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CLASnotes

The University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

**the
genetics
of pine**

page 10



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



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The Dean's Musings

As we wrap up another fall semester, we celebrate the achievements of our class of 2005, which graduated on December 17. Judging from the awards and distinctions bestowed on our students, including CLAS sweeping the Outstanding Male and Female Leader and Scholar Awards (see page 7), this group has broken records, and we wish them every success for the future. The career opportunities for these gifted graduates, equipped with the broad skills of the liberal arts and sciences degree, are impressive as private and public sectors seek new hires who are expressive and proficient in languages, analytical abilities and can interact with people of all backgrounds.

One of the new opportunities we are creating for students who wish to have careers in public service and public leadership is the nascent Bob Graham Center for Public Service (see page 3). We are planning new bachelor's and master's degree programs and certificates in public policy and public affairs. These studies will prepare graduates for careers in the federal government and offer internships in Washington, DC.

The Graham Center programs, coupled with a new BA in international studies and one of the nation's best set of offerings in foreign languages instruction and area studies (with five Title VI National Resource Centers), will make UF attractive to students seeking international and leadership careers.

Whatever promising careers our graduates choose, we congratulate them on a job well done at UF and hope to have them back on campus again soon. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

Neil Sullivan
sullivan@phys.ufl.edu

On the Cover:

A \$6 million grant from the National Science Foundation's Plant Genome Research Program funds decoding of the loblolly pine genome. See page 10.



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A Home for Public Service

\$5 Million Donation Funds New Facility to House Bob Graham Center

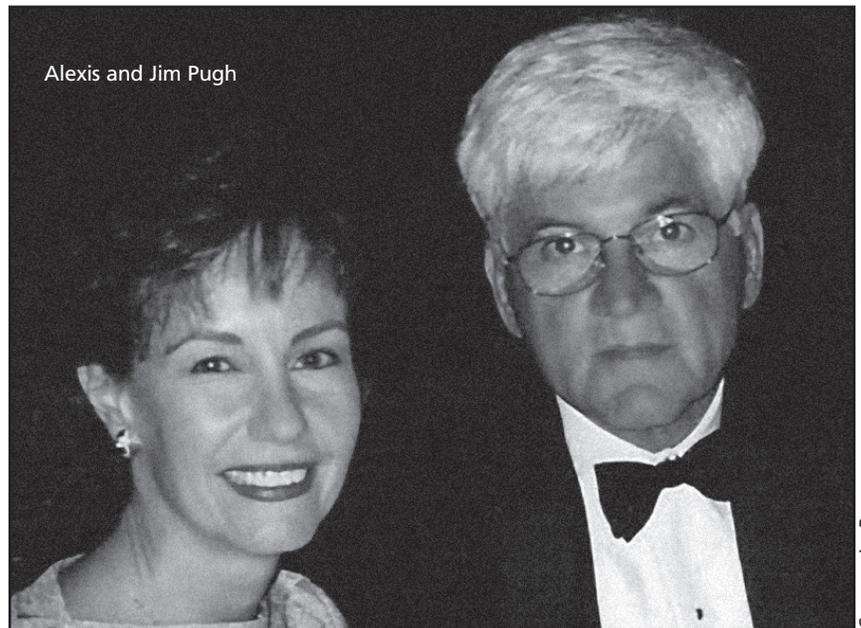
The new Bob Graham Center for Public Service at UF will have a home thanks to a \$5 million gift from a UF alumnus. Jim Pugh, chairman of Epoch Properties in Winter Park, Florida, and his wife, Alexis, have made the donation to CLAS for the building, which will be named Jim and Alexis Pugh Hall.

“Bob and I have been friends for more than 50 years, and my wife and I want to support the Bob Graham Center,” says Pugh, who earned his bachelor’s degree in building construction from UF in 1963. “We feel this is an opportune time to do something for Bob Graham and the University of Florida.” Pugh and Graham met at UF as fraternity brothers in Sigma Nu.

Pugh Hall will be constructed between Newell and Dauer Halls on campus. With anticipated matching state funds, construction could start as early as the summer of 2006 and be completed by 2008.

Pugh was a US Army Airborne Ranger from 1963 to 1966 and commander of a Special Forces unit. Since 1970, he has owned Epoch Properties, a company that builds hotels, time shares and rental housing, developing more than 30,000 multi-family living units in 56 cities from Florida to California. He also is the chairman of Epoch Management, a comprehensive real estate management firm established in 1973.

He was named one of the “Most Influential Floridians” by *Florida Trend* magazine in 2004 and “Most Influential Businessman” by *Orlando Business Journal* in 2005. Pugh is involved with numerous civic organizations, including the Orlando Utilities Commission, the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority, the Greater Orlando Aviation Authority Board and the Orange County chapter of the UF Alumni Association. He is an avid bluewater sailor, having sailed long-distance voyages through



the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, as well as a licensed jet pilot with more than 4,000 hours of flying time.

“With the Pugh’s timely gift, we will construct a building that will serve as a focal point for one of the major entrances to the campus’ historic district,” says CLAS Dean Neil Sullivan. “The Bob Graham Center will serve as a magnet to attract and host distinguished scholars, international leaders and policy makers to create a dynamic pool that will help train UF students for leadership positions

in public service.”

Graham, who earned a bachelor’s degree in history from UF in 1959, is working with UF and the University of Miami to create two centers that will focus on public leadership, the Americas and homeland security. The mission of the Graham Center at UF will be to provide students with the broad training necessary for careers in the public sector. The Center will promote research on public policies and the policy-making process, and will foster the public discussion of important policy issues

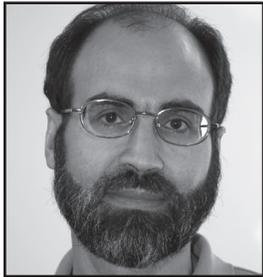
facing the state, nation and the world.

Other proposed components include new degree programs and certificates in public policy and public affairs, a Statesman-in-Residence Program and a leadership institute.

Graham retired from the US Senate in January 2005 after serving for 18 years. He also served as Florida’s governor for two terms from 1979 to 1987. He visited UF in July to discuss the new center and is teaching at Harvard University for the 2005–2006 academic year.

—Allyson A. Beutke

CLAS Welcomes New Faculty



Badredine Arfi is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science. He holds two PhDs from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the first in theoretical condensed matter physics, 1988, and the second in political science, 1996. He comes to UF from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, where he served as an assistant professor from 2003–2005.

Arfi's area of research is international politics and security, ethnic conflict and human rights, US foreign policy and national security, and Middle Eastern, North African and Islamic politics. This year, he published a book, *International Change and the Stability of Multiethnic States: Crises of Governance in Yugoslavia and Lebanon*.

He is teaching an undergraduate honors class, International Relations, and a graduate course, Formal Theory in Political Science/Game Theory.



Amy Bard, an assistant professor, is jointly appointed in the Department of African and Asian Languages and Literatures and the Asian Studies Program. She received a PhD in Middle East and Asian languages and cultures from Columbia University in 2002, specializing in Indic languages and literatures. She served as a senior research fellow at the American Institute of Indian Studies in 2004–2005 and was the Mellon Lecturer in Humanities at Columbia in 2002–2004.

Bard works on literature and language use in both Hindi and Urdu, paying particular attention to expressive traditions among women and to literary forms that gained prominence in the 19th or early 20th centuries and still have vibrant, often religious-based, performance contexts today. She is currently working on a book about the piety and poetic performance among South Asian Shi'i Muslim women.

She is teaching Intermediate Hindi and Advanced Hindi. Bard also plans to develop courses centered on medieval North Indian devotional literature and Urdu ghazal poetry.



Hansjoerg Dilger is an assistant professor jointly appointed in the Center for African Studies and Department of Anthropology. He received his PhD in anthropology from the Free University of Berlin in 2004, where he served as a lecturer and research associate at the Institute for Social Anthropology.

Dilger specializes in the anthropology of HIV/AIDS in Africa and is a former consultant for the German Society for Technical Cooperation on the German Ministry for Development and Economic Cooperation's initiative "Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS in Developing Countries." His PhD dissertation on AIDS in Africa was published as a book in German.

He is teaching HIV/AIDS and Social Relations: The Politics of Illness and Healing in Contemporary Africa.



Hani Doss is a professor in the Department of Statistics. He received his PhD in statistics from Stanford University in 1982 and comes to UF from The Ohio State University where he taught for 11 years, after serving 12 years as a faculty member at Florida State University.

Doss' area of expertise is biostatistics and meta-analysis, particularly the Markov chain Monte Carlo and Bayesian methods. One of his recent projects involved allergic condition biomarkers and glioma risk and was funded by the National Institutes of Health.

He is a fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and associate editor of *Statistica Sinica*. Doss is teaching an honors section of Introduction to Statistics I.



Hana Filip is an assistant professor jointly appointed in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies and the Center for European Studies with an affiliation in the Program in Linguistics. She received her PhD in linguistics from the University of California at Berkeley in 1993 and has held positions at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, University of Rochester, Northwestern University and Stanford University.

Filip's main area of specialization is semantics, but she also is interested in pragmatics, syntax-semantics interface, typology, morphology, psycholinguistics and computational linguistics. Combining formal linguistics with literary and socio-cultural analysis, her current interdisciplinary research also focuses on the modern Czech language, literature and culture. Her publications include the 1999 book *Aspect, Eventuality Types, and Nominal Reference*.

She is teaching Czech Cultural and Political History from 1948 to Present and Advanced Czech: Contemporary Language, Culture, History.



Michael Jury is an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics. He received a PhD in mathematics from Washington University in 2002, specializing in operator theory and operator algebras. Prior to joining UF's faculty, he spent three years on a National Science Foundation VIGRE postdoctoral fellowship at Purdue University.

Jury's research concerns operators and operator algebras that are related to complex function theory. He is currently applying the techniques of non-commutative geometry to the study of operator algebras arising from complex dynamical systems. He is teaching two sections of Calculus.



Christine Overdeest is an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology. She received her PhD in sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2005. Her specialization is environmental and natural resources sociology and economic sociology, and she has worked for the USDA Forest Service's Outdoor Recreation and Wilderness Assessment unit.

Overdeest's research evaluates institutions of environmental governance that improve the democratic accountability and participatory nature and quality of environmental management. She is currently evaluating forest certification and participatory standard setting in the US, Sweden and Finland. In 2001, she published a book titled *Footprints on the Land: An Assessment of Demographic Trends and the Future of Natural Lands in the United States*.

She is teaching Social Institutions and Environment and Social Institutions and Economy.



Won-ho Park, an assistant professor, has a joint appointment in the Department of Political Science and the Asian Studies Program. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Seoul National University and his PhD from the University of Michigan.

Park's research interests include quantitative methods involving ecological inference techniques on aggregate electoral data, electoral dynamics in new democracies with a special focus upon South Korea and East Asia, and how voting technology affects voting behavior.

He was a Fulbright Scholar and a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar from South Korea, as well as an American National Election Studies Fellow. In 2003, he won the Harold Gosnell Prize for the best political methodology paper of the year.

Park is teaching two graduate courses—Linear Models and Maximum Likelihood Theory—and two undergraduate courses—Politics of East Asian Countries and Politics of South and North Korea.



Tarek Saab is an assistant professor in the Department of Physics. He received his PhD in physics from Stanford University in 2002 and has spent the past three years on a fellowship at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center developing x-ray detectors with high-energy sensitivity to be used in upcoming x-ray telescopes.

Saab's research interests focus on cosmology and particle astrophysics. Using cryogenic detectors, he is designing and constructing experiments that will allow for the observation of subatomic particles, or Dark Matter, which have yet to be observed in a laboratory. The same technology used for detecting these particles will be modified and developed for use as high sensitivity x-ray detectors, searching for evidence of Dark Matter in intergalactic and inter-cluster gas.

He is teaching an honors section of Physics I.



Brian Silliman is an assistant professor in the Department of Zoology. He received his PhD in ecology and evolutionary biology from Brown University in 2004 and held a postdoctoral fellowship at The Nature Conservancy before arriving at UF.

A marine ecologist, Silliman studies the community and ecosystem ecology of salt marshes and temperate and tropical rocky shores. The majority of his work has been with plant and animal communities on temperate shorelines of the Western Atlantic. He currently has a book in press with the University of California Press titled *Human Modification of North American Salt Marshes*.

Next year, he will be teaching Marine Ecology, and later, Community Ecology and Conservation.



Robin Wright is an associate professor in the Department of Religion. He earned a PhD from Stanford University in 1981 and served as a professor at the State University of Campinas in Brazil from 1985–2005. He also was a librarian at the Tozzer Anthropology Library at Harvard University from 1983–1985.

Wright's area of research is the relationships of myth, ritual and history among native peoples of the Americas; prophetic movements among native peoples; comparative mythology and cosmology of native peoples; and relations of religion, nature and culture. He has published eight books, including *In Darkness and Secrecy: The Anthropology of Assault Sorcery and Witchcraft in Amazonia*, and *Cosmos, Self, and History in Baniwa Religion: For Those Unborn*.

He plans to teach Indigenous Religions, Myth and Ritual, Religions of the Americas, and Religions of Latin America.

surnames and the modern woman



JANE DOMINGUEZ/BUFFY LOCKETTE

What's in a name—or two names? Quite a bit, says Linguistics Professor Diana Boxer, whose research finds that a growing number of brides are returning to tradition when taking a man's hand in marriage, assuming his name instead of keeping their own as a symbol of independent identity.

“Adopting a husband's last name remains an entrenched tradition that is on the upswing, despite a temporary blip in the '70s, '80s and early '90s when many young women tended to want to hold on to their birth names,” says Boxer, who led a series of studies. “I think it reflects how men's power continues to influence American society despite the fact that women have made great advances economically and socially.”

The survey involved 134 married women ranging in age from their 20s to their 70s who lived in various parts of the United States. Boxer found that only 24, or 18 percent, had kept their own names, compared with 107, or 77 percent, who took a husband's name. The rest used hyphenated or other names. Family unity was the most frequently mentioned reason.

“Taking on my husband's last name was an outward sign of our union,” explained one woman. “It served to make me feel that I was ‘really married’

and that we were forming a brand new family.”

Children were the most important issue of family unity for these women, who sought to avoid the hassle and confusion of having more than one surname in the family, Boxer says. But while divorced women would not return to their birth surname because they wanted the same name as their children, they did not hesitate to adopt a new husband's name at remarriage, even though it meant their name now differed from that of their children, she says.

While all the women who retained their birth surnames were satisfied with their choice, some who changed expressed regret, Boxer says. “I associate my new surname with my husband's relatives, whom I dislike,” says one participant. Another woman was disappointed to lose a symbol of her ethnic heritage in giving up her Italian name.

Understanding naming traditions is important because they give clues about underly-

ing social patterns and shifts in attitudes about expected roles for women, says Boxer, who presented some of the findings at the International Association of Applied Linguistics meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, in July. “People say ‘It's only a name, what's in a name?’ Well, we think there's a lot in a name,” she says. “Linguistic symbols tell us how people are treated in society.”

The practice of women automatically taking their husband's surnames was first challenged in the mid-19th century by abolitionist Lucy Stone, Boxer says. From then on, women who retained their birth names after marriage came to be called “Lucy Stoners,” with negative connotations, she says.

“In a 1997 study of more than 10,000 Midwesterners, men thought women who kept their surnames were more likely to work outside the home, less likely to enjoy cooking, less likely to attend church and—this is the clincher—less likely to make good wives,” she says.

Other cultures are more accepting, Boxer says. In rural Pakistan, women retain their birth names unless they need to request a government document, while in Norway children automatically receive the mother's name unless a couple tells authorities otherwise, she says.

Among 18 female students in Boxer's sociolinguistics class that she interviewed as part of a separate study, 11 say they would take their husband's surname, three would hyphenate, three would use both names, and only one says she would retain her birth surname.

While women say taking their partner's surname symbolizes their union, few men have such sentiments, says Boxer, noting that it is rare for the male partner to consider changing his surname. “Why do even young women who hold feminist viewpoints look forward to taking their husband's surname?” she asks. “Why do women do the merging?”

—Cathy Keen, *UF News Bureau*

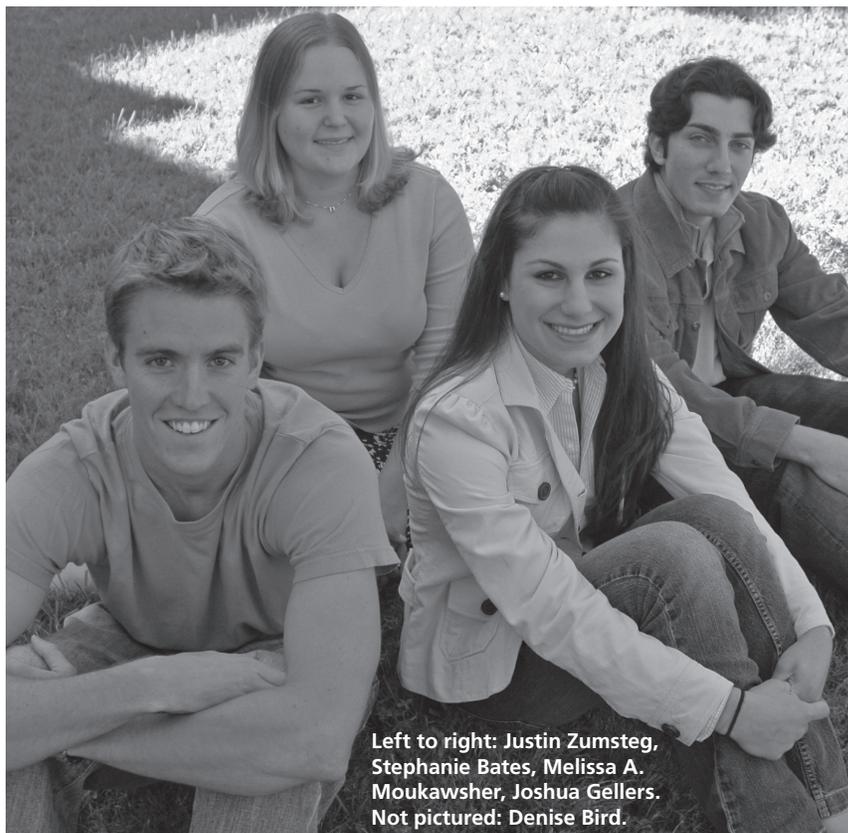
CLAS Students Sweep Leadership Awards

Several CLAS undergrads lined up with more than 1,200 graduating students at the O'Connell Center early on Saturday morning, December 17 and were recognized as UF Outstanding Male and Female Leaders and Scholars. Each fall, four Outstanding Male and Female Leaders are chosen for their academic record and service to UF, and this year all four are CLAS majors. In addition, the college has two Four-Year Scholars, honored for maintaining a 4.0 grade point average.

Stephanie Bates is an Outstanding Female Leader and has earned a classical studies degree from CLAS and a degree in family, youth, and community sciences from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. She is pursuing her master's degree in CALS. Bates is the co-founder and executive director of Campus Connect, an honors organization designed to inspire incoming students to network and find their niche on campus. She also has served as a Hume Hall residential advisor and as an honors staffer for the 2004 Preview orientation team. *Memorable UF Moment: Skydiving for the first time with the Falling Gators.*

Denise Bird also is an Outstanding Female Leader with a major in psychology and minors in women's studies and pre-law. During her tenure as president of the Women's Leadership Council, the group earned the Most Improved Organization at UF award in 2004. She also served as president of Recurso, a student organization raising awareness for children afflicted by AIDS, cancer and malnutrition. Bird has been a Florida Cicerone and First-Year Florida peer leader. She plans to pursue her master's degree in conflict analysis and resolution and also attend law school. *Miss least about UF: Surprise afternoon rain showers.*

Joshua Gellers is honored as both a Four-Year Scholar and an Outstanding Male Leader. Having maintained a 4.0 grade point average, Gellers has earned a degree in political science and a minor in geography. He was a University Scholar, and after studying abroad at the Universiteit Utrecht, he returned to UF as an official recruiter for the program. He also has served as vice president of the CLAS Student Council, associate justice of the Student Honor Court and editor-in-chief of the *UF International Review*. Gellers was a finalist for the prestigious national Marshall Scholarship and plans to pursue a PhD in international relations with



Left to right: Justin Zumsteg, Stephanie Bates, Melissa A. Moukawsher, Joshua Gellers. Not pictured: Denise Bird.

aspirations of becoming a university administrator. *Memorable UF Moment: Staying up until 4 am to build the CLASSC homecoming parade float.*

Melissa A. Moukawsher has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average and is recognized as a Four-Year Scholar, graduating with degrees in history and political science. She interned on a defense contract with the National Guard in June of 2005, and her position required her to assist in the standardization and evaluation of 55 National Guard units responsible for responding to threats from weapons of mass destruction. Moukawsher has mentored elementary school students through CHAMPS and volunteered with UF's Arts in Medicine Program. Having scored in the 99th percentile on the Law School Admissions Test, Moukawsher intends to pursue a degree in international and national security law and has applied to Harvard, Yale, Georgetown and UF. *A Favorite UF Memory: Walking through campus during*

the winters and appreciating the beauty of the buildings and the landscaping.

Justin Zumsteg, a scholar and a talented athlete, is honored as an Outstanding Male Leader for his service to benefit student-athletes and the community. He is graduating with dual degrees in physics and astronomy. A member of the UF Men's Swimming and Diving Team, Zumsteg finished fourth in the 400m medley relay at the US Spring National Championships. He earned academic All-Conference and All-American honors and also was named the 2005 Southeastern Conference Men's Swimming and Diving Scholar Athlete of the Year. Zumsteg has been inducted into the UF Sports Hall of Fame and the University Hall of Fame. He was a nominee for the prestigious Rhodes scholarship and plans to attend medical school at UCLA, Duke, Harvard, or Vanderbilt Universities. *Miss Most About College: Community feel at UF and Gator friends*

—Allyson A. Beutke

"Tea" with the English Department

The English Society, a student-run organization in the Department of English, is accepting submissions for its literary magazine "Tea" through December 31. Any UF student—undergraduate or graduate—can submit poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction and graphic design pieces for consideration in the spring 2006 issue. Send your submissions to society@grove.ufl.edu or drop them in The English Society mailbox in room 4310 Turlington Hall. Please do not include more than three to four poems per application and limit prose to 12 pages. For more information on the society, visit <http://grove.ufl.edu/~esociety>.

New Faces in CLAS



JANE DOMINGUEZ

Emily Rasch is a new secretary in the CLAS Dean's Office who serves as the main receptionist in 2014 Turlington Hall. She also schedules the Dean's Conference Room in 2014 and rooms 215 and 219 in Dauer Hall; coordinates agendas for chairs and directors meetings; processes annual CLAS

Dean's Office scholarships; handles annual administrative evaluations and college committee selections; and assists Administrative Assistant Carol Binello with special events. A native of Michigan, Rasch graduated from James Madison College at Michigan State University in May 2005 with a degree in social relations.



JANE DOMINGUEZ

Kathryn Reed is the new facilities manager of the Keene Faculty Center (KFC) responsible for keeping the center open from 9 am–3 pm every Monday through Friday during normal semester weeks. Faculty members are welcome to use the center during this time for

research and reading. Reed also is an adjunct instructor in the College of Journalism and Communications and teaches graphic design courses. If you are interested in reserving the KFC for an event, please send an E-mail to Executive Secretary **Evelyn Butler**, evelyn@clas.ufl.edu, in the CLAS Dean's Office.

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.

Around the College

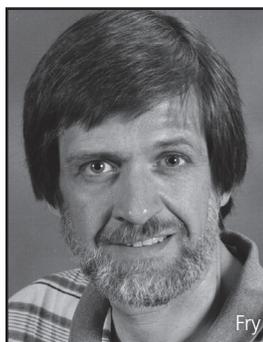
Accolades for Advancing Physics

Three physics faculty members have been named Fellows of the American Physical Society. The APS Fellowship Program was created to recognize members who have made advances in knowledge through original research and significant contributions to the application of physics to science and technology. Only one half of one percent of the total APS membership is selected for Fellowship in the society each year.

Hai-Ping Cheng joined the physics faculty in 1994 and was cited for her "insights from pioneer nanoscale simulations, notably on cluster phase



COURTESY PHYSICS



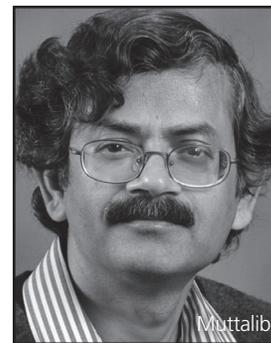
COURTESY PHYSICS

transitions, surface melting, and nanocrystal-surface interactions, especially the interplay between structure and dynamics and between structure and conductance."

Jim Fry has taught at UF since 1983 and was recognized "for important contributions to the theory of large-scale cosmological structure, emphasizing nonlinear effects and higher order correlations."

Khandker Muttalib, who joined UF in 1987, was honored "for pioneering the transfer matrix approach to study mesoscopic fluctuations in electronic transport in disordered systems."

The American Physical Society was founded on May 20, 1899, when 36 physicists gathered at Columbia University for the first meeting.



COURTESY PHYSICS

Graduate Student Honored with National Scholarship

Michelle S. Troche, a second-year master's student in speech-language pathology, has received the 2005 American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Minority Graduate Student Scholarship. The award is given to one minority graduate student who demonstrates excellence as a student, clinician, and/or researcher. Troche will be recognized at the 2005 ASHA Convention in San Diego. She also received a Minority Student Leadership Program Award from the organization that will allow her to participate in a leadership-focused educational program with other students in the field.

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

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Anthropology

Susan D. Gillespie was inducted as president of the Archeology Division of the American Anthropological Association at the group's recent annual meeting in Washington, DC. She was ceremoniously awarded the Golden Marshalltown Trowel as a symbol of office and will serve a two-year term.

Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo recently gave a talk at an international colloquium in Berlin titled "Toward a Historical Ecology of Religion: The Lessons from the Kogui of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and the Shamanistic Societies of the Northwest Amazon."

PhD candidate **Sybil Dione Rosado** completed her dissertation research this summer, aided by a 2004–2005 United Negro College Fund/Mellon Faculty Doctoral Fellowship. The \$50,000 award allowed her to research women of African descent in the Southeastern US and their perceptions of hair. While completing her degree at UF, Rosado has simultaneously served as an instructor of anthropology and sociology at Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. Her dissertation committee chair is **Irma McClaurin**.

Dial Center for Written and Oral Communication

Two CLAS undergraduates took top honors at the Florida Communication Association's 75th annual conference in Kissimmee in October. The Top Undergraduate Student Paper Award was given to **Barbara Tomlian**, a psychology major and communication studies minor, for her paper on dysfunctional communication in a family with an alcoholic parent titled "When I Grow Up, I Don't Want to be Just Like Daddy."

The Top Undergraduate Poster Award went to **Julianne Curran**, an English major and communication studies minor, for her poster on nonverbal communication between men and women in the workplace titled "Nonverbal Communication at Work: The Significance of Nonverbal Behaviors Regarding Professional Relationships and Success."

Tomlian and Curran tied for the Best Poster Oral Presentation Award, and Tomlian also received the award for best poster visual appeal. Both students are enrolled in commu-

nications courses taught by Dial Center Lecturer **Diana Karol Nagy**, who also presented a paper at the conference titled "Reducing Communication Apprehension Through the Use of a Peer Facilitator in the Basic Public Speaking Course" that was co-authored by communication studies minor **Jeffrey Hecht**.

Geography

Corene Matyas presented her paper "Relating Tropical Cyclone Rainfall Patterns to Storm Size" in a special session, Storms of the South, at the annual meeting of the South East Division of the Association of American Geographers held in West Palm Beach in November.

Grant Thrall was the keynote luncheon speaker at the Florida Association of Colleges and Universities annual meeting. He spoke on "The Future Face of Higher Education in Florida."

Geology

Ray G. Thomas has been nominated by the Florida Department of Education to serve on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) Science Standard Setting Business/Organization Leader Panel. On November 2, a meeting was held in Tallahassee to gather input from state business and organization leaders on the establishment of achievement standards for FCAT science in 5th, 8th and 11th grades. The panel reviewed Florida educator's proposals for these standards and made recommendations for modifications of the achievement standards.

Germanic and Slavic Studies

Graduate students **Aneka Meier** and **Sven-Ole Anderson** each presented papers at the Southeast Atlantic Modern Language Association's conference in Atlanta in November. Meier presented "A Time Before Ally, Bridget, Carrie & Co.: The Single Working Girl in Weimar Berlin as an Icon of Modernity, Urbanity, and Mass Culture," and Anderson presented "Poems, Permanency & Peril: Homage to Peter Huchel."

Mathematics

Paul Ehrlich participated in an international research program on Global Problems in

Mathematical Relativity at the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences in Cambridge, England in October. He delivered a plenary survey lecture on "Comparison Theorems in Lorentzian Geometry."

Physics

John Klauder has been elected a foreign member of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters, within the class of natural sciences. Founded in 1760, it is the oldest scientific society in Norway.

Kyoungchul Kong has received the 2005 Korean Graduate Student Research Award from UF's Korean Student Scholarship and Loan Fund. The award recognizes the best research effort by a Korean graduate student at UF, and Kong will receive a certificate and \$500.

Sociology

Terry Mills has received the 2005 William R. Jones Outstanding Mentor Award from the Florida Education Fund. Given annually during its McKnight Doctoral Fellows conferences, the award is based on nominations from students. Mills, who also serves as the college's associate dean for minority affairs, was nominated by his former student **Afua Arhin** and honored for his support of graduate education.

Women's Studies/History

Angel Kwolek-Folland will spend six weeks at the University of Nottingham in February and March as a Fulbright Senior Scholar. She will lecture to students and faculty at the university and other places in England and also will work with administrators on program development, sharing ideas and learning about issues confronting higher education in the UK. She also plans to conduct further research on cross-cultural gender rights.

Kwolek-Folland's article "Women and the New Corporate Governance: Pathways for Obtaining Positions of Corporate Leadership" will be published soon in the *Maryland Law Review*. "Women's Businesses, New and Old," a book chapter, also will be published in *Major Problems in American Business History*, in 2006.

Grants

The Genetics of Pine

The symbol of life in the dead of winter, the evergreen, is used for more than just holiday decorations. In fact, the loblolly pine is the most widely cultivated timber species in the Southeast, accounting for more than half of the nation's total wood production. Statistics Professor and Chair George Casella, along with IFAS colleagues, is working to decode the loblolly pine genome in hopes of building a better tree.

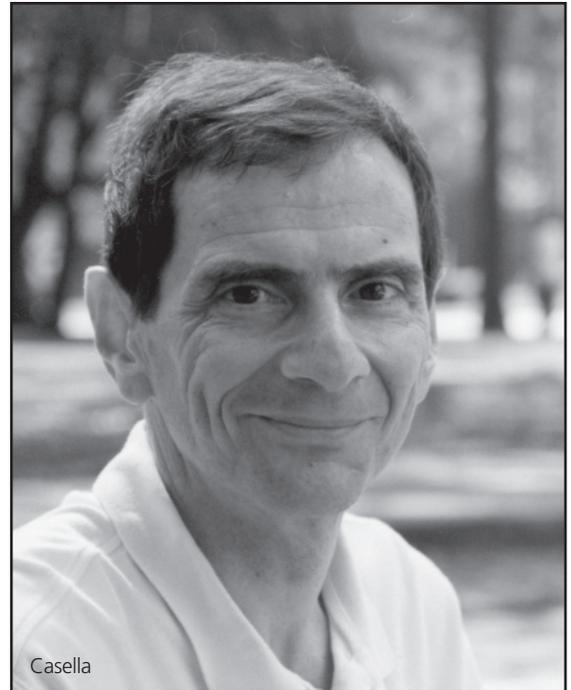
"The goal is to try to associate phenotypic traits, or traits you can see—such as how the tree grows and its chemical composition—with the genetics, in the ultimate hope of actually manipulating the genetics to have stronger, more disease resistant trees," Casella says. He and faculty in the UF School of Forest Resources and Conservation—Gary Peter, John Davis, Dudley Huber and Matias Kirst—have received a \$6 million grant from the National Science Foundation's Plant Genome Research Program to study loblolly pine genetics.

While the IFAS researchers on the team will be identifying gene sequences and collecting trait information—such as growth rate, wood quality and disease resistance—Casella will use his expertise as a statistician to make meaningful associations between the identi-

fied genes and those traits. His work is part of the growing field of statistical genetics, which uses statistical methods to help geneticists organize the vast amount of information found in genetic codes, and relate it to traits in a meaningful way. A university-wide graduate program in genetics was recently approved by the Faculty Senate and is slated to begin training future PhD's in statistical genetics in the fall of 2006.

"Fundamentally, we have gotten to a point where our technology generates an enormous amount of data, so much that we need help organizing and handling it," says Kenneth Berns, director of the UF Genetics Institute. "When you are dealing with something like population genetics that has so many variables, you need to have special approaches to process all those variables and their applications. That's where statistical genetics comes in."

Casella, Peter, Davis, Kirst and Huber are all members of the Genetics Institute and have worked together on several projects since Casella arrived at UF in 2000. The team holds a weekly discussion group on biological and statistical genetics and genomics for faculty and graduate students in CLAS, IFAS and Medicine. According to Berns, the grant is one of the largest the Genetics



Casella

JANE DOMINGUEZ

Institute has received since its creation in 1998.

The team will be comparing 5,000–10,000 of the 50,000 genes in the loblolly pine for relationships to hundreds of traits—focusing on those that unveil the secrets of the tree's disease resistance and wood quality. The findings will not only help growers produce a better crop, the researchers say, but also reduce pressure to harvest America's sensitive forest ecosystems, including old-growth forests.

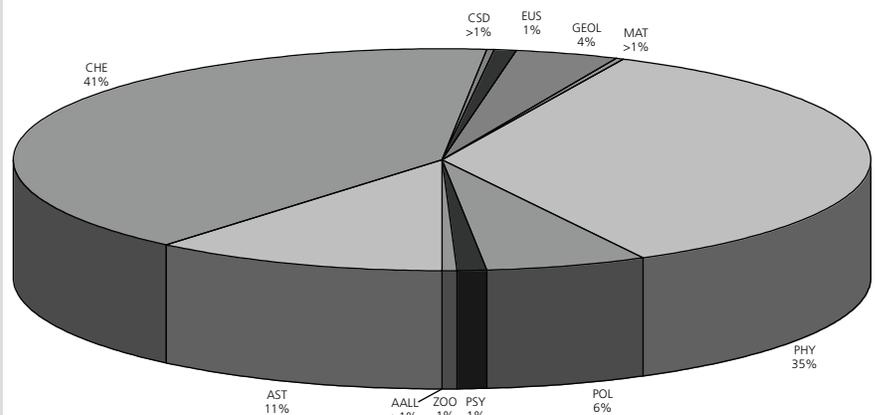
"It is important for our economy to become more efficient, so we are identifying genetically superior trees that can grow on a smaller footprint of land," Davis says. "If we can grow more wood on fewer acres, it should take the pressure off of harvesting trees that should not be harvested."

—Buffy Lockette

Grants through the Division of Sponsored Research

October 2005
Total: \$2,777,482

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

Nonlinear Dynamics in Astronomy & Physics: In Memory of Henry Kandrup

Edited by **Stephen T. Gottesman**, J.R. Buchler, and M.E. Mahon, The New York Academy of Sciences, 2005

Over the years, UF Astronomy Professor Henry Kandrup helped organize many of the workshops on nonlinear astronomy held by the Departments of Astronomy and Physics. When Kandrup died unexpectedly in 2003, the departments decided to honor the professor and his achievements with a workshop in his memory, followed by a book. “We wanted more than just the workshop, we wanted a published record,” says astronomy professor Stephen Gottesman, co-editor of the workshop proceedings titled *Nonlinear Dynamics in Astronomy & Physics*.

Any researcher studying galactic structure, whether graduate student or established scholar, would find this book of interest, says Gottesman. “There are very noteworthy papers in here.” The papers come from an interdisciplinary mix of applied mathematics, astrophysics, galactic dynamics, plasma physics, and cosmology. The application of accelerator

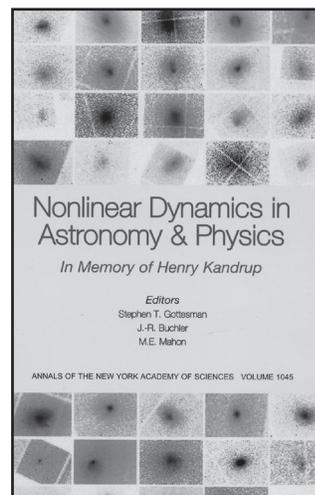
beams to the study of galactic halos and how they evolve was the project on which Kandrup was engaged when he died. One of his dreams was the creation of a strong theory program inside the astronomy department and the development of interdisciplinary projects, especially with the physics department.

“The ideal is still there,” says Gottesman. “We’ve hired the first of what we expect will be a powerful group in theoretical astrophysics.” New faculty has added to the interests of the department, which include stellar evolution, quasars, and extra-solar planetary searches, as well as part ownership of a telescope in Spain. Gottesman’s own work also is galactic; a radio astronomer who studies emissions from atomic hydrogen, his work is part of an evolving discussion about the total mass of galaxies and the amount of dark matter in the universe.

Kandrup, a professor at UF since 1990, received a UF Teaching Improvement Program Award in recognition of his teaching abilities in 1994.

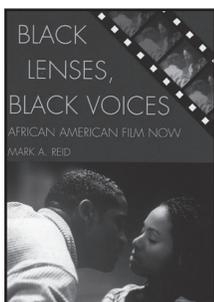
“Henry was a very gifted teacher, and the students were deeply shocked by his death,” says Gottesman. “Anyone interested in Henry and his work can get a sense of his achievements through these papers.”

—Michal Meyer



Black Lenses, Black Voices: African American Film Now, Mark Reid (English), Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Black Lenses, Black Voices is a provocative look at films directed and written—and sometimes produced—by African Americans, as well as black-oriented films whose directors or screenwriters are not black. Mark Reid shows how certain films dramatize the contemporary African American community as a politically and economically diverse group, vastly different from film representations of the 1960s. Tracing the development of African American independent filmmaking before and after World War II, he illustrates the unique nature of African American family, action, horror, female-centered, and independent films, including *Eve’s Bayou*, *Jungle Fever*, *Shaft*, *Souls of Sin*, *Bones*, *Waiting to Exhale*, *Monster’s Ball*, *Sankofa*.

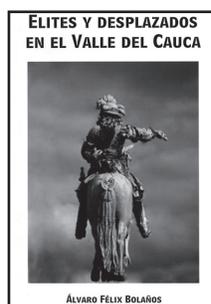


—Publisher

Elites y desplazados en el Valle del Cauca, Álvaro Félix Bolaños (Sociology), UCEVA

This book is a reading of historical and literary texts about Spanish conquests in relations with the crisis of displaced people in Modern Columbia. By considering Sebastian de Benalzar’s conquest of the Cauca river valley as a first wave of displacement of people from their lands, this essay intends to show a similar pattern of representation of Spanish conquest in historical and literary texts written during the 16th century and today. The premise is that his kind of representation naturalizes displacement as an essential step in the formation of the modern nation.

—Author Summary

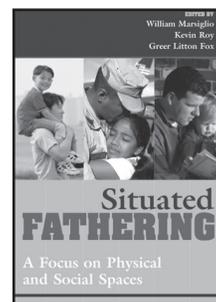


Situated Fathering: A Focus on Physical and Social Spaces

Edited by William Marsiglio (Sociology), Kevin Roy and Greer Litton Fox, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.

Situated Fathering proposes a new framework for studying how various contingencies of physical space, in conjunction with social/symbolic issues, affect men’s identities as fathers and their involvement with children. Consistent with public interest in men’s efforts to “be there” as providers and caregivers, this book explores issues associated with the barriers and supports to involvement that are part of the physical and social environment. Written largely for family scholars and students, it emphasizes a future-oriented perspective by outlining directions for theoretically guided research in specific, often gendered fathering sites.

—Publisher





JEFF STEVENS

UCLA Dean of Physical Sciences Tony Chan lectures on the merits of interdisciplinary math research.

New Perspectives in Mathematics

Tony Chan, co-founder of the Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics at the University of California, Los Angeles met with members of the UF Mathematical Sciences Committee on December 8 to give advice on creating such an institute in Gainesville. He also presented a talk on the advantages to and obstacles preventing interdisciplinary research in the mathematical sciences.

“What each university should do depends on its local strengths,” Chan says. “Facilitating interdisciplinary research requires a cultural acceptance, a change in how things have been done in the past.”

The UF Mathematical Sciences Committee brings together faculty in the mathematical sciences in CLAS, the College of Engineering and the College of Medicine to identify emerging scientific fields that have strong mathematical components, promote education in these fields, encourage and support research collaborations and interdisciplinary projects, and explore ways to bridge the mathematical sciences and their applications.

The committee holds bi-monthly lectures for the UF mathematical community. The next talk will be held on February 15 in room 2205 of the New Physics Building, where Leo Kadanoff, the John D. MacArthur Distinguished Professor of Physics and Math at the University of Chicago, will present “The Good, the Bad and the Awful.”

—Buffy Lockette



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