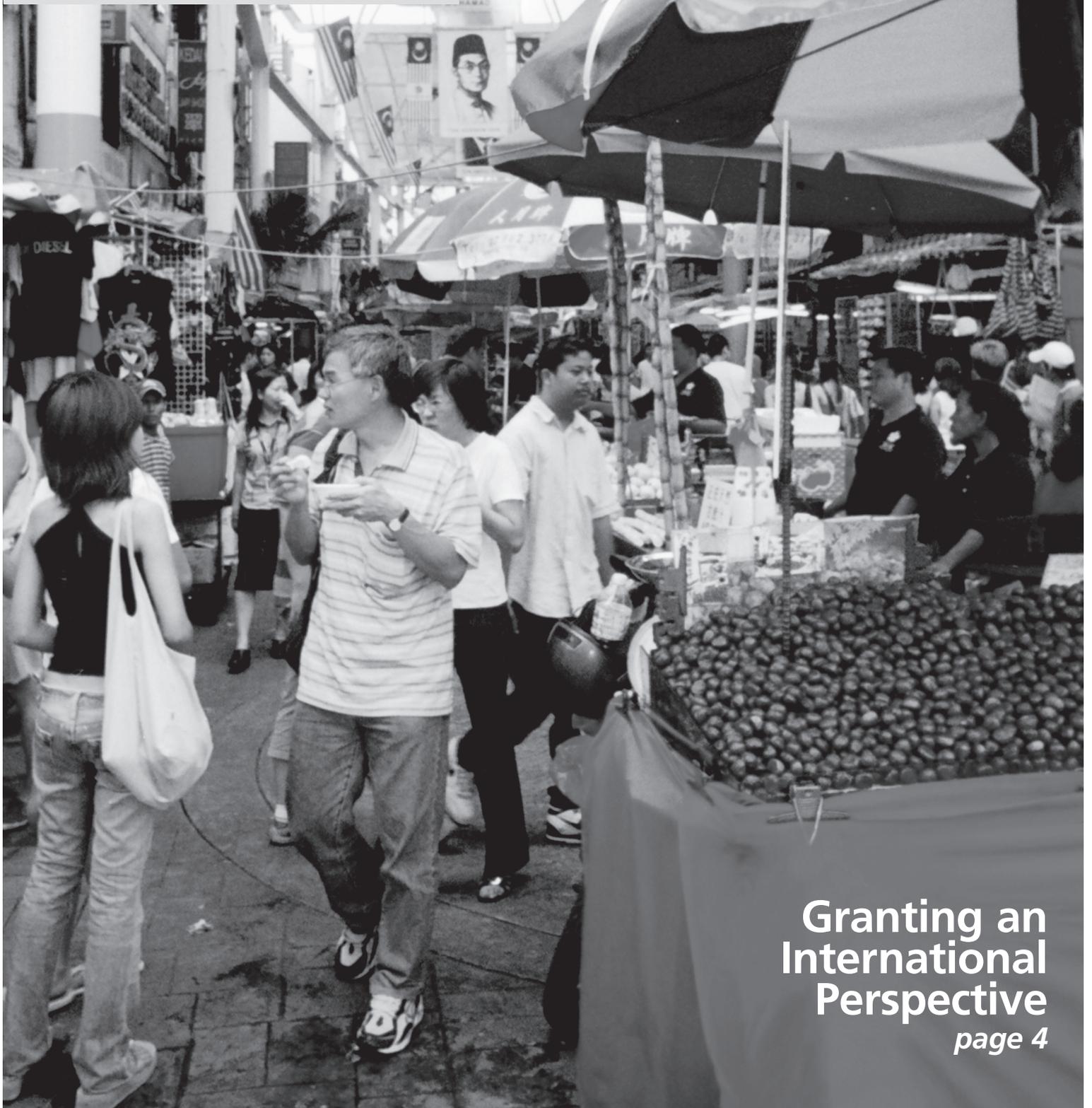


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CLASnotes

The University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



Granting an
International
Perspective
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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

CLAS Honors Class of 2004

With the approach of the end of the academic year, the college offers its warmest congratulations to our graduating students, and we offer our best wishes for success in their chosen careers or future graduate studies. The broad education across disciplines, and introduction to understanding different societies and belief systems, will provide our graduates with skills that will be critical to their success in the world today.

A priority of the college has been to provide all students with a serious international experience, which is designed to provide our graduates with a better grasp of the differing cultures that make up the world in which we live and to be aware of the issues on globalization and political economies that are shaping the future. Knowledge alone is not sufficient. We must also provide our students with the tools of analysis, communication and a depth of understanding of people.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences forms the academic core of any institution, and if UF is to emerge as a top public institution, we must build excellence in the fundamental academic disciplines: basic sciences; languages and literatures; and studies of social values. It is from these basic disciplines that great discoveries and applications have emerged. Today's liberal arts and sciences' graduates will be tomorrow's discoverers, and we are dedicated to giving them the best tools to emerge as leaders in their fields.

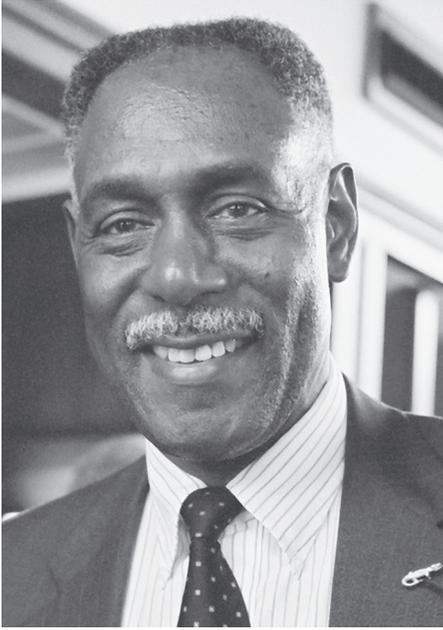
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On the Cover:

The bustle of the Pasar Seni market in Kuala Lumpur belies Malaysia's stagnant economy. Read more about Ed Kellerman's research on page 4.

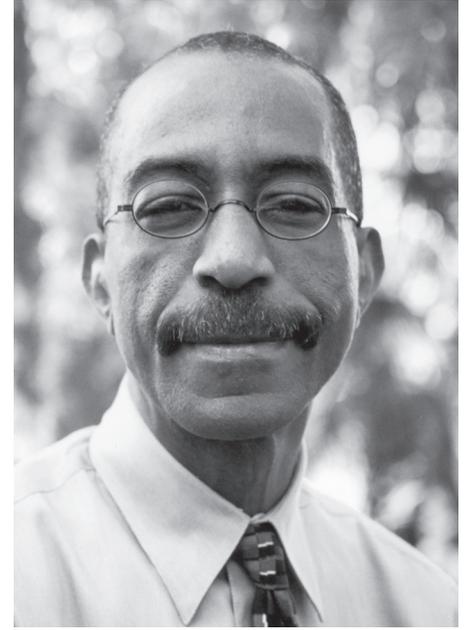


Harry Shaw

from Harry to Terry

Associate Deanship for Minority Affairs Changes Hands

For the first time since its creation in 1989, OASIS will see a new face behind the director's desk in Walker Hall. The administrator who oversees CLAS minority recruitment, retention and mentoring will change for the first time since 1979, and the English department will lose a professor it has had since 1973.



Terry Mills

After more than 30 years of service to the university, Associate Dean Harry Shaw retired on March 31 leaving numerous posts open and a familiarity behind.

Serving as the CLAS associate dean for minority affairs since the position was established, Shaw has led the university's efforts of welcoming minority groups to the college. "I will miss most the friendly associations and productive interactions with students and working with colleagues," Shaw says. "The university would be a dreary, meaningless place without students to counsel, console, teach, and learn from. I will miss conspiring with colleagues on strategies to help the university help students or other colleagues, commiserating with them over our failures and celebrating our victories."

Shaw came to UF in 1973 from Illinois State University, where he served as the director of research services and grants. As the associate dean of UF's University College—the college under which freshmen and sophomores once received general education courses—he worked in the areas of budget planning, personnel supervision, academic advising and counseling. During this time, Shaw began his work with minorities as a charter mem-

ber of the Affirmative Action Advisory Council and worked closely with deans, department chairs and supervisory personnel to improve opportunities for minorities at UF.

Shaw obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees at Illinois State University in 1959 and 1965, respectively. He attended the University of Illinois where he received his PhD after defending his dissertation, "Social Themes in the Poetry of Gwendolyn Brooks." While at UF, Shaw also served as an associate professor of English specializing in Afro-American literature and 20th-century American literature. "I am very proud to have been a faculty member and administrator at the University of Florida for 31 years. I feel especially fortunate to have been a member of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the English department. I am grateful for the support I have received from those to whom I reported as well as from those who reported to me."

Terry Mills, assistant dean of the Graduate School and a sociology professor, will fill the position left by Shaw. In his role with the graduate school, Mills has been responsible for leading the Office of Graduate Minority Programs and overseeing the administration

of the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. As the CLAS associate dean for minority affairs, Mills will continue such work through mentoring, encouragement, professional development and assistance. "This position has a tremendous emphasis on student development, which I am interested in and committed to," says Mills. "Although I enjoy working with all students, minority students have special needs that must be addressed if they are to achieve success at universities such as UF." Mills says he feels it is the right time for re-directing minority affairs because UF President Bernie Machen has publicly voiced his support and commitment to a diverse university.

Mills says he is excited to fulfill a position that Shaw skillfully crafted but hopes Shaw does not stray too far away during the transition period in case he needs some guidance and advice. "I am a little nervous about following such an icon. Dr. Shaw is a very charismatic person who has made a positive impact on thousands of individuals at UF and in the community. He leaves some very big shoes to fill, but I have big feet."

—Kimberly A. Lopez



Granting an International Perspective

New UF International Center program enhances course content

In the United States, a discussion on population control will almost always center on abortion rights. But in the East African country of Tanzania, conversations on reproductive health are much more basic. "In Tanzania, when people are talking of population control issues, the central concerns are more often whether water and latex gloves are available in the maternity wards at the local hospitals, or whether children are likely to live to see their fifth birthday," says Stacey Langwick, assistant professor of women's studies and anthropology. "We must find a way to talk to each other across these differences, and learn to hear concerns beyond our own national preoccupations, in order to thoughtfully co-create a more just world."

In Langwick's Transnational Feminisms course, WST 3930, American and Tanzanian students are being brought together in an online forum to discuss issues such as reproductive health, worker's rights, AIDS, poverty and human rights. The development of the course is being funded by a grant from the International Center as a way of internationalizing the university curriculum. "It is a wonderful grant, because it is helping us kick off what we hope will be a long-lasting exchange between American and African students," Langwick says. "We are establishing ways to teach Transnational Feminisms transnationally!"

Beginning in 2003, the International Center started awarding \$3,000 grants to UF faculty who are working to create a new course with substantial international

content or revitalizing an existing course by adding new international components. Of the 15 faculty who received grants for the 2003–2004 year, 10 were professors in CLAS. The grant program supports the university's Strategic Plan, which lists internationalizing the curriculum as a top priority. "We have been very impressed by the impact other schools have seen from giving grants like this," says Dennis Jett, dean of the International Center. "The underlying premise is if you want anything to happen at a university, you have to get the faculty behind it—this gives them some support."

Langwick used part of her funds to hire a consultant to set up an online discussion board with the University of Dar es Salaam, located in the Tanzanian capital of Dar es Salaam. She and colleague

Rose Shayo, a professor at the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Dar es Salaam, are co-teaching Transnational Feminisms at UF this semester. Shayo will return to Tanzania in May to bring the course back to her university, using course materials paid for with Langwick's grant. In spring 2005, the two will begin teaching the course simultaneously at their respective institutions, following the same syllabus they have developed together this semester, and requiring students to discuss their coursework with each other through the online board.

For Langwick, who has been conducting research in Tanzania since 1997, the course is a way to relate her passion for feminist study in the region to her students at UF. "I recently went to Uganda and Tanzania, having been asked by our

Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research to develop a summer study abroad program in East Africa," she says. "That's hard to do because we are asking desperately underfunded universities to provide a lot of stuff for free, such as space, teachers and administrative time. We are starting to develop this program, but it is a lengthy process, so we thought that in the meantime we could bring part of Tanzania here to UF. This way, many more students actually get the benefit of finding out about Tanzania and interacting with a different culture. With a study abroad program, only a few students get to participate."

Ed Kellerman, a lecturer for the Dial Center for Written and Oral Communication, used his grant to further his research on the Asian economic crisis of the late 1990s. Over the winter break, he spent almost four weeks in Thailand and Singapore, interviewing citizens from all walks of life—taxi-cab drivers to CEOs—about the region's economic conditions following the economic crisis which began in 1997 when the Central Bank of Thailand declared itself insolvent, devaluing its currency, which echoed throughout Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Australia.

Kellerman, who served in the Peace Corps in Malaysia from 1977 to 1979 and met his wife there, was teaching at a local university in the capital, Kuala Lumpur, in 1997 when the crisis occurred.

"I lived through the Asian economic crisis, and I am looking into why people allowed shady business practices to continue when they knew it would eventually collapse the house of cards the economies were built on," he says. "The answer is authoritarianism, a belief in the powerful elite without any challenges." Kellerman says Asian bankers provided unsecured loans for risky ventures to powerful government and business leaders, while internal security acts kept citizens from criticizing the dealings. When borrowers could not repay their loans, treasuries were forced to borrow from foreign sources, such as Credit Suisse and Bank America. As the value of Asian currency started to decline, treasuries were forced to repay foreign creditors at an increased rate to compensate for their failing currency.

"It really hurt the region," Kellerman says. "Suddenly, hundreds of billions of dollars of foreign capital started fleeing the area because for 10 years these Asian

governments had been loaning money without any collateral for risky projects and were victims of outright corruption."

Kellerman is incorporating what he has learned into his International Communications course, SPC 4710, as well as graduate-level business and professional communication courses for the Warrington College of Business. "I have brought this information back to the classroom, and my students are very appreciative," he says. "I could teach from the textbook or from videos, but just today we had a discussion about why some cultures put up with this kind of corruption, and it was very easy for me to share this information with them."

Michael Warren, an assistant professor of anthropology, is using his grant to develop a new course, Human Rights Missions, which will provide students with the skills needed to safely and professionally provide humanitarian service in areas of political and military conflict. Designed for biological anthropology graduate students, the course will teach participants to better identify victims of genocide and war crimes, and document related forensic evidence. "These students will already possess the

continued on page 6

Above left:
A young mother and her cousin grind root medicine for sick children at a healer's home clinic in Tanzania, where Stacey Langwick conducts her research.

Right:
Ed Kellerman at Sungai Palas tea estate in Cameron Highlands, Malaysia. Much of the tea acreage is being replaced by housing, highway and farming.



continued from page 5

anthropological skills to accomplish these tasks,” Warren says. “But the course is designed to provide them with a historical background of human rights law, the issues involved in the targeted conflict, the specific role of the non-governmental organization for whom they work, and practical and logistical matters related to working in this environment.”

Geography Professor Peter Waylen is internationalizing Principles of Geographic Hydrology, GEO 3280, by focusing on a Costa Rican drainage basin, Tiribi, which flows from the mountains, through the national parks and agricultural lands, into the urbanized capital city, San José. Geography and geology undergraduates are learning to use computers to monitor stream flows, taking into account such variables as precipitation, vegetation and evaporation. “Students learn to step through these principles and hopefully learn something about Costa Rica and the tropical environment,” Waylen says. “It is a typical problem in third world countries to not know how much water you have got, and yet you have to provide water for drinking, building dams, ecotourism—you have to know these things, and yet these countries do not have this kind of information.”

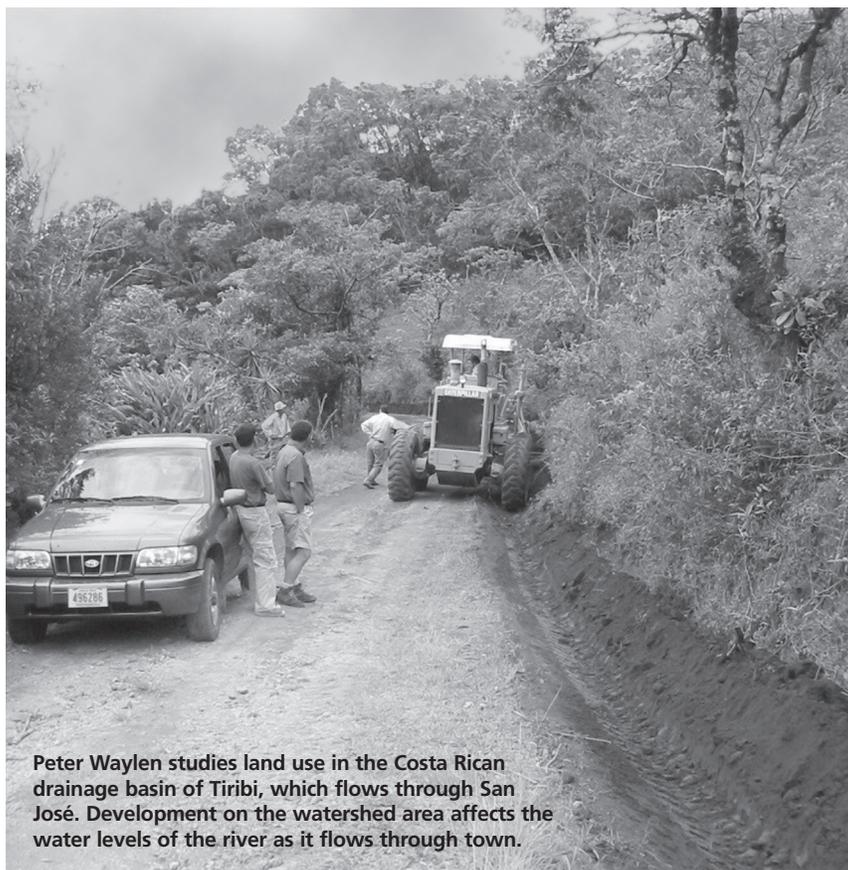
Political Science Professor Kenneth Wald and African American Studies Program Interim Director Marilyn Thomas-Houston are both using their grants to create ways for their students to process research results. Wald, who is director of the Center for Jewish Studies, enhanced his graduate seminar Survey Research, POS 6757, by adding material to sensitize students to the challenges they will face when polling in third world countries. “Students, as part of their graduate work, might look at how people in urban slums get their political information, or the attitudes toward wildlife in rural areas,” Wald says. “So I have added class readings that deal with the kinds of issues students face when doing probability sampling out in the field.”

Thomas-Houston used her grant to purchase an important piece of computer software, ATLAS.ti, which will allow undergraduate students in her African American Studies Senior Integrative Seminars, AFA 4936 and 4937, to organize their research. “We were looking for ways for our students who do qualitative research to organize their data,” she says. “This program is such that you put in your data, and it helps you organize it and draw conclusions, according to different kinds of models.” Students in these classes are required to produce a research paper on blacks in America who have migrated to other countries, such as black loyalists who moved to Nova Scotia and Cuba after the American Revolutionary War. “It has been an important step for African American studies,” she says. “Since our program has its focus on the US, it took a lot of work to figure out a way we can add that international element to our program.”

Other CLAS professors who received grants to internationalize the curriculum in 2003–2004 were Associate Professor of German Sharon DiFino and Academic Spoken English Program faculty John Bro, Helena Halmari and Gordon Tapper. The International Center recently selected its internationalizing the curriculum grant recipients for 2004–2005, and 11 were awarded in CLAS: zoology faculty Colin Chapman, Lauren Chapman and Tom Gillespie, who are working together on a joint project; Montserrat Alás-Brun, Romance languages and literatures; Salem Aweiss, African and Asian languages and literatures; Bob Hatch, history; Anthony LaGreca, sociology; Gillian Lord, Romance languages and literatures; Elizabeth Lowe, Latin American studies; Fiona McLaughlin, linguistics and African and Asian languages and literatures; and Ido Oren, political science.

To apply for an internationalizing the curriculum grant, applicants must submit a proposal describing the course they wish to create or enhance and how funds will be used to develop online course components, videoconferencing, travel, graduate student assistance, software or course material. For more information, visit <http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/ipd/ipdpages/International-Curricula.html> or contact Sandra Russo at 392-5834 or Dean Jett at 392-5323.

—Buffy Lockette



Peter Waylen studies land use in the Costa Rican drainage basin of Tiribi, which flows through San José. Development on the watershed area affects the water levels of the river as it flows through town.

Award-Winning CLAS Students

CLAS Students Receive Prestigious Scholarships

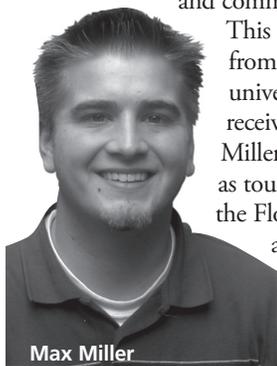
Max Miller, a junior with a double major in English and history, has received a 2004 Harry S. Truman Scholarship. He will receive \$2,000 for his senior year at UF and \$24,000 for graduate school.

The US Congress established the Truman Scholarship Foundation in 1975 to award scholarships for college students to attend graduate school in preparation for careers in government and public service. Truman Scholars are selected based on their extensive records of public and community service, outstanding leadership potential and communication skills.

This year, 77 winners from 67 colleges and universities in the US received the award.

Miller currently serves as tour coordinator for the Florida Cicerones

and is a member of the Students In Free Enterprise presentation team and an



Max Miller

officer for Phi Alpha Theta history honor society. He volunteers at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts and has performed in numerous roles at the Acrosstown Repertory Theater.

This is the third year in a row a UF student has received the scholarship. Political science senior **Teresa Porter** is a 2003 Truman Scholar, and **Michael Gale**, who was awarded a BS in zoology in spring 2003, received the honor in 2002.

Integrative biology junior **David Duncan** has received a 2004 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship. The award honors outstanding students in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering. Duncan has minors in physics and English and plans to pursue molecular and conservation genetics in graduate school. The scholarship covers up to \$7,500 annually for tuition, fees, books, and room and board. Up to 300 scholarships are awarded each year.

At UF, Duncan has participated in the University Scholars Program and is a member of the Matthews Society, Reitz Scholars Program and Phi Beta Kappa. During the sum-

mer of 2003, he served as a research assistant in Rocky Mountain National Park. Duncan is the president of the Gator Outdoor Club and has served as a student representative on several university committees, including the University Curriculum Committee, the President's Task Force, the Alcohol and Drug Education Committee and the University Advising Council. He also has served as president of the Student Honors Organization and has been elected to the National Collegiate Honors Council Executive Board.

In 2003, chemistry senior **Robert Abel** and **Anup Patel**, a senior with a double major in economics and interdisciplinary studies with a biochemistry and molecular biology concentration, won Goldwater Scholarships, marking the first time since 1999 students from UF had received the honor.



David Duncan

National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowships

Several current and former CLAS students have received a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship. These fellowships provide three years of support for advanced study to approximately 900 outstanding graduate students in the mathematical, physical, biological, engineering, and behavioral and social sciences, and to research-based PhD degrees in science education. The fellowship includes a \$30,000 stipend and an annual \$10,500 award for tuition and fees. UF had 12 winners this year.

The following fellowship-winning CLAS students are listed along with their majors and the year they graduated from UF: **Robert Abel**, chemistry, May 2004; **Hope Klug**, zoology, 2001 (Klug is currently a graduate student in zoology at UF); **Desika Narayanan**, astronomy and physics, 2003; **Dean Thorsen**, zoology, 2003; **Davide Zori**, anthropology, 2002.

The following CLAS students received honorable mentions from the NSF: **Thomas Adam**, zoology, 2002; **Gurudev Allin**, anthropology, 2002; **Luis Bonachea**, zoology, May 2004; **Cris Crookshanks**, anthropology, May 2004; **Christopher McKenney**, physics and electrical and computer engineering, 2002; **Allison Riggs**, microbiology and cell science, 2003.

Graduate Student Teaching Awards

Each year, up to 20 UF teaching assistants are recognized with a Graduate Student Teaching Award based on excellence in teaching. The TAs are nominated by their department, and a faculty committee makes the selections. This year's Graduate Teaching Award winners from the college are: **Rom Brafman**, psychology; **Sarah Bray**, botany; **Rebecca Brown**, English; **Glenn Freeman**, English; **Charles Grapski**, political science; **Daniel Janes**, zoology; **Erika Miguez**, mathematics; **Megan Norcia**, English; **Ericka Parra**, Spanish. Among the award winners, the most outstanding one receives the Calvin A. VanderWerf award, established in memory of the former CLAS dean and chemistry professor. **Sarah Wears** from linguistics is this year's recipient.

Outstanding International Student Awards

Several CLAS undergraduate and graduate students recently received Outstanding International Student Awards. They were nominated by their departments for exceptional academic achievement. The recipients are: **Silvia Alvarez**, botany (Costa Rica); **Wakako Araki**, history (Japan); **Aparna Baskaran**, physics (India); **Kuniko Chijiwa**, sociology (Japan); **Sophie Croisy**, English (France); **Natalia Duque**, political science (Colombia); **Lisa Ferdinand**, psychology (Trinidad); **Aneka Meier**, German (Germany); **Nishant Shahani**, English (India); **Linlin Wang**, physics (China).

Around the College



Pre Rup Temple, Cambodia

Narayanan Receives American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship for Research in Cambodia

Religion Professor **Vasudha Narayanan** has received an American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) fellowship for 2004–2005. She will receive funding to support her research proposal titled “Churning the Ocean of Story: Retelling Narratives of Hinduism in Cambodia and India.” Narayanan has visited ancient sites in Cambodia, such as the Pre Rup Temple in Angkor pictured above, and plans to visit the region again along with the Musée Guimet in Paris, which is known to have one of the best collections of Cambodian art in the world.

“Scholars narrate the story of the Hindu tradition as a religion of India

without attending to its 1,500 years of dominant presence in Cambodia, Thailand and Indonesia,” explains Narayanan. “By highlighting aspects of Khmer religion and culture, I argue that portrayals of Hinduism will have to be reassessed by seeing it as a transnational religion in the first millennium CE. I also contend that the Cambodian people exercised considerable agency in the ways in which they transformed practices from the Hindu civilization. These materials have been studied by scholars of art and history but not analyzed from the viewpoint of religion, especially by those familiar with Hinduism.”

The ACLS was

established in 1919 and played a critical role in the establishment of the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1964. It has a membership of 67 national scholarly organizations, including the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Historical Association and the American Psychological Association. The fellowships are awarded to scholars in anthropology, classics, history, languages and literatures, musicology, philosophy, political theory and religion. This year, 77 scholars were chosen from 1,200 applications, and only 20 full professors such as Narayanan are chosen each year.

CLAS Faculty Receive Mentoring Awards

Two CLAS faculty members have each received a UF Doctoral Mentoring Award. Anthropology Professor **H. Russell Bernard** and Psychology Professor **Brian Iwata** are two of five university-wide recipients. The award recognizes innovation, effectiveness and excellence in doctoral dissertation advising/mentoring. Each winner receives \$3,000, plus an additional \$1,000 to support graduate students.

2004 McQuown Scholars Named

The O. Ruth McQuown Scholarships honor CLAS female scholars in the humanities, social sciences, women’s studies, and interdisciplinary majors in these areas. The award is named in honor of Ruth McQuown, the college’s first female associate dean. Graduate and undergraduate women are selected based on their academic achievement and promise, and this year’s winners are listed below.

Graduate Recipients of \$4,000–\$8,000

Alisa Coffin, geography

Kristen Delucia, anthropology

Cynthia Puranik, communication sciences and disorders

Anuradha Ramanujan, English

Undergraduate Recipients of \$1,000

Jennifer Flinn, English

Cerian Gibbs, geography

Natalia Terreros, anthropology

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.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

African American Studies

The African American Studies Program held its first-ever Ronald E. Forman Lecture Series on February 25, in honor of its founding director, Ronald E. Forman. Faye Harrison, an anthropologist from the University of Tennessee, was the featured lecturer, and the program honored key supporters of the program, including Foreman, English Professor

James Haskins, retiring English professor **Harry Shaw** and CLAS Dean **Neil Sullivan**. Anthropology graduate student **Deborah Johnson-Simon** and political science undergraduate **Sanaa Hamilton** were awarded travel grants at an awards reception following the lecture.

African and Asian Languages and Literatures

S. Yumiko Hulvey presented a talk, "Folk Tales as Conduits of Culture in Texts by Tawada Yoko," at a working papers symposium on "Tawada Yoko: Voices from Everywhere" at the University of Kentucky on March 13. Papers presented at the symposium will result in an edited volume focusing on Tawada, who writes in both German and Japanese.

English

James Haskins' 1993 book, *The March on Washington*, which was first published by HarperCollins Publishers, was recently issued into paperback by Just Us Books. Haskins also was recently selected to serve as one of the five judges for the young adult category of the National Book Awards for 2004.

Mark A. Reid presented "A Post Negritude Kind of Thing: Black and Arab Women in French Urban Cinematic Space," at the 20th–21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium held at Florida State University in early April. The theme of the conference was "Diversity and Difference in France and the Francophone World." Also, his article, "Spike Shelton Jackson Lee," appears in the *African American National Biography*, published this year by Oxford University Press.

Criminology and Law

Paul Magnarella served as guest editor of a recent issue of *The Oriental Anthropologist*, (vol. 4, no. 1, 2004), which was devoted to Asian and African perspectives on human rights.

He also contributed an article, "Universalism versus Exceptionalism: Human Rights and the Asian Values Critique," to the issue. The journal is published at Allahabad University in India.

Geological Sciences

Jim Channell is on sabbatical in Switzerland through June 2004 at the Federal Institute of Technology in downtown Zurich. He is spending part of his time in Italy doing fieldwork in connection with a newly funded National Science Foundation project dealing with tectonic rotations in the Southern Alps and Apennines. While in Zurich, Channell also has been editing an American Geophysical Union monograph titled "Internal Timescales of the Geomagnetic Field."

Germanic and Slavic Studies

Keith Bullivant (German) recently presented an invited lecture on "The German Social Novel of the 19th Century" at the seventh-biennial Johannesburg German Studies Conference at the Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Gerontological Studies

Susan Bluck was awarded a poetry award for her poem *The Journey of the Skin* in the American Society of Aging's Photography and Poetry Contest, held in honor of the society's annual conference in San Francisco on April 14–17. The theme of the conference was "Taking the Journey Together." Bluck is jointly appointed in the Center for Gerontological Studies and the Department of Psychology.

Romance Languages and Literatures

Sylvie Blum-Reid (French) gave a presentation entitled, "Khmer Memories or Filming from the Franco-Cambodian Diaspora Perspective," at the 20th–21st Century French and Francophone Studies International Colloquium on "Diversity and Difference in France and the Francophone World" at Florida State University in early April.

Gerontology Hosts Symposium

On April 5, the Center for Gerontological Studies held its annual spring symposium at the University of Florida, bringing together esteemed researchers in aging, language and cognition. Psychologist **Deborah Burke** (pictured right), the W.M. Keck Distinguished Service Professor at Pomona College in Claremont, California spoke on her specialty—tip of the tongue states in older adults. Other guest lecturers were **Susan Kemper**, the Roy A. Roberts Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Gerontology at the University of Kansas; **Kathy Pichora-Fuller**, a cognitive psychologist at the University of Toronto at Mississauga; and **Kenneth Heilman**, the James E. Rooks, Jr. Distinguished Professor in the UF Department of Neurology.



Grants

Hagen Receives NSF CAREER Award



The National Science Foundation has awarded Assistant Professor of Physics Stephen Hagen a prestigious CAREER grant through its Faculty Early Career Development Program. Hagen will receive \$623,000 during the next five years to aid his work on the dynamics of protein folding.

After receiving a BA in physics from Wesleyan University in 1984 and a PhD in physics from Princeton University in 1989, Hagen went on to work as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Maryland from 1989–1992, where he conducted experimental research on superconductors. He then made a bold career move in 1992, changing his area of research from condensed matter physics to biological physics by becoming a staff fellow at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) studying the dynamics of protein folding. Hagen continued to research at the NIH, in addition to serving one year as a Congressional Science Fellow on Capitol Hill for the American Institute of Physics, before coming to UF in 1999 as the physics department's first biological physicist.

"Steve Hagen is a creative and productive experimental physicist who has made significant contributions to two subfields in physics—superconductivity and molecular biophysics," says department chair Alan Dorsey. "He is the first of what I hope will be several hires in the area of biological physics, and he will play an important role in developing this interdisciplinary research area in our department."

Hagen will use the CAREER award to further his study of protein molecules and how they assemble themselves, or "fold," to carry out their bio-

chemical function. "We know that there are a large number of proteins in biology—the human genome contains something like 30,000 different proteins," Hagen says. "So the number of proteins we know about is very large, but the number of proteins whose actual folded structure we know is relatively very small. If we knew more about how proteins fold, it would improve our understanding of their structure and biological function, which are both extremely important in biology."

The misfolding of proteins is believed to play a role in a number of diseases, including Alzheimer's, Creutzfeldt-Jakob, Mad Cow, Parkinson's and cystic fibrosis. Knowing more about how proteins fold could lead to cures for these diseases. "There are actually diseases of protein folding," Hagen says. "Instead of going into the correctly folded state, a protein can go into the wrong state, which can lead to disease. In Mad Cow disease and its human variant, Creutzfeldt-Jakob, for example, there is a protein that goes bad. Instead of folding correctly, it adopts an incorrect structure and these misfolded molecules accumulate or aggregate, causing injury."

Hagen's work is interdisciplinary, and he collaborates with researchers in the Department of Chemistry, the College of Medicine and the McKnight Brain Institute. Arthur Edison, one of

Hagen's research colleagues and an associate professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, says, "Steve is top notch. I think he is one of the finest biophysical researchers at UF, and we are really lucky to have him. The thing that makes him special is that he is a true physicist, but he also knows biology and chemistry quite well and that is unusual. A lot of physicists try to work on biological problems, but they don't have a feel for biology so it limits what they can do. Steve very comfortably straddles biology and chemistry, and he is one of the real stars in the protein folding field right now."

In addition to his research, Hagen teaches two undergraduate courses—General Physics and Introduction to Biophysics. He is also an organizer of the Molecular Biophysics Journal Club, a group of UF students and faculty from physics, chemistry and medicine that meets to discuss papers on experimental and computational methods in molecular biophysics. Hagen was chosen for the CAREER award based on his creative way of integrating research and teaching. The award is the third for the physics department in the past two years, with Yoonseok Lee and Stephen Hill each receiving one in 2003.

—Buffy Lockette

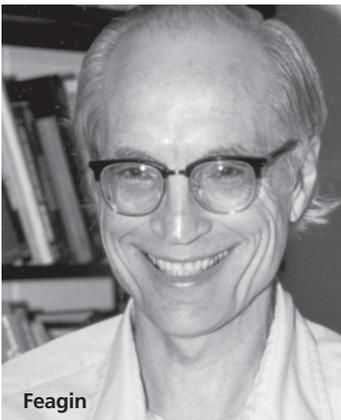
Bookbeat

Recent publications from CLAS faculty

White Men on Race: Power, Privilege, and the Shaping of Cultural Consciousness

Joe Feagin (Sociology) and Eileen O'Brien, Beacon Press

With 15 books published in the area of race since 1991, Sociology Professor Joe Feagin has still managed to find untouched territory with his latest publication, *White Men on Race*. The book looks at how upper class white men view race and their encounters with minority groups—a field



Feagin

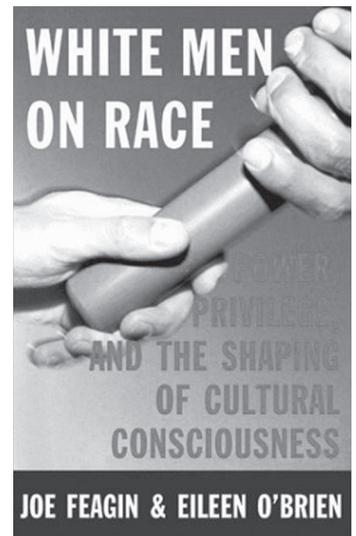
Feagin says has never been written about. "Countless interviews and surveys have been conducted, but nothing specific as to how elite white men view race," he says. "This book now provides the insight to what these men think about race."

The book is based on the interviews and surveys of about 100 upper-class white men. Feagin, and co-author Eileen O'Brien from the State University of New York Brockport, utilized college students to interview upper-middle-class men in financial and corporate fields from various regions of the country. More than 200 men were questioned, though only 100 were used for the book. The findings reveal how these men view a range of topics including racial conflicts, black families, affirmative action, immigration, crime and expectations for the country's future.

Feagin says one of the more interesting findings of the research

was that most of these men have relatively few personal interactions with African Americans. The few interactions that some of these men do recall are from growing up with maids or servants. In addition, those who attended public schools associate African Americans with athletics and remember "playing ball" with a few black youngsters. "This 'white bubble' of segregation, where whites seldom interact with minorities on an equal footing, causes elite white males to underestimate the effects of discrimination," explains Feagin. "And while overt racism is rare, among the group there is a pattern of stereotyping and subtle bias that is seen." This pattern is part of what the authors term a "collective white consciousness."

Feagin, who is regarded by many as the most published scholar in the field of race and racism, says he will begin using the book as the text for a course,



Black and White Americans, he will teach at Texas A&M University in the fall. "Understanding the consciousness of elite white men is critical as this group has the most power," Feagin says, "This information is important for the present and future to maintain, or change, race relations."

—Kimberly A. Lopez

Shea Butter Republic, Brenda Chalfin (Anthropology), Routledge

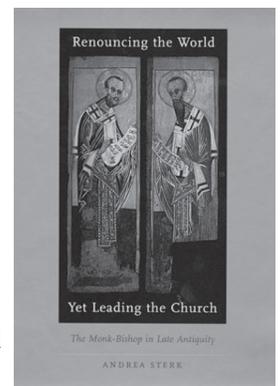
Indigenous to the savanna zone of West Africa, and central to the livelihoods of rural women in the region, shea has, for more than a century, circulated on the world market as a low priced and little-noticed industrial raw material. In *Shea Butter Republic*, Chalfin presents an ethnographic study that traces the history of shea from a pre- to a post-industrial commodity with the aim of providing a deeper understanding of emerging trends in tropical commodification, cosmopolitan consumption, global economic restructuring, and rural livelihoods. Chalfin challenges the assumption that globalization makes state institutions and authority unnecessary and undercuts the neo-liberal argument that streamlining state operations yields greater efficiency and accountability. She also explores how state authority, during both the colonial and post-colonial periods, is sustained through various projects of market building.



— Book jacket

Renouncing the World Yet Leading the Church: The Monk Bishop in Late Antiquity, Andrea Sterk (History), Harvard University Press

Although an ascetic ideal of leadership had both classical and biblical roots, it found particularly fertile soil in the monastic fervor of the fourth through sixth centuries. Church officials were increasingly recruited from monastic communities, and the monk-bishop became the dominant model of ecclesiastical leadership in the Eastern Roman Empire and Byzantium. In an interesting paradox, Sterk explains that "from the world-rejecting monasteries and desert hermitages of the east came many of the most powerful leaders in the church and civil society as a whole." She explores the social, political, intellectual, and theological grounding for this development. Focusing on four foundational figures—Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nyssa, Gregory of Nazianzus, and John Chrysostom—she traces the emergence of a new ideal of ecclesiastical leadership: the merging of ascetic and episcopal authority embodied in the monk-bishop.



— Harvard University Press

Join Us for Spring Commencement!

CLAS Dean Neil Sullivan invites all faculty, staff and students to attend the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Spring 2004 Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies. Baccalaureate will take place at 3:30 pm on Friday, April 30 in the University Memorial Auditorium. The valedictorians, four and two-year scholars and CLAS Student Council Hall of Fame will be honored. Outstanding and retiring faculty also will be recognized. A reception on the lawn will follow the ceremony.

The CLAS graduation ceremony starts at 9 am on Saturday, May 1 in the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. In addition to recognizing spring graduates, UF President Bernie Machen will offer welcoming remarks and confer degrees. The college will present 1978 political science graduate Gary Pruitt with a UF Distinguished Alumni Award, and Pruitt will be the ceremony's keynote speaker. Pruitt is chairman, president and CEO of The McClatchy Company, one of the nation's largest and most

successful newspaper chains. The company, headquartered in Sacramento, oversees 18 daily and 11 non-daily newspapers across the country.

President Machen will host the first-ever university-wide convocation on Friday, April 30 from 7 to 8:30 pm. This special celebration will unite the faculty, degree candidates and guests from all colleges. It will be held outdoors on the Reitz Union north lawn and will begin with performances by School of Music students and faculty. A formal

academic processional will take place at 7:30 pm.

The university will honor the accomplishments of outstanding students and faculty, and US Senator John McCain will deliver the commencement address and receive an honorary degree. The evening includes a digital media presentation produced by the university's Digital Worlds Institute, a fireworks display and a reception following the ceremony in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom. Everyone is invited to attend, and there is no

charge for the event. In case of inclement weather, the convocation will move to the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. For more information, please visit www.registrar.ufl.edu/commencement. If you have questions about the CLAS Baccalaureate and Commencement ceremonies, please contact Carol Binello in the dean's office at cbinello@clas.ufl.edu or 392-0780.



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