

Number of Floridians without health insurance on the rise

The rate of Floridians without health insurance is climbing, a new UF study finds, setting the stage for more serious illness and higher downstream health-care costs.

Researchers discovered that nearly 3 million residents, or more than 19 percent of the state's under 65 population, lack health insurance, up from 16.8 percent when the study was last conducted in 1999.

Nationally, the uninsurance rate is 15.6 percent.

The study looked at Floridians under age 65, given that virtually all Americans 65 or older have coverage through Medicare.

"Health insurance coverage is an important issue nationally and in Florida, in part because insurance clearly has an impact on our health," said lead researcher R. Paul Duncan, Ph.D., chair of the department of health services research, management and policy. The research team also included department colleague Colleen Porter.

The study's key findings include:

- The most severe rates of uninsurance were among families with annual incomes between \$15,000 and \$45,000.
- Of ethnic groups, Hispanics had the highest rate of uninsurance at 31.8 percent. African Americans followed with 22.6 percent and for white non-Hispanics, the percentage was 14.3.
- Uninsurance rates among young people, ages 19 to 24, rose to 35 percent, up from 27 percent in 1999.
- Among people who work for companies employing fewer than five people, nearly 40 percent were uninsured, compared with 5.2 percent of people working at companies that employ 1,000 or more.
- Sixty-three percent of people without coverage cited cost as the reason for not having insurance. The next most common reason, cited by 9.6 percent, was that their employer doesn't offer insurance.
- Among people without coverage, 42 percent reported delaying or not obtaining medical care in the past year while 12.6 percent of people with insurance delayed care.
- Florida has successfully tackled the problem of uninsurance

in one group: children. A wide variety of new state programs aimed at providing health coverage for children has lowered uninsurance rates from nearly 12 percent of children birth to 4 years old in 1999 to 8 percent now.

"Many argue that the reason more people are uninsured in 2004 than in 1999 is an economic issue, citing the poor economy of recent years," said Duncan, the Louis C. and Jane Gapenski Professor of Health Services Administration. "But I believe more is going on. Employers repeatedly indicate that they want to offer health insurance, but they are increasingly skeptical of the value. On the other hand, employees, especially those with moderate incomes, simply cannot afford to buy health insurance unless the employer is bearing part of the cost."

The nature of Florida's economy also contributes to uninsurance rates that are higher than the national average. Employers in the tourism, agriculture and service industries prevalent in the state frequently don't offer health insurance, Duncan said.

But the consequences of high rates of uninsurance are serious.

"Health insurance is related to health care and health care is related to health," Duncan said. "They are all tied to each other. If Florida has low rates of insured people, we suffer lost productivity and wages because people don't have access to the health care they need.

"A second consequence is that when people without health insurance get sick, they are likely to delay care as long as possible and then go to a hospital emergency room. Typically, hospitals don't turn these patients away; they are all treated. The costs of treating patients who are uninsured are borne in the short run by other patients at that hospital. Since many hospitals are community-based organizations, those costs are ultimately borne by the entire community."

The UF study was funded by a contract from Florida's Agency for Health Care Administration. Telephone interviews were conducted with 17,435 households, collecting data on 46,876 Floridians. ●

Photo by Lisa Baltozer

Researcher to develop public health model for safe older driving

A college professor has recently received funding to develop a public health model for addressing the issue of safe elderly driving.

Sherrilene Classen, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the department of occupational therapy, received a \$490,000 career development grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Classen will research and develop a public health intervention plan to promote safe older driving during the three-year research project.

The UF occupational therapy department is home to the National Older Driver Research and Training Center, a federally funded project aimed at helping older people remain independent as long as possible. Classen's project will complement the existing older driver research agenda by adding a population-based model.

"Unless we use an integrated approach, grounded in a unifying public health model, we will not have taken the adequate steps to understand how behavioral, ecological, health education, administrative, policy and regulatory strategies may promote safe elderly driving," Classen said. "Continued neglect of these needs, accompanied with the graying of America, could sharply increase the number of older people killed in crashes and leave many more injured and disabled." ●

This winter, we held a grand opening celebration for the new UF Gator-Tech Smart House, an unusual research laboratory designed to evaluate technology for aiding elders.



Located on the campus of Oak Hammock at the University of Florida, a continuous care retirement community, the Gator-Tech Smart House will assess the needs of elderly individuals in a home-like setting and develop technological interventions to help them live independently. The Smart

House project is a good example of the three ways

our college is changing: Our research is increasingly interdisciplinary and less centered upon UF; the college has become fiscally self-sufficient, changing the nature of our faculty member's activities; and alumni and corporate gifts have become critical to the college's future.

The Gator-Tech Smart House is directed by William Mann, Ph.D., chair of the department of occupational therapy and director of the Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center. Dr. Mann's work could not happen without the collaboration of Sumi Helal, Ph.D., the center's director of technology and a faculty member in the College of Engineering. In this partnership, Dr. Mann and Dr. Helal have combined their knowledge of human function, aging and technology to develop a unique laboratory able to examine technology from a novel perspective. Partnerships that bring together individuals of different disciplines have become critical to research in American universities.

Alumni and students often believe tuition pays the cost of operations at UF, but in fact, state revenue from tuition pays only a small portion of our college's operating costs. In the current fiscal year, state revenue covers only \$8 million of our almost \$30 million budget. Through their clinical and research efforts, college faculty provide the majority of the additional \$22 million required to operate the college by teaching, doing research and providing clinical services. In essence, each faculty member runs a small business generating revenue to support the college.

The Gator-Tech Smart House was completed with donations from three corporate sponsors involved in the building of Oak Hammock: Praxeis, RDG Shutte Wilscam Burge and The Weitz Company. Led by Matt Weaver of Praxeis, the corporate donors recognized the importance of studying the role of technology in aging and agreed to support the project, a type of donation that has become increasingly important to the college.

In one year, we now graduate more students than we graduated during our first 10 years. Alumni gifts can address the greatest challenge we face — helping finance graduate education. Whether you give personally or encourage your company to support the college, you can make a difference for the college and UF. ●



Photo by Lisa Baltozer

Treating swallowing disorders

Novel therapy is focus of new study

A college research team will evaluate the effectiveness of a new therapy for the treatment of swallowing disorders.

Led by Michael Crary, Ph.D., a professor of communicative disorders, the team will investigate how useful electrical stimulation is in treating patients who are unable to swallow food or drink following disease or illness.

The therapy involves placing electrodes on the patient's neck. The electrodes put out very low electrical currents, with the goal of stimulating inactive muscles.

Electrical stimulation has been used for years in physical therapy and other rehabilitation medicine fields, Crary said. And, although it has shown promise, electrical stimulation has never been evaluated scientifically for its effectiveness with swallowing disorders.

"Electrical stimulation may be a good technique, and it certainly is supported by a lot of anecdotal evidence, but we need to systematically study the outcomes of the therapy and identify

who might benefit most from this approach," Crary said.

An estimated 15 million Americans have swallowing disorders. The condition can affect patients with stroke, Parkinson's disease, traumatic injury, or head and neck cancer.

Researchers will test VitalStim, the only electrical stimulation device approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for this use, with funding from the Chattanooga Group, VitalStim's manufacturer.

Following an evaluation of swallowing ability, participants enrolled in the study will receive electrical stimulation therapy five days a week for up to three weeks. At the end of treatment, the patient's swallowing ability will be re-evaluated to measure his or her progress.

Researchers also will conduct two national surveys of swallowing therapists to gather information on how many people

are using electrical stimulation for their patients and the outcomes of the treatment.

"Eating and drinking at gatherings with family, friends and business colleagues is so important in our culture," Crary said. "People who no longer have that ability are separated from others and may become shut-ins. Anyone who has significant restriction or loss of swallowing ability will experience a total change in his or her life. It is very important that we find the most effective treatments



Dr. Michael Crary

for swallowing problems." ●

Above: Clinical speech pathologist Cynthia DuBose places electrodes on Kurt Berry, a research participant in the study of electrical stimulation for treating swallowing disorders.

Rosenbek named chair of communicative disorders

John Rosenbek, Ph.D., an internationally known speech-language pathologist, has been named chair of the department of communicative disorders. He succeeds James Hall III, Ph.D., who will continue as a professor and researcher in the department.

Rosenbek joined the UF faculty as a professor in September 2000, previously serving 25 years at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Madison, Wis. He is a fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and has received the association's highest honor, as well as the Kleffner Career Clinical Award for outstanding clinical service.

In his research, Rosenbek focuses on the evaluation and treatment of adults with swallowing and

speech disorders. He is currently investigating the use of transcranial magnetic stimulation in the treatment of swallowing disorders, a common occurrence after stroke, and is developing and testing behavioral therapies for aprosodia, the inability to express emotion through tone of voice, in patients with neurological damage.

"I am assuming the role of chair of the department of communicative disorders at a time of substantial growth in its clinical activities," Rosenbek said. "I plan to nurture that growth and help direct it to areas of greatest need. The department's education and research missions are growing, but not as rapidly. Therefore, among my earliest and most concentrated efforts will be the encouragement of course development and the hiring and support of



Dr. John Rosenbek

new, young researchers with present or the potential for future funding.

"The men and women in this department are hard working and creative," he added. "My enduring goal will be to let them know often and publicly that the future depends on them." ●

Helena Chapman, a student in the master's of public health program, received a scholarship from the American Public Health Association's Environment Section. The award covered her registration and travel costs for the APHA's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. In addition, Chapman's entry in the UF Hispanic Graduate Student Association symposium was recognized as the best poster presentation.

Praveen Saxena, a doctoral student in the department of health services research, management and policy, won second place in the 2004 Donald W. Fogarty International Student Paper Competition, Region 4. The American Production and Inventory Control Society sponsored the competition.

Congratulations to these clinical and health psychology students who successfully defended their doctoral dissertations and were left off of our list in the last issue (our apologies). Suzanne Johnson, Ph.D., served as their dissertation chair.

Rwanda Aker

The Effects of Family History on Patient Health Behavior: An Examination of Youths with Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes

Stacy Carmichael

Newborn Genetic Screening For Type 1 Diabetes: Factors Affecting Maternal Risk Perception, Anxiety and Study Participation

Kimberly Kirkpatrick Justice

Eating Disorders and Adolescents With Type 1 and Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus: Prevalence and Adherence to the Regimen ●

faculty NOTES & staff

Kenneth Bzoch, Ph.D., professor emeritus and former chair of the department of communicative disorders, recently authored "How Babies Learn to Talk: A Book for New Parents and Grandparents." For more information, visit www.authorhouse.com.

Joanne Jackson Foss, Ph.D., a clinical assistant professor and director of professional graduate programs in the department of occupational therapy, has been named the college's assistant dean for academic affairs.

Jeff Loomis, associate director of the Center for Telehealth and Healthcare Communications, received the Regent's Award from the North Florida Chapter of the American College of Healthcare Executives in the early career category.

Three staff members were honored as Employees of the Year at the annual staff and faculty appreciation dinner. They are **Andrea Burne**, assistant director for health administration in the department of clinical and health psychology; **Janet Haire**, office manager in the department of rehabilitation counseling; and **Shankar Manamalkav**, coordinator of computer applications in the department of clinical and health psychology. ●



LOOKING BACK



Longtime **clinical and health psychology** professor Peter Lang, Ph.D., (center) is joined in his lab by former department colleagues Barbara Melamed and Bruce Cuthbert in this 1983 photo. The figure on the computer screen could be modified in expression and activity by a hand control and was used by patients to report their emotional reactions. The director of the Center for the Study of Emotion and Attention, Lang is internationally known for his contributions to the scientific study of human emotion, particularly fear and anxiety, and his pioneering work in behavior therapy and biofeedback.



Photos courtesy of Shannon Senefeld

Africa calling

Once-in-a-lifetime opportunity draws UF student to work in AIDS prevention

When first-year clinical and health psychology graduate student Shannon Senefeld was asked to serve as a technical adviser for AIDS programs in Africa, it was an offer that, ultimately, she couldn't refuse.

The decision to take a two-year leave of absence from her Ph.D. studies in the College of Public Health and Health Professions was a difficult one for Senefeld. Applying to graduate programs and selecting the right program had been a grueling process and she had firmly decided to put her professional career on hold while she pursued her doctorate.

"Then this position opened up," Senefeld said.

While it might seem like a radical departure to many, those familiar with Senefeld's background wouldn't be surprised by the pull this international opportunity had on her. She completed bachelor's degrees in French and political science from Indiana University and a master's degree in international development from George Washington University. In addition, Senefeld spent three years in Haiti, working primarily on HIV/AIDS projects, and held a four-month internship with the U.S. State Department in Zambia.

Senefeld was particularly attracted to the newly-created technical adviser position because of her research interests in HIV/AIDS and other immunological or infectious diseases, as well as behavioral health. The prospect of helping to decrease rising infection rates in a vulnerable region of the world made it a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for her.

With the support of program director Russell Bauer, Ph.D., a professor in the department of clinical

and health psychology, Senefeld put her UF studies on hold in January 2004.

"I supported her decision because, given her interest in providing psychological services to underserved populations, this represented a fabulous opportunity to gain real-world experience that she could then bring back to enrich not only her UF-based learning experiences, but also our rural behavioral health program," Bauer said.

Senefeld began work for Catholic Relief Services, which offers programs for people infected with HIV and AIDS that address prevention, AIDS-related stigma, poverty and burdens faced by women.

"Southern Africa has the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence rates in the world, with new infections occurring daily," Senefeld said. "I felt I had the opportunity to come here at this point and try to make a positive difference."

Based in Lilongwe, Malawi, Senefeld is responsible for ensuring that all of the HIV/AIDS programming in a 12-country region is of the highest technical quality possible. She provides training to staff and partners; designs program proposals; writes manuals; and conducts field evaluations and operations research.

Senefeld and her colleagues are working to stem the high rates of infection in the sub-Saharan region of Africa. Of the 38 million people worldwide with HIV or AIDS, 25 million live in sub-Saharan Africa. Within this same region, 12 million children



Shannon Senefeld (lower right) conducted a training session on nutrition and living positively with HIV for this group of staff from Catholic Relief Services and local organizations that provide counseling and testing.

have lost at least one parent to AIDS.

Despite these sobering facts, Senefeld is heartened by the mindset of the people she serves.

"I'd say that it's the most hopeful place I've ever been," she said. "There are so many negative factors that could affect the people here every day. It's astonishing, honestly. In addition to HIV, there's malaria, tuberculosis, cholera and more. But the people here are happy and hopeful despite the poor health conditions. I've definitely learned as much as I've taught."

Upon her return later this year, Senefeld plans to jump back into her doctoral studies and hopes to pursue a master's degree in public health. Her career goals include working in academia or for a research organization that would allow her to maintain overseas links while being based in the United States.

"I continue to remain hopeful that we'll manage to harness the rising AIDS and HIV rates in Africa," Senefeld said, "[So that] hopefully the type of opportunity I have here will never happen again." ●

Helping older minds stay sharp after surgery

New service seeks to lessen memory, thinking problems

A new UF&Shands service is the first in the nation to address cognitive deficiencies older people may experience following major surgery.

Neuropsychologists in the department of clinical and health psychology are offering a monitoring and intervention program to reduce the impact of memory, attention and mood disturbances that can occur after surgery.

The Peri-Operative Evaluation and Treatment Program (POET) is specifically designed for people age 65 or older who are scheduled for surgery.

“Older age is the greatest risk for cognitive decline after surgery,” said Catherine Price, Ph.D., a research assistant professor who studies cognitive changes after surgery. “Unfortunately, older adults often do not report changes in memory or thinking until a problem or significant accident occurs. This is especially true for patients who already have memory or thinking problems prior to surgery or for patients who have limited family support.”

Research led by anesthesiologist Terri Monk, M.D., a former UF faculty member,

showed that 40 percent of patients age 65 or older undergoing major surgery had cognitive deficits at the time of discharge. When the patients were tested



Dr. Catherine Price

again three months later, 15 percent still had problems.

Although theories abound, the cause of post-operative cognitive dysfunction is unknown, Price said.

Price and department colleagues Dawn Bowers, Ph.D., and Russell Bauer, Ph.D., work



to identify these memory or thinking changes as early as possible so that appropriate cognitive or pharmaceutical interventions can be introduced.

With the help of College of Medicine faculty and staff in the departments of orthopedic surgery, anesthesiology and cardiology, at-risk patients who may benefit from the service are identified prior to surgery. The neuropsychologists perform baseline testing to understand the patients’ abilities and anticipate post-surgical needs that would otherwise be missed.

“For example older adults in a mild stage of dementia often appear normal to new acquaintances,” Price said. “Consequently, because of their normal presentation, staff members may talk quickly, use big words, and potentially provide discharge instructions to a patient who has limited comprehension and memory ability.”

The POET team also monitors patients’ abilities following surgery through additional testing, and provides interventions, such as mind exercises, for patients who have difficulties.

For more information, please contact (352) 265-0294 or POET@phhp.ufl.edu. ●

Researcher works to remove barriers to breast cancer treatment

Women who are African American, Native American or Hispanic face a greater risk of dying after a breast cancer diagnosis than Caucasian women.

Amal Khoury, Ph.D., an associate professor in the department of health services research, management and policy, is working to close the gap for underserved women who are members of minority groups, have low income or live in rural areas.

“The good news is that we have effective screening methods, such as mammograms and breast exams, to detect breast cancer at early stages,” said Khoury, a recent faculty addition to the public health program. “But not everyone has access to them.”

Khoury and her colleagues are researching the barriers to breast cancer care for underserved women. Through focus group interviews with African American women age 40 or older who have low income, several obstacles have come to light.

“The barriers these women face are the fear of finding cancer, the cost of screening and treatment, and the lack of awareness of screening benefits and guidelines,” Khoury said. “Unfortunately, awareness of programs that cover the cost of screening and treatment for women with low income, such as the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, is very limited. Educational interventions to inform and empower underserved women are needed.”

Khoury is also studying the referral behaviors of primary care physicians. Uninsured women and those who miss their annual checkup are less likely to be referred for screening. Other referral barriers include physicians’ time constraints and reliance on other providers to deliver primary care.

A third study looks at why women in minority groups are underrepresented in breast cancer clinical trials.

“We are finding that there is confusion about what a clinical trial is and many misperceptions,” Khoury said. “Women who are members of minority groups worry, for example, that they may not get treatment and may be used as guinea pigs.”

“It is important to educate women about the purpose of trials, including the fact that participants will receive the standard treatment or a more promising one. Other strategies include using culturally sensitive members of the community to recruit women, encouraging physician referral and providing transportation in rural areas.”

Khoury became interested in women’s health research as a Ph.D. student at Johns Hopkins University in the early 1990s.

“At that time there was a national emphasis on women’s health and recognition of our limited knowledge,” she said. “The definition of women’s health was expanded from reproductive issues to across the life span and funding was available to examine the organization, financing and delivery of services. I hope that my research can serve as a foundation for developing programs that meet the needs of different groups of women.” ●

A case for dual degrees

Graduate demonstrates public health and law are a successful match

At first blush, public health and law may not seem like an obvious pairing, but Steven Gold is among a growing number of public health graduates whose careers illustrate the versatility of the degree and its application to several professions.

Gold, who completed a master's degree in public health and a law degree from UF's Levin College of Law in 2002, is putting his public health knowledge to work for Florida's Attorney General.

"Although it's a fairly unusual combination, I feel that it will grow in popularity as students realize how public health and law relate, especially in the health law and health policy context," Gold said.

As the son of a public health professional and a medical school professor, Gold had been drawn to the health field as a child and his inter-

est in public health further developed when he took a survey class on the topic as a Yale University undergraduate.

When he was accepted to UF's law school, Gold worked with College of Law Associate Dean Gail Sasnett-Stauffer to develop a proposal for the two programs. Working with program administrators in both colleges, students can develop a dual M.P.H./J.D. degree for themselves if they want to pursue a career as a public health professional with an understanding of legal and policy issues, or as a lawyer who specializes in health-care issues.

After graduation Gold spent two years clerking for Justice Charles Wells at the Florida Supreme Court. In his current position as Deputy Solicitor General in the Solicitor General's office of Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist, Gold

frequently draws upon his public health education.

"I deal with a wide variety of health law questions on high-level civil appeals," he said. "My knowledge and expertise in certain health-related legal questions, based upon my public health background, is a bonus."

Gold's long-term career goals include working for the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. and later, as a law professor specializing in health-related topics. He continues to advocate the benefits of a dual degree in public health and law to prospective students.

"I have had conversations with quite a number of J.D. students to encourage them to pursue the combination of degrees," Gold said. "I think it's a unique combination that will really set you apart from other attorneys. The dual degree program works great in either scenario — whether it's a law student supplementing his or her education with a health background or a public health student supplementing his or her education with a legal background." ●



Steven Gold

The College of Public Health and Health Professions would like to express gratitude to the following supporters who made gifts to the college during 2004.

PHHP GIFTS

\$100,000 and above
Brooks Health Foundation
State Endowment Matching Gifts

\$50,000 - \$99,999
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald R. Aldrich

\$10,000 - \$49,999
Louis C. & Jane Gapenski
RDG Schutte Wilscam Birge

\$1,000 - \$9,999
AvMed, Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Fred M. Berliner
Michael O. & Barbara A. Bice
Center for Independent Living
CESSI
Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation
Embassy of Italy
Eng, Denman & Associates, Inc.
Eileen B. Fennell, Ph.D.
Freeman Decorating
Samuel N. Holloway, Sr.
David A. Klodd
Rolf M. & Anne T. Kuhns
Lakeland Regional Health Systems, Inc.
Med-El Corp.
Munroe Regional Healthcare Systems
North Central Florida Health Planning Council
Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc.
Shands at the University of Florida
Donald G. Steiner
Walt Disney Co. Foundation

\$500 - \$999
Mark A. & Daryl-Joy L. Adkins
Advanced Bionics
Joseph M. Catania
CNA Foundation
Peter F. Doran
Pamela Woods Duncan
Gator Custom Mobility, Inc.

Henrietta H. Goldstein (d)
William C. Mann, Ph.D.
J. Paul Melton
Linda W. Stallings
The Stroke Group, Inc.
Patricia Y. Welton

\$100 - \$499
Abbott Laboratories
John F. & Marjorie J. Alexander
Herbert L. Anding
Ann M. Ashe
Tina W. August
Sharon L. Blackburn
Luise D. Bonner
Leslie D. Bram
Babette Brumback
Kelly C. Campbell
Cody D. Cox
Martha F. DeCoster
William M. Donohoo
Sherry B. Eisenbach
Kathleen Conboy-Ellis, Ph.D.
Robert G. Frank
Karen B. Froming
Patricia N. Gamblin
Yvette N. Garate
Robert J. Goldstein
David J. Greene
Richard R. Gutekunst
Alison G. Hamm
Stephanie L. Hanson
Hope J. Harris
Mrs. Rene L. Hendrickson
John T. Hoehn
Dawne G. Hohn
Alice E. Holmes
G. A. Huchting
Bruce A. Huddleston
Louis A. Kapicak
Kimberly K. Kazimour
Ana Kelton-Brand & Arthur H. Brand

Thomas R. Kerkhoff
Nicholas J. LaBean
Patricia W. Longshore
Anatole D. Martin III
Joan W. Mathews
Randall S. McDaniel
Molly McEwen
Monsanto Co.
Maj. & Mrs. Stephen M. Mounts
Mary Murray-Harding
Theresa A. Mynatt
Nina A. Nabors
Lisa M. Nesbitt
Kathleen Kay Nichols
Thomas J. Norwood
Michael G. Perri
Laura J. Perry, Ph.D.
Peter M. Polshak
Mark E. Robitaille
Rotary Club of Greater Gainesville
Ronald H. Rozensky, Ph.D.
Michelle J. Rubin
Horace & Vivian Sawyer
Donna L. Scheitler
Debra A. Shimon & John C. Rosenbek
Stacey C. Somers
Ronald J. Spitznagel
Eric W. Stevenson
Doris L. Stoliker
The Thomason Family
Herbert J. Towle III
Michele S. Townshend
Priscilla A. Tucker
Mrs. Ashley H. Underwood
Krista H. Vandeborne
Kristi C. Vanderburg
Wachovia
Corey M. Wharton
Sara M. Woolley
Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Young
Vicky L. Zickmund



Save the dates!

Alumni events 2005

Spring Weekend 2005 Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, April 9

Join us for breakfast, tours and the orange and blue football game. Register online at www.ufalumni.ufl.edu.

PHHP Fall Outstanding Alumni Luncheon, Saturday, Sept. 17

Recognition of an outstanding alum from each college department and the Gators vs. Tennessee football game.

Horse Farm 100 Bike Ride, Sunday, Oct. 2

Join the PHHP team for a 100-mile bike ride through Ocala's scenic horse farm country. Riders will raise money for student scholarships, fellowships and travel grants.

PHHP Reunion Weekend, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 4 and 5

Friday: Doctor of Audiology Program reception with special guests, Au.D. Class of 2000.

Saturday: Pre-game brunch and the Gators vs. Vanderbilt football game.

Watch for more information in your mailbox and on the Web at www.phhp.ufl.edu/alumni. We hope you can join us!



WHAT'S NEW

Share your news with classmates!

Submissions will be published in the Alumni Updates section of a future issue of PHHP News

NAME (INCLUDING MAIDEN)

MAJOR/YEAR

PHONE

HOME ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP)

E-MAIL ADDRESS

CURRENT POSITION

NEWS TO SHARE

Mail to PHHP News, News and Communications, Health Science Center, P.O. Box 100253, Gainesville, FL 32610-0253; fax 352.392.9220; e-mail lp@vpha.health.ufl.edu or post your news online at www.phhp.ufl.edu/alumni

Rebecca Bennett, master's in health administration '02, is a Volunteer Program Specialist for Hernando-Pasco Hospice. Rebecca is responsible for working with nine hospice sites to develop unique programs for volunteers, fundraising, operations and recognition of hospice in the community.

Roberta Isleib, Ph.D., clinical and health psychology '85, completed her fourth mystery novel, "Fairway to Heaven," which will be published by Berkley Prime Crime in March 2005. The series features Cassie Burdette, a fictional LPGA golfer and UF grad. Isleib's previous books include "Six Strokes Under," "A Buried Lie" and "Putt to Death." "Six Strokes Under" was nominated for an Agatha award for best first mystery and an Anthony award for best paperback original.

Michelle (Wilson) Lieberman, occupational therapy '98, was married in May 2004 and lives in Greenville, NC. She is working part-time in acute care and acute rehabilitation with an emphasis on spinal cord injury education.

Michelle "Spoon" Maddux, occupational therapy '96, is a hand therapist at Health-South in Lake Worth, Fla. She writes, "I now have two kids, Kaitlyn, age 5, and Colton, age 2. Daddy Derek stays at home with them. I love being a mommy!"

Brian T. Mulligan, master's in health administration '00, was promoted to senior attorney and transferred to the Agency for Health Care Administration's St. Petersburg office, where he will focus on the licensure and regulation of health-care facilities. He was also recently licensed as a health-care risk manager.

Linda Caryl Patterson, occupational therapy '91, is a recruiter for Reflectx Staffing, placing occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech therapists and assistants in traveling and permanent positions nationwide. She provides some OT services part-time and is active with the local OT forum and the Florida Occupational Therapy Association.

Shakira Rodriguez, master's in health administration '03, is working for Bayer Health-care as a Technical Support Specialist. Shakira will provide technical product training, service and support to clinical laboratories that are Bayer customers in the Tampa area.

Thomas Summerill, master's in health administration '84, accepted a job with United HealthCare in Orlando to head their American Choice organization. ●