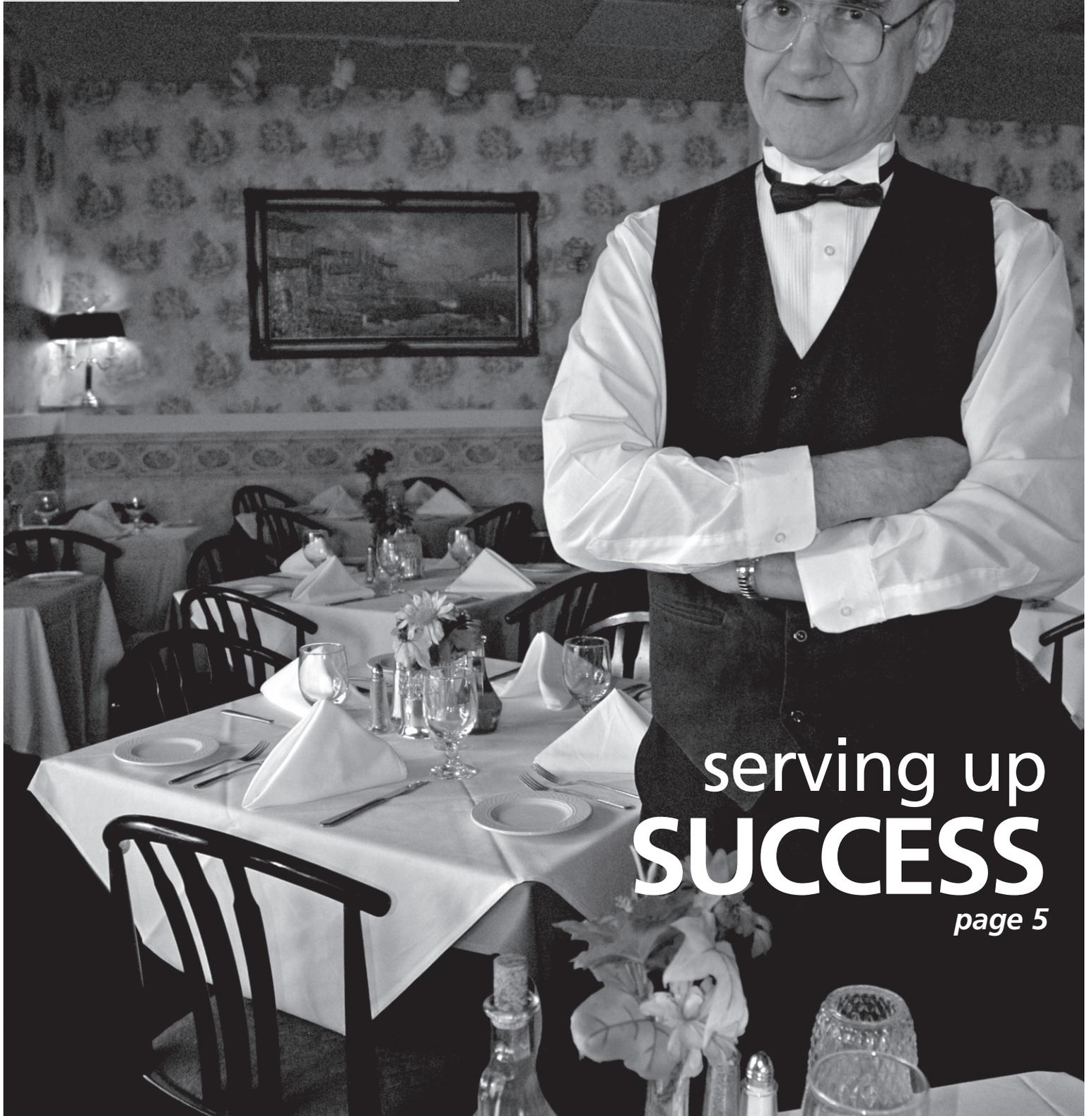


April / May 2005
Volume 19

CLASnotes

The University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



serving up
SUCCESS

page 5

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The Dean's Musings

Congratulations to the Class of 2005!

The end of the academic year is upon us, and we take special pleasure at this time in recognizing the achievements and dedication of our graduating class. These students represent the best of an extraordinarily gifted group who can clearly succeed wherever they go with the right direction, the right impulse and their dedication to serve. The number of distinctive awards won by our undergraduates continues to grow this year with two Goldwater, one Udall and four Beckman scholars, among others. (see page 6).

While we have come to expect high academic standards from our students in all areas, the commitment on their part to serve society at large has really impressed me. We have several students who have dedicated themselves to serve the Teach for America program, forgoing a start on their careers in order to give others less fortunate than them a chance by using their skills and knowledge to assist low-income neighborhood schools. Others are serving the country in different ways, through the military services, in hospitals, in the remote areas of the underdeveloped world, and in our nation's Capitol as interns to your representatives. Perhaps one of our most inspiring graduates is Donald Rosenberg, a 70-year-old PhD student who has earned his degree in Spanish literature after working in the restaurant business for more than 50 years and deciding anything is possible (see page 5).

Our graduates are tomorrow's leaders, and we should be very proud of them. They are the standard bearers of new ethical issues and are determined to build a better world, more connected, and, if they succeed, more humane. Please join me in congratulating our graduating class of 2005, as we wish them all the success they fully deserve.

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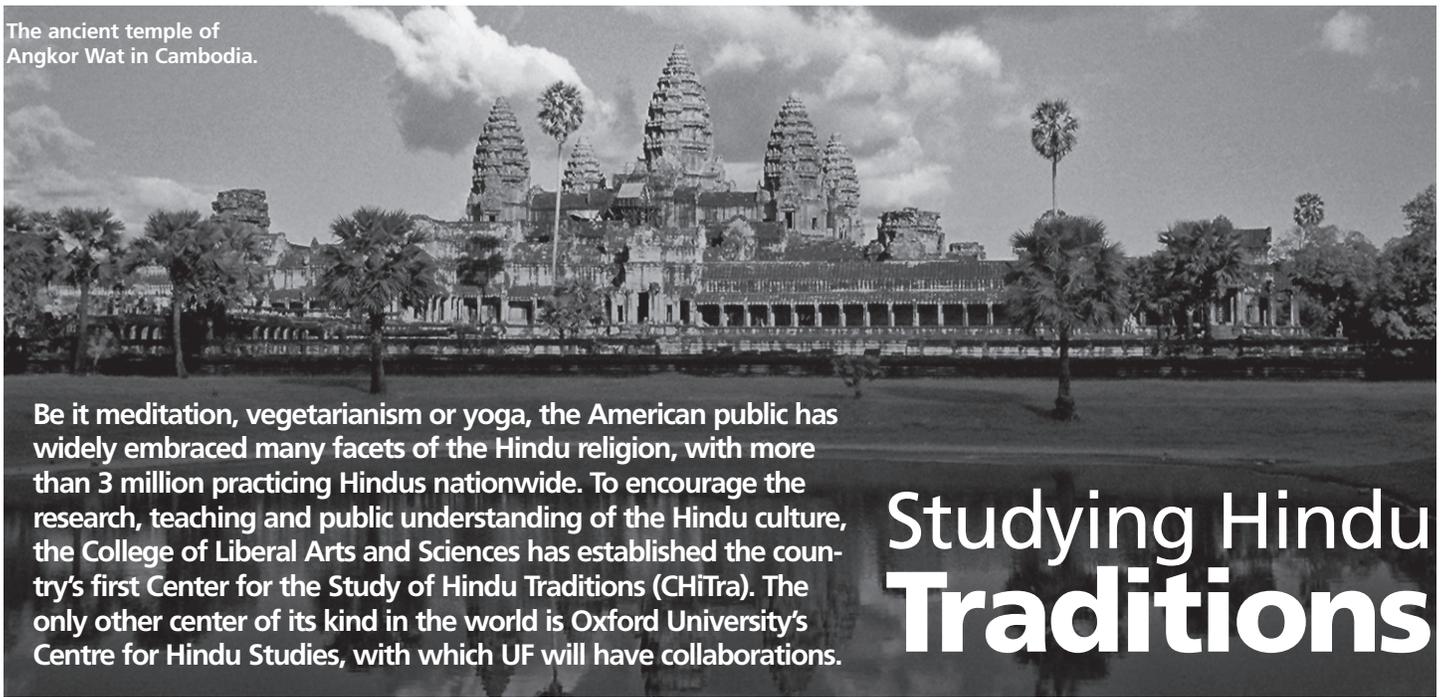
On the Cover:

Seventy-year-old waiter Donald Rosenberg is graduating from UF April 30 with a PhD in Spanish literature (see page 5). More than 1,800 CLAS students are graduating this semester, with over 300 of them earning a master's or doctorate. For the first time, CLAS is holding two commencement ceremonies this spring—one for undergraduates and another for graduate students (see page 12).



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The ancient temple of Angkor Wat in Cambodia.



Be it meditation, vegetarianism or yoga, the American public has widely embraced many facets of the Hindu religion, with more than 3 million practicing Hindus nationwide. To encourage the research, teaching and public understanding of the Hindu culture, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has established the country's first Center for the Study of Hindu Traditions (CHiTra). The only other center of its kind in the world is Oxford University's Centre for Hindu Studies, with which UF will have collaborations.

Studying Hindu Traditions

"Oxford has been encouraging us to do this for a while and is very supportive of our venture," says Religion Professor Vasudha Narayanan, who will serve as the center's first director. "Many universities in this country are just opening up to the idea of Hindu studies and, since our program is interdisciplinary and we are not just looking at it through one set of lenses, I believe we will create new interest."

Drawing from UF's richly diverse resources, CHiTra will offer a series of interdisciplinary courses and lectures to UF students focusing on Hindu traditions and the arts, Hinduism and environmental concerns and Hinduism and health-related issues. It also will offer regular instruction in one of the oldest Indo-European languages, Sanskrit, which remains an official language of India. The acronym CHiTra is the Sanskrit word for "beautiful work of art."

The center will not initially offer an undergraduate major or minor, but will work towards offering a certificate program. Its first three courses will be offered in the fall—an honors course, Introduction to Hindu Culture, taught by Narayanan; and Beginning Sanskrit, taught by graduate student Michael Gressett, as well as Second-Year Sanskrit, taught by Govinda Rangarajan, an adjunct professor who holds a PhD in Sanskrit from Madras University in India.

Much like the word "Hindu" itself—which serves as an umbrella term for

several religious and cultural traditions that originated from India—the center will bring together faculty from across campus, collaborating extensively with the Department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures, the Asian Studies Program, the Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research, and the School of



Theatre and Dance. "By gathering faculty and students with diverse interests and limited resources from multiple units in the university, the center will get the synergy for organizing programs and developing the curriculum," says Narayanan.

The center will have strong ties with Oxford and is planning to co-host a series of lectures and programs for the research community, as well as possible faculty and student exchanges. It also will collaborate with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts in New Delhi to pursue joint research projects in India and the possible exchange of visiting scholars. The

Gainesville community will benefit from CHiTra by attending sponsored art exhibits and dance and musical performances offered in conjunction with the Center for World Arts, the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, and the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. The center also aims to help expand the Hindu studies collection at UF's Smathers Library.

The creation of the center was the idea of Narayanan, the former president of the American Academy of Religion and a researcher of the Hindu traditions of India, Cambodia and America. "She has extensive connections internationally because of her research, and in some ways her presence makes it possible for us to do this in ways we might not be able to were she not here," says CLAS Associate Dean for Centers, Institutes and International Affairs Angel Kwolek-Folland.

An ad hoc advisory committee has been established to guide the center and includes Joan Frosch, associate professor and assistant director of the School of Theatre and Dance; Charles Mason, curator of Asian art at the Harn; David Hackett, associate professor and chair of the Department of Religion; Shaya Isenberg, associate professor of religion; and Bron Taylor, associate professor of religion.

"The center promises to provide important intellectual and artistic leadership in the internationalization of the university," says Frosch. "No US institution, as far as I know, has such a center in place. I would expect CHiTra to play an increasingly national, if not international, role in the understanding of Hindu culture, its traditions and innovations."

—Buffy Lockette

putting the

SPICE in science

Twice a week, nine UF graduate students trade the quiet of their offices and the solitude of their microscopes for the clamor of middle school classrooms. These students head to a trio of middle school campuses across Gainesville to bolster science programs and turn kids on to science.

The program, Science Partners in Inquiry-based Collaborative Education, or SPICE, is a three-year project funded by the National Science Foundation to encourage inquiry-based learning of science, technology, engineering and mathematics in middle schools that do not have the resources to provide hands-on, in-depth science programs. The \$1.7 million grant that supports SPICE is up for renewal this year, having first been established at UF in 2003.

“We focus on the middle schools because studies have shown that early adolescents—especially girls—begin to

lose interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics,” says Doug Levey, the UF zoology professor who serves as the principal investigator on the NSF SPICE grant. “We know that this is the time to keep kids interested.”

Currently, Howard Bishop, Lincoln and Westwood are the middle schools benefiting from the program. Inquiry-based labs, the centerpiece of SPICE, are carefully planned, enthusiastically received by the middle schoolers and occasionally edible—one about atomic structure uses miniature marshmallows for protons and electrons. “Getting the

kids interested isn’t a challenge,” says Jennifer Stokke, an environmental engineering PhD student who teaches at Westwood. “Even the kids who don’t really like science are interested.”

SPICE, one of about 100 such NSF-funded programs nationwide, serves as a proving ground for graduate students who, in the not-so-distant future, will face lecture halls full of college undergraduates. “A goal is to turn out graduate students who are better equipped to be teachers,” Levey says.

Graduate students and middle school teachers apply to the program annually, and a UF faculty advisory committee selects nine students and nine teachers each year to work together in the classroom. Graduate students receive a one-year \$30,000 fellowship plus tuition and fees while the teachers receive a \$3,325 stipend, and both receive \$2,500 for supplies.

“What drew me to the program was the ability to do research, teaching and outreach,” says Larisa Grawe, a zoology PhD student who teaches at Lincoln. “With this program, NSF is sending a message that all three are important.”

Balancing their SPICE commitments with their individual research is difficult, the graduate students agree. But they look for ways to integrate their fields of study into the middle school classrooms. Grawe, whose focus is paleontology, brings in fossils for her students to examine and study. Christine Stracey, a zoology PhD student, studies the effects of urbanization on the common mockingbird—Florida’s state bird—and says she would like one of her students from Lincoln to aid with her research this summer.

“The program gives us opportunities to do things we would not otherwise be able to do,” says Sara Charbonnet, a Westwood sixth grade science teacher in her second year with SPICE. “In order to do labs and inquiry-based learning, it takes a lot of preparation, and the SPICE fellows are a big help.”

On each of their two days a week in the classroom, the graduate students teach about 125 or 130 middle schoolers. Next year, the program will expand to two more Alachua County middle schools: Hawthorne and Oak View.

Levey says the program and the interest it fosters could steer underprivileged middle schoolers toward higher education—and that SPICE could be a well-spring of future engineering, math and science majors at UF. “If we can get these kids into these disciplines early on, there is a chance they’ll stay in the field,” he says. “It’s only a matter of time before it provides a wealth of resources for the university.”

—Warren Kagarise



“I like the feel-good factor, the fulfillment of seeing the lights turn on in kids with topics that are traditionally difficult to learn,” says Donovan German, a PhD zoology student who teaches at Howard Bishop and plans to teach in the program next year as well. “Of course not every single kid gets it right away, but I think the majority are impacted and that has to be important.”

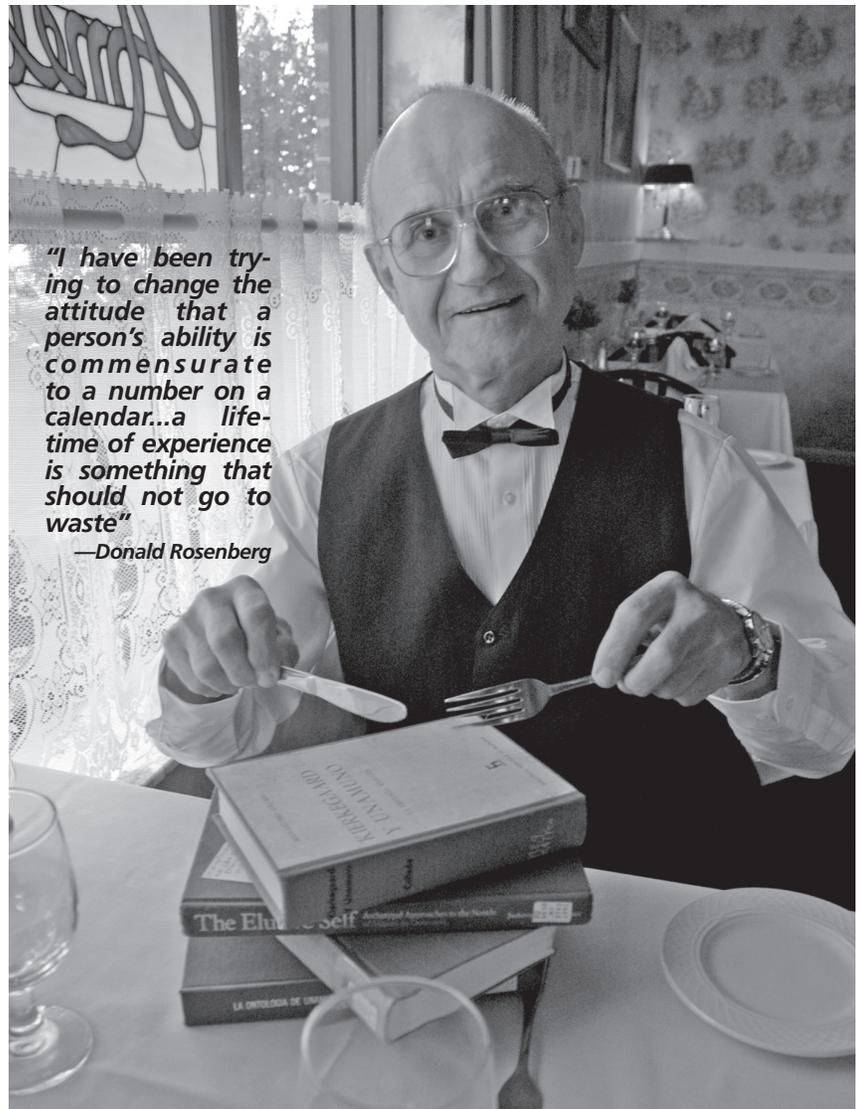
-serving up SUCCESS

Following UF's commencement ceremonies on April 30, many graduates and their families will no doubt flock to Amelia's Italian restaurant in Downtown Gainesville to celebrate. But this year, 70-year-old waiter Donald Rosenberg will not be there to serve them. Instead, he will be celebrating his own success after receiving a PhD in Romance languages and literatures. After 52 years in the restaurant business, he is starting a new life.

Born and raised in Boston, Rosenberg dropped out of high school on his 16th birthday. "I was exercising my so-called right to be a rebellious teenager," he says. He immediately left home and began supporting himself as a busboy and then, after two years, promoted to waiter and he has not changed careers since. It was not until age 46 that he decided to earn his GED. A few years later, he began taking courses at Palm Beach Community College in West Palm Beach, enrolling in classes that interested him, such as French literature and classical music.

"When I was young, I loved to read and research and study, but only on my own terms at my own pace," Rosenberg says. "Back then, I had a strong rebellious antipathy against authority or regimentation. Once I got into college I realized how wrong I was." After two years, he had accumulated so many credits that an associate's degree was easily within grasp. He earned an AA in 1987, and then moved on to Florida Atlantic University, where he received a BA in languages and linguistics in 1989 and a master's in the same discipline in 1991. "Then I thought, I'm not going to stop now," he says. "I'm going to go for everything!" He was accepted into UF's PhD program in Romance languages and literatures in 1992 and decided to concentrate in Spanish literature.

Rosenberg's dissertation is on the use of paradox in the writings of Miguel De Unamuno, a writer and philosopher from the Basque Region of Spain who lived from 1864 to 1936 and served as president of the



"I have been trying to change the attitude that a person's ability is commensurate to a number on a calendar...a lifetime of experience is something that should not go to waste"

—Donald Rosenberg

University of Salamanca. "He thought that he could deal with the challenges of life by taking a very self-contradictory perspective, and in many senses it seems to have worked for him, as I feel it is working for myself," Rosenberg says. He has worked under the guidance of dissertation chair Montserrat Alás-Brun, an associate professor of Spanish. "Donald has a job with a demanding schedule," she says. "He has worked tenaciously and tirelessly to complete his dissertation on time, in order to graduate this April."

For more than eight of the 13 years Rosenberg has lived in Gainesville, he has supported himself by working as a part-time waiter at Amelia's. He has also worked at the former Capriccio Restaurant in the University Centre Hotel and what is currently the Paramount Hotel on 13th Street. Following graduation,

however, he plans to begin his job search and start a new life for himself. He is hoping to teach, but would also consider using his education and years of experience in a non-academic setting. No matter his career path, he is not going to let society's preconceptions about his age hold him back.

"I have been trying to change the attitude that a person's ability is commensurate to a number on a calendar," he says. "The majority of people as they reach their last years internalize these societal attitudes, so they tell themselves that they cannot do this or that because they are of a certain age. I think this is very tragic because a lifetime of experience is something that should not go to waste."

—Buffy Lockette

CLAS Students Receive Top Honors

USP Best Paper Awards: At the University Scholars Program's sixth annual spring banquet in April, two CLAS students were awarded Best Paper Awards out of the four scholars honored. **Laura Belle Phillip**, a Spanish and sociology senior, who was mentored by Spanish lecturer **Greg Moreland**, won for her paper "The Effect of Ethnicity on the Development of Cultural Awareness and Identity in a Study Abroad Setting." **Abigail Sewell**, a sociology senior mentored by Sociology and Women's Studies Assistant Professor **Kendal Broad**, won for "The Impact of Workplace Isolation, Occupational Stress, and Stereotypes on the Experience and Expression of Anger Among Black Workers." Each received a commemorative certificate and \$250. Assistant Professor of Religion and Jewish Studies **Nina Caputo** was named an Outstanding Mentor, nominated by senior history major **Angelica Acosta**.

Goldwater Scholarships: Two UF students have received 2005 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships. **Edwin A. Homan** is a junior chemistry major who intends to pursue a PhD in organic chemistry. He is currently working in the laboratory of Jean-Marie Lehn, a Nobel Laureate in chemistry (1987), at the University of Strasbourg in France, through the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program. **Joseph P. Wilson** is a sophomore electrical engineering major with a physics minor who plans to pursue a PhD in biomedical engineering. He has participated in the REU at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Wilson is a John V. Lombardi Scholar, president of the Honors Ambassadors and former director of the Writing on the Wall project.

The Goldwater Scholarship was created to encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering, and to foster excellence in those fields. Only 320 Goldwater scholarships were awarded this year from 1,091 applications, and each scholarship covers eligible expenses for tuition, fees, books, and room and board, up to a maximum of \$7,500 annually.

Beckman Scholar Awards: For the second year in a row, UF was one of 13 universities selected to receive a Beckman Scholar Award from the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation, based on its commitment to quality undergraduate research. The awards program provides scholarships, supplies and travel funding for undergraduates majoring in chemistry, biochemistry, the biological and medical sciences or an interdisciplinary combination of these sciences.

Each student is paired with a faculty mentor and required to perform 10 hours of research each week during the academic year and work full-time for 10 weeks during two summers. All four Beckman Scholars selected for 2005 are CLAS students: **Casie Hilliard**, chemistry and mathematics sophomore, mentored by Chemistry Professor **Lisa McElwee-White**; **Lari McEdward**, an interdisciplinary neuroscience sophomore, mentored by Zoology Professor **Lou Guillette**; **Edward Miller**, a chemistry sophomore, mentored by Assistant Professor of Biochemistry **Mavis Agbandje-McKenna** in the College of Medicine; and **Kristen Misiak**, a biochemistry and English sophomore, mentored by Assistant Professor of Zoology **David Julian**.

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 departments, and a faculty committee makes the final selections. This year's winners from the college are: **Jung-ha An**, mathematics; **Jonathan Barnes**, Germanic and Slavic studies; **Peter Barry**, philosophy; **Timothy Bonner**, mathematics; **Kate Dockery**, psychology; **Ramon Hinojosa**, sociology; **Robin Nuzum**, English; **Alegría Ribadeneira**, Spanish; **Jace Stuckey**, history; **Joemer Ta-ala**, linguistics; **Alison Van Nyhuis**, English; **Heather Walsh-Haney**, anthropology.

The top three ranked winners receive a Calvin A. VanderWerf Award established in memory of Professor VanderWerf, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from 1971 to 1978 and chemistry professor from 1978 to 1988, who served several years on the selection committee for the teaching awards. **Bonner** and **Ribadeneira** were two of the winners this year and will receive \$1,000. All other winners are awarded \$500.

McQuown Scholarships: 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 student recipients of \$4,000 to \$8,000

Lin Cassidy, geography

Kenly Fenio, political science

Lisa Hager, English

Fredline M'Cormack, political science

Ana Pomeroy, sociology

Undergraduate student recipients of \$500 to \$1,000

Emily Friend, English

Allison Kole, political science

Kristie Soares, women's studies

Jessica Weather, linguistics

CLASSC Gets Involved

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Student Council (CLASSC) is the representative body for all CLAS students and represents their interests and concerns when working with the administration. Our primary responsibility, however, is to manage budgets and provide guidance for our 27 member organizations.



Udall Foundation

Scholarship: Justin Bangs, a senior political science and history double major, has received a \$5,000 scholarship from the Morris K. Udall Foundation. The program recognizes outstanding juniors and seniors in fields related to the environment, and Bangs was one of 80 winners nationwide.

He has spent this spring as an intern in Washington, DC with the Student Conservation Association in the office of New Jersey Representative Steven Rothman. This summer he will intern with the National Parks Service in California.

All-USA College Academic Team:

Senior French and political science student **Eva Rosales** has received an honorable mention in the 2005 All-USA College Academic Team of *USA Today*. Rosales founded the student organization RECURSO, a non-profit group to help underprivileged children in underdeveloped countries. She also has served as cabinet director for community involvement with Student Government and service committee chair for the Student Honors Organization.

Four times a year, *USA Today* honors outstanding students and educators with the All-USA Academic and Teacher Teams. Rosales was one of 24 students nationwide to receive an honorable mention.

I am proud to say that after a brief period of inactivity, CLASSC has experienced a phenomenal growth during the past year. We began the academic year with 21 student organizations, most of which were geared towards undergraduate students. In nine months, however, we gained six new organizations, with four primarily designed for graduate students, illustrating our commitment to representing the entire student body within CLAS. Our organizations, unlike other college councils, vary greatly across the academic spectrum, ranging from the Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society to the Political Science Graduate Student Council to the Students in the Healing Arts. Through our member organizations and using Student Government funds, we have been able to bring 13 guest speakers to UF, host eight conferences here, send 95 students to conferences elsewhere, and have sponsored 10 other events on campus.

Internally, CLASSC has been able to put on a number of events itself. We participated in the Homecoming Parade for the second year in a row and plan to do so again this fall. We also organized our second Majors Fair this past

fall. Structured like an organizational fair, this event gives CLAS an opportunity to showcase its departments and centers to incoming and returning students who are undecided majors. It also gives our member organizations a chance to recruit new members among those who are already part of their department. Another recurring activity that CLASSC continued this year was the CLAS Hall of Fame. This award is given to six graduating seniors to recognize scholarship, campus involvement and leadership, and service to CLAS and UF. The award winners will be recognized in front of their peers at the undergraduate commencement ceremony on April 30.

In addition to continuing existing programs, CLASSC instituted three new events this year, all of which were aimed to increase our relationships with other organizations on campus. First, we held the Gator Town Hall Meeting with the Benton Engineering Council to facilitate student interaction with university administrators, including CLAS Dean Neil Sullivan, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Michael Rollo, CLAS Associate Dean for Student Affairs Albert Matheny, and Associate

Provost and Honors Program Director Sheila Dickison. Second, we held a spring barbecue with the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the Warrington College of Business. With more than 150 students in attendance, this event was a huge success. Finally, we brought in a speaker in conjunction with the Volunteers for International Student Affairs International Month to speak on the tsunami disaster in Eastern Asia and its impact on the communities of the region.

CLASSC is extremely proud of everything it and its member organizations have accomplished during the 2004-2005 academic year. We hope to continue in our endeavor to assist students of all levels in enhancing their collegiate experience. We encourage students to contact CLASSC if they would like more information on how to become involved or if they have any concerns they would like to see addressed in the future. Please visit our website at <http://grove.ufl.edu/~classc>.

—Kristin Detwiler
2004-2005 CLASSC President

2005-2006 CLASSC Officers: President, **Allison Cullin**, economics junior; Vice President, **William Beeson**, chemistry senior; Secretary, **Paul Boyd**, English junior; Treasurer, **Ryan Gassaway**, political science junior; Executives-at-Large: **Rebecca Guerra**, history senior; **Rachel Murphy**, criminology sophomore; and **Stacey Rubel**, political science junior

CLAS Faculty Receive Mentoring Awards

Two CLAS faculty members have each received a UF Doctoral Mentoring Award. Zoology Professor **Jane Brockmann** and Psychology Professor **Greg Neimeyer** 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.

Harrison Receives International Anthropology Award

Faye Harrison, a professor of African American studies and anthropology, has received the 2004 Society for the Anthropology of North America (SANA) Prize for Distinguished Achievement in the Critical Study of North America. The award is given annually in honor of a senior-level anthropologist who has made broad-based contributions to the field.

"She has the rare distinction of being a productive and respected scholar, an award-winning teacher and a beloved mentor, and a skilled leader who never loses sight of engaged activism," says Lee D. Baker, SANA president and Duke University cultural anthropologist. "I think if you look closely at the depth and breadth of her research, selfless service, and gallant leadership, there are very few scholars who can match her inestimable energy and impact on the discipline of anthropology."

Harrison officially will be presented the award at the 2005 annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Washington, DC to be held this fall.

New Student Group Promotes Diversity Awareness

A new student organization at UF aims to connect national and cultural organizations on campus and raise cultural awareness. The **Cultural House of Representatives** (CHR) held its first assembly in February. Twenty-eight organizations attended, ranging from the Jamaican Student Association and the Filipino Student Association to cultural student unions like the Pride Student Union to organizations that provide support for minorities such as Students Taking Action Against Racism.

Miguel Porto, a political science freshman, developed the idea for the CHR and serves as its president. He says there are many benefits to student organizations that want to join, including leadership training, networking, workshops and access to a master database of events on campus to prevent overlapping activities.

The CHR plans to hold another assembly in September. Visit <http://grove.ufl.edu/~chr> for more information.

Around the College



The honorees gathered after the pin service ceremony for a group photo.

CLAS Staff Honored for Excellence and Service

John Mocko, a senior teaching laboratory specialist in the physics department, has received a 2005 UF Davis Productivity Award, which is given to individuals and work units for initiating new projects as well as adapting and implementing previous years' achievements to create added value. Mocko, who received a \$1,000 cash award, was recognized for acquiring and installing a student response system to be used in instruction throughout UF.

Cindy Powell, an accountant in the psychology department, has received a university-wide Superior Accomplishment Award. The program recognizes staff and faculty members who have contributed outstanding and meritorious service to the university and have improved the quality of life for students and employees. Powell won in the administrative/supervisory category and received \$1,500 and an invitation to the President's Box during an upcoming UF football game.

In April, CLAS honored its employees for their commitment and years of service to the university at a reception in the Keene Faculty Center. CLAS Dean **Neil Sullivan** offered words of gratitude and encouragement. Recognized employees received a UF pin and certificate, as well as a CLAS pen and keychain. The following 46 staff members were recognized for their years of service to CLAS and UF. 5 years: **David Hon**, **Roger Julian** and **Tracey Phillips**, astronomy; **Denise Caswell** and **Margaret Joyner**, botany; **Dianne James**, **Oleg Matveev** and **Renda Springs**, chemistry; **Linda Hunter** and **Addie Pons**, communication sciences and disorders; **Luz Mieses**, dean's office; **Kevin Hartl** and **Mary Ploch**, geological sciences; **John Vanleer**, physics; **Elizabeth Holcomb**, psychology. 10 years: **Joanne Jacobucci** and **Julie Ann Steffens**, chemistry; **Cindy Carrion**, dean's office; **Brian Roberts**, mathematics; **Suzanne Lawless-Yanchisin**, political science; **Anne Newman**, religion; **Terry Lopez**, Romance languages and literatures; **Paula Ambroso**, women's studies; **Mike Gunter**, zoology. 15 years: **Annemarie Sykes**, Germanic and Slavic studies; **Virginia Dampier**, philosophy; **Edward Storch**, physics; **Mircea Garcea** and **Leonard McDonald**, psychology; **Karen Pallone**, zoology. 20 years: **Debra Hunter**, astronomy; **Marty Swilley**, Jewish studies; **Sharon Easter**, mathematics; **Cathy Knudsen**, physics; **Carlton Elton**, Romance languages and literatures; **Cathy Moore**, zoology. 25 years: **L. Beth Douglas**, chemistry; **Carol Binello**, dean's office; **Dori Faust** and **Lawrence Phelps**, physics; **Henry Coulter**, **Diana Davis**, **Peter Eliazar** and **Kenetha Johnson**, zoology. 30 years: **Cheryl Phillips**, psychology. 35 years: **Carol Rozear**, statistics.

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

Academic Advising Center

The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) has honored **Sara Mock** with a 2005 NACADA Outstanding New Advisor Award. She will be recognized at the special awards ceremony during the annual NACADA conference in Las Vegas in October. Mock, a pre-law advisor, is one of the 2004 CLAS Advisors of the Year.

AAC advisors **Brian Cullaty** and **Glenn Kepic** have received a NACADA Best of Region Conference Presentation award. In March, the pair presented "Parents: Friend or Foe," which addressed the increase they have seen in parental involvement at UF. They will make their presentation again in Las Vegas at the annual conference.

African American Studies

Marilyn Thomas-Houston, who is jointly appointed in anthropology, was featured in the Winter 2004/2005 issue of *FlaVour*, a black Florida life and style magazine, in a five-page feature on her research and new book, *Stony the Road to Change: Black Mississippians and the Culture of Social Relations* (Cambridge University Press, November 2004).

Anthropology

Susan Gillespie presented a paper on Olmec culture at the Olmec Round Table: Balance and Perspectives conference sponsored by the National Institute of Anthropology and History at the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City in March.

David C. Grove also was the keynote speaker for the panel on Olmec religion. The Olmecs were an ancient culture of the East Mexico lowlands.

Chemistry

Charles Martin has received the 2005 Florida Award from the American Chemical Society, in honor of his contributions to the advancement of the chemistry profession. Established in 1952, the award is given each year by the vote of the Florida section of the society and honors a chemist in the Southeast. Martin will be recognized at the Florida annual meeting and exposition in Orlando on May 5–7, where a symposium centered around his research interests will be held in his honor.

Criminology, Law and Society

An article by **Paul Magnarella**, titled "Diasporas and Human Rights," appears in the newly released *Encyclopedia of Diasporas: Immigrant and Refugee Cultures Around the World* (2004).

Germanic and Slavic Studies

Nora M. Alter (German) recently presented "Acoustic Dimensions: Sound in Sculpture and Film" at the 2005 annual College Art Association conference in Atlanta.

History

PhD candidate **Ben Houston** has received a dissertation fellowship from the Louisville Institute funded by the Lilly Endowment. Up to 10 awards of \$18,000 each are given to students who are entering their final year of dissertation writing. Houston's research is a study of race relations and civil rights activism in Nashville from 1945–1974. His dissertation chair is **Brian Ward**.

Sheryl Kroen has received a Frederick Burkhardt Residential

Fellowship for Recently Tenured Scholars from the American Council of Learned Societies, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The \$75,000 award will allow Kroen to work on her proposed research project, "Capitalism and Democracy: The Lessons of the Marshall Plan," during the 2006–2007 academic year in residence at the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park, NC. She also received a \$30,000 fellowship from the German Marshall Fund to work on the same project in Paris next year.

Physics

Lisa Everett, a postdoctoral research associate, has received a 2005 Women in Science Fellowship from L'Oreal USA. She was one of five young women from across the nation selected to receive the \$20,000 fellowship and was honored at a special ceremony on April 12 at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Everett researches the theories of fermion masses with mentor **Pierre Ramond**.

Stephen Hagen has been elected to the executive committee of the American Physical Society's Division of Biological Physics. The committee is responsible for overseeing all activities of the division, including giving members a voice within the larger society, organizing the division's section at annual meetings, outreach and nominating members for fellowships and prizes. Hagen was elected as a member-at-large and will serve a three-year term, which began during the division's annual meeting in Los Angeles in late March.

Two undergraduate students, **Catherine Yeh** and **Layla Boosherhri** have each received a 2005–2006 Society of Physics Students (SPS) leadership scholarship. Each year, the national organization recognizes physics undergraduates who have achieved high levels of scholarship in both physics and overall studies, exhibited potential for continued scholastic development in physics and actively participated in SPS programs. Boosherhri is the president of UF's SPS chapter, and Yeh is the vice president.

Psychology

Claire St. Peter, a PhD student, has received a 2005 Sidney W. and Janet R. Bijou Fellowship from the Association for Behavior Analysis. The award is given annually to two doctoral students in psychology or education studying child development from a behavior-analytic perspective. St. Peter, who received her BS in psychology from UF in 2001, is working under the supervision of **Timothy Vollmer**, and her research centers on the development and implementation of interventions for children who exhibit problem behavior or have fallen behind academically.

Romance Languages and Literatures

Álvaro Félix Bolaños (Spanish) recently took part in a symposium titled "Reinventing Hispanism in the Age of Globalization," organized by the Center for the Study of Cultures and the Department of Hispanic Studies at Rice University. He lectured on "Hispanism and its Literary Icon's Exclusions: Moors and Indigenous Peoples in Reading *Don Quixote* Today."

Grants

Disney Lends UF a Hand

When a gator wants to help a turtle he calls on a mouse. Not just any mouse, but *the* mouse, Mickey Mouse. And it's not just any gator either, but the University of Florida, home to the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research. The center is striving to find innovative ways to save and increase the earth's endangered sea turtle populations and has received support from the Disney Wildlife Conservation Fund over the years.

Since 1998, shortly after its inception, the wildlife fund began awarding \$10,000–20,000 grants each year in support of research conducted by the director of the center, Zoology Professor Karen Bjorndal, and Research Assistant Professor Alan Bolten. Disney has allocated more than \$170,000 to the center to date, which the husband and wife research duo has used in support of numerous projects directly resulting in 14 published papers. The center, in turn, has shared its expertise with the Walt Disney World Resort.

"What makes the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research special is the high quality of work, the results they get and the positive impact they have on sea turtle conservation," says Anne Savage, conservation biologist at Disney's Animal Kingdom. "And the thing that is wonderful about Karen and Alan is that they have been great about sharing their knowledge and helping train the next generation."



A Winning Combination: Director of the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research Karen Bjorndal (center) was recently named the university's 14th Distinguished Alumni Professor. The award is given annually to a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in both teaching and scholarly activity. Bjorndal was chosen from a group of professors who have taught at UF for at least 10 years and also have worked to benefit the university and made contributions at local, state and national levels. She will work with the Alumni Association in the recruitment of National Merit Scholars and help with university outreach programs. Bjorndal is pictured above with Randolph "Casper" Burrows (left) and Henry Nixon (right), wardens of the Bahamas National Trust Park.

The center, which is housed in the Department of Zoology, brings together sea turtle biologists from across campus to conduct research, train graduate students and further conservation by sharing research results with the scientific community. Affiliate faculty come from not only the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, but also the colleges of Medicine, Veterinary Medicine and Agricultural and Life Sciences. The team meets monthly and also organizes international conferences with other scientists in the field.

"We have a very broad program," says Bjorndal. "We look at the genetic structure of sea turtle populations and different demographic parameters, such as growth, survival and immigration, in order to better develop models of population dynamics that are so important for developing management programs

for sea turtles."

Disney grants have funded all aspects of Bjorndal and Bolten's research, including their work on the "lost year" phenomenon, in which they use satellite telemetry to track where juvenile turtles spend their first year of life. The grants also have funded their recent work on the role of sea turtles in ecosystems. "This is very important," Bjorndal says. "Since all sea turtle species are now endangered, they appear as charming anachronistic leftovers of previous populations and are not seen as critical to the function of ecosystems today. In reality, sea turtles were once the major predators in marine ecosystems and had tremendous impacts before humans came in and totally destroyed their population."

Through their research and experience, Bjorndal and Bolten have helped governments designate protected areas for sea turtles and set up guidelines for the fishing industry to better handle turtles caught as by-catch in shrimp nets and hooked on swordfish and shark lines. They also have lent expert advice to Walt Disney World, particularly to The Living Seas aquarium at Epcot, which takes in injured or stranded sea turtles and rehabilitates and releases them back into the wild. "One of the things about Disney that has made me enjoy working with them is that they understand there is a right way and wrong way to do things, and they like to do it right," Bolten says.

—Buffy Lockette

Grants through the Division of Sponsored Research January—March 2005 Total: \$10,884,154

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

Imperfect Sympathies: Jews and Judaism in British Romantic Literature and Culture

Judith W. Page (English & Jewish Studies), Palgrave Macmillan

Judith Page, a scholar of the poet William Wordsworth, came to sympathy by a round-about route. While working on an obscure poem by the poet called “A Jewish Family,” she uncovered an unpublished journal by Wordsworth’s daughter which discusses the real family. “I became curious,” she says.



Judith W. Page

“What did Wordsworth think of Jews and did he have any kind of contact with Jews?”

For the 18th century, sympathy was a way of viewing the world, says Page. When people spoke about human action and behavior they often used sympathy as a point of reference. “The Romantics picked it up and even extended the notion by politicizing it, so it gets connected in the imagination of the period with political revolution and growing democracy. The interesting question to ask is how does it relate to that culture’s treatment of others and how others’ lives are imagined.”

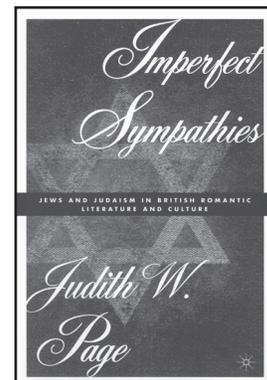
Page, an associate professor of English and interim director of the Center for Jewish Studies, used canonical writers and Jewish writers of the period to explore Jewish relationships to Englishness. She was struck by the limitations of sympathy; for the non-Jewish writers an endorsement of sympathy was tied to a strong ambivalence about Jews and Judaism. “Jews presented a difficult challenge—they were part of the culture, not some distant colonized other. Jews couldn’t win either way; well-dressed Jews were criticized for trying to be like Englishmen, and the poorer, less well-dressed Jews were demeaned because they were poorer and did not speak English well. In theory, sympathy worked very well, but specific instances presented a challenge.”

Page found Edmund Kean’s Shylock in the *Merchant of Venice* to be one of the most intriguing and successful examples of Romantic sympathy for the outcast. For William Hazlitt, the critic and political radical, writing about Kean as Shylock was a pivotal moment, says Page. “It’s as if he takes the inspiration of seeing Kean and develops the possibility of civil emancipation of Jews from the dignity he finds in the *Merchant of Venice*. In a more general sense it is a kind of conver-

gence between psychology and philosophy of sympathy with the revolutionary ideas that the Romantics embraced.”

Closer to our own times, Page believes a personal connection with sympathy brought many post-Holocaust scholars to the Romantics. She realized that the scholars who influenced her most when she began her career were all Jewish. In trying to answer why, Page found the idea of sympathy important. “In Wordsworth there is this sense that sympathetic connection is a way of repairing loss. There is a real tragic sense of loss that pervades the Romantics. But there is also a constant attempt to find a way to repair the world and bring wholeness to it, very much in line with a major Jewish idea that we are placed in a world that is shattered and that part of human responsibility is to find a way to begin to repair it. I think that these writers in the mid part of the 20th century were attracted to that.”

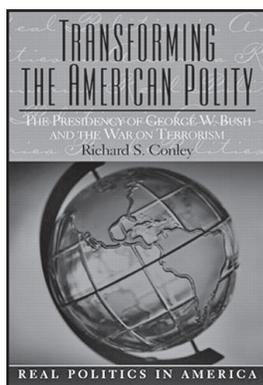
— Michal Meyer



Transforming the American Polity: The Presidency of George W. Bush and the War on Terrorism

Edited by **Richard S. Conley** (Political Science), Pearson Prentice Hall

The horrific events of September 11, 2001 fundamentally altered the course of American politics. As the symbols of the nation’s economic and military power came under attack in New York and Washington, the presidency of George W. Bush was swiftly transformed into a wartime administration. Many factors—including Bush’s use of prerogatives as commander in chief, Congress’s delegation of broad authority to him, and his political skill—decisively shifted the balance in the constitutional order to the White House. Evaluating Bush’s use of constitutional and extraconstitutional power in the first wartime presidency of the 21st century, and the impact on governance, is the objective of the contributions in this volume.



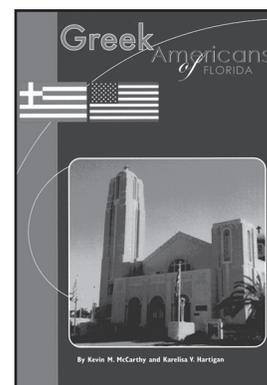
—Book introduction

Greek Americans of Florida

Kevin McCarthy (English) and **Karelisa V. Hartigan** (Classics/Greek Studies), Whitehall Printing Company

A study of the Greeks and Greek Americans in Florida is long overdue. That history has several unique points. It can claim the site of the first large-scale Greek immigration to the New World (New Smyrna Beach), the only National Shrine of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America (St. Photios National Greek Orthodox Shrine), the one true Greek village in the United States (Tarpon Springs), and a vibrancy that has seen more than thirty parishes established in the state. This is the story of one of the many immigrant groups that came to Florida: the Greeks.

—Book introduction



Join Us for Spring 2005 Graduation

CLAS Dean Neil Sullivan invites all faculty, staff and students to attend the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Spring 2005 commencement ceremonies. For the first time, the college will hold two ceremonies. The undergraduate commencement takes place Saturday, April 30 at 9 am in the Stephen C. O'Connell Center. The CLAS Hall of Fame, CLAS valedictorians, CLAS Teachers and Advisors of the Year and UF Outstanding Leaders and Scholars will be recognized.

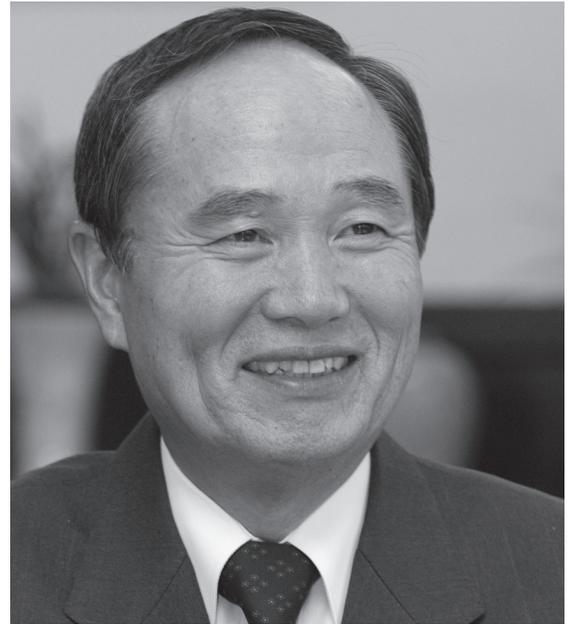
The CLAS graduate ceremony honoring master's and PhD students is at 7 pm on April 30 in the Curtis M. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. The college will present 1974 political science PhD graduate Byong Man Ahn with a UF Distinguished Alumni Award, and Ahn will be the ceremony's keynote speaker.

Ahn is recognized as a national leader in South Korea and throughout the world for his innovative approach to language instruction and research. He is currently the president of Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, one of the premier institutions of higher education in Korea. He is the first president elected to serve a second four-year term, and during his tenure he has

developed top-notch programs, including the Department of Information and Communication, the Graduate School of Global Business and the Campus Faculty Research Center.

The college also will present the first CLAS Distinguished Scholar Award to UF Graduate Research Professor of Mathematics John Thompson at the evening ceremony. Dean Sullivan created the award to honor the lifetime achievements of outstanding faculty members.

Thompson, who came to UF in 1993, received the Fields Medal in 1970, the highest prize in mathematics, equivalent in prestige to the Nobel Prize. In 2001, former US President Bill Clinton presented Thompson with the National Medal of Science in a special ceremony



UF Distinguished Alumnus **Byong Man Ahn** (PhD, political science, 1974) will be the graduate ceremony's keynote speaker.

at the White House. According to the National Science Foundation, which administers the awards, Thompson is "considered a world leader in algebra and a foremost group theorist."

If you have questions about the CLAS commencement ceremonies, please visit www.clas.ufl.edu/events/commencement/spring or call the dean's office at 392-0780.



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