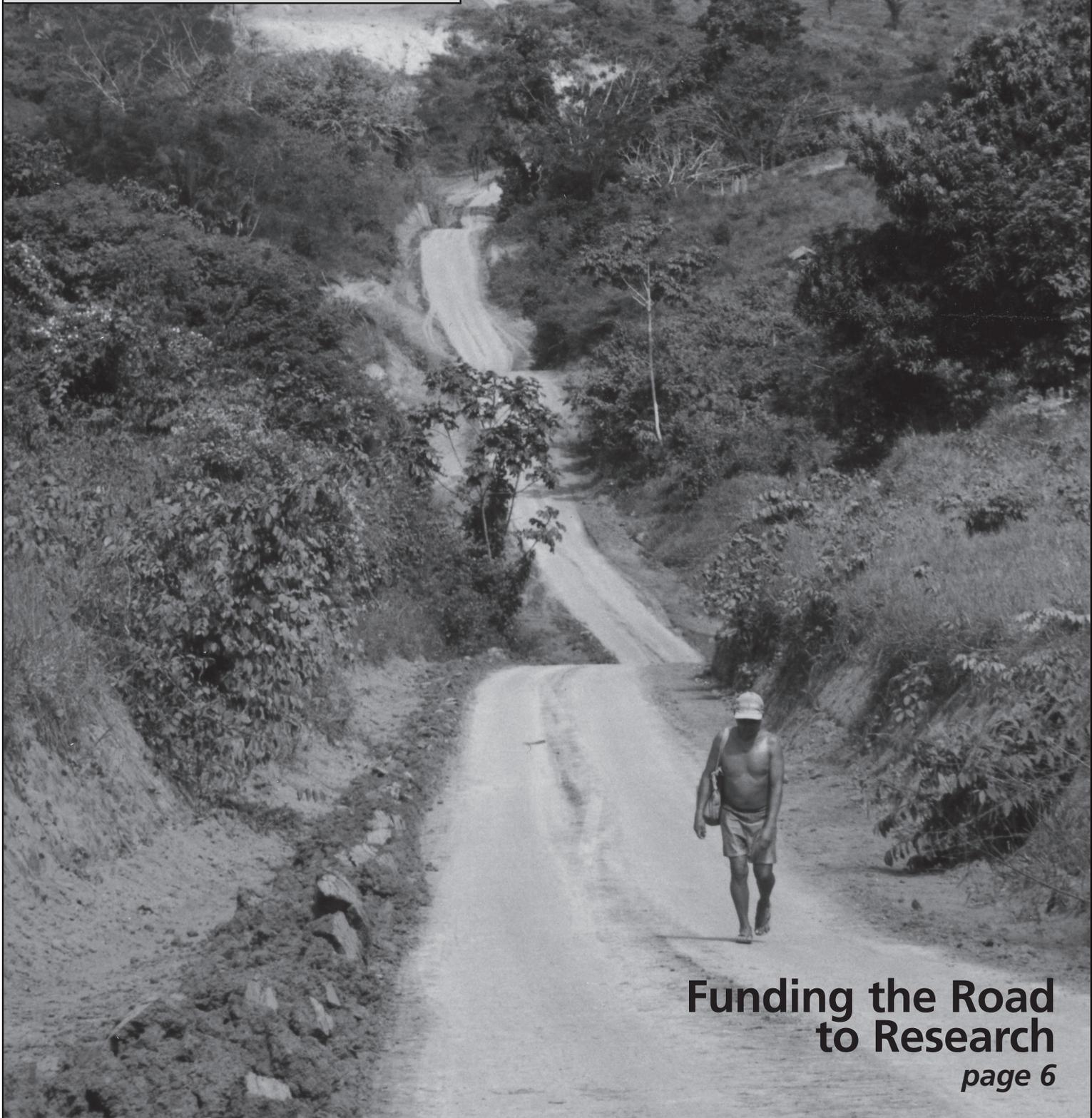


November 2005
Volume 19

CLASnotes

The University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



**Funding the Road
to Research**
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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!



The Foundation for The Gator Nation.

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

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The Dean's Musings

Research Thrives in CLAS

While maintaining the quality of our educational programs is very important to our college, the growth of our research endeavors—especially in modern interdisciplinary areas, with a subsequent growth of graduate students—has been our major focus in recent years. Our success in building nationally recognized research activities will, in large measure, determine the advancement of the college in national rankings.

By all accounts, whether by individual investigation awards, new center initiatives or cross-college collaborations, CLAS researchers continue to be successful, boasting one of the largest percent increases in grant money of any cluster at UF. In fact, our college has seen a steady increase in the number of research dollars since 2000 and an even sharper increase in federal grants, jumping from \$18.7 million in 1999–2000 to \$39.3 million in 2004–2005 (see page 6).

While awards from federal agencies account for 90 percent of our college's grant dollars, the humanities and social sciences have successfully sought major research funds in new areas and have been largely successful in securing federal grants and support from major foundations and groups. These awards are highly competitive, and it is a testament to the growth of our research programs that we now have a number of prestigious awards from philanthropic foundations.

The hallmark of our recent research strengths has been the integration of research and education programs that introduce undergraduate students to research at an early stage in their careers and foster multi-disciplinary interactions that can not be created by any single, traditional department.

UF must take the lead in developing fundamental research studies if we are to continue to build the state's economy. The research efforts in CLAS are key to establishing and maintaining long-lasting relationships with individuals and groups at the local, state, national and international levels.

Neil Sullivan
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On the Cover:

A farmer walks along a road in Brazil which soon after was widened and paved in 2002, resulting in the TransOceanic Highway near the tri-national frontier border Brazil shares with Peru and Bolivia. UF sociologist Stephen Perz and colleagues have received federally-funded research grants to study this area and find out what new roads and road paving will mean for the future of the Amazon.
See page 6.

COVER PHOTO BY STEPHEN PERZ



UF's Nobel Prize Winning Connections

Robert H. Grubbs, who earned degrees in chemistry from UF, has received the 2005 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. An organic chemist whose work on catalysis has led to a wide variety of applications in medicine and industry, Grubbs is currently the Victor and Elizabeth Atkins Professor of Chemistry at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. He shares the award with Yves Chauvin, a professor at the Institut Français du Pétrole in Rueil-Malmaison, France, and Richard Schrock, a professor of chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The winners will split a \$1.3 million prize, which will be presented in December at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden.

The trio was cited specifically for “the development of the metathesis method in organic synthesis.” Metathesis is an organic reaction in which chemists selectively strip out certain atoms in a compound and replace them with atoms that were previously part of another compound. The end result is a custom-built molecule that has specialized properties, which can lead to better drugs for the treatment of disease or better electrical conducting properties for specialized plastics, for example.

In particular, Grubbs has worked on olefin metathesis. Prior to his work, metathesis was poorly understood and of limited value to scientists. Grubbs developed powerful new catalysts for metathesis that enabled custom synthesis of valuable molecules, such as pharmaceuticals and new polymers with novel materials properties.

Grubbs earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from UF in 1963 and 1965, respectively. After completing his PhD in chemistry at Columbia University, he spent a year at Stanford University as a postdoctoral fellow and then joined the Michigan State University faculty in 1969. He has taught at Caltech since 1978.

As a UF student working in an animal nutrition lab, Grubbs was convinced

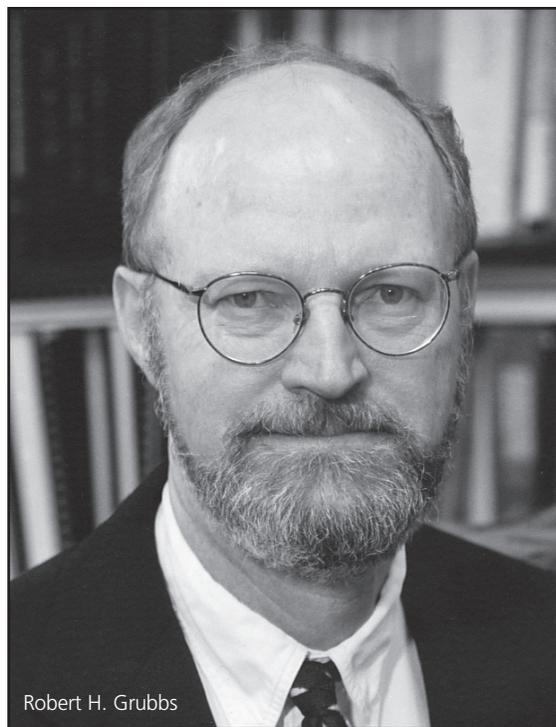
by a friend to work with Chemistry Professor Merle Battiste. To Grubbs' surprise, he enjoyed working in a chemistry lab. “I liked the mechanical aspects of working in the lab and the combination of physical and intellectual challenges,” he says. Battiste, who is now a professor emeritus of chemistry, became Grubbs' advisor.

The two will have the chance to see each other again soon. Grubbs received 15 tickets to the Nobel awards dinner in Stockholm, and Battiste will be among his guests.

Grubbs has been a member of the National Academy of Sciences since 1989, and was the 2000 recipient of the Benjamin Franklin Medal. He is the second UF graduate to receive a Nobel Prize. The first was Marshall Nirenberg, who earned a bachelor's degree from UF in 1948 and a master's degree in zoology in 1952.

In 1968 Nirenberg was honored with the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his investigations with the National Institutes of Health that led to the demonstration that messenger RNA (ribonucleic acid) is required for protein synthesis and can be used to decipher various aspects of the genetic code.

Another UF connection to a Nobel Prize this year is the 2005 Nobel Prize



Robert H. Grubbs

COURTESY CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

in Physics, partially awarded to Roy Glauber, the Mallinckrodt Professor of Physics at Harvard University “for his contribution to the quantum theory of optical coherence.”

UF Physics and Mathematics Professor John Klauder helped to work out the mathematical theory of this phenomenon.

Part of the citation reads: “The mathematical formalism of quantized fields was developed in parallel with Glauber's work on their applications. E.C.G. Sudarshan drew attention to the use of coherent state representations for the approach to classical physics; at this point he refers to Glauber's work. Together with J.R. Klauder he proceeded to develop the mathematical formalism of Quantum Optics; their approach is presented in their textbook. After the initial contributions, many authors applied Glauber's results to the rapidly evolving experimental situation in optical physics, thus creating the field today called ‘Quantum Optics.’”

The book by Klauder and Sudarshan titled *Fundamentals of Quantum Optics* is considered a classic in the field and was originally published in 1968. It will soon be reprinted by Dover Press.

Klauder has known Glauber for many years. “We have met at many conferences over the years,” says Klauder, who received his PhD from Princeton University in 1959. “Since Glauber's original work was done more than 40 years ago, I must admit I was surprised that he received the award now. Naturally, I am pleased for him and for the recognition that this award brings to the field of quantum optics.”

—Allyson A. Beutke

CLAS Welcomes New Faculty

John Chambers is an assistant professor in the psychology department. He received a PhD from the University of Iowa in 2005, and his area of specialization is social psychology.



Chambers' research interests involve how people make inferences about their own and other people's abilities, traits, and risks for events. He also examines the illusions and biases that characterize people's judgments about themselves and others. He plans to teach a graduate-level social psychology course and a judgment and decision-making course to advanced undergraduates.

H. Wind Cowles is an assistant professor in the linguistics program who earned her PhD in cognitive science and linguistics from the University of California, San Diego in 2003. Before coming to UF, she was a postdoctoral research fellow in the psychology department at the University of Sussex, England and a visiting faculty member in linguistics at the University of California, San Diego.



Cowles' research interests involve how people produce and comprehend sentences as part of a larger discourse. In particular, her work has focused on the interaction of information structure categories like topic and focus with the processing of syntactic structure and coreferential category terms. This fall, she is teaching Psycholinguistics and a graduate seminar on sentence and discourse processing.

Atiqa Hachimi is an assistant professor in the African and Asian languages and literatures department. She completed her PhD in spring 2005 at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and specializes in Arabic sociolinguistics, with a particular focus on North Africa. Prior to UF, Hachimi directed and coordinated the Arabic Language Program at the University of Hawaii, where she also was an instructor of Arabic language and culture.



Hachimi's research interests include Arabic sociolinguistics, language and dialect contact and change in complex multilingual settings, particularly in North Africa, and language and gender. This fall, she is teaching Arabic 1 and 2 and plans to teach Arabic Sociolinguistics and Arabic 3 during the spring semester.

Corene Matyas, an assistant professor of geography, earned her PhD from The Pennsylvania State University, focusing on climatology, in 2005. Before coming to UF she served as a graduate lecturer at Penn State and a visiting assistant professor at Ohio University.



While Matyas' research interests include all types of severe weather and natural hazards in general, her current work focuses on hurricanes. Specifically, she is investigating the use of geographical methods such as GIS and the calculation of shape indices to quantify tropical cyclone rainfall patterns. Her long-term goal is to develop a model to forecast these rainfall patterns as storms make landfall. She teaches Climatology and Weather and Forecasting and also is developing a course on hurricanes for fall 2006.

Kenneth Merz is a professor in the Department of Chemistry and a member of the Quantum Theory Project. He comes to UF from The Pennsylvania State University, where he had taught since 1989. From 1998 to 2001, he also held positions at Pharmacoopia, Incorporated, a drug development company.



Merz earned his PhD in organic chemistry in 1985 from the University of Texas at Austin and held postdoctoral fellowships at Cornell University and the University of California, San Francisco. His research interests include computational chemistry and biology, and he is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the editorial board for the *Journal of Molecular Modeling*. At UF, he is teaching Physical Chemistry and Organic Chemistry.

Aneta Petkova is an assistant professor in the physics department. She earned a PhD in chemical physics in 2000 from Brandeis University and, before arriving at UF, was a research fellow at the National Institutes of Health, holding a postdoctoral research fellowship there from 2000 to 2004.



Petkova's research interests are in experimental biophysics, in particular protein folding and amyloid folding. Her group will be using solid state nuclear magnetic resonance and other spectroscopic techniques to study membrane and amyloid-forming peptides and proteins. She is teaching Physics with Calculus 2.

Maria Portuondo is an assistant professor of history who earned a PhD in the history of science and technology from The Johns Hopkins University in 2005. Prior to entering graduate school, she worked as an electrical engineer for 12 years, holding a BS in electrical engineering from the University of Miami.



Portuondo's research interests include early modern European science and technology, 16th and 17th century Spain, invention and technology, and science and exploration. She is teaching *The Practice of Science During the Scientific Revolution and New Lands*, *New Science: Exploration and Science*.

Helena Alves Rodrigues is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science with a joint appointment in the Center for Latin American Studies. She earned her PhD from the University of Iowa in 2005, and her area of specialization is Latino politics, particularly Latino political participation and the political circumstances of Latino immigrants in the US.



Rodrigues' research interests are within American politics and political behavior, including minority politics and minority political power. This fall, she is teaching *Latino Politics in the United States*. In the spring, she will teach *Politics and Public Opinion* and *Introduction to Latino Studies*.

Raúl Sánchez is an associate professor of English. He comes to UF from the University of Utah and specializes in composition studies. He received his PhD from the University of South Florida, and his research interests include composition theory and critical theory.



In 2005, Sánchez published *The Function of Theory in Composition Studies* through SUNY Press. This semester, he is teaching a variable topic course called *The End of Identity and the Beginning of Writing*.

Jonathan Tan is an assistant professor in the astronomy department who received his PhD in astrophysics from the University of California at Berkeley in 2001. He held postdoctoral research fellowships at Princeton University from 2001 to 2004 and also at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich from 2004 to 2005.



Tan's research is focused on the origin of stellar systems, ranging from the very first objects that formed in the universe following the Big Bang to local star clusters such as in the Orion Nebula. This semester he is teaching *Discover the Universe*, with plans of teaching the graduate course, *High Energy Astrophysics*, in the spring.

Brigitte Weltman-Aron is an associate professor of French in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures. She received a PhD in French from the University of Southern California in 1991, and her two main areas of specialization are the Enlightenment and 20th-century Francophone studies.



Weltman-Aron comes to UF from the University of Memphis, where she served as an associate professor of French from 2000 to 2005. Her research primarily focuses on literature—often through a feminist or postcolonial approach—and she is currently investigating French colonialism and cultural representations of Algeria through the works of contemporary Algerian women writers and of French women who grew up in Algeria. She is teaching undergraduate and graduate courses on Francophone language, literature and culture.

Ed White is an associate professor in the English department. He received a PhD from Cornell University in 1998 and taught at Louisiana State University for six years before coming to UF. He specializes in colonial American literature and culture, with an emphasis on transcultural contact.



White has a book in press titled *The Backcountry and the City: Colonization and Conflict in Early America*. He is teaching an undergraduate course on myth and historical writing and a graduate seminar on public opinion in 18th-century America.

Funding the Road to Research

Interdisciplinary collaborations boost federal grants for CLAS

Dreaming about roads is what keeps Stephen Perz awake at night. The associate professor of sociology has received five grants to date to help solve a simple question with complex answers: What happens when you build a road in the middle of the Amazon?

“I came out of graduate school as a social demographer studying environmental issues,” he says. “The more I studied various populations, the more I started to see the larger picture in terms of how populations use and, in some cases, abuse the land, and how they impact the environment and vice versa.”

Since 2001, Perz has collaborated with colleagues in many disciplines playing the research grant lottery and hitting the jackpot five times, receiving more than \$800,000 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and NASA to fund research in Amazonian portions of Brazil, Bolivia and Peru.

Perz makes up a growing number of CLAS faculty who are applying for and often receiving federally funded research dollars. For the 2004–2005 fiscal year, CLAS experienced a 26 percent increase in federal awards, and the current fiscal year is no different according to the college’s associate director of research and grants, Margaret Fields. “External funding awards from federal

agencies has continued to increase during the first quarter of the new fiscal year,” she says. “We have a total of \$13,424,934 from federal agencies that represents 90 percent of total awards to date.”

Last year, UF garnered \$494 million in research funding, and CLAS accounted for roughly 10 percent with \$47.4 million, behind the Health Science Center with \$257.1 million (52 percent), the College of Engineering with \$63.3 million (13 percent) and IFAS with \$84.4 million (17 percent). All other UF colleges and units earned a combined \$41.8 million (8 percent).

“When research grants are talked about in a liberal arts and sciences college, the traditional hard sciences tend to get more attention,” says CLAS Associate Dean for Research Lou Guillette. “While they do bring in big dollars, there is a growing trend in the number of faculty within the social sciences and humanities applying for and obtaining federal grants, and many times their

research proposals are quite interdisciplinary, pooling expertise from across departments and colleges, which I think accounts for much of their success.”

Perz is working with colleagues in CLAS, including geographer Jane Southworth, as well as faculty and graduate students in other colleges at UF who meet regularly as the “ROADIES” working group. Perz also has colleagues at other US universities, including Michigan State and Columbia, as well as several universities in South America, all teaming up in what he describes as a complex series of projects.

“Essentially, we’re looking at how, where and why people build roads, and what new roads and road paving will mean for the future of the Amazon in terms of positive and negative social and environmental processes,” explains Perz. While roads in the Amazon are generally built to gain access to natural resources, the specific resources sought, the benefits they bring to local communities, and the ecological implications of exploiting them differ from place to place.

“Roads help people earn livelihoods, but they can also cause social conflicts and degrade the ecosystems on which local residents depend,” he says. The Amazon has enormous biological diversity, so road-building projects are prompting new conservation efforts, making the region especially important for us to be

studying right now.” A section Perz is particularly interested in is known as the MAP region, made up of areas in three countries that are dealing with road-related issues—Madre de Dios (Peru), Acre (Brazil) and Pando (Bolivia). “When the TransOceanic Highway is finished there, the MAP region will be linked to both Atlantic and Pacific ports, and through them exposed to the global economy, which is hungry for natural resources.” Perz says MAP is the



UF Geographer Abe Goldman interviews farmers who live near Kibale National Park in Uganda.

most biodiverse region in the world, and the stage is now set for unprecedented changes there. “The question is whether changes facilitated by roads will improve or worsen forest conservation, economic performance and social equity. MAP now has a social movement to address these issues through participatory environmental planning, and that movement is calling for more research on which it can base its planning proposals to ensure the best possible outcomes.”

More research is what Perz would like to pursue, as well as focus on establishing networks among scientists. “There is a clear science agenda here. We’re working with faculty and students from four universities in Brazil, Peru and Bolivia. There are many social actors in this complex scene, so we have to get the social scientists down there talking to the botanists, and the residents talking to the scientists, and the politicians listening to and understanding the science.”

The social actors in UF Geography Professor Abe Goldman’s research portray a wilder side—chimpanzees, monkeys and an occasional elephant. Goldman, Southworth and UF geographer Michael Binford, as well as former UF zoologists Colin and Lauren Chapman, have received a two-year \$166,000 grant from the NSF, with additional funding from CLAS and UF. They are working with colleagues at the Universities of Colorado and North Carolina and with Ugandan and Tanzanian researchers to study farmers and others in landscapes around national parks in Tanzania and Uganda.

The group has chosen Kibale National Park in western Uganda and Tarangire National Park in northern Tanzania, and the research includes extensive interviews with farmers and other land users, surveys of land use and land cover, analysis of satellite imagery dating back over three decades, and sampling of plant and animal species in the same areas to assess biodiversity conditions outside the parks.

“One of the innovative features of the project is the use of a uniform spatial sampling scheme for data collection across the disciplinary components of the project,” explains Goldman. “Farmer interviews, surveys, and biological sampling are all based in a set of randomly selected nine hectare ‘superpixels,’ which are randomly dispersed through the landscapes of the



UF Sociologist Stephen Perz stands in front of a sign in Assis, Brazil near the tri-national frontier where Brazil, Bolivia and Peru meet. At right is the the TransOceanic Highway before it was widened and paved. When completed, it will link the tri-national frontier to the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

COURTESY STEPHEN PERZ

research areas.”

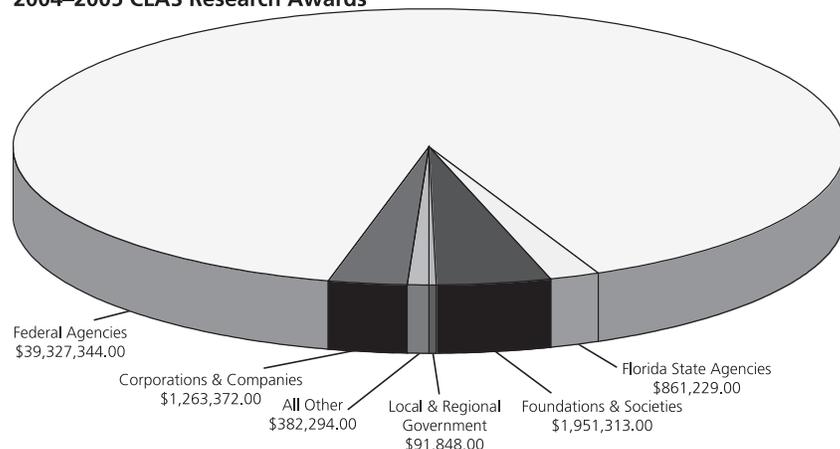
Goldman credits the group’s interdisciplinary approach to obtaining the grant on the first try. “By combining work by geographers, anthropologists, and zoologists, I think we were quite successful in integrating the various disciplinary components,” says Goldman. “This is one of the critical features of a successful interdisciplinary proposal, and it requires a lot of time and usually many iterations of working together. It took us more than a year of working together to complete the proposal, but the end result paid off.”

At the end of the day, Perz says his sleepless nights are for a good

cause. “I’m doing all this to advance a model of environmental science that is interdisciplinary enough to take the social sciences seriously,” he says. “Ideally, research should be paired with democratic processes for environmental governance, as facilitated by popular social movements to which policymakers will listen. This means that research must be directly linked with investments in building regional universities to strengthen their ties to stakeholders, politicians and state agencies. Otherwise, governance, sustainability and similar notions about a sound environmental future are pretty words, but nothing more.”

—Allyson A. Beutke

2004–2005 CLAS Research Awards



COURTESY MARGARET FIELDS

Mark Your Calendar

The next CLAS Assembly is Wednesday, November 16 at 4 pm in room 282 of the Reitz Union. Dean **Neil Sullivan** will discuss the state of the college, and Interim Dean of the Graduate School **Kenneth Gerhardt** will talk about graduate education at UF.

CLAS Scientists Named AAAS Fellows

Physics Professor **Arthur Hebard** and Chemistry Professor **Weihong Tan** have been awarded the distinction of Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) along with 374 other scientists this year. The association annually elevates its top members to the rank of Fellow in recognition of their distinguished efforts in the advancement of science. To date, 24 UF faculty have received this honor.

Hebard, who has been a physics professor at UF since 1996, specializes in condensed matter. In his awards citation from the AAAS, he is honored for his “seminal studies in thin-film physics, especially in magnetism, dilute magnetic semiconductors, fullerenes and superconductors.” Much of Hebard’s work is done through the facilities of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, and he has been issued six US patents.

Tan also has taught at UF since 1996. His areas of specialty are bioanalytical chemistry, biomedical engineering and biophysics, and his citation recognizes his “work in biosensors, molecular recognition, and bio-nanotechnology, covering molecular-beacon design, biosensor development, and studies in intracellular mRNA monitoring.” Tan is the associate director of UF’s Center for Research at the Bio/nano Interface and has been issued four US patents for his work in the past two years.

Hebard and Tan will be honored during a special ceremony at the 2006 AAAS Annual Meeting in St. Louis on February 18, where they will receive an official certificate and a gold and blue rosette pin symbolizing science and engineering.

Founded in 1848, the AAAS began its tradition of designating Fellows in 1874. The non-profit organiza-

Around the College

Florida Blue Key Honors CLAS Professors

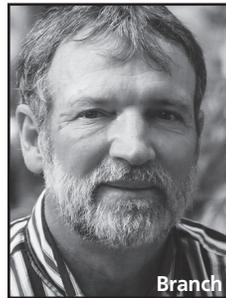
As part of the university’s homecoming festivities in October, three CLAS professors were honored with 2005 Distinguished Faculty Awards from Florida Blue Key for their outstanding service and dedication to UF. German Professor **Nora Alter**, Psychology Professor **Marc Branch** and Communication Sciences and Disorders Professor **Kenneth Gerhardt** were among three of the six professors selected from across campus for the prestigious award. In the past four years alone, 11 of the 18 faculty members who have received these awards have been CLAS professors.

“I believe you have the most for a couple of reasons,” says Danny Miller, chair of the awards committee and UF advertising senior. “As seen in the individuals chosen, CLAS puts a real emphasis on students—that is what is important to us. You have well-rounded candidates, and you are motivated to nominate them to see the hardworking faculty be honored.”

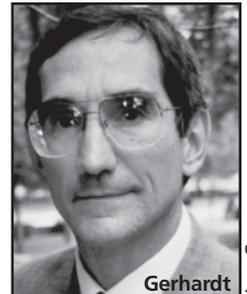
College deans, department chairs or university vice presidents nominate faculty members, who are then selected by a campus-wide committee comprised of UF faculty and undergraduate and graduate students. Winners are announced at the Homecoming Education Celebration and are honored throughout homecoming weekend—riding in the homecoming parade, participating in a special President’s Brunch and experiencing a round of applause from Gator fans on the football field following the first quarter of the homecoming game.



JANE DOMINGUEZ



JANE DOMINGUEZ



JANE GIBSON

Welcome New Advisors

The Academic Advising Center welcomes two new advisors this year. **Catherine Thibodeau Lawton** (right) is a general CLAS advisor, but also serves as an AIM advisor and a member of the provost’s Community College Relations Team. She holds two degrees from UF—a BS in human resource development and a Master of Education. **Naomi Adaire Parker** (left) is a pre-law advisor. She earned a BA in sociology with a concentration in anthropology from North Carolina State University and an MA in education with a specialization in adult education from East Carolina University.



JEFF STEVENS

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

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

DEPARTMENT NEWS

African American Studies

The program is pleased to announce the addition of a new 18-credit minor and is registering students now for the upcoming spring semester. On October 17, more than 50 people gathered at a special reception in Dauer Hall for the official announcement of the new minor, during which the program's faculty each gave an overview of their background, area of expertise and courses. The event was highlighted with cultural music and catered by Reggae Shack Cafe and Junior's Restaurant.

Communication Sciences and Disorders

Jaecok Kim, a PhD student working with **Christine Sapienza**, has received a scholarship to attend the International Conference on Aging, Disability and Independency in February in St. Petersburg. She will present her dissertation work titled "Physiological Effects of Respiratory Muscle Strength Training on Breathing, Cough and Swallow Functions in the Elderly."

Criminology, Law and Society

Paul Magnarella recently published "The Background and Causes of the Genocide in Rwanda" in a special issue of the *Journal of International Criminal Justice* devoted to Rwanda. Antonio Cassese, the first president of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and a member of the Appellate Chamber of both the Yugoslavian and Rwandan Criminal Tribunals edited the issue.

English

William Logan has received the first-ever Randall Jarrell Award in Poetry Criticism

from the Poetry Foundation. He received \$10,000 for his poetry criticism, which is aimed at a large general readership rather than an audience of specialists. Logan is the author of four books of criticism and a regular critic of poetry for the *New York Times Book Review*. Upon conferring the honor, Christian Wiman, editor of *Poetry* magazine, noted "William Logan has been called 'the most hated man in American poetry,' but the truth is that even those who can't stand his opinions can't keep themselves from reading him. He is provocative, incisive, inventive, and, best of all, he is a great prose stylist."

Geological Sciences

LUECI Director **Mark Brenner** presented a paper titled "*Cambios climáticos en la región del Caribe durante los ~36,000 años pasados: implicaciones para la distribución de humedales y fauna acuática*" (Climatic Changes in the Caribbean Region During the Last ~36,000 Years: Implications for the Distribution of Wetlands and Aquatic Fauna) at the fifth International Symposium on Wetlands in Playa Larga, Matanzas, Cuba in October.

The meeting brought together scientists from Florida, Cuba, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia and Ecuador to help develop a management plan for the Zapata Swamp in southwest Cuba. The aquatic ecosystem shares many characteristics with the Florida Everglades.

Germanic and Slavic Studies

Nora Alter (German) has received one of the most prestigious honors in German studies, the Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD) German Academic Exchange Service Prize for Distinguished Scholarship in German and European Studies from the American Institute for Contemporary Ger-

man Studies at The Johns Hopkins University. The aim of the prize is to foster a new generation of American scholarship on Germany and to encourage innovative contributions to the interdisciplinary scope of German studies. She will receive \$5,000 and will be honored at the institute's Global Leadership award dinner on November 10 in New York City.

Otto Johnston (German) was inducted into the Florida Foreign Language Association's Teacher Hall of Fame at its annual conference in October. The Hall of Fame recognizes the accomplishments of Florida's foreign language and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) educators at all levels of instruction.

History

The department's student-run journal, *Alpata: A Journal of History*, recently won second place in the national Phi Alpha Theta history honors society's publications competition. Only in its second year of publication, *Alpata* is overseen by a student editorial board headed by graduate student **Jace Stuckey** and undergraduate **Brandon Stelck**. Last year's inaugural issue was guided by graduate student **Samuel Pierce** and undergraduate **Anne Osborn**. Professor **Jack Davis** serves as the publication's advisor. Copies of *Alpata* are available for purchase in the department's main office in room 25 Keene-Flint Hall.

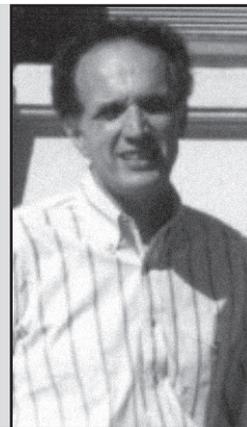
Romance Languages and Literatures

On October 5–6, Professor Emeritus of French **Raymond Gay-Crosier** gave two invited lectures and a faculty seminar on "*Questions de méthode critique et de stratégie éditoriale dans la préparation de la nouvelle Pléiade Camus*" at the University of Ulster-Corelaine in Northern Ireland.

Top Statistician to Speak at UF

Bradley Efron, a professor of statistics and biostatistics at Stanford University, will present the 2005 Challis Lecture at UF on November 30 from 4–5 pm in room 282 of the Reitz Union. The lectureship is sponsored by the Gill Foundation of Texas, in cooperation with the UF Department of Statistics, and is presented annually by a premier statistician who has made profound contributions to the field. Efron will lecture on "Fifty Years of Empirical Bayes" to a general audience. On November 29, he will deliver a more technical speech on multiple testing problems from 4–5 pm in room 349 of the Reitz Union. Both events are free and open to the public.

Efron is best known for his work proposing the bootstrap resampling technique, which has been applied in many quantitative disciplines beyond statistics. He has published more than 100 papers and served as president of both the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the American Statistical Association. Efron also is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the American Statistical Association.



COURTESY STATISTICS

Grants

Helping Parkinson's Patients Swallow Easier

While lodging at a Gainesville hotel during the filming of the hit movie *Doc Hollywood* in the fall of 1990, actor Michael J. Fox experienced his first symptoms of early onset Parkinson's disease. Now, 15 years later, the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research has awarded UF Communication Sciences and Disorders Professor and Chair Christine Sapienza a \$280,000 clinical discovery grant to examine the outcome of a strength-training program on the swallowing muscles of patients with Parkinson's disease.

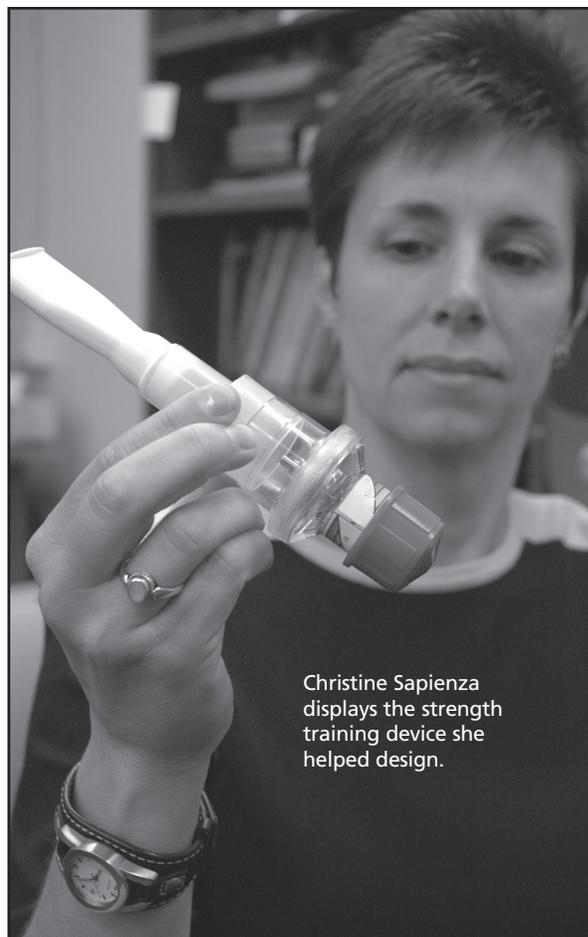
"Patients with Parkinson's have difficulty swallowing and, as the disease progresses, the dysfunction gets worse and worse," Sapienza says. "When you can't swallow, you can aspirate—which can lead to a lung infection." Aspiration pneumonia is the number one cause of death among patients with Parkinson's, and while medications can help alleviate other symptoms of the illness, they do not substantially improve the muscles involved with swallow function. "While we are waiting for a cure for Parkinson's, we need to help them deal with swallow dysfunction now and work to improve not only the quality of life, but longevity."

Sapienza and colleagues Paul Davenport, a professor in the Department

of Physiological Sciences, and Danny Martin, a professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, have developed a patent-pending handheld device that trains the expiratory muscles, and have created an accompanying training program that is easy to follow and complete at home. Once participants receive preliminary training on how to use the device, they are free to exercise with it on their own. "You can't go to the gym and work out your breathing and swallowing muscles," Sapienza says. "So this is basically a weightlifting device for your respiratory and swallowing muscles."

From previous research completed by Sapienza and colleagues, the device is already known to improve expiratory muscle strength, toning the muscles needed for exhaling. The new grant will fund a two-year study to document whether the device also cross-trains the suprahyoid muscles used for swallowing.

Using x-ray technology, Sapienza and colleagues at the Gainesville VA Medical Center, Nan Musson and Jay Rosenbek, will record before and after images of participants' swallow—capturing as many as 60 frames per second—to analyze whether strength training improves their ability to swallow. They will analyze swallow function during a variety of tasks, includ-



Christine Sapienza displays the strength training device she helped design.

JANE DOMINGUEZ

ing the ability to swallow foods of different thicknesses. They also will examine other issues, including variability of swallow function in Parkinson's disease.

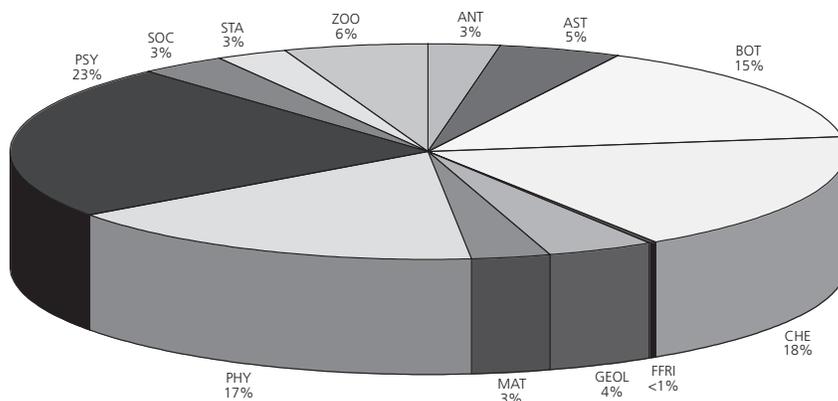
The invention already has been tested on healthy adults, a subset of whom are musicians, as well as those with voice disorders and multiple sclerosis patients. Sapienza hopes, if proven effective, the device will be found applicable to a number of illnesses. "It's Parkinson's today, other neurological disorders tomorrow."

—Buffy Lockette

Grants through the Division of Sponsored Research

September 2005
Total: \$4,365,289

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



Bookbeat

 Recent publications from CLAS faculty

Norman Holland y la articulación literatura/psicoanálisis Diana Paris (Madrid: Campo de Ideas, 2004)

The man who writes books on how readers respond to literature has now had a reader write a book on his work. For Norman Holland, UF's Marston-Milbauer Eminent Scholar of English and author of 14 books, it came as a surprise. "I was looking on Amazon to see which of my books were available, and lo and behold there was a book about me, written in Spanish."

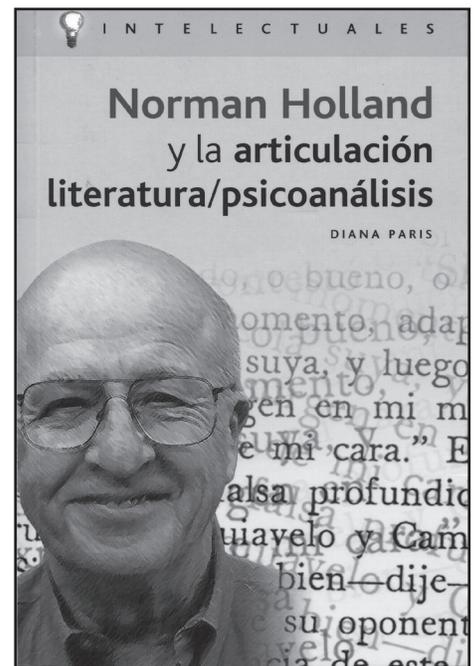
The author, Diana Paris, was a student at the University of Morón in Buenos Aires, studying literary criticism and psychoanalysis, when she first encountered some of Holland's essays. She says learning of Holland's work was like finding a twin soul. "It wasn't long before I was interested in all of Holland's work," she says. "I felt it was necessary to communicate all of his investigations on psychoanalysis and reading into a book."

Paris, who writes about psychoanalysis and its relation to art and literature, sent an E-mail to Holland when she began her book project. He answered her query, but involved in many projects, soon forgot about it. Still, even without his participation, the book, says Holland, is a neat summary of his work.

Holland always has been fascinated by the way individuals respond differently to jokes, books, movies and art. Of the many theories he examined early in his career, only one made sense to him. "Freud went back to the actual words, and that was compelling to me as literary critic." He has since used psychoanalytic theory to study responses to literature.

Holland came to the University of Florida in 1983 and in recent years has immersed himself in neuroscience, even taking two courses in the subject in the College of Medicine. He is now using the tools of brain science to study how people respond to literature.

He recently completed *The Brain and the Book*, which he is currently pitching to publishers, while another book, *Meeting Movies*, will appear in 2006. *The Brain and the Book* examines how the human brain responds when creating or responding to literature. Literary ideas such as form and content are given a neurological basis, as are answers to questions such as why we enjoy literature. "I hope both literary critics and



neuroscientists will read it," he says. "I think science tells us objective things about ourselves—about our neurons or dopamine circuits—and I think psychoanalysis addresses our subjective experience. I see the combination as a very powerful way of thinking about human beings and how we look at literature."

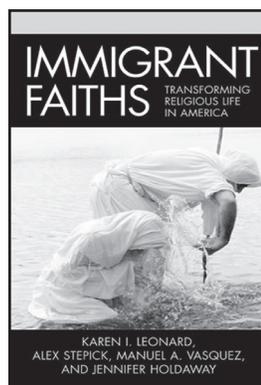
—Michal Meyer

Immigrant Faiths:

Transforming Religious Life in America
Manuel A. Vásquez (Religion), Karen I. Leonard, Alex Stepick and Jennifer Holdaway, AltaMira Press

Recent immigrants are creating their own unique religious communities within existing denominations or developing hybrid identities that combine strands of several faiths or traditions. These changes call for new thinking among both scholars of religion and scholars of migration. This book responds to these changes with fresh thinking from new and established scholars from a wide range of disciplines. Covering groups from across the US and a range of religious traditions, *Immigrant Faiths* provides a needed overview to this expanding subfield.

—Publisher

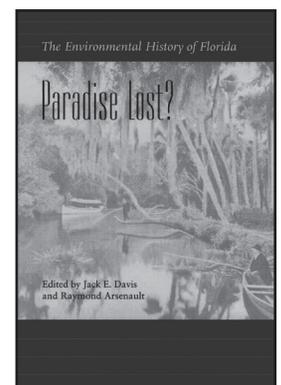


Paradise Lost?

The Environmental History of Florida
Edited by Jack E. Davis (History) and Raymond Arsenault, University Press of Florida

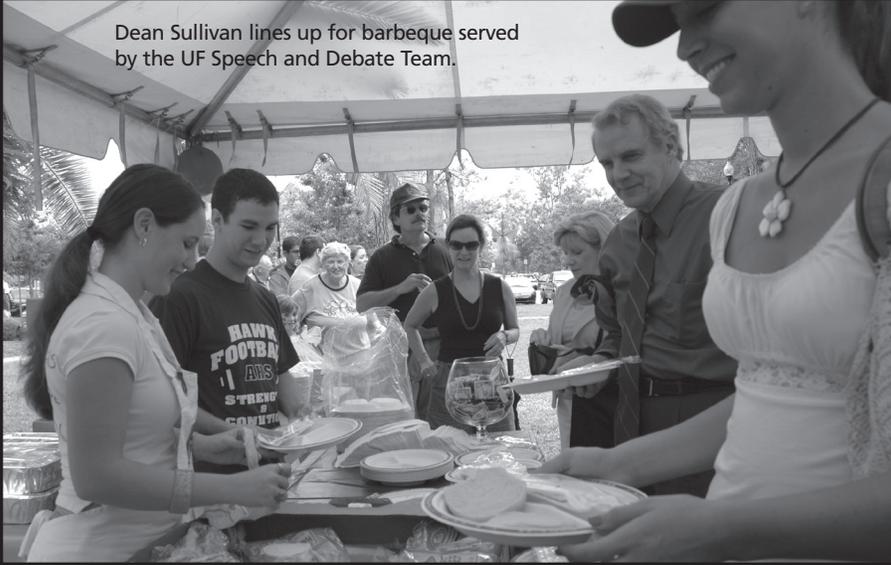
This collection of essays surveys the environmental history of Florida, from Spanish exploration to the present, providing an organized, detailed overview of the relationship between humans and Florida's unique ecology. It is divided into four thematic sections: explorers and naturalists; science, technology, and public policy; despoliation; and conservationists and environmentalists. Drawing on methodologies from the fields of history, political science, cultural anthropology and sociology, the contributors describe the evolving environmental policies and practices of the state and federal governments and the interaction between the Florida environment and many social and cultural groups including the Spanish, English, Americans, Southerners, Northerners, men, and women.

—Publisher



CLAS Homecoming 2005 Festivities

Dean Sullivan lines up for barbeque served by the UF Speech and Debate Team.



"Wow! Some real gators."
The zoology petting pool is always a crowd pleaser.

During the 82nd annual UF Homecoming Parade on October 7, CLAS hosted its traditional homecoming barbeque in front of Keene-Flint Hall off University Avenue. Thanks to a generous donation from **Kathy Amick Cardwell** (BA, English, 1969), **Joe Ganey** (BS, Zoology, 1973) and **Joe Jacoby** (BA, Political Science, 1974), hungry Gator fans were treated to a free Sonny's Real Pit Bar-B-Q lunch and potato chips provided by Golden Flake Snack Foods while enjoying display tables and exhibits set up by CLAS departments and organizations. The CLAS Student Council (CLASSC) entered a float in the parade, while linguistics alumna **Kendra Todd** (BA, 2000) served as a grand marshal.

Winner of season three of Donald Trump's *The Apprentice*, Todd was awarded a CLAS Outstanding Alumni Award during a special awards brunch on campus on October 8 preceding the homecoming football game. She served as keynote speaker at the ceremony and was honored along with nine fellow alumni: **Ava G. Byrne** (BA, sociology, 1976), **Ulla M. Connor** (MA, English, 1971), **Juan C. del Valle** (BA and MA, geography, 1993 and 1996), **Manuel L. Diaz** (BA and MA, Latin American studies, 1969 and 1970), **Robert O. Kincart** (BS, chemistry, 1972), **John W. Mintmire** (BS and PhD, physics, 1976 and 1980), **Glenn M. Parker** (BS, zoology, 1986), **Albert A. Sanchez, Jr.** (BA, philosophy, 1975), and **Eric A. Wagner** (PhD, sociology, 1973).



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

The Foundation for The Gator Nation.

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