa, and especially the Sahelian countries of Senegal, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso. His work also has concentrated on the role of Islam in politics and on the processes of democratization in Africa.

Villalón is joined at UF by his wife Fiona McLaughlin, who is an associate professor in the African and Asian languages and literatures department and the Program in Linguistics.

Just days after I arrived with great excitement to become the new director of UF's Center for African Studies, reports in the press of President Charles Young's strategic plans for the University confirmed that I had come to the right place, at the right time. As UF moves to become a truly international university, and to position itself at the very top of American research universities, the Center for African Studies (CAS) is centrally poised to seize the opportunity and to confront the challenges of contributing to these efforts.

The core mission of CAS is to promote teaching and research about a continent whose history is intricately linked with that of the Americas, but which is arguably the

least-known region of the world in the United States. As a designated US Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center, CAS is involved in myriad activities to promote scholarship on the continent. More than 75 affiliated faculty members across all scholarly disciplines within the university are regularly engaged in primary research on Africa. In the process, they both contribute to core disciplinary concerns and engage with other colleagues in interdisciplinary efforts to understand the continent in all of its diversity and complexity. Through programs such as FLAS fellowships for foreign language and area studies, and pre-dissertation grants for travel to Africa, CAS plays a key

role in recruiting nationally to bring top graduate students in all disciplines to UF.

The UF libraries house one of the most comprehensive African research collections in the world, and the Harn Museum not only includes a superb collection of African art, but has a new director, Rebecca Nagy, who is herself a scholar of Africa. A dynamic program in the performing arts annually brings top African artists for residencies to UF. The national prominence that these activities have brought to the Center for African Studies highlights the opportunities which President Young's plan presents.

The challenge now is to continue to build on and expand our activities

to enhance the center's relevance in an increasingly complex and rapidly changing world. Building on well-established linkages and faculty and student exchanges with a number of universities in Southern and Eastern Africa, we have recently launched an initiative to strengthen our collaborative ties with universities in West Africa. In the spring, the center plans to sponsor several lectures and activities intended to increase understanding of the dynamics of Muslim societies in Africa. Through the *Baraza* weekly lecture series, the annual Carter international conference and the medium of our multidisciplinary electronic journal, *The African Studies Quarterly*, the center brings together UF

faculty and students and highly respected scholars from around the world to address crucial issues of contemporary relevance for Africa, and hence for an increasingly interdependent world.

I am honored to join a community of distinguished and committed scholars of Africa at UF. As we work towards increasing our knowledge and disseminating our understanding of the issues facing the peoples of Africa, the Center for African Studies is prepared to play a central part in building a great international research university.

—Leonardo Villalón
villalon@afrika.ufl.edu

French Government Says "Bonjour UF"

The French government has chosen the University of Florida as Florida's site of a *centre pluridisciplinaire*. The designation will help create the France-Florida Research Institute (FFRI) at UF, which will serve as an umbrella organization to centralize and promote the numerous existing partnerships between UF and French and Francophone research centers. The new institute will receive funding from the French government for at least three years, and UF will provide additional support. "This designation recognizes the international academic excellence at UF. We are proud to join this esteemed group and plan to build on our successes in French studies," says Professor of French Carol Murphy, who will serve as the institute's director.

After UF was invited to apply, Murphy worked with an advisory board of UF faculty members to compile information about the university's numerous French connections. "The FFRI will be the central organization that integrates and publicizes existing relationships, as well as creates new exchanges for faculty and students, including lectures, film festivals, visiting professorships, scholarships, conferences, exhibits and outreach," says Murphy. "An important focus in all these activities will be interdisciplinary, especially between the humanities and the sciences, as well as collaboration with other institutions to maximize the institute's efforts throughout Florida, the Southeast and with other *centres pluridisciplinaires*."

UF's designation as a *centre pluridisciplinaire* will give it the opportunity to apply for a \$1 million grant from the French government within the next several years. Currently, *centres pluridisciplinaires* of French studies are located at 18 American universities. (see box below). In addition to UF, the University of Texas at Austin also received the honor this year. In the past several years, the French Embassy has made an effort to extend its network toward the Southern region of the US. In 1999, a *centre pluridisciplinaire* was created at Louisiana State University, and last year, Duke University established one.

UF's proposal was evaluated on several criteria: the existence of bilateral programs with French institutions of higher education; active encouragement of interdisciplinary programs that reach beyond language and humanities departments to the hard sciences, technology and professional schools; active promotion of outreach activities; and UF's achievement in the field of French and Francophone studies during the last five years. A committee of four representatives from the French Embassy in the US reviewed the proposals, and one member visited UF this year before the committee made a final decision this summer.

The proposal points out that France is the top country of collaboration with UF, and 18 official partnerships with French institutions and research centers already exist. "One of the areas of collaboration we highlighted in the proposal is the French connection to our various science departments," says Murphy. Joint PhD programs have been proposed in chemistry and engineering, and since 1997, the chemistry department has led a successful US/France Research Experience for Undergraduates program. Under the direction of Randy Duran, an associate professor of chemistry, 88 students recruited from the US and Puerto Rico have worked with 40 French undergraduates for



three-month research stays at UF.

Duran will serve as the new institute's associate director and says the FFRI will be a new resource for a broad range of collaborators. "The depth and breadth of ties that various departments at UF alone have with French and Francophone institutions and industries is very impressive," Duran says. "We hope the multidisciplinary structure of the institute will lead to growth of these interactions, cross-campus fertilization and new opportunities for students."

In October, Murphy will travel to the cultural services of the French Embassy in New York City to meet with the directors of other *centres pluridisciplinaires* to discuss plans for UF's institute. "After the New York meeting, we will convene the UF advisory board and take the necessary steps to establish the FFRI," says Murphy. "However, funding for speakers and symposia is already in place, and the program for this year is beginning to take shape." Murphy expects the FFRI to be officially established by January 2003.

—Allyson A. Beutke

Centres Pluridisciplinaires at American Universities

Columbia University

Cornell University

Dartmouth College

Duke University

Johns Hopkins University

Louisiana State University

New York University

Northwestern University

Princeton University

University of California at Los Angeles

University of Chicago

University of Florida

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University of Pennsylvania

University of Texas at Austin

University of Wisconsin at Madison

Stanford University

Yale University

Living & Learning Abroad

Lombardi Scholars Experience Mexico

When the university's first group of Lombardi Scholars found out they were to join UF's most prestigious honors program, they were filled with excitement. But when they realized this meant they would have to spend an entire summer in Merida, Mexico, they were a little surprised. "When I found out I was going to Mexico for the summer, I was filled with a lot of questions and doubts," says Trang Tran of Tampa. "Even though Mexico isn't that far away, it is still a whole other country."

Tran is one of eight entering freshman in the inaugural group of Lombardi Scholars. The scholars were selected last spring to participate in the newly created scholarship program established in honor of John V. Lombardi, former UF president and history professor. In addition to a sizable financial package, the scholars participate in four, all-expense-paid summer research adventures throughout their UF careers. They are required to spend their first summer after high school participating in a research project outside the US.

"One of the reasons we chose to do this was because we wanted them to undergo a college-like experience before coming to UF," says Jeanna Mastrodicasa, associate director of the UF Honors Program. "They are very young, cognitively, and the reason we liked Merida was because it is a really intense cultural experience. By taking them out of their comfortable high school environment and placing them into an unfamiliar one, they matured very quickly."

The scholars were selected in late March out of 147 applicants. Every high school in Florida was asked to nominate one student who had high academic achievement, strong extracurricular involvement and service to the community. Supported by a fund at the UF Foundation, the program was based on high caliber academic programs from peer institutions, such as the University of Georgia's Foundation Fellows and the University of Tennessee's Whittle Scholars. The Lombardi Scholars knew when they were chosen that there was a possibility they would be

going away for the summer, but they did not find out until late April they were going to Merida. By the end of June, they were on a plane to Mexico.

Many had mixed feelings about the trip. Though they were excited about the opportunity to study abroad, they had hoped to spend their last summer of childhood at home with their parents. "When I first found out I would be going to Mexico, I was very excited," says Todre Allen of Immokalee. "At the same time, I did not want to go on a trip to a foreign country without my close friends or family. It turns out that I found an additional set of both in Merida."

The scholars were matched with a Meridan family, with whom they lived and studied during their stay. There was a language barrier to overcome since the students spoke little Spanish and lived with families who spoke an equally small amount of English. The families were given a stipend to cover the cost of feeding the scholars, so the students either had to eat at home or spend their souvenir money on restaurant food. Though they lived in nice homes with upper-middle-class families, air-conditioning was rare, and mosquitoes would find their way inside the open windows at night.

Since most of the families had children of their own, the scholars fit right in. They became members of their host family and participated in household activities, birthday parties and family outings. Many of the families had beach homes and would take the scholars away with them on weekends. "The family I lived with was extremely nice and accommodating," says Casey Furman of Bradenton. "Right from the beginning the father of the host family I lived with said, 'you are my son here'."

Each day the students would get up early and find their way to the University of Yucatan, where they would meet for classes all morning. Most scholars would pay four pesos—or 40 cents—for a bus ride onto campus. It was a difficult endeavor since there was no published bus route map or regular stops. The scholars would have to get out in the crowded streets and hail a bus, much like hailing a cab. Furman decided to avoid the hassle and walked three miles each way to school every day. He saw it as a way of exploring the vibrant city. "I enjoyed talking with many of the people I met," he said. "Merida is a very friendly city."

Once all the students arrived to campus they attended a Spanish class taught by University of Yucatan professors and an anthropology class taught by Allan Burns, professor and chair of UF's anthropology



From left to right: Alicia Peon, UF doctoral student in anthropology and Merida native; Mark Brenner, director of the Land Use and Environmental Change Institute; Jennifer Bonds; Jeanna Mastrodicasa, associate director of the UF Honors Program; Casey Furman; Michael Lane; Allan Burns, chair of the Department of Anthropology; Trang Tran, Ryan Smith, David Kennedy and Todre Allen.

Jennifer Bonds and Trang Tran learn to mold and glaze Mexican pottery at a shop in Ticul.

This summer they met with potter Roger Suarez who shared his expertise of the ancient art form. Mayan pottery is valuable and heavily sought by art collectors. Bonds and Tran brought home several pieces.



department. The scholars earned five hours of anthropology credit and two hours of honors credit. “What we learned in the classroom allowed us to enjoy and understand more deeply what we saw on our excursions and in everyday life in the city,” says Furman. The students took day trips to key points of interest, led by Burns and Mark Brenner, director of the Land Use and Environmental Change Institute at UF. They explored Mayan ruins and historic sites, learned to make pottery, swam in caves, learned about herbal medicines and studied plants and wildlife.

The scholars had the chance to meet current UF students who were participating in the university’s longstanding exchange program with the University of Yucatan. In the past 15 years, more than 600 students have participated in the program, which is led by Burns and Brenner. “We chose the Merida program because so many students at UF have enjoyed it,” says Sheila Dickison, associate provost for undergraduate education. “We thought it would be a nice place for the students to bond with each other and get that abroad experience.”

Burns was enlisted to lead the scholars’ Merida experience. “To me, one of the most important things about international study is you learn to understand the area and the

people,” says Burns. “Since none of the scholars plan to major in anthropology or history, we thought the best research project they could do was to understand their host families.” The students had to research their host families by studying their homes, social interactions and family history. They then had to compile the information they gathered into one PowerPoint presentation, while sharing a laptop computer.

“I wanted them to gain cross-cultural maturity, and I wanted them to get to know each other,” Burns says. “I was really pleased to see how well they supported each other.” Though the students faced new challenges, they adapted to their new environment and learned to thrive in Merida. “The social, academic and life survival skills I acquired in Merida will help to ease my transition to UF,” says Jennifer Bonds of Tallahassee. “I believe I have matured, become more independent, and gained a large amount of knowledge on cultural differences and how to work around them.”

Though the scholars arrived in Mexico as timid teenagers, they left as mature

and confident college-ready scholars. “This trip did much more than simply increase my knowledge of the Yucatan. It changed my view of the world,” says Ryan Smith of Niceville. “No longer does my paradigm of the world consist of ‘the United States and everywhere else.’ Being in just one country has convinced me that every country is unique. This program has forever changed the way I look at the world.”

Dickison says this group of scholars will get together again next summer and probably travel to somewhere in Europe, possibly France. First-year Lombardi scholars will continue to visit Merida.

—Buffy Lockette

2002-03 Lombardi Scholars

Todre Allen of Immokalee
Jennifer Bonds of Tallahassee
Casey Furman of Bradenton
David Kennedy of Jacksonville
Michael Lane of Longwood
Robert Mack of Williston
Ryan Smith of Niceville
Trang Tran of Tampa

Visit <http://www.honors.ufl.edu/lombardi> for more information about the program.

Mark Your Calendar

Religion Department Sponsors 9/11 Lectures

Steven Vertovec of Oxford University will lecture on "Religion and Transnationalism After 9/11" on Monday, September 9 at 2:00 pm in the Friends of Music Room, University Auditorium.

Mark Juergensmeyer of the University of California, Santa Barbara will speak about "Global Religion and Global Violence After 9/11" on Friday, October 18 at 10:00 am in the Friends of Music Room, University Auditorium.

CLAS Assembly

The first **College Assembly** of the fall semester will be held on Tuesday, September 10 at 4:00 pm in the Keene Faculty Center. Dean Sullivan will give his annual "State of the College" address and introduce new faculty. A wine and cheese reception will follow.

Fulbright Application Deadline

Fulbright Awards are given to graduating seniors who want to spend a year of study in another country before beginning their graduate career and to graduate students who want to pursue master's or PhD research in one of more than 140 countries. Applications are due in the Honors Office, 140 Tigert Hall, on October 4th. For more information, contact Anthropology Chair Allan Burns at afburns@anthro.ufl.edu or visit the Honors Office.

Celebrating 25 Years of Women's Studies and Gender Research

The **Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research** will mark its 25th anniversary this fall with a research symposium featuring the knowledge and work of UF faculty, students and community members. The event will be held October 24-26, and anyone doing work related to women or gender is encouraged to become involved in the symposium by creating a panel or workshop about research, organizing a meeting of community groups, developing a performance or presenting a paper. If you would like to get involved, submit a proposal at <http://www.wst.ufl.edu/cultivatingknowledges/form.html> or mail a hard copy to the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, PO Box 117352. The deadline is September 15.

On September 12, the center will hold an opening reception for "The Spirit of the Southwest," a multi-media art exhibit by Meika A. Alberici. The reception will be in 3324 Turlington Hall from 4:30-6:00 pm, and the work will be on display until November 27.

Around the College

Remembering 9/11

"Although the events of September 11 were very tragic, some positive things have come out of it. I think it has been very instrumental in helping us as a nation to realize that some of the petty things we quarrel about can tremendously affect us internationally. Many people lost their lives, many lost family members and many who didn't lose a loved one lost a sense of security and the feeling that the US is safe from attack. I think in losing something, regardless of how tragic it was, we have gained a sense of self and a sense of support for each other."

—**Victoria Harris**, Criminology Senior



"I think it unfortunately gave people a return to a more cynical outlook in our nation's interactions with other countries in the world. We are not as open to cooperative efforts to make world peace because we are making war. It was a terrible thing that happened—I don't think you could find anyone to disagree with that—but everyone's outlook was changed by it. We did not expect something like that to happen, we did not walk carefully and we were not skeptical. Now we have to be."

—**Samantha Murano**, History Freshman

"I was affected personally on September 11 because I'm a New Yorker. My next-door neighbor died, my brother's friend died and many of my friends live and work in the city. One of the things I struggled with for a number of months was feeling downtrodden, but you can't change your life. You can't just stop and let this get the best of you. You have to keep on living."

—**John Reitzel**, Sociology Graduate Student



Commemorative Events

The Office of Student Activities has named September 8-14 "A Week of Remembrance," and various departments will be announcing events early in the month. On September 11, there will be a special carillon piece resounding from the Century Tower. The original composition "Fanfares in Memory and Hope" was written by university organist Willis Bodine. The carillon suite has six sections, whose titles and actual performance times come from the six major 9/11 events:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 8:46 am—Flight 11 | 10:05 am—South Tower |
| 9:03 am—Flight 175 | 10:10 am—Flight 93 |
| 9:43 am—Flight 77 | 10:28 am—North Tower |

Also on September 11, a ceremony will be held at 3 pm in the University Memorial Auditorium with several speakers, including Emeritus Professor of History Michael Gannon, Anthropology Professor Tony Falsetti and anthropology graduate student Heather Walsh-Haney.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

African and Asian Languages and Literatures

Chauncey Chu presented his work in Shanghai, China this summer. At a teacher's workshop held at the Shanghai International Studies University, he presented two papers—"Functional Discourse Grammar in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language" and "From Grammar to Discourse—A Graded Teaching Program for CFL Grammar." At Fudan University, he submitted a paper on "Utterance—Final Particles and CFL" at the International Symposium on Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language. He also served as keynote lecturer for the International Conference on Contrastive and Translatin Studies Between Chinese and English at the East China Normal University.

Anthropology

James Stansbury recently traveled to the northern coast of Honduras where he surveyed the Garifuna people of the HIV/AIDS-plagued fishing village Limón. He was quoted in the Pan American Health Organization magazine, *Perspective in Health*, in a feature outlining the AIDS prevention efforts in the region.

Astronomy

Joanna Levine, a PhD student, was recently awarded a 2002-03 Zonta International Amelia Earhart Fellowship. This is the second year in a row Levine has received the scholarship, which is awarded to outstanding women in aerospace-related science and engineering graduate programs. The \$6000 fellowship will allow Levine, who works with Professor Elizabeth Lada, to study the formation of low mass stars for her dissertation.

CLASnotes encourages letters to the editor. E-mail 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.

Read *CLASnotes* online at <http://clasnews.clas.ufl.edu>

English

Mark A. Reid was the keynote speaker at the Newark Museum for its screening of *Mathieu Kassovitz' La Haine* at the 28th Annual Black Film Festival in July. Reid also presented "PostNegritude Franco-American Visual Culture: Global Borrowings" at the Third MESEA (Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and America) Conference at the University of Padua, Italy in June.

Germanic and Slavic Studies

Nora Alter gave two lectures in Switzerland this summer. She delivered "Le film expérimental ou/et le film d'essai" at the Programme d'études postgrades Critical Curatorial Cybermedia (CCC) in Geneva. The other, "Memory and History: Reels, Tapes or Windows," was given for the Stuff It Conference on the Video Essay in the Digital Age at the Migros Museum in Zurich.

In July, **Will Hasty** made a presentation at the Twentieth International Congress of the Arthurian Society in Bangor, Wales. The title of his talk was "Enlightenment and its Discontents in Mark Twain's 'A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court.'"

Mathematics

Krishnaswami Alladi was mentioned in the *Times of India* newspaper on August 12. In a story titled, "India Still Has the Number on Maths," Alladi was distinguished as one of India's best and most respected mathematicians. The story outlined India's substantial contribution to the field of mathematics. The *Times of India* is the world's largest English broadsheet daily newspaper, with a circulation of more than 2 million, followed closely by *USA Today*.

Physics

Richard Woodard was cited in the *Physical Review Focus* on August 16 in the article "Photon Mass Gets a Boost." The magazine, which is a publication of the American Physical Society, features the work of researchers who publish papers in the *Physical Review Letters* journal. Woodard's paper, "Photon Mass from Inflation," was published in the journal's September 2 issue.

Statistics

Brett Presnell, in collaboration with Peter Hall and Don Poskitt of the Australian National University, has received the American Statistical Association's 2002 Award for Outstanding Statistical Application for the paper "A Functional Data-Analytic Approach to Signal Discrimination," published in the journal *Technometrics*, February 2001. The award was presented on August 13 at the Joint Statistical Meetings in New York.

Women's Studies and Gender Research

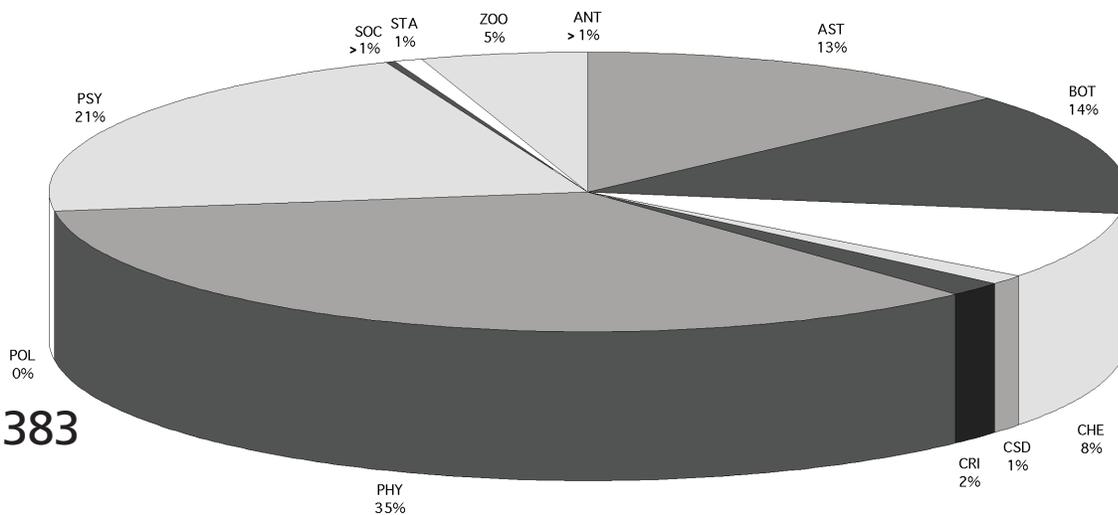
Angel Kwolek-Folland attended the Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration sponsored by Bryn Mawr College and Higher Education Resource Services. The residential program was held June 23-July 19 on the Bryn Mawr College campus in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. The goal of the Summer Institute was to improve the status of women at the middle and executive levels of higher education administration, where they have been traditionally under-represented.

Dateline Florida

Have you been in the news recently? UF's News and Public Affairs (NAPA) Office wants to know and has added a link to its Web site that lists the latest examples of media outlets featuring UF or quoting our experts. Visit <http://www.napa.ufl.edu/2002news/dateline.htm> to view "Dateline: Florida." The goal is to keep this list as up-to-date as possible, so please e-mail editor@clas.ufl.edu about where and when you have appeared in the media.

Grants through the Division of Sponsored Research

July 2002
Total: \$8,762,383



Grant awards for July 2002 by Department

Building a Better Semiconductor

Imagine a computer many times faster than the one you use now that utilizes new ways to manipulate electrons within semiconductors. The future of technologies like these is beginning now with National Science Foundation (NSF) grants like those received by UF Physics Professor David Reitze. “Semiconductors form the basis of computers, so part of what we’re doing could lead to building better semiconductor devices that are faster and work at higher frequencies,” Reitze says. “However, this isn’t going to happen five years from now, probably more like 20 to 50 years from now.”

Reitze, along with Junichiro Kono from Rice University, received an Instrumentation for Materials Research Grant from

the NSF to install a laser system at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory in Tallahassee. Researchers will use the laser system to investigate the dynamics of excitons in semiconductors in high magnetic fields.

“When light hits a semiconductor, electrons can sometimes leave the atom they sit around. The vacancy left behind has the characteristics of a positively charged particle and is called a hole,” Reitze says. “The electron and hole can form a bound pair called an exciton, much in the same manner an electron and a proton are bound together. But because it is in a crystal, the exciton has radically different properties. The purpose of this study is to discover if excitons behave like atoms when exposed to high

magnetic fields.”

Reitze ultimately would like to see the Bose-Einstein condensate, a state in which all of the excitons have been cooled to a point where they have the same quantum mechanical state. “The state has been seen in atomic systems used in very sophisticated laser cooling methods, but it’s not yet been seen in a solid state system, which is where people initially thought it would be seen,” Reitze says.

This grant is a follow-up to a proposal funded by the National High Magnetic Lab through



an in-house science grant in 2001. Reitze, Kono and UF Physics Professor Christopher Stanton received that grant.

—Melissa Douso

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

Bookbeat Recent publications from CLAS faculty

Nation, Governance, and Modernity in China: Canton, 1900–1927

Although Asian Studies Director Michael Tsin was born in Hong Kong, he knew relatively little about Chinese history until he started studying it seriously in graduate school. “I studied mostly Western history as an undergraduate in England,” Tsin says. “Being ethnically Chinese, other students began to ask me if I knew anything about Chinese history and China. I realized that I didn’t know as much about Chinese history as I would like.”



Michael Tsin

Tsin became particularly interested in the political aspects of modernity, as seen through China’s tortuous efforts to define itself as a “modern” nation in the twentieth century.

The theme is highlighted in his recent book *Nation, Governance, and Modernity in China: Canton, 1900–1927*. “Many say that politics is central

to understanding China,” Tsin says. “There is a long history of politics intruding into the everyday life of the Chinese people, and it is hard to disentangle the social and cultural fabrics of Chinese society from the politics.”

The book focuses on the birth of the Nationalist Revolution in the city of Canton, China, in the early 20th century. Tsin says the book has different layers to it, from providing a narrative account of the Revolution based on new sources, to exploring the distinctive features of modern governance that extend beyond China. “The book deals ultimately with the question of the modus operandi of a ‘modern’ government and its implications,” Tsin says. “Not only in China, but in any country.”

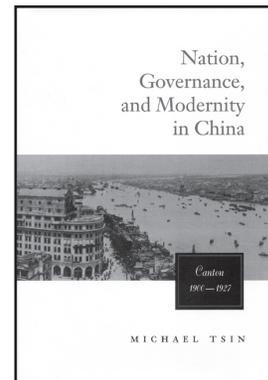
According to Tsin’s book, all forms of modern government, whether democracy or dictatorship, claim to have derived their sovereignty from the people. This claim can be a double-edged sword. “China is a good example of how the rhetoric of the people can be used for repression as well as emancipation,” he says.

Tsin’s interests in comparative history and the theoretical aspects of modernity led

to his contributions to the textbook *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: A History of the Modern World from the Mongol Empire to the Present*.

The book grew out of a yearlong process of regular meetings between the seven authors, in which they conceptualized the volume. The writing took another four years. The book’s central theme is that the seemingly contradictory forces of interconnection and divergence in world history should be seen as two sides of the same process. Unlike most other jointly authored volumes, all seven involved wrote for every chapter. The chapters were then repeatedly revised after further group discussions until everyone was satisfied. “It was labor intensive and time consuming,” Tsin says. “But it was a great experience.”

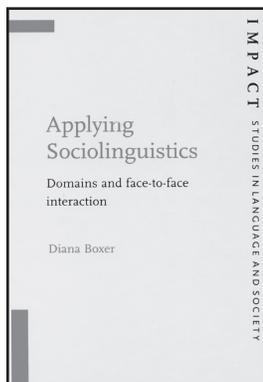
—Melissa Douso



Applying Sociolinguistics: Domains and Face-to-Face Interaction

Diana Boxer, Linguistics
John Benjamins Publishing Company

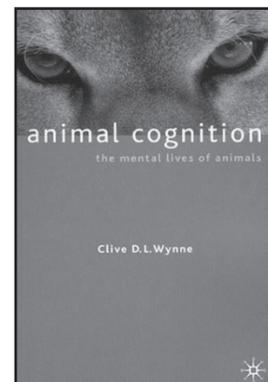
This book is an up-to-date overview of discourse studies in oral interaction. Its focus is on encounters in the various spheres of life: family, educational, social, religious and work, with an additional chapter on cross-cultural face-to-face interaction in these domains. Each chapter reviews current research in that specific domain, with particular attention to methodological issues. For example, in-depth explanations are offered to the reader on how the various approaches to studying face-to-face discourse lend themselves to answering different research questions. Each chapter also culminates with an original analysis by the author of face-to-face interaction in that particular domain. Topics include nagging in family interaction, bragging and boasting in workplace interaction, sarcasm in educational interaction, joking and teasing in social interaction, rite-of-passage discourse in religious interaction and gatekeeping discourse in cross-cultural interaction.



—Book Jacket

Animal Cognition: The Mental Lives of Animals **Clive D.L. Wynne**, Psychology St. Martin’s Press

Following a history of animal study in the west, animal minds are probed in terms of consciousness, recognition of cause and effect, physical perception, abstract cognition, memory, reasoning, and communication and language. Each chapter is followed by a brief list of suggested readings and websites. A large part of the book is devoted to explaining how scientists get animals to perform and how scientists arrive at conclusions from both controlled performances and from partially or uncontrolled field observation. Covering a wide range of key topics, from reasoning and communication to sensation and complex problem solving, this engaging text presents a comprehensive survey of contemporary research on animal cognition. Written for anyone with an interest in animal cognition but without a background in animal behavior, it is a clear, complete introduction to the way animals think about—and act on—the world around them.



—Amazon.com

Shenkman Will Deliver Convocation Address

Please join CLAS for Convocation in the University Auditorium on September 26 at 4 pm as we recognize outstanding students and faculty. A reception on the west lawn will follow.

Elizabeth Shenkman, co-director of UF's Institute for Child Health Policy, will deliver the address at this year's convocation ceremony. She will speak about the critical issues facing today's children and what UF is doing to help alleviate these problems. Her speech will outline the many hardships of the nation's children, including racial disparity in the children's health care system and the effect poverty has on readiness for school.

Shenkman joined the faculty of the Department of Pediatrics in 1987, where she is currently an associate professor. She received all three of her degrees from UF—a bachelor's in nursing in 1979, a master's in psychiatric nursing in 1982 and a PhD in educational psychology in 1987. She has served as director of Women's Health and Children's Health at Shands Hospital at UF and as head nurse of the surgical intensive care unit at the VA Hospital of Gainesville. She is married to sociology and criminology professor Frederick Shenkman, and they have one daughter, Rachael, who is a UF senior majoring in political science.

At the Institute for Child Health Policy, Shenkman participates in health services research. By looking at the quality of health care children receive, the institute is able to initiate change in state and national



health care policies. The institute recently published an article on how children are enrolled in subsidized insurance programs. Tommy Thompson, secretary of Health and Human Services for the Bush administration, has stated that the institute's research can be used as a model for the nation's subsidized insurance programs.

—Buffy Lockette



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