

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

CALS Connection

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FYCS are a winning
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Past. Present. Future.



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College of Agricultural
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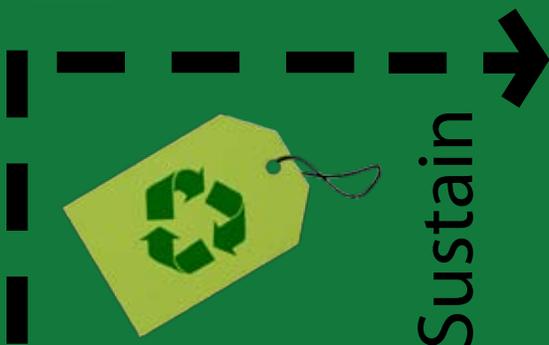
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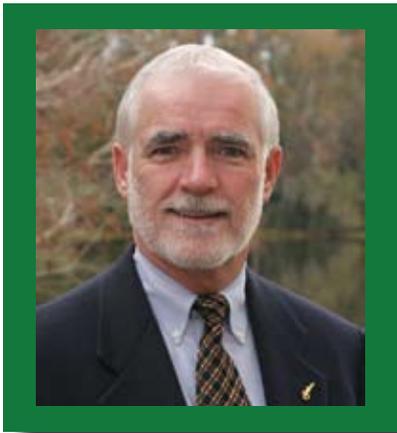
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Letter from the CALS Dean

R. Kirby Barrick



When we hear the word “sustainability” associated with the University of Florida and the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, we typically think of terms like “preserving the environment,” “protecting wetlands,” and “promoting best management practices.” And those terms frequently are in reference to research and Extension programs.

However, the college also is involved in sustaining the high quality academic programs that have evolved since the campus moved to Gainesville in 1906.

Each department and school in CALS has embarked upon a journey that concentrates on asking the right questions and developing solutions that will enhance the curricula. We are starting with these questions: “Why do we do what we do?” and “What are the career and advanced education opportunities for our graduates at all degree levels?”

To develop and enhance those programs, faculty then focus on how the curricula, broadly defined, will help ensure that students can be successful once they have acquired the right tools for advancement in their chosen area of expertise. In some instances, this may lead to a major redesign of a program. In others, perhaps changing a course or two, or adding internship or study abroad opportunities, or providing for independent study on campus or elsewhere will be required.

The end result – programs of study that lead to bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees that are among the very best in the nation. The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences is committed to sustaining the excellence we have achieved since the Florida College of Agriculture was established in 1884. To sustain is not to preserve mediocrity but to bolster and support excellence, doing the right things right. That is our commitment to sustaining academic excellence.

CALS gets your career in gear

BY SETH ROGERS

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences students, dressed in business attire, prowled the floor of the Reitz Union's Grand Ballroom in February, approaching company representatives with a smile, handshake and resume.

This "hunting" ritual is known as the University of Florida's CALS Career Expo, which helps students explore career and internship opportunities.

Alumni and Career Services Director Cathy Carr said approximately 275 students attended the expo. She said that companies were impressed by how prepared the students were for the expo.

"It's a different type of environment than most students have experience with," Carr said. "It's not an interview."

Food and Resource Economics senior Kyle Landrum said he attended the CALS Career Expo to speak with different landscape businesses about job opportunities in the Jacksonville, Fla., area. He said he didn't attend the expo

for one particular company but instead wanted to get a feel for the number of jobs in the entire market.

In addition to scoping out opportunities, Landrum said the expo



CALS Ambassadors welcome students to the CALS Career Expo. More than 50 companies attended this annual event.

was also helpful as, "It provided a great experience for networking with industry professionals."

Communication and Leadership Development senior Toccara Shaw

attended the CALS Career Expo for a very different reason. She did so with the hope of gaining a summer internship.

Shaw said that the experience of networking with industry professionals was worth the time and effort it takes to prepare for attending the expo.

"I would recommend the CALS Career Expo to other students," she said. "It's really important to explore all your possibilities."

Landrum said the ability to get internship opportunities with potential employers is linked with the student's amount of preparation. Showing initiative, he said, is something companies are looking for when interviewing students at the CALS Career Expo.

He even offered some suggestions for students who want to stand out.

"If you have the capability to make business cards, then do so," Landrum said. "It looks good because it shows you've taken an extra step and that's something company representatives notice."

Young Einsteins

BY ERICA DER

A real Einstein. That's what University of Florida students are working to develop in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences' youth science fair mentoring program.

The initiative begins with UF students enrolling in the Mentoring the Scientific Process course, which centers around pairing an at-risk sixth grader with a UF student to complete a science fair project.

Started in 2003 by Food Science and Human Nutrition professor Bobbi Langkamp-Henken, former Department of Agricultural Education and Communication faculty member Rick Rudd and Alachua County School Board science teacher Sara Charbonnet, the program has allowed 122 Gators to mentor 139 Westwood Middle School sixth graders and help them to better understand and enjoy science.

The program kicks off with a meeting between mentors and the middle school students to find out what type of science

project would work best, based in part on the students' interests.

"The UF students are great about taking the middle schooler's interest and applying it to a science project," Langkamp-Henken said.

The program has seen many success stories, but one that stands out is a sixth grader named Noel who, with the help of his mentor Jessica Greer, a Microbiology and Cell Science major, was the program's first student to win a blue ribbon at the school's science fair.

Greer helped Noel to develop his love for plants as he researched whether or not the position of a lima bean affects its rate of growth, she said. And as exciting as a first place finish was for Greer, she said she experienced even bigger rewards in the satisfaction she felt.

"When the seeds started to sprout Noel left me a note that said 'Look Jessica, I did it,'" Greer said. "I really felt like I was making a difference."

During the course, UF students not only have the mentoring experience but also look at science at its most basic level and dig deeper into critical thinking and research, Langkamp-Henken said.

"Getting involved in science at an early age creates our next doctors, scientists and teachers," Greer said.



Noel, a sixth-grade Westwood Middle School student in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences' youth science fair mentoring program, shows off his winning science project, focusing on lima bean growth.

Reveling in agriculture

BY KATELYN S. CROW



The University of Florida is known for academics, athletics and, now, agricultural ambassadors. In just three years, the National FFA

Organization has selected two College of Agricultural and Life Sciences students from the University of Florida to serve as ambassadors and student leaders within the agricultural industry.

Brady Revels, a student in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication, was elected in October 2007 to serve as the southern region vice president for the National FFA.

"Serving as a national officer for FFA is a goal many students in the agricultural industry aspire to," said Erica Der, who held the southern region vice president position from 2005 to 2006 and is also a student in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication.

Originally from Bushnell, Fla., Revels will travel more than 120,000 miles, teaching and informing students about agriculture.

"My job is to help further the agriculture industry through knowledge and awareness, while building student leaders," Revels said.

He said he is excited about meeting people who may not know anything about agriculture and projecting a positive image of the industry.

"I am really looking forward to a year of good first impressions on behalf of agriculture," Revels said.

He said his biggest concern with traveling nationally and internationally is dealing with the cold weather, though

he is looking forward to experiencing four seasons instead of what he calls "hot and hotter."

So far, Revels' duties have taken him to Japan to observe Japanese agriculture and inform students in Future Farmers of Japan about agricultural production practices in the United States.

While he is responsible for promoting agriculture on a national level, Revels said it will be easy for him to maintain a distinct voice for Florida agriculture.

"Florida agriculture is really just a cross-section of American agriculture," Revels said. "We combine all the elements of agriculture from the rest of country into one package."

Revels said the most rewarding part of serving as a national officer is the opportunity to be involved in an industry that values hard work and respect.

"Agriculture is a very selfless industry," he said.

Revels said one of his responsibilities as a National FFA officer is to combat negative perceptions concerning agriculture.

One such perception that Revels said he deals with frequently is the notion that agriculture is a dying industry.

"When that comment arises, I always say that until someone can figure out a way for humans to live without eating, we are going to need agriculture badly," he said. "Agriculture is the only industry in the world we cannot live without."

Revels said he has been involved with National FFA for as long as he can remember and attributes much of that to influences from both sets of grandparents.

"For me, FFA was simply an avenue for leadership," he said. "When you look at the big picture, FFA is not only developing the next generation of agriculturalists but also the next generation of leaders within the most important industry in our country."

Revels will hold the southern region vice president position until October 2008 when a new officer team is elected. He will also receive an \$8,000 scholarship for his service.

"Brady has and will continue to be a strong, clear voice for agriculture on a state and national level," Der said. "There isn't another individual more deserving of the position."



The College of Agricultural and Life Sciences hosts more than 400 students in the Advancement Via Individual Determination program at its annual Gator Encounter event, which is designed to educate prospective students, parents, teachers and advisers about CALS at the University of Florida. AVID is a fourth- through twelfth-grade system to prepare students for four-year college eligibility. AVID is used by more than 2,700 schools representing 39 states, one of which is Florida.

Tim Tebow & FYCS are a winning combination

BY ANGELINA C. TOOMEY

5 Fun Facts

Q: “What would you really like people to know about you?”

A: “Football is not my No. 1 priority. There are a lot more important things than football.”

A: “I’m just ordinary.”

Q: “What are some of your favorite ‘Tebowisms’?”

A: “I *can* believe it’s not butter.”

A: “I can count to infinity, and I’ve done it twice.”

Q: “Growing up, which professional football team was your favorite?”

A: “Dallas Cowboys – hands down!”

Q: “Are you bad at anything?”

A: “Guitar Hero.”

A: “Singing, even though I sing all the time – at practice and everywhere. I wasn’t blessed with a great voice.”

Q: “What is one misconception about you?”

A: “Even though you can be competitive and fierce on the field, it doesn’t mean that I am like that off the field. You can switch into game mode and off.”

The Family, Youth and Community Sciences major at the University of Florida is helping Tim Tebow and other service-minded students like him gain a stronger perspective on youth and community needs through coursework and practical experience.

Because of its focus on preparing students to deal with complex problems in human and community services, Tebow said the FYCS major goes along with his personal goals and will train him to be a better person, in



Tim Tebow is a third-year Family, Youth and Community Sciences major at the University of Florida. The first-ever Heisman Trophy-winning sophomore has also excelled academically, landing a spot on the CALS Dean’s List. He attributes his success on and off the field to prioritization. “You’ve got to keep your priorities in order – how much you’re going to spend time doing what. I think if you devote a certain amount of time to academics, football and everything else, then you can get things done. You’ve just got to be organized and focused and work hard.”

addition to becoming a better student.

“In my future, it’s not always going to be about business or making money,” he said. “It’s going to be about helping people and raising a family and being a well-rounded person.”

Carolyn S. Wilken, FYCS associate professor and adviser to student athletes, said that most students in the major feel this way, too.

“They want to make the world a better place,” she said. “They may have come from a world, a community where things were really tough, and they want to make that better for future generations or their own families. On the other side, they may have come from very affluent families and want to share some of that opportunity in a way to make the world better.”

For Tebow, who was born in the Philippines but has lived in the United States for much of his life,

his commitment to changing the world around him is truly global.

“My parents own an orphanage in the Philippines, and so I spend a lot of time there, but I also want to do something here in the states – maybe something like Danny Wuerffel does with Desire Street Ministries [spiritual and community development] or possibly a boys’ home or boys’ ranch – something non-profit for underprivileged kids,” he said. “That’s something I’ve always been interested in and something I’m very passionate about.”

One of the aspects Tebow said he enjoys about this major is its dedication to student needs.

“The classes aren’t very big, so you get a lot of individual work, which has been great for me,” he said.

Wilken said the FYCS faculty and staff work very hard to take such an

approach with all of its students, some of whom are athletes like Tebow.

“I think there are two things that draw athletes to this major,” Wilken said. “Many athletes have ideas that someday they’ll work with youth of various ages, and this gives them an opportunity to learn about working with kids, organizations and the like. Others, I believe – those who go pro, and some of them will – will have opportunities, they’ll set up foundations, they will have an opportunity to give back to society, and this is an opportunity for them to see what some of the issues are that they can respond to.”

This statement is true of Tebow, too, who said he wants to give back to others in the future. In the meantime, however, he has already started serving the Gainesville community.

“I think some of the most memorable [experiences I have had] have been the opportunities to go to Shands [at the University of Florida] and minister to kids and even adults,

and people who are going through hard times, not doing very well, or are very ill, and getting a chance to put an arm around them and comfort and support them,” he said.

In addition to being student-centered, this major is also hands-on, in that students are able to get a feel for real-world issues.

“I think people are really attracted to the fact that our major is applied work,” said FYCS assistant professor Heidi Radunovich. “There are a lot of opportunities for students to work in the community and do really applied stuff.”

One of these opportunities includes the practicum, which is required for graduation. In the practicum, students are able to work in a professional setting, incorporating their areas of interest within the major.

Wilken said students may work with after-school programs, juvenile justice, non-profit organizations, Cooperative Extension county offices or with certain types of informal education, such as parenting education.

Students’ coursework directly prepares them for the practicum experience, she said.

Tebow, who said he completed his practicum in Thailand over the summer, has also taken several classes within the major. So far, Tebow said his favorite class has been Radunovich’s Contemporary Family Problems and Interventions course.

“The goal of this class is to teach about some of the important problems families are facing, how they handle these problems and things that can be done to help families,” Radunovich said.

Tebow said he liked the class because he enjoys learning more about families, how to deal with tough situations and stressors, and how to help other people deal with these issues, as well.

Wilken said, “So much of what students learn in our classes, they will use in their own personal lives, as well as in careers and working in communities.”

First Roche Professor helps plant the future in CALS

BY AARON KEMMER

A veteran professor of plant science was recently appointed the first Roche Professor.

The Roche Faculty Excellence Fund was created to enhance teaching in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Michael Kane, assistant chair and professor in the Department of Environmental Horticulture, was selected for the Roche professorship.

As part of his professorship, Kane will help conduct teaching enhancement workshops and seminars and assist with overseeing other key areas to help CALS faculty meet their instructional goals.

“Dr. Kane will be providing leadership in renewing our commitment to teaching excellence through peer observation, including

preparing faculty to observe and appropriately critique teaching in its broadest sense,” said CALS Dean Kirby Barrick.

One of Kane’s graduate students,



While Professor Michael Kane said plants are his chief interest, he doesn’t spend all of his time in the classroom. To the surprise of his students, Kane owns a motorcycle that he likes to ride with his wife and a plane named Vivian that he flies on a weekly basis.

Phil Kauth, said Kane fits in with these goals because he has a strong

desire to teach and encourages the best in his students.

“Dr. Kane really is concerned about his students and how they are doing,” said Kauth, an Environmental Horticulture graduate student. “I feel that’s the main reason he’s a professor. He really nourishes the learning atmosphere.”

In 1991, Kane received the Teacher of the Year award for both the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the University of Florida.

“My appointed job is 30 percent teaching and 70 percent research, but I look at it as 100 percent teaching and 100 percent research,” Kane said. “I’m very committed to making sure a student receives a positive learning experience both in and out of class. Students are what it’s all about.”

Forestry is GREEN, too

BY KATELYN S. CROW

Though it seems that sustainability and conservation campaigns are recent phenomena, the School of Forest Resources and Conservation in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences has long been teaching environmentally conscious practices and behaviors.

“Sustainability is inherent to what we are about,” said George Blakeslee, assistant director for the School of Forest Resources and Conservation.

Blakeslee said that by its very nature, forestry practices sustainability.

Mae Kiggins, academic services coordinator for the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, said societal trends make the education and practice of sustainable forestry even more necessary.

“Society often misunderstands forestry,” Kiggins said. “Many people don’t want to see a tree cut down but consume products every day that come

from trees. We educate students in natural resource management practices that will help meet society’s demand for wood products and protect our water quality, air quality, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.”

Growing populations also make forestry and sustainability education increasingly important, Blakeslee said.

“As populations grow, so grows the need for energy,” he said. “Wood supplied from sustainably managed forests provides an excellent option for energy production.”

Kiggins said a major issue regarding forestry and sustainability education is counteracting inaccurate public information.

“Sometimes, people have inaccurate perceptions of forestry,” she said. “Forestry includes not only production but restoration,

creating endangered species habitat and preservation of sensitive ecosystems.”

One way the school is trying to deal with that issue is distributing research ranging from social behaviors to policy decisions on forestry through local Extension efforts.

“Sustainability is derived from actions, and actions need to be based upon informed research,” Blakeslee said. “We have to be careful that the idea of sustainability isn’t oversimplified or misconstrued as something that is accomplished without cost or effort.”

Kiggins and Blakeslee agreed that the answer to maintaining sustainability and answering societal demands is balance.

“We need to find a balance between utilizing and protecting our natural resources,” Kiggins said. “Both are essential.”

Summer interns get schooled in bioenergy

BY BRITTNEY SARANKO

For some University of Florida students, the summer offers fun in the sun and a break from tedious schoolwork. For more energy-conscious students, summertime provides an opportunity to learn about current trends in bioenergy by participating in the University of Florida Bioenergy Summer Internship Program.

“The program helps to create awareness of bioenergy, sustainability and renewable resources,” said Scott Edmundson, one of the program’s teaching assistants. “It also fosters an interest in the field and can lead to graduate research opportunities.”

The program entails lectures, field trips, seminars, discussion sessions, and group and individual research projects for approximately 10 interns. By completing these assignments, participants gain a concise view of

modern energy issues, Edmundson said.

One of the main projects for the 2007 interns was the Energy Garden Project where sunflower and peanut gardens were planted on UF’s campus to help students understand the production process of bioenergy. For this research, two plots of land were developed that totaled 549 square feet.



“We completed all tilling, planting and weeding,” said 2007 intern

Cherona Levy, a UF student studying environmental engineering. “The plants yielded one gallon of vegetable oil, which was used to make biodiesel.”

According to the program’s Web site, this activity allowed the students to see the process “from the soil to the fuel tank.”

The projects not only taught the students about bioenergy processes but also provided lessons about teamwork and cooperation.

“Teamwork is vital not only to get new ideas, but also to work effectively and productively,” Levy said.

Focusing on energy conservation extends far beyond the internship program. Team collaboration is needed to help create a green environment.

“There is a lack of understanding of how dependent our society is on fossil fuels,” Edmundson said. “[The internship program] is a positive step forward in addressing those issues.”

Sustainability at UF: Past. Present. Future.

BY MORGAN TAYLOR

In the land of orange and blue, the University of Florida, with the help of faculty in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, is making strides toward going green.

The Environmental Protection Agency defines sustainability as, “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

The start of the journey to sustainability at the University of Florida began with former President John Lombardi signing the Talloires Declaration in 1990, an oath to make environmental education and research a central goal at UF.

By signing the declaration, the university was officially in support of reducing environmental degradation and natural resource depletion.

“Everything I am doing today, I am standing on the shoulders of at least 10 years of grassroots support,” said UF’s Office of Sustainability Director Dedee DeLongpre-Johnston.

DeLongpre-Johnston said it is important to get everyone, from faculty to students, involved with this effort. She wants to make sure policies are written now so that UF’s movement toward becoming a more sustainable campus will continue.

“We want people to see everything through the lens of sustainability,” she said. “It is a new way to look at things.”

Working collaboratively in this effort with the Office of Sustainability is the Joint Standing Sustainability Committee of the Faculty Senate.

“The role of the committee is to promote the idea of sustainability among the academic community,” said Committee Chair Jeff Burkhardt. “They can then incorporate conservation and practice into their teaching and research.”



Burkhardt, a professor in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences’ Food and Resource Economics Department, said that elements of sustainability can be found in all disciplines, depending on how people decide to focus their teaching and research efforts.

“It’s the little things that just start adding up, like turning off the lights and shutting down your computer at night,” Burkhardt said.

The office and the committee are promoting the awareness of sustainability

to staff, faculty and students, who will then be the ones who make a difference, Burkhardt said.

“It is not part of their job description,” DeLongpre-Johnston said. “It is just how they decide to do their job. They have their sustainability lens on.”

The University of Florida is one of the most active institutional members in The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education in the area of sustainability. The university was even highlighted for its sustainability efforts in The Chronicle of Higher Education in 2007, as well as in Sierra magazine in 2008.

The Office of Sustainability conducted “visioning sessions” to craft a vision as to where sustainability at UF should go in the future. The office conducted 14 of these sessions to get everyone on campus involved.

“We are applying biodiversity theory to the human dimension,” DeLongpre-Johnston said. “The more people who are involved in the decision, the more sustainable and longer lasting the results will be.”

From the visioning sessions, the office will then compile one report. From that report, the office will facilitate the collaborative creation of implementation plans for the university’s efforts to become more green.

Fifield Hall is site of newest UF library

BY BRITTNEY SARANKO

Fifield Hall will be the home to one of the University of Florida’s newest libraries, the Vimla and Indra Vasil Library and Reading Room.

Preparation for the library began in January 2003 when Indra Vasil, a graduate research professor emeritus with the Department of Horticultural Sciences, set up a gift to fund the facility.

Not only did Vasil donate monetarily to help initiate the project, but he also greatly contributed to the stock of library resources. After retiring in 1999, Vasil said he no longer needed all of the books

he had collected throughout his 50 years as a professor.

The library will hold a collection of these rare horticulture books and plant science journals, many that are not available in other libraries on UF’s campus.

“Several of the books were donated by various faculty members,” said Department of Horticultural Sciences professor Dan Cantliffe. “Some other books were removed from UF libraries due to storage issues.”

All UF students and faculty are welcome to use the facility.

Studying areas will seat approximately eight students.

Departmental staff will manage the library, with possible help from the library’s founder.

“My hope is that it is often used by the faculty and students,” Vasil said. “It’s in a very handy location.”

The library hours are not finalized. A trial period to observe heavy traffic times will help determine the most appropriate hours of operation. Extra hours during the nights and weekends of exam week are anticipated.

CALS' faculty and student award winners



JAMES A. STERNS | CALS UNDERGRADUATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

James A. Sterns is an associate professor in the Food and Resource Economics Department. Sterns regularly teaches Principles of Agricultural and Food Marketing, and in 2007, introduced a new course, Commodities to Cafés – Agricultural and Food Marketing in France, taught during the May intersession in Paris. Students respond positively to his tireless commitment and innovative techniques.



LISA A. HOUSE | CALS UNDERGRADUATE ADVISER OF THE YEAR

Lisa A. House is a professor in the Food and Resource Economics Department where she served as undergraduate coordinator from 2004 to 2007. House was named UF Adviser of the Year for 2007 to 2008. As undergraduate coordinator, House implemented several innovative approaches to student advising. First, she created a new course, Food and Resource Economics Seminar. In addition, she has streamlined advising procedures, allowing faculty to have more time for advising students about career options, study abroad opportunities, and graduate study. Her proactive approach has enhanced students' experiences and their progress toward graduation.



LISA A. HALL | CALS UNDERGRADUATE ADVISER OF THE YEAR

Lisa A. Hall is academic program coordinator for the Environmental Horticulture Department where she coordinates course schedules and academic advising of students in two majors, Landscape and Nursery Horticulture and Golf and Sports Turf Management, which are offered at five locations around the state. A tireless recruiter, Hall has marketed the department's academic programs at industry trade shows in Florida and Georgia and through courses such as Plants, Gardens and You, and Principles of Floral Art. She has expanded scholarship, internship, and job placement opportunities for students, and hosted a highly successful Internship Night in 2007.



SAMIRA H. DAROUB | CALS GRADUATE TEACHER / ADVISER OF THE YEAR

Samira H. Daroub is an associate professor of Soil and Water Science at the Everglades Research and Education Center located in Belle Glade, Fla., where she studies phosphorus chemistry and transformation in organic soils and impact on water quality. Daroub promotes cooperative learning through active engagement with real-world problems, discussion, and student-student and student-instructor interactions. She is adept at using new technologies for course delivery and was one of the first instructors in Soil and Water Science to offer a graduate course completely online.



WILLIAM J. LINDBERG | CALS GRADUATE TEACHER / ADVISER OF THE YEAR

William Lindberg is an associate professor in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences where he works in the areas of marine ecology, behavioral ecology and fisheries habitat. His goal is for each student to grow in his or her capacity for science and professional interactions, and he promotes this growth through Socratic dialogue and debate in the classroom and through empowering students to cultivate their strengths while improving on their limitations. His course, Scientific Thinking in Ecology, challenges students to apply critical thinking and scientific philosophy to current ecological issues. Lindberg has been a major contributor to the development of the Ph.D. program in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences.

ROBERT REGENHARDT | J. WAYNE REITZ MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

Robert Regenhardt is recognized as an Outstanding Four-Year Scholar and as the J. Wayne Reitz Medal of Excellence award winner. Regenhardt graduated in May 2008 with a Bachelor of Science, summa cum laude, in Food Science and Human Nutrition and also completed a Chemistry minor. He also completed his first year of medical school as part of the highly selective Junior Honors Medical Program. Regenhardt aspires to a career as a physician-scientist and has been accepted into the M.D. – Ph.D. program of the University of Florida's College of Medicine.



NICOLE BURTON | LARRY J. CONNOR MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

Nicole Burton graduated in August 2008 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Food Science and Human Nutrition. Nicole was the recipient of the Larry J. Connor Medal of Excellence. This award honors Dean Emeritus Larry J. Connor and is presented to the outstanding senior who contributes to and fosters diversity within the student body and society. Burton has a passion for working with children from underserved communities and is extensively involved in the Ocala, Fla., area. Her career plans are to work in public health nutrition with minority communities, developing health promotion and disease prevention programs.



KENDRA LEVINE | ALUMNI AND FRIENDS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Kendra Levine graduated in May 2008 with a Bachelor of Science, summa cum laude, in Food and Resource Economics and minors in Latin American Studies and International Development and Humanitarian Assistance. She was honored as the recipient of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni and Friends Leadership Award, which recognizes a student for outstanding leadership, involvement in the college and university, and support of the agriculture, natural resource and life science industries. Levine founded The Campus Kitchens Task Force, a local affiliate of a nationwide organization that provides hunger relief.



ANDREW MIGLIACCIO | E.T. YORK MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

Andrew Migliaccio is a pre-medical student from Winter Park, Fla., majoring in Food Science and Human Nutrition. He has an extensive record of community service, including participation in the recently created University of Florida organization, Heal the World. He has also volunteered at Camp Boggy Creek for children with serious chronic illnesses, served on a medical mission trip to Costa Rica and is a Youth Mentor for Interface Youth Program for troubled teens.



ROSLYNN G.H. BRAIN | JACK L. FRY GRADUATE TEACHING AWARD

Roslynn G.H. Brain is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communication. She will complete her degree with a concentration in Extension Education and a minor in Environmental Education in December 2008. A native of Canada, Brain earned a B.A. with Honours in European Studies and a M.Sc. in Rural Extension Studies from the University of Guelph in Ontario. She is recognized for her excellence in teaching the Effective Oral Communication course. As an instructor, Brain strives to foster experiential learning opportunities that engage students in the learning process and promote growth in their abilities.





Orange and Blue make GREEN

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