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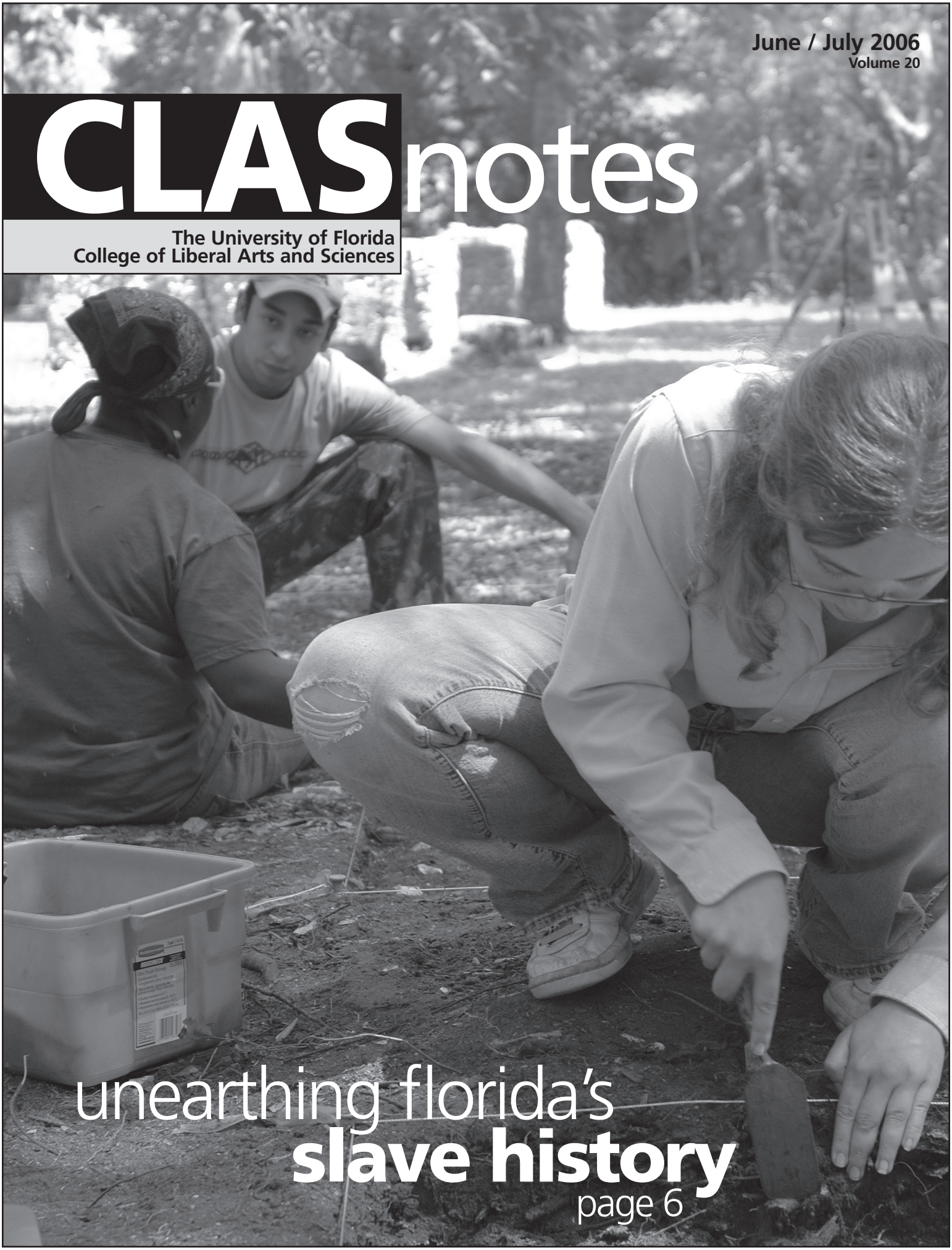
CLASnotes

The University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



unearthing florida's **slave history**

page 6

In this Issue:

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 Foundation for The Gator Nation

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The Dean's **Musings**

Hands-On Discovery

For all the art and technology of modern classroom instruction nothing can really teach quite as effectively as field research. Whether seeking the historical significance of past changes in local or distant cultures or observing the effects of climate change, the field experience can have an enormous impact on those who study life in all its forms.

Researching nature and its history is not limited to focusing on one isolated species, but rather studying a complex set of interactions that vary in time and place. Understanding these interactions and their delicate balance is important in the education of our students in all the social sciences and related areas which seek to better understand the human condition.

Field schools like the new program at Kingsley Plantation for anthropology students (see page 6) teach more than just science—they bring students and faculty together on projects and teach them to work as a team. Success hinges on learning to work together and depend on your colleagues. When approached openly and sincerely, it is also just great fun!

Neil Sullivan

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On the Cover:

UF researchers have returned to Jacksonville's Kingsley Plantation—the site where the Department of Anthropology pioneered the field of African-American archeology with the first scientific excavation of a slave cabin in 1968—and have established a field school to train the next generation of anthropologists (see page 6).

Cover Photo by Jane Dominguez

Courtesy Randy Duran

cultivating the seeds of science

UF students and faculty will soon have access to a new interdisciplinary science laboratory in the university's Health Science Center complex, thanks to a $1.5 million grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). The grant in support of undergraduate science education will leverage investments from UF and partners to total more than $3.8 million.

"This award will bring together early undergraduates, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and faculty members campus wide to teach and learn from each other in a way no other facility in the state does now," says Randy Duran, the grant's lead researcher and an associate professor of chemistry. "UF has a very talented freshman class, and we want to make stimulating opportunities available to these students."

UF will use the grant money to create the HHMI Undergraduate Core Laboratory at UF's Health Science Center. The facility will be devoted to cross-disciplinary teaching and laboratory work. "We hope to fund 70 to 100 HHMI freshman research awards annually in a program called Science for Life," says Ben Dunn, distinguished professor of biochemistry and molecular biology and co-director of the student research part of the program.

Working with UF's College of Education and colleagues in engineering, medicine and agriculture, the program also will establish a new science education minor, allowing hundreds of UF students to pursue high school science teaching. An extramural research program will send more experienced undergraduates to Scripps Florida and to some of the most outstanding life science research laboratories in Europe.

Thanks to more than 150 faculty from 49 academic departments, including 40 clinical faculty from the UF Health Science Center, freshmen will learn interdisciplinary research early in the core lab and quickly move on to conduct independent research projects mentored by graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and faculty members.

The grant also has enabled UF to partner with Morehouse College in Atlanta on two major programs. The first will enable postdoctoral fellows to teach in the HHMI Core Lab and work on collaborative research projects, spending a year teaching and researching at each institution. They will receive additional mentoring from Catherine Emihovich, dean of UF's College of Education. Typically, postdoctoral fellows conduct research at one institution and rarely receive training in teaching or mentoring. When the fellows sign on as new faculty members at any college or university, UF will pay each an additional $20,000 to help get them started.

In addition, UF and Morehouse will jointly award HHMI Term Professorships to at least 27 faculty members who demonstrate excellent undergraduate mentoring skills. The awards, $10,000 over a two-year period, can be spent at the faculty member's discretion.

"This particular award is especially meaningful as it addresses two important issues," says UF Provost Janie Fouke. "First, the most interesting problems are at the interstices between disciplines, and these faculty members recognize that. They are committed to reinforcing cross-disciplinary inquiry from the very earliest days of a student's career. Second, people cannot address many of the pressing societal issues without a sound background in science and math. Put simply, we need educated voters and this program will strengthen the science and math base for the next generation of folks who will be determining federal, state and local policies. Not only does UF win because we have received this award, so does the rest of the nation."

HHMI—the nation's largest private supporter of science education—awarded a total of $86.4 million in grants to 50 universities in 28 states and the District of Columbia. This year, out of 160 applications, UF is one of 6 to receive the grant for the first time.

UF's new grant comes on the heels of another HHMI award. In April, Lou Guillette, a UF distinguished professor of zoology, was selected as one of 20 HHMI professors and received $1 million to support undergraduate science research efforts at UF. Guillette is an active participant with the new award as well.

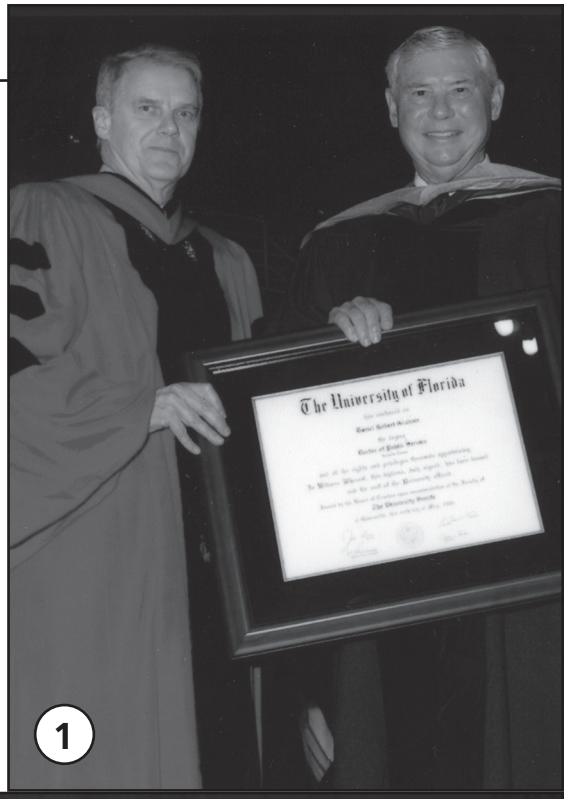
HHMI has supported undergraduate science education at the nation's colleges and universities since 1988, providing 247 institutions of higher learning with nearly $700 million in grants.

—Allyson A. Beutke

graduation SPRING 2006

For the second year in a row, CLAS held two commencement ceremonies in May. The graduate ceremony was held on Friday, May 5 in the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, and the undergraduate ceremony was on Saturday, May 6 in the O'Connell Center. Almost 2,500 students received bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from the college during the Spring 2006 semester.

1. Former US Senator Bob Graham received an honorary degree of public service from the University of Florida at the CLAS undergraduate commencement ceremony on May 6. He also served as the ceremony's keynote speaker.
2. UF Provost Janie Fouke delivered the keynote speech at the graduate commencement ceremony, where more than 300 students were awarded their master's and doctorate degrees.
3. The college honored six undergraduate students with the CLAS Hall of Fame Award for their excellence in scholarship and leadership. The inductees, from left to right, were Ryan Fields, Jennifer Kress, Justin Bangs, Monique Dieuvil, Andrew Hoffman and Emily Friend.
4. The UF Alumni Association recognized UF Outstanding Female and Male Leaders in each graduating class. Five CLAS students received the honor and posed with CLAS Dean Neil Sullivan before the ceremony. They are, from left to right, Bigad Shaban, Sarah Lowe, Marni Jacob, Kelli Anne Murray and Andrew Hoffman.
5. Rebecca Gaff was one of six graduating Signing Gators American Sign Language Club members who signed the Star-Spangled Banner and the Alma Mater during the undergraduate ceremony.



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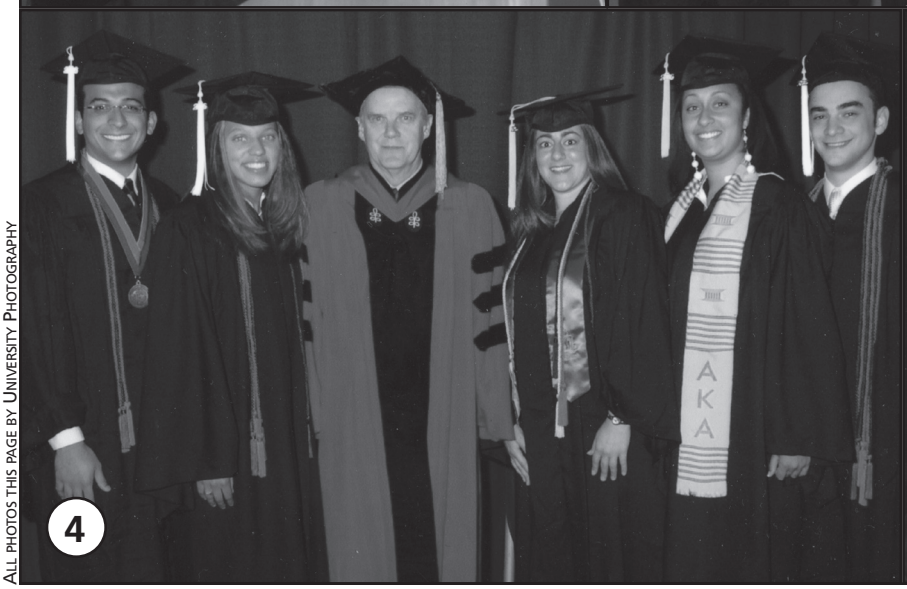

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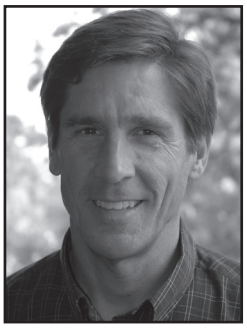
All photos this page by University Photography

supporting **research trailblazers**

Six college faculty have been named to the 2006 class of UF Research Foundation (UFRF) professors for their distinguished record of research and strong research agendas expected to lead to continuing distinction in their fields. The three-year professorships, funded by the university's share of royalty and licensing income from UF-generated products, include a $5,000 annual salary supplement and a one-time $3,000 grant.

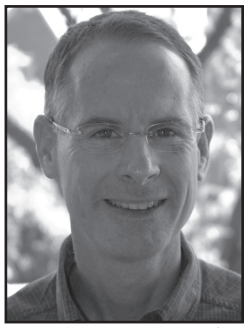
Associate Professor of Political Science **Leslie Anderson** has distinguished herself through her strong commitment to both her department and to the Center for Latin American Studies, of which she is an affiliate. Her research specialty is the study of democratic development in newly democratic settings, particularly in Latin America, and her findings have proved to be globally applicable and relevant.

Her 2005 book, co-written with Lawrence Dodd, *Learning Democracy: Citizen Engagement and Electoral Choice in Nicaragua, 1990-2001*, is regarded as a model of how to do comparative research within modern political science. She is currently writing "Politics on Faith," exploring the role of citizen values in furthering democratic development. In 1996 she won her department's first NSF grant and was recently awarded her second, along with Dodd, to continue work on the electoral and participatory politics of the poor.



Associate Professor of Geology **Jonathan Martin** is a world leader in the field of hydrology and is working to help the state better manage its water resources. He has been appointed by Governor Jeb Bush as one of 16 scientists on the Florida Springs Task Force and had a leadership role in the development of the UF Water Institute, an interdisciplinary initiative dedicated to understanding the physical and biological processes that affect the quantity and quality of our water.

Martin's work focuses on understanding the chemically complex interactions between fluids and rocks in both marine and terrestrial environments. He has taken the lead in applying modern chemical principles to better understand one of the mysteries of Florida's groundwater system—the diffuse flow of groundwater into the ocean—which has won support from numerous state and federal agencies. He is associate editor of the journal *Ground Water*.

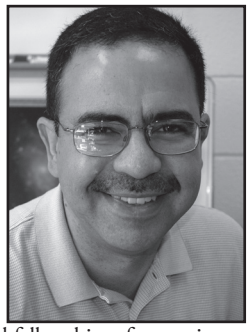


Professor of Chemistry **Kirk Schanze** is a leader in the field of organic and inorganic photochemistry and is one of his department's most active scholars, publishing nearly 70 articles in the past five years alone.

His research focuses on the interaction of light with small molecules, polymers and materials—with a particular interest in the photochemical and photophysical processes stimulated when molecular systems absorb light. Most of his current work, funded by the NSF, the Department of Energy and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, explores the phenomenon of luminescence and solar energy conversion. Schanze edited the premier set of books in his field, *Molecular and Supramolecular Photochemistry*, and serves as senior editor of the American Chemical Society's journal, *Langmuir*.

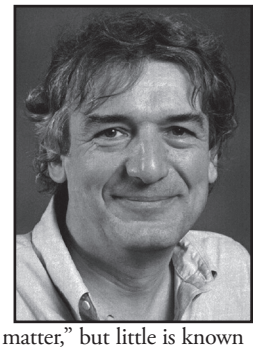
Michael Heckenberger is an associate professor of anthropology whose research in the Amazon has debunked views of small primitive tribes living in unchanged virgin tropical forests—redefining anthropology's outdated conceptions of "primitiveness" and its relation to "progress."

His work in the Xingu Basin of Brazil over the past decade has demonstrated a large, vibrant population that, over the centuries leading up to 1492, had transformed the tropical forest into complex, managed landscapes. His 2004 book, *The Ecology of Power*, revealed the existence of regional chiefdoms in the ancient Amazon that rivaled the complexity of any comparable age across the globe—stirring debate among those with western notions of wilderness and primitiveness. Heckenberger leads the Southern Amazon Ethnoarchaeology Project, collaborating with colleagues at the Museu Nacional in Rio de Janeiro researching indigenous groups in Brazil, and is an affiliate curator for the Florida Museum of Natural History.



Ata Sarajedini is an associate professor of astronomy and a world-renowned leader in the area of stellar populations. From the start of his career, he achieved recognition for his promise—receiving prestigious back-to-back Kitt Peak and Hubble postdoctoral fellowships after receiving his PhD at Yale in 1992. Upon arriving at UF in 2001 he was awarded a coveted Faculty Early Career Development Award from the NSF.

His research is focused on understanding the star formation and chemical enrichment histories of the local group of galaxies to which the Milky Way belongs. He has published 91 papers in refereed journals and serves as president of the star clusters commission of the International Astronomical Union. Sarajedini is also the principal investigator on an international team of astronomers studying globular star clusters and creating an archive of images and data using the Hubble Space Telescope. Sarajedini is also this month's grant feature on page 10.



Pierre Sikivie is a professor of physics who has spent his long and distinguished career seeking to understand the mysterious dark matter of the universe. Astrophysicists have concluded that more than 80 percent of the matter in the universe is non-luminous "dark matter," but little is known of its composition. It is suspected that this missing mass resides in an elementary particle, and science has zeroed in on two possibilities: axions and weakly interacting massive particles.

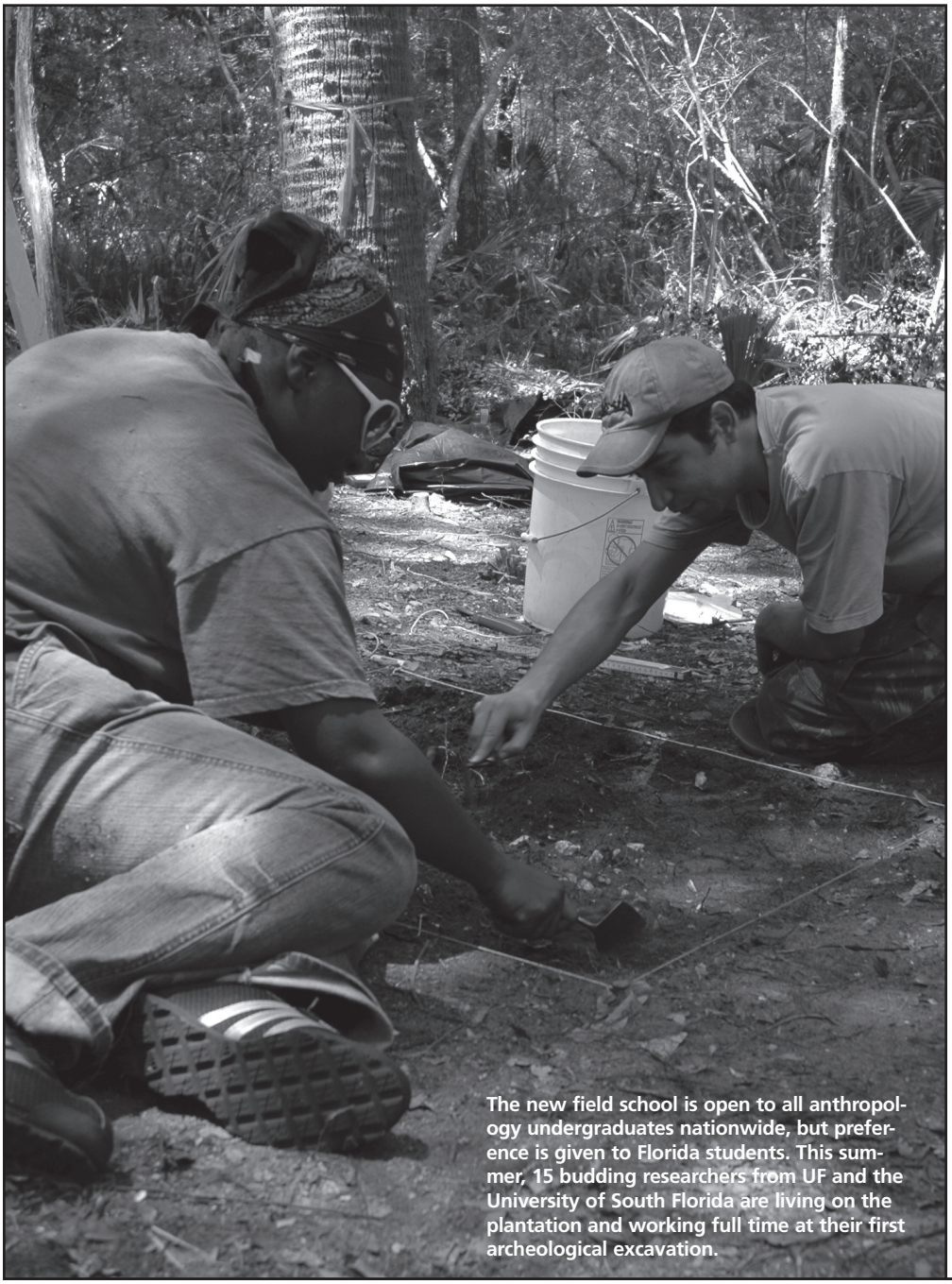
Sikivie has created novel experimentation methods to detect axions, which are now being implemented in a large-scale study at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He and colleagues have also developed a new model for studying the structure of galactic halos and the distribution of dark matter enveloping the luminous components of spiral galaxies. In 1996, he was awarded the Jesse W. Beams Award from the American Physical Society for his work on dark matter detection.

—Buffy Lockette

Sikivie photo by A.T. Photography, all others this page by Jane Dominguez

unearthing florida's **slave his**

You can visit an antebellum courthouse in a small Southern town, or tour a columned mansion owned by a wealthy plantation family, but where can you go to learn about the lives of the slaves who built the South? The UF Department of Anthropology has the answer. This summer, a new field school has been established at Jacksonville's Kingsley Plantation, one of the few places you can find slave quarters still standing and the site where UF pioneered the field of African-American archeology.



The new field school is open to all anthropology undergraduates nationwide, but preference is given to Florida students. This summer, 15 budding researchers from UF and the University of South Florida are living on the plantation and working full time at their first archeological excavation.

"If you want to see what slavery was like in Florida, Kingsley Plantation is the best venue for that," says James Davidson, assistant professor of anthropology and African American studies. "You can go to another plantation that might have three bricks sticking out of the ground where a slave cabin once stood, but if you can walk through the walls of a slave residence that is something altogether different."

Building on the legacy of former UF anthropologist Charles Fairbanks, who in 1968 became the first in the US to excavate slave quarters when he broke soil at Kingsley, Davidson and PhD students Erika Roberts and Clete Rooney have returned to Kingsley to learn more about the history of the plantation and the slaves who kept it running.

The Kingsley Plantation, located on lush Fort George Island north of Jacksonville, is named after one of several of its former owners, Zephaniah Kingsley, who operated on the property from 1813–1839 under the task system, which allowed slaves to work on a craft or tend to their own gardens once the specified task for the day was completed. The cash crop of sea island cotton, valued for its long silky fibers, had to be worked entirely by hand.

Kingsley was an anomaly among slave owners. While most Southern plantation proprietors had grown up in the culture, he was a Briton who chose the lifestyle apparently, in part, because of an intellectual interest in African culture. More lenient than the norm, he allowed his slaves to own guns, work their own crops and even freed and married one, Anna Madgigine Jai. In written documents he spoke out against prejudice, but in practice he profited from the exploitation of slave labor.

"Kingsley, in all his descriptions of slaves, seemed to be more than ordinarily fond of them," says Davidson. "He thought they were wonderful people—well-built, attractive, hard-working. He held social events and dances for them, gave them two days off work a week, and participated in their lives as much as possible. It should be stressed, however, that while those who labored under him may have had greater autonomy than most slaves of the period, they were still enslaved—with all of the horrors, anxieties and uncertainties this state conveys."

Kingsley's unorthodox views on slavery came under scrutiny when Florida became a state and began passing oppressive race laws to squelch potential slave rebellions. Fearful for the wellbeing of his wife and sons, Kingsley moved to Haiti in 1837, the only free black settlement at that time in the Western Hemisphere.

story

Today, the plantation is owned by the National Park Service and its main house, kitchen house, barn and the ruins of 25 standing slave cabins are open daily for the public to visit, free of charge. The footprints of seven additional cabins, completely hidden under the earth of an overgrown wood, are being excavated by the UF team.

To train the next generation of researchers, Davidson has established a historical archaeological field school at Kingsley this summer where ten anthropology undergraduates from UF and the University of South Florida are getting hands-on experience by excavating the floors of two tabby-wall slave cabins during Summer A.

"I am seriously considering a career in archeology, and I thought this would be a good opportunity, not too far from home, that would give me an understanding of how it is to be out in the field," says anthropology and Asian studies senior Kelly Christensen. "I've never done anything like this, and I know it's not for everybody. I have learned you have to be very patient to be an archeologist, but I think the payoff is really good. You know you are going to produce quality results people will be able to trust if you take your time."

Students are gaining practical archeology skills—from shovel testing to stringing off and creating an excavation unit. They have learned how to read a map, use survey instruments, screen materials and keep up with tedious paperwork. Within the first few weeks of digging they uncovered several slave-owned artifacts, including a hoe blade, clay smoking pipes, French gunflints, lead shot and sprue, and sinker weights for fishing.

Field school participants live on site at a lodge built in the 1920s, a mere 300 yards from the excavation site. On a typical day, they work from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm and keep a field book detailing their findings. For their labor, they receive nine hours of course credit and vital hands-on experience. "It's easy to read about the end results of archeology, but to see how that data is derived is important," says Davidson. "They learn the process and a little about themselves and whether they want to do this as a career."

Davidson remembers his first field school well. As an undergraduate at the University of Texas at Austin in the summer of 1989—when the final installment of a trilogy of Indiana Jones blockbuster films had Americans newly interested in archeology—Davidson participated in his first dig at a prehistoric, hunter-gatherer site in the Sabinal River Canyon in Utopia, Texas.

Later, to earn money for graduate school, he helped excavate Freedman's Cemetery in downtown Dallas, exhuming 1,157 bodies from the African-American community's primary place of burial from 1869 to 1907. "It changed my life," Davidson says. "I thought it was such an interesting and worthwhile project that I never left and, in a sense, I still haven't left. I have continued to do African-American archeology ever since."

Hired at UF in 2004, Davidson is continuing his work on the experiences of Dallas African Americans. He is also beginning North Florida projects such as the site at Kingsley, where one of his long-term goals is to locate the slave cemetery so that proper markers can be erected to both commemorate the dead and protect it from future development within the park. He also plans to research the nearby Rosewood community, a former African-American town outside Cedar Key which was destroyed by a white mob in 1923.

"The reason people do historical archeology, for the most part, is to give voice to people who had no voice in the past," Davidson says. "If this is the case, then African-American archeology, particularly plantation archeology, is most vital. It gives voice to the most oppressed, the most voiceless, in American history."

—Buffy Lockette

Erika Roberts and James Davidson study one of the many artifacts—a French gunflint—they have discovered while excavating the floors of two slave cabins.

dig this...

In addition to the new opportunity at Kingsley Plantation, CLAS also offers the following archaeological field schools to prepare tomorrow's anthropologists:

Amazonian Adventures

Formed by the active flood plain of the Amazon River, the Lake of Quistococha near Iquitos, Peru has been dated between 500 BC and 700 AD, but the cultural characteristics of the people that lived in this location are currently unknown. A new six-week field school has been established at this site by Assistant Professor of Anthropology Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo.
www.clas.ufl.edu/users/caycedo/iquitos

Medieval Times

Located in one of the most picturesque regions of southern Italy, the Medieval Archaeology Field Practicum in Salento offers a first-rate excavation experience led by Associate Professor of History Florin Curta.
www.clas.ufl.edu/users/fcurta/Apigliano.html

Valley People

The valley of Florida's St. Johns River was home to prehistoric hunter-gatherers for more than 11,000 years and offers a wealth of research opportunities, not too far from campus. Currently in hiatus, the St. Johns Archaeological Field School is the brainchild of Associate Professor and Chair of Anthropology Ken Sassaman, who plans to resume the school in summer 2007.
www.clas.ufl.edu/users/sassaman/pages/fieldschool/field_school.html

The Yucatan Experience

A fixture among UF study abroad opportunities, the Yucatan Program in Merida, Mexico offers a cultural anthropology tract emphasizing Mesoamerican archaeology led each summer by Anthropology Professor Allan Burns.
www.clas.ufl.edu/users/afburns/merida/study.htm

All photos pages 6 and 7 by Jane Dominguez

around THE college

Pugh Hall Construction Update

Preliminary construction on Pugh Hall began in mid-June. As a result, Union Road is closed permanently between Buckman Drive and Fletcher Drive. Fletcher is closed temporarily at Union Road in front of the Student Health Care Center and is scheduled to reopen in August 2006. Northbound traffic will detour through the service drive behind the Student Health Care Center and rejoin Fletcher above the closure, continuing north to parking facilities and University Avenue.

Gated parkers should note that the existing entrance to the gated area south of the Student Health Care Center off of Fletcher Drive remains open. The gated areas at Dauer Hall and Murphree Hall may be accessed via the detour noted above.

Student Health Care Center patient parking will be relocated from Fletcher to the east side of the service drive behind the Student Health Care Center.

These road closures occur in conjunction with construction of Jim and Alexis Pugh Hall, which will house the Bob Graham Center for Public Service at UF. The new building, scheduled for completion in 2007, will be located north of Newell Hall within the former Union Road roadway. Substantial utility work to support the new building necessitates the temporary closing of this portion of Fletcher Drive.

CLAS Students Snag NSF Fellowships

The National Science Foundation recently named the 2006–2007 winners of their Graduate Research Fellowships. Of the 14 UF recipients and 24 honorable mentions, half were from CLAS. Each fellowship provides three years of support for graduate study leading to research-based master's or doctoral degrees and carries a $30,000 annual stipend, as well as coverage of tuition and fees.

The winners are: **William Cox**, English; **John Harter**, physics; **Edwin Homan**, chemistry; **Michael Perry**, zoology and microbiology; **Elizabeth Van Wagner**, chemistry; and **Linda Watson**, physics and astronomy. Students to receive an honorable mention were: **Becky Blanchard**, anthropology; **Layla Booshehri**, physics; **Christina Boyd**, political science; **Luke Carlson**, anthropology; **Amanda Chunco**, zoology; **Christopher Cook**, physics; **Brian Dorvel**, chemistry; **Thomas Keller**, zoology; **Jaaved Mohammed**, computer science and mathematics; **Maria Elena Morales**, interdisciplinary neurobiological studies; **Jonathan Oliver**, microbiology; and **Sandra Vergara**, microbiology.

Site supervisor Richard Smiley (right) and Clint Cannon plan out the day's work schedule on the Pugh Hall construction site.

JANE DOMINGUEZ

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Chemistry

Alan R. Katritzky was recently appointed an honorary fellow of St. Catherine's College at Oxford University. He also received an honorary doctorate from the University of Jena in Germany.

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Cassie Effort, a doctor of audiology student, recently received the Audiology Foundation of America's Outstanding Third-Year AuD Student Scholarship. She is one of two students to receive a $4,500 scholarship for the 2006–2007 academic year.

Linda J. Lombardino recently was honored with the 2006 Clinical Career Award from the Florida Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists in recognition of her outstanding contributions to improved care and service in the practice of speech-language pathology.

Ongiri is UF Teacher of the Year

Amy Abugo Ongiri, an assistant professor in the Department of English and the Film and Media Studies Program, has received a UF Teacher of the Year Award. She has taught at UF for three years, and her research interests include gender and sexuality studies, as well as African-American literature. She teaches African-American Literature and also has taught courses through UF's Paris Research Center.

Jane Dominguez

The UF teaching award is given annually to two professors who demonstrate excellence, innovation and effectiveness when teaching undergraduates. **Gary Fairchild**, a professor of food resource and economics, also received the award this year.

Christou to Advise Canada

Chemistry Professor **George Christou** was recently invited to serve on the Scientific Advisory Panel on Nanoscience of the Supreme Court of Canada. The panel brings together 12 scientists from Canada, the US, Israel and Australia working in diverse areas of nanoscience.

Jane Dominguez

Christou is the only chemist on the panel, which otherwise consists of experimental and theoretical physicists. He was appointed as a result of his research in the area of molecular nanoscience, which involves the use of synthetic chemistry methods to prepare molecules that function as nanoscale magnets (nanomagnets).

Thanks for the Memories

Jane Dominguez

It is with much excitement and sadness that I write this farewell letter to my friends and colleagues in CLAS and at UF. I have worked in the CLAS Dean's Office for almost six years, and now it is time to move on to another adventure. I will start a PhD program in journalism and electronic media at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in August. Many loyal members of the Gator Nation are concerned about my presence in this new place, but I can assure you that I always have been and will be a Gator.

I will miss so many people on campus, and I thank those of you who I have worked with for your time, energy and passion for what you do, especially my co-workers in the CLAS News and Publications Office. Jane Dominguez, Buffy Lockette and Jeff Stevens have taken the college's publications and web sites to a new level of excellence, and they have made my job easier by serving as dedicated staff members.

I have literally been on UF's campus since the summer of 1995 when I started as a freshman during Summer B, and it will be a change not seeing Century Tower or driving through the various construction spots on campus each day. However, I am looking forward to having seasons in Tennessee and not suffering through 90-degree heat and humidity from May to October. I am *hoping* to make my new email address allygator@utk.edu, but you can always contact me at allydevito@hotmail.com.

Thanks for the memories, and please keep sharing story ideas with our office. If you do not tell us, we might never know.

Go Gators!

Take care,
Allyson Beutke DeVito
Editor

Yumiko Hulvey

Japanese Consul General Visits UF

Consul General **Masakazu Toshikage** of the Japanese Consulate in Miami visited UF for the first time in late April to forge ties with the university. In addition to meeting with UF and CLAS administrators and faculty from the Asian Studies program and African and Asian languages and literatures department, he was particularly interested in talking with students. More than 100 undergraduates attended his speech, "Japan/US Relations and East Asia," on April 21, which was followed by a spirited question and answer session.

Toshikage joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1968 and has held posts at the Japanese Mission to the United Nations and the Japanese Embassies in Pakistan, the Philippines, Austria and the US. Under his leadership, the consulate has hosted a variety of cultural programs across the state to increase awareness of Japanese art, music and culture.

grants

shooting for the stars

The Hubble Space Telescope, one of the most important instruments mankind has created for observing the universe, is expected to continue functioning for only a few more years. Associate Professor of Astronomy Ata Sarajedini is one of a handful of scientists charged with making the most of Hubble's remaining life.

As principal investigator on a $550,000 grant from the Hubble Space Telescope Treasury Program, Sarajedini is using the telescope to take images of star clusters and create an archive of observational data and digital images to be used by astronomers for decades to come.

"Access to this telescope is fiercely competitive and only about ten percent of proposals are successful," says astronomy department chair Stanley Dermott. "Ata has an international reputation for his research on the origin and evolution of galaxies and the distance scale of the universe. This new project will be a major resource for future astronomers."

Along with a ten-member team of international scientists, Sarajedini is using the telescope to capture images of 66 globular clusters within our galaxy. The instrument has already sent back images of half of the clusters and is expected to complete the remainder by the end of summer.

"The stars in these clusters are thought to be the oldest in the Milky Way," says Sarajedini. "By studying them we hope to learn about the formation chronology of our own galaxy and the age of the universe. The orbits of these clusters allow us to measure the mass of our galaxy, akin to placing the Milky Way on a huge balance scale."

Sarajedini first became interested in star clusters as an undergraduate majoring in astronomy and physics at Yale University. After graduating with his BS in 1986, he decided to stay on at Yale for graduate school to work with faculty members on the topic. After completing two postdoctoral appointments, first as a Kitt Peak National Observatory Fellow and then a Hubble Fellow, Sarajedini served two years as an assistant professor at Wesleyan University before coming to UF in 2001.

Shortly after arriving at UF, Sarajedini was awarded a $500,000 Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) grant from the National Science Foundation. He is one of seven astronomy faculty members to earn the award in the past seven years, including his wife and fellow associate professor Vicki Sarajedini.

"No other astronomy department in the US has achieved this, as far as I have heard," says Dermott. "Since only the top 10 percent of young tenure-track faculty in the United States get CAREER awards, we can safely say that we are hiring some of the best new faculty in the nation."

In addition to his booming research career, Sarajedini also provides guidance to young astronomers, serving as the department's graduate coordinator and advisor. He is president of the Star Clusters Commission within the International Astronomical Union and a member of the American Astronomical Society. All of this is a dream come true for the man who decided to become an astronomer his sophomore year of high school. "I loved it as a hobby and knew if I could do something for a career that I already enjoyed, that would be the perfect profession."

Visit www.astro.ufl.edu/~ata to learn more about Sarajedini's research or to view his Hubble images.

—Buffy Lockette

Ata Sarajedini's research with the Hubble Space Telescope may lead to a better understanding about the formation of the Milky Way and the age of the universe.

JANE DOMINGUEZ

Grants Through the Division of Sponsored Research

February–May 2006 totaled $13,694,666. 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

Monkey Farm: A History of the Yerkes Laboratories of Primate Biology, Orange Park, Florida, 1930–1965

Donald A. Dewsbury (Psychology), Bucknell University Press, 2006

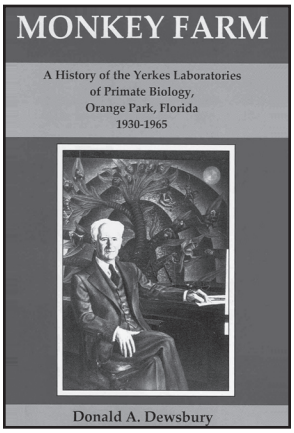

Dewsbury

A.T. Photography

Locals called it the Monkey Farm. Researchers referred to it as the Yerkes Laboratories of Primate Biology. For Donald Dewsbury, the first US lab for the study of non-human primates—located in the university's backyard from 1930 to 1965—offers a glimpse into the changing nature of science and its practices.

Writing a biography of the Yerkes Labs proved a natural choice for Dewsbury, a professor of psychology and an historian of science. "I live an hour-and-a-half away, and this was once the premier facility for the study of great apes in the world."

Primate anatomy, physiology, senses, development, social behavior, reproduction, reproductive behavior, learning and thought processes all came under scientific scrutiny. The founder and first director of the labs, Robert M. Yerkes, also a psychologist, believed in perfecting humankind, says Dewsbury. "He was a progressivist and believed knowledge gained from chimpanzees would help us engineer human society better. Knowledge about the great apes' behavior and cognitive ability is relevant to humans because they are so close to humans."



Each of the six directors faced their own challenges. Yerkes first showed the world that it was possible to breed and study great apes in captivity. Karl Lashley focused the lab more on physiological work, including work on the brain. Henry Nissen oversaw the shift in ownership from Harvard and Yale to Emory University in 1956. Later, sick and overworked, he committed suicide. Acting director Lelon Peacock soon gave way to Arthur Riopelle, who, recognizing the shift in the scientific winds, changed the labs' focus to medical research. Geoffrey Bourne, a showman who liked television appearances, supervised the move to Atlanta.

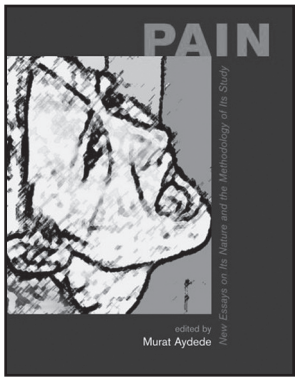
Taking a case-study approach to the book project, Dewsbury was able to examine changes in science and its funding, urbanization, race and gender. Even by the standards of the day Yerkes' refusal to employ women scientists stood out, and the everyday racism in Florida was shocking to Northern researchers in the 60s.

While the profession saw a shift from the solitary scientist, such as Yerkes, to large-scale collaborations, funding changes reduced the labs' flexibility. Post-war funding shifted from about 90 percent private sources to 90 percent federal sources, says Dewsbury. "Now people worked not on what the director thought worthwhile, but on what they could get grants for."

Governmental concern with human health finished off Florida's monkey farm. The demands of medical research, especially cancer research, persuaded the government to set up regional primate research centers. Emory's medical school saw the labs' potential as a center, and in 1965 moved the Yerkes Laboratories to Atlanta. Today it is one of eight national primate research centers funded by the National Institutes of Health.

—Michal Meyer

Pain: New Essays on its Nature and the Methodology of its Study, Edited by **Murat Aydede** (Philosophy). The study of pain and its puzzles offers opportunities for understanding such larger issues as the place of consciousness in the natural order and the methodology of psychological research. In this book, leading philosophers and scientists offer a wide range of views on how to conceptualize and study pain. The essays include discussions of perceptual and representationalist accounts of pain; the affective-motivational dimension of pain; whether animals feel pain, and how this question can be investigated; how social pain relates to physical pain; whether first-person methods of gathering data can be integrated with standard third-person methods; and other methodological and theoretical issues in the science and philosophy of pain.



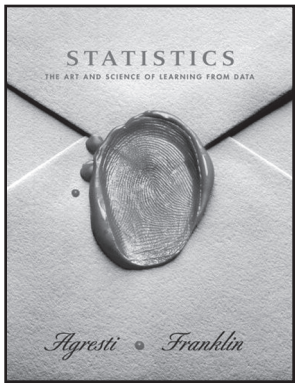
—Publisher

Household Words, **Stephanie Smith** (English). Looking in detail at words that "treat people as things, and things as people, and do so at that strange space where joking, ridiculing, demeaning, oppressing, resisting, and regretting converge," *Household Words* is a study of how certain words act as indices of political and social change, perpetuating anxieties and prejudices even as those ways of thinking have been seemingly resolved or overcome by history.

Specifically, Stephanie A. Smith examines six words—bloomer, sucker, bombshell, scab, nigger, and cyber—and explores how these words with their contemporary "universal" meaning appeal to a dangerous idea about what it means to be human, an idea that denies our history of conflict.

—Publisher

Statistics: The Art and Science of Learning From Data, **Alan Agresti** (Statistics) and Christine A. Franklin. Alan Agresti and Christine Franklin have merged their research expertise, as well as their extensive real-world and teaching experience, to develop a new introductory statistics text that makes students statistically literate, while encouraging them to ask and answer interesting statistical questions. The authors have successfully crafted a text that takes the ideas that have turned statistics into a central science in modern life and made them accessible and engaging to students without compromising necessary rigor.



The varied and data-rich examples and exercises place heavy emphasis on thinking about and understanding statistical concepts. The applications are topical, current and successfully illustrate the relevance of statistics.

—Publisher

en**gauge**ing **physics**

INVENTION ACQUIRED BY SMITHSONIAN

The National Museum of American History at The Smithsonian Institution is now the owner of a collection of pressure gauges invented by Professor Emeritus of Physics Dwight Adams and his first graduate student at UF, Gerald Straty.

The Straty-Adams gauge, which paved the way for the world's official low temperature scale, was created in 1965 by Adams and Straty for studying the fundamental properties of liquid and solid helium-3. Adams and another graduate student, Richard Scribner, later used the gauge to study the helium-3 melting pressure. "We observed that the resolution of the gauge was much greater than that of any thermometer available and proposed this method for thermometry," says Adams.

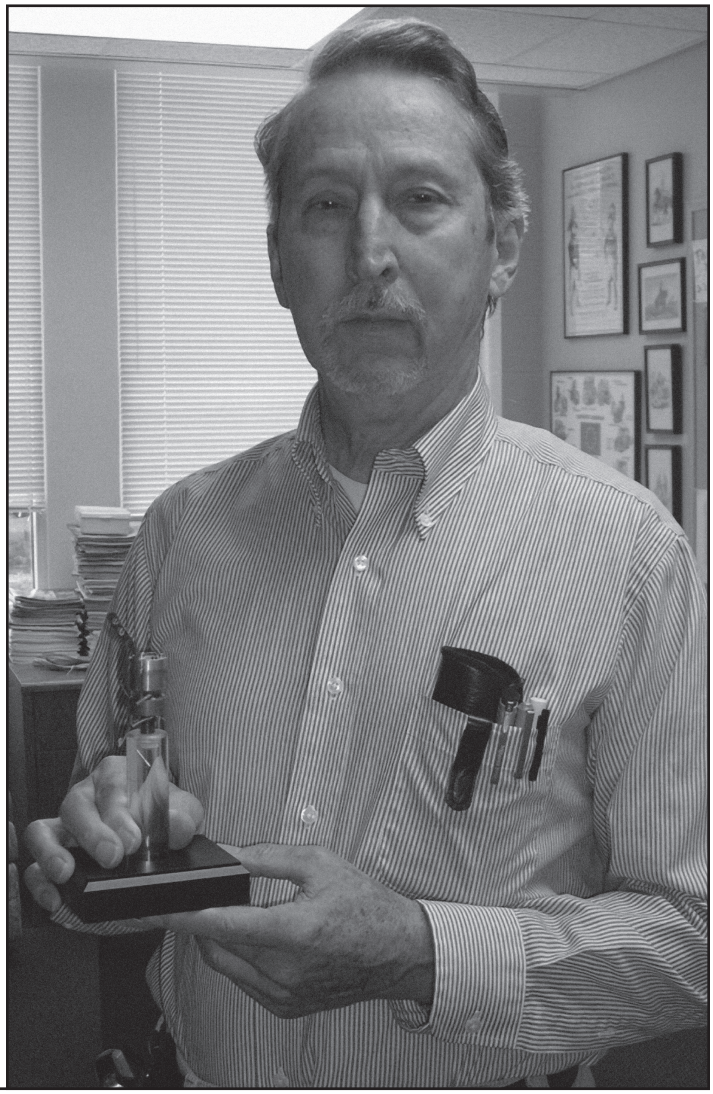
Scientists worldwide now use the gauge to measure temperatures as low as 458 degrees below Fahrenheit. It was the only instrument involved in the 1996 Nobel Prize winning project on the discovery of superfluidity in liquid helium-3 by David M. Lee, Douglas D. Osheroff and Robert C. Richardson. In 2005, the American Physical Society presented Adams the Keithley Award in recognition of his pioneering efforts in developing the gauge.

When Paul Forman, curator of the Division of Medicine and Science at the National Museum of American History, first learned in 2003 about the role the Straty-Adams gauge played in extending the temperature scale, he contacted Adams requesting the prototype of the gauge for inclusion in a collection on the production of lower temperatures. However, the exhibit has now been put on hold as the museum prepares to close this fall for renovations, not to reopen until late 2008.

"Just at the moment most of our attention is directed toward preparations to keep objects in our collections safe and sound," says Forman. "As we are a museum of record and research, and see our main responsibility as preserving historically significant artifacts, that is how it should be. During this interim, however, we will continue to document and describe our artifacts, and to that end we are looking forward to a visit from Dwight in the autumn, when we will videotape his explications of the features and functioning of the several versions of the gauge he has given us."

Forman says he also plans to post photographs and descriptions of the collection of gauges Adams recently sent him online at www.americanhistory.si.edu.

—Buffy Lockette



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