



Teaching kids healthy lifestyles

Researchers study weight management program for children and families

This fall, researchers in the college's department of clinical and health psychology, in conjunction with UF Cooperative Extension offices in participating counties, will conduct a no-cost weight management program targeting children and families.

Led by David Janicke, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the department of clinical and health psychology, the UF Healthy Lifestyles Program for Families team will work with children and their parents in Florida's Levy and Gilchrist counties.

The researchers also plan to conduct groups over the next 16 months in three other rural counties in north central Florida.

The work is supported by a \$435,000 grant awarded to Janicke from the National Institute for Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disorders, with supplemental funding from the Institute

for Child and Adolescent Research and Evaluation.

More than 30 percent of American children and adolescents meet the criteria for obesity or are considered at-risk for obesity. Children and adults who are overweight are at increased risk for diabetes, high blood pressure and cardiovascular problems. Moreover, children who struggle with weight issues are often the victims of teasing from peers.

"Given the scope and seriousness of obesity in America and the limited access to services for children in rural settings, there is a pressing need for the development and assessment of intervention programs that target children at greatest risk for the long-term negative health consequences of obesity," Janicke said. "Many families want to develop patterns of eating and exercise that may positively impact weight and health, but making these types of changes is often hard."

The UF Healthy Lifestyles Program is designed to help children and parents

modify their dietary and physical activity in order to promote a healthy lifestyle, positive self-image, and effective weight management. The program helps families work together to learn how to manage real-life situations and make gradual, modest changes in their lifestyle.

"An important emphasis in our program is helping parents and children to support each other to make positive changes," Janicke said. "The group format is also a very positive way to build a strong support network."

The four-month, group-based program includes weekly sessions at the Cooperative Extension office in Bronson, with groups comprised of about six to 10 families. Some groups will work only with parents to help them encourage their children to adopt healthier lifestyle habits, while other groups will work with both children and parents. Families will receive step counters to track physical activity and \$5 for each session they attend to compensate for travel expenses. ●

Physical therapy offers clinical doctoral degree

The department of physical therapy received approval from the Florida Board of Governors to offer the entry-level clinical doctoral degree, the Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.), beginning this fall.

The UF physical therapy department is one of only two Florida public universities to offer the D.P.T. degree. The department admitted 49 students into the inaugural class.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy degree will eventually replace the master's degree as the entry-level degree for clinical practice in physical therapy, said Jane Day, Ph.D., P.T., clinical associate professor and assistant chair of the physical therapy department. The American Physical Therapy Association recommends that the D.P.T. be the standard physical therapy degree granted by educational programs by 2020.

"The goal of the D.P.T. program is to prepare graduates to be autonomous practitioners and the authoritative practitioner in the diagnosis and treatment of movement disorders," Day said. "These are graduates capable of evaluation and patient treatment ideally prepared to work in collaboration with other health professionals."

As with the master's degree, a baccalaureate degree is the prerequisite for admission into the three-year D.P.T. program. The curriculum augments the content of the current master's program by including coursework in such areas as diagnosis, pharmacology, radiology and imaging, health-care management, and prevention and wellness, as well as additional clinical internship time. The department plans to develop a transitional D.P.T. program for practicing physical therapists who would like to earn this doctoral degree. ●

dean's MESSAGE

Throughout the course of our college's 47-year history, we have graduated more than 8,500 students. Some of our alumni are remarkably successful within their chosen fields and others have used the skills they acquired at UF to break ground in new areas, distinct from the education they received here.

Traditionally, we have chosen one person as the "Alumnus of the Year," which has gotten harder every year. Often graduates have followed different roads to success, which makes choosing one person difficult.

At the suggestion of our college advisory board, we developed a new system

and this fall we recognized an alumnus of the year from each of our departments, with the exception of our public health and bachelor's of health science programs, which are still new. On September 17, we honored six outstanding alumni:

Fred Berliner, a rehabilitation counseling graduate and senior vice president of the United Trust Fund, a national real estate investment firm

Aimee DeVillier LaCalle, a graduate of the department of communicative disorders and a member of the inaugural class of the doctor in audiology program, who is the founder of Audiology Online

Dyer Michell, a graduate of the health services administration program and past-president and CEO of Munroe Regional Healthcare System in Ocala

Donna Rodriguez, a graduate of the physical therapy program and president and CEO of Rehab Rx

Kay Walker, a graduate of occupational therapy and a professor emeritus of the college's department of occupational therapy

Travis White, a graduate of clinical and health psychology and vice president for research and development at Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc.

This issue of PHHP News features profiles on two of the graduates and stories on the rest of the honorees will appear in future issues.

Each award recipient has a record of achievement that is remarkable. They have used the skills they acquired at UF to make a mark upon their discipline, or to expand into new areas they could only dream about during their time at UF. The honorees, while already successful, have continuing personal aspirations for their careers. Even Dyer Michell, who has recently retired, is busy planning his next career.

Every time we recognize our alumni, the majesty of the moment arises from the joining together of the graduates and their families in the salutation of their success and accomplishments. The joy and satisfaction that permeated the event was infectious and renewing. Intuitively, we all know there is something important about marking the milestones of our lives, reviewing our accomplishments and goals, and being surrounded by family and friends. This process is one of the intangible gifts UF provides our graduates, who come to UF expecting an education and leave with a life road.

One more reason the Gator Nation is so powerful. ●



Dr. Robert G. Frank



Coping with disaster

Behavioral health center helps communities manage psychological effects of hurricanes

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, depression and anxiety are among the mental health disorders that Gulf Coast residents may be experiencing in the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The National Rural Behavioral Health Center at the College of Public Health and Health Professions is working with local leaders to help affected communities manage the psychological effects of the hurricanes' destruction.

"Usually, people's stress reactions are most significant within the first couple weeks of a disaster," said Center Psychologist Brenda Wiens, Ph.D., a research assistant professor in the department of clinical and health psychology. "But what is unique about these hurricanes is that the devastation is so bad, people in the affected areas may experience stress for much longer.

"After most natural disasters, people are able to get back to their communities to begin repairing damage to their homes or to put up trailers for temporary housing," Wiens added. "But in this case, conditions are so bad in some areas that it will be a long time before people can start to get back to normal."

Following the Gulf Coast hurricanes, Wiens conducted workshops on the psychological impact of disasters at Mississippi State University in Starkville and in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Sponsored by the Southern Rural Development Center, workshop attendees included Cooperative Extension Office faculty and agents from Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama. The training was also broadcast live to Extension staff members who were unable to attend the training in person.

The workshop training focused on recognizing symptoms of post-disaster stress and determining when someone may need to see a mental health provider.

The training used materials developed by the National Rural Behavioral Health Center, including the manual "Triumph Over Tragedy, Second Edition: A Community Response to Managing Trauma in Times of Disaster and Terrorism," and the newly developed companion CD/DVD.

Common disaster stress symptoms include moodiness, irritability, difficulty concentrating, trouble sleeping and physical symptoms like headaches or stomachaches.

If a person's symptoms are not getting better over time and their ability to function in daily life is affected, they may need professional help.

"Typically after a few months, people start to feel better," Wiens said. "But there may be people who have longer-term problems such as Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, depression and substance abuse. Thirty months after Hurricane Andrew, one third of adults living in the area still reported symptoms consistent with Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. We will probably see something similar to that with Katrina."

Two active hurricane seasons in a row may be taking a toll on residents of Southeastern coastal states.

"I've heard the term 'hurricane fatigue' and I think that's the best way to describe how people in this area are feeling," Wiens said. "In general, people are a little more anxious, but not terribly. It does get tiring after a while to wonder what storm may be coming next. However, if this storm trend is on a 10-year cycle as experts predict, this may become the new normal."

The National Rural Behavioral Health Center was established by a one-year \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The grant was awarded to Ronald Rozensky, Ph.D., principal investigator and chair of the department of clinical and health psychology. ●

Parkinson's disease

Researcher studies facial inexpressivity

The inability to produce facial expressions, a common side effect of Parkinson's disease, is the focus of a new four-year study by a UF neuropsychologist.

Dawn Bowers, Ph.D., a professor in the department of clinical and health psychology, received a \$1.7 million grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke to lead a study on this little-understood symptom of Parkinson's disease.

Facial expressions are complex signals that are brief, but vital for communicating intention, motivation and emotional states, said Bowers, the director of the Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory at UF's McKnight Brain Institute.

"Patients with Parkinson's disease are often misdiagnosed as being depressed when they are not, or they are viewed as disagreeable

and negative individuals," she said. "An interesting study done about 15 years ago found that health-care providers consistently rated patients with Parkinson's as more anxious, depressed and suspicious than cardiac patients, even though the groups did not differ on objective measures of mood. Thus, facial inexpressivity has real world consequences in terms of appropriate diagnosis, treatment and health care, and this makes it a public health concern."

Using specially designed computer technology to digitize and analyze expressions, the research team will examine whether or not spontaneous and posed expressions are disrupted by Parkinson's disease, and how dopamine medications influence facial expressions. A major focus of the research is to learn whether facial expressivity can be improved by muscle strength training, using an approach



Dr. Dawn Bowers

developed by one of Bower's collaborators, Christine Sapienza, Ph.D., a professor and associate chair of the department of communication sciences and disorders in the UF College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

"It would be wonderful if we find that the 'masked' face of Parkinson's disease can be improved through a simple routine of daily exercises," Bowers said. ●

Sarah Cook (department of clinical and health psychology) received a \$10,000 scholarship from the AARP Scholars Program to support her older driver research.

Michelle Harwood (department of clinical and health psychology) received the 2005 Dissertation Award from the Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment.

Billy Jeffries (public health and sociology) was awarded the American Public Health Association's 2005 Excellence in Abstract Submission award for student members. He also received the association's HIV/AIDS Section Student Scholarship.

Aneesha Jennings (department of physical therapy) was selected as a UF Community Health Scholar.

William Mkanta (health services research, management and policy) received the 2005 dissertation completion grant from the Sherri Aversa Memorial Foundation.

The work of public health students who participated in UF international trips was highlighted in "The Nation's Health," a publication of the American Public Health Association. The team included **Helena Chapman, Marvin Cohen, Erin DeFries, Janiece Davis, Barbara Forges, Kate Roland, Zoe Finch, Rachel Chase, Juan Rodriguez and James Stevens.** ●



The UF Health Science Center celebrates its 50th anniversary next year. Construction began in 1954 following an exhaustive statewide survey to evaluate needs, location and the cost of establishing such a facility, as well as a yearlong deliberation by the Florida legislature. The Health Science Center opened its doors to students in 1956. Photo courtesy of HSC Archives.

faculty NOTES & staff

Andrea Burne and **Shankar Manamalkav**, staff members in the department of clinical and health psychology, were awarded UF Superior Accomplishment Awards in the Health Science Center division.

Alice Holmes, Ph.D., a professor in the department of communicative disorders, has received specialty certification for cochlear implant audiologists from the American Board of Audiology.

The UF Health Science Center honored several college employees for reaching milestones in years of service. They include: **Chiara Carmolli-Anderson, Kevin Hanson, Vera Hemphill, Julie Porumbescu, Holiday Rogers, Robin Shenk and Wendy Thornton**, 5 years; **Sarah Hayden and Tonia Lambert**, 10 years; **Diane Johns**, 15 years; **Jessie Runge**, 20 years; and **Vikki Carter**, 30 years.

Several college faculty members recently received promotions. They are listed here with their new titles: **Dawn Bowers, Ph.D.**, professor; **Sheila Eyberg, Ph.D.**, distinguished professor; **Thomas Kerkhoff, Ph.D.**, clinical professor; **Christy Harris Lemak, Ph.D.**, associate professor; **A. Daniel Martin, Ph.D.**, professor; and **Lori Waxenberg, Ph.D.**, clinical associate professor. ●



Audiology

Faculty and students from the Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) program made their third annual trip to Yucatan, Mexico as members of Project Yucatan. The students performed screening tests that assessed the function of the middle ear system, measured levels of hearing sensitivity and assisted UF medical students in the cleaning and health care of the outer ear. The Au.D. program also donated hearing aids, hearing aid batteries, cleaning supplies and portable equipment that can be used by local, trained health-care professionals to continue long-term audiologic care in rural clinics. More than 500 children and 100 adults received care from members of the UF audiology group who collaborated with Asociacion Yucateca Pro-Deficiente Auditivo, a local organization established by parents of children who are deaf to provide hearing services and rehabilitation.

Above: Audiology students Kristin Letlow (left), Meghan Miller and Michelle Cramer are joined by local children at a hearing screening in Yucatan, Mexico.

Physical Therapy



Nicaraguan physical therapists receive hands-on instruction on shoulder impingement during a laboratory session taught by physical therapy faculty members Terri Chmielewski and Claudia Senesac.

Members of the physical therapy department provided instruction to the faculty of the only physical therapy education program in Nicaragua. The group presented information on shoulder impingement evaluation and treatment to faculty and local clinicians at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Nicaragua in Managua, the nation's capital. This is the UF group's third visit to Nicaragua in an effort to provide information on current physical therapy techniques and treatments. Limited access to continuing education and Spanish language textbooks has put the Nicaraguan physical therapy curriculum 10 to 15 years out of date.

Public Health

Master of Public Health students joined the annual UF interdisciplinary outreach groups that traveled to the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Haiti and Mexico. The public health students designed and implemented educational programs for small groups of clinic patients. Topics included the prevention of tuberculosis, diarrheal and mosquito-transmitted diseases, and health issues surrounding improved sanitation and infection control. The students also evaluated patient understanding and awareness of the transmission and disease process of tuberculosis.

Right: Public health student and DR HELP team member Helena Chapman provides community education to residents of Jarabacoa, Campo Paso Bajito in the Dominican Republic on the prevention and symptoms of dengue, a mosquito-transmitted virus.



International trips '05



These PPHP doctoral students successfully defended their dissertations between September 2004 and August 2005.

Clinical and Health Psychology

Mary Brinkmeyer

Conduct Disorder in Young Children: A Comparison of Clinical Presentation and Treatment Outcome in Preschoolers with Conduct Disorder vs. Oppositional Defiant Disorder
Chair: Sheila Eyberg, Ph.D.

Jennifer Brown

Patient-Centered Outcomes for Chronic Spine Pain: Multidimensional Success Criteria and Treatment Matching
Chair: Michael Robinson, Ph.D.

Philip S. Eisenberg

Callosal Functioning in Children with Cleft Palate
Chair: Stephen Boggs, Ph.D.

Katherine S. Fabrizio

Automatic and Controlled Cognitive Processes in Post-Stroke Depression
Chair: Bruce Crosson, Ph.D.

Erin Floyd

Treatment of Oppositional Defiant Disorder in Preschoolers with or without Comorbid Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
Chair: Sheila Eyberg, Ph.D.

Laura Frakey

Visuospatial Abilities in Temporal Lobe Epilepsy
Chair: Russell Bauer, Ph.D.

Rebecca Jump

Psychological Profiles in Autoimmune Disease: Relationship to Demographic, Diagnostic, Disease Activity and Social Support Measures
Chair: Michael Robinson, Ph.D.

Sarah Lageman

The Role of Neuropsychological Testing in Assessing the Impact of Standard Treatments on Cognition in Breast Cancer Patients
Chair: Eileen Fennell, Ph.D.

Karin J. McCoy

Understanding the Transition from Normal Cognitive Aging to Mild Cognitive Impairment: Comparing the Intraindividual Variability in Cognitive Function
Chair: Michael Marsiske, Ph.D.

Robert Bruce Parkinson

Noun and Verb Naming in Aphasic Stroke Patients: Lesion Characteristics Related to Treatment Improvement
Chair: Bruce Crosson, Ph.D.

Greg J. Selke

Emotional Reactivity to Picture Stimuli in Children with and without Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
Chair: Eileen Fennell, Ph.D.

Eva Serber

Psychological Distress, Well-Being, and Cardiac-Specific Quality of Life among Patients with Hypertrophic Obstructive Cardiomyopathy Undergoing Nonsurgical Septal Reduction Therapy
Chair: Samuel Sears, Ph.D.

Health Services Research

Xiaoxian Meng

Effect of Prosthodontic Services on Self-Rated Oral Health Outcomes
Chair: R. Paul Duncan, Ph.D.

Rehabilitation Science

Neila Donovan

Extending Dysarthria Research with a Measure of Communicative Effectiveness
Chair: John Rosenbek, Ph.D.

Charles Ellis

The Contribution of the Basal Ganglia to Expressive Language Performance
Chair: John Rosenbek, Ph.D.

Tiffany Frimel

Adaptations in Skeletal Muscle During Cast Immobilization and Rehabilitation
Chair: Krista Vandenberg, Ph.D.

Neeti Pathare

Metabolic Adaptations with Limb Disuse and Their Impact on Skeletal Muscle Function
Chair: Krista Vandenberg, Ph.D.

Emily Plowman

Reproducibility of Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation for Mapping Swallowing Musculature in the Human Motor Cortex
Chair: John Rosenbek, Ph.D.

Jamie Pomeranz

Identifying Critical Constructs and Items Necessary to Examine the Need for Personal Attendant Care for Individuals with Spinal Cord Injury
Chair: Linda Shaw, Ph.D.

Arlene Schmid

Impact of Post-Stroke Mobility on Activity and Participation
Chair: Pamela Duncan, Ph.D.

Keeping the weight off

Congratulations! You've lost weight and you look terrific. But your hard work is just beginning. Many people struggle with sustaining weight loss over the long term. In most weight loss studies, participants gain back 50 percent of the lost weight within 18 months after the completion of treatment. Weight-loss researcher Michael Perri, Ph.D., associate dean for research at the College of Public Health and Health Professions and a professor in the department of clinical and health psychology, responds to questions about the challenges of weight loss maintenance.

Why is it so hard to keep the weight off?

It's probably a combination of biology, environment and psychology. After somebody has been in a period of losing weight, their body adjusts to taking in less food and their metabolic rate slows a little bit, making it easier to regain weight if they eat more than their body needs. From an environmental point of view, food is around us all the time. So when somebody's finished the process of losing weight they're just surrounded by lots and lots of temptations. If they experience a lapse in their weight management program, combined with the fact that their bodies are essentially primed to gain weight, they will experience a weight gain that's larger than they anticipated. Then the psychological part comes in. Many folks see the weight gain as evidence that they don't have the ability to sustain weight loss. They kind of give up and abandon any changes that they've made in their habits.

What weight-loss maintenance strategies are effective?



Dr. Michael Perri

One interesting series of studies has looked at people who have lost weight and kept it off over the long run. It seems that there are three key elements to their success. One is that they're very vigilant about keeping track of what they eat and most of them weigh themselves regularly. They also stay very active, commonly getting close to the equivalent of an hour a day of walking. The third strategy is how much they eat. Surprisingly, a typical woman reports that she needs to stick with about 1,400 calories a day to sustain her weight loss, less than most people would expect.

We should also look at what we have learned from clinical trials. Generally we find that programs that offer opportunities to get advice and guidance after the initial year of weight loss are more successful than programs that don't offer such services. We've learned that using meal substitutes — products like Slim Fast — for one or two meals a day can be helpful because people have fewer choices they need to make. Also, it appears that certain medications can be successful for sustaining weight loss. And the final component is social support — getting together with peers who are working on the same problem.



What advice would you give someone who has entered a weight-loss management phase?

During the weight loss phase, people have a good idea of what they should eat to reduce their weight and typically have lots of reinforcement from others. People come up to you and say, "Oh I notice you've lost weight, you look great." But when people get into weight maintenance phase, it's unclear how much they should eat and there are probably fewer supports for maintenance only, not weight loss. People rarely come up to you and say, "Hey, you look great, have you stayed at the same weight?" Also, relapses are inevitable given our society's emphasis on eating, so almost everyone is going to experience some times when they falter in their eating or physical activity routines. Being able to bounce back from these slips and recognizing that it doesn't have to be the beginning of the end is crucial.

How should the health-care field approach weight control for patients?

I think we've gotten to the point where we recognize that excess weight is more than just an issue of people being unhappy with their appearance. It's a problem that contributes to many different illnesses and diseases, including five of the 10 leading causes of death in the United States. We also need to acknowledge that obesity is a multifaceted problem that no one sector of professionals can solve by itself. From a public health perspective, it's going to take the efforts of health-care providers, educators, business leaders, people in the food industry, restaurateurs, and others.

When treating people who are already obese or overweight, we often run into health insurance barriers. It's not uncommon for health insurers to pay for people who are severely obese to get help, but not people who are mildly or moderately obese. So we have the uncomfortable situation of people not being heavy enough to be treated until they get heavier and sicker. Another obstacle is that oftentimes health providers are not aware of the health benefits that can come about with modest weight losses. The typical person who is overweight doesn't need to lose 40 or 50 pounds to benefit. Weight losses as small as 10 to 15 pounds can be very meaningful in terms of reducing the risks of diabetes, high blood pressure and certain metabolic conditions. ●

Building a community

Alumna uses Internet to bring together audiology professionals, consumers

A move to a new city and a feeling of disconnectedness from other audiology professionals led Aimee DeVillier LaCalle, Au.D., audiology '00, to establish Audiology Online, the world's largest resource Web site dedicated to providing news and education to the hearing health-care profession.

LaCalle's first years of clinical practice were spent working in her native southwest Louisiana, where she benefited from a network of colleagues who shared ideas and provided second or third opinions when faced with challenging cases.

When LaCalle joined the San Antonio Medical Center in 1996 she felt the loss of that network and searched for a way to bring audiologists together.

"The Internet was becoming the buzz word at this time and after learning to 'surf' a little it became increasingly clear that an online community may be the answer," LaCalle said. "Since audiologists are a relatively small group in the first place, I felt that there must be others like me who would appreciate the opportunity to share ideas. And Audiology Online was born from these circumstances."

LaCalle admits that at the time of Audiology

Online's creation, she never dreamed it would become the extensive resource it is today. Working with a team of audiologists, including Doug Beck, Au.D., a colleague she met through the UF Doctor of Audiology program, the site grew to include an industry-wide calendar of events, classifieds, a Web site builder program for practices, and an extensive continuing education arm including text-based and live and recorded courses.

"We receive e-mails and telephone calls on a daily basis from professionals and consumers thanking us for this resource," LaCalle said. "This correspondence comes not only from the United States, but from all corners of the globe. Many people tell us that information is not available in their country or that they live in an area that is too remote to allow them to enroll in traditional forms of continuing education."

An overwhelming response from health-care

consumers spurred the creation of another Web site designed for their needs, Healthy Hearing.com. The site features news, ask-the-expert, a find-a-professional service, and interviews with patients who have undergone certain procedures or wear particular hearing products.

A benefit of having an Internet business is the ability to work from anywhere as long as you have a connection, said LaCalle, who is also the audiology director at a private practice in San Antonio. She and her husband William and sons Will, 9, and Jack, 6, have used that opportunity to travel extensively over the past three years, living in Colorado, Wyoming, North Carolina, Arizona, Texas and Mexico. The boys are home schooled and LaCalle and her husband have been able to maintain their careers while on the road.

"I suspect that we will eventually plant roots again somewhere, but I know that we will always cherish this time of our lives and will always be very appreciative of the opportunities that Audiology Online has given our family," LaCalle said. ●



Dr. Aimee DeVillier LaCalle

Testing ground

Alumnus oversees development of new tools for psychologists

P sychologist Travis White, Ph.D., clinical and health psychology '92, doesn't treat patients, but he impacts the treatment of thousands of them.

White is the vice president of research and development at Tampa-based Psychological Assessment Resources, Inc., a leading publisher of psychological assessment instruments, books and software used by clinicians. He is responsible for the entire development process of the company's psychological tests and products.

"My job is rewarding because if I were to be in clinical practice, I would maybe help 1,000 people in the course of my career," White said. "But by developing valid psychological tests, I could help 1,000 people a month who are seen by the psychologists who use the products we develop. My work is multiplied."

White joined Psychological Assessment Resources in 1994. He was attracted to the job because of its focus on research, statistics and writing. In this position, White has directly developed or supervised the development of more than 120 psychological assessment products published by Psychological Assessment Resources.

"Typically the products I have supervised have

been written by external authors," White said. "For example, Psychological Assessment Resources has published two products developed by Pediatric Psychologist Sheila Eyberg, Ph.D., [a distinguished professor in the college's department of clinical and health psychology]. But eight years ago, I had the opportunity to be an author myself."

With the support of two grants totaling \$1.5 million from the National Institute of Mental Health, White and co-author Robert Stern, Ph.D., developed the *Neuropsychological Assessment Battery* (NAB), an innovative battery of 33 new neuropsychological tests, which took more than seven years to complete and involved a national survey of 8,000 neuropsychologists and hundreds of collaborators.

The NAB is gaining acceptance in the field as independent validation research appears in the scientific literature, White said. Several academic journals plan to publish reviews of the NAB in their 2006 issues.

White is currently overseeing the development of several new psychology products in civil and criminal forensic psychology, an area in which he has seen explosive growth. The assessment tools include measures of competency to proceed to trial, risk for committing violence against self and others,

and the treatment and placement needs of individuals who are incarcerated.

But there is one trend White does not expect to see anytime soon.

"Many have assumed that an emerging trend in clinical psychology would be the use of the Internet to conduct psychological testing," White said. "But we haven't seen this borne out, probably due to issues of security and patient privacy laws. Standard pencil and paper tests are still the main method for administering assessments."

In his free time White and his wife, Pam, whom he met while they were both working in the UF Psychology Clinic, enjoy gourmet cooking and they hope to organize a chili cook-off team. A Houston native, White likes his chili hot and spicy, but to accommodate his wife's less-adventurous taste buds, he often makes two batches. ●



Dr. Travis White

Ron Aldrich, health administration '66, has been named to the Board of Directors of the University of Florida Foundation. He is the first PPHP graduate to serve on the board.

Ralph Belsterling, Au.D., audiology '01, has been employed since graduation at California University of Pennsylvania as an assistant professor in the department of communication disorders. He also maintains an audiological consulting practice in southwestern Pennsylvania.

Stacey Bispham, health science '04, began UF's physician assistant program in summer 2005.

Jennifer (Baxter) Florio, physical therapy '92, launched FunQuip, a company offering Gator-themed gait belts and goniometers for therapists. For more information, visit www.funquip.com. She also provides physical therapy in school and acute care settings. Jennifer and husband Rob have two children, Jason, 6, and Alyssa, 4. They live in Wrentham, Mass.

Kristen Gabso, occupational therapy '00, was married in October 2004 and she and her husband moved to London, England for his job. She is a volunteer with the Bobath Centre for Children with Cerebral Palsy. "It would be great to have some of my UF OT classmates over to London to stay with us," Kristen writes.

Melissa Harper, health administration '04, was promoted to program manager of aging services at Parrish Medical Center in Titusville, Fla. She is responsible for the development of Main Street PMC. Comprised of historic buildings and new construction, the health village will offer services for seniors.

Katie Caffey Horovitz, occupational therapy '75, marked 30 years of OT practice this year. She has worked with patients from 1 month old to 101 years old in many different care settings. "I'm looking forward to what the next decades will bring," Katie said. She lives in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Lynn J. Horowitz, occupational therapy '77, lives in the Netherlands and is the co-author of a book on a sensory integration therapy approach for professionals and parents of children with hyperactivity, which is selling well. It was published in Dutch, but will be translated into English by the end of 2006.

Doree Justiss, health administration '04, has relocated to St. Louis, Mo. with her husband John and son Jaxon. In August she began studies at the St. Louis University School of Law, specializing in health law.

Katrina (Neilson) Kemp, occupational therapy '99, received a master's degree in physician assistant studies from UF in 2005. She welcomed her first baby, Aiden Matthew Kemp, into the family on Sept. 8, 2005. They live in Valrico, Fla.

Cathy (Llanes) Lotow, occupational therapy B.H.S. '01 and M.H.S. '02, is a fulltime occupational therapist at Woodlands Care Center of Alachua County in Gainesville. She is happily married and expecting a boy in November 2005.

Wendy (Smith) Lopez-Mata, rehabilitation counseling '99, was promoted to area director of Seven Hills Community Services and director of Vineyard Employment Options, a private agency that helps adults with mental retardation live independently. Wendy lives on the island of Martha's Vineyard, Mass. with her husband Mario and their three children.



The college recognized six graduates at the first annual Outstanding Alumni Awards held Sept. 17. The honorees included Travis White, Ph.D., clinical and health psychology '92; Aimee DeVillier LaCalle, Au.D., communicative disorders '00; Fred Berliner, rehabilitation counseling '75; Kay Walker, Ph.D., occupational therapy '64; Dyer Michell, health services research, management and policy '67; and Donna Rodriguez, physical therapy '72. Watch upcoming issues of PPHP News for profiles on each of the honorees.

Linda Caryl Patterson, occupational therapy '91, began a new job in May as rehab program coordinator for Aegis Therapies at North Florida Rehab and Specialty Care Center in Gainesville.

Joseph Pino, health administration '04, has been named an Eastern Group associate with Hospital Corporation of America, located in Nashville, Tenn. His responsibilities include working with the Group's capital and budgets.

Carolyn (Donnelly) Remson, physical therapy '97, is the proud mother of baby girl, Bailey, who was born in October 2004. They live in Memphis, Tenn.

Judith Orrill Shea, audiology '01, is celebrating the second anniversary of opening a private practice in audiology, the Comprehensive Hearing Care Center in Cheshire, Conn.

Belinda Felhandler Wurn, physical therapy '75, co-owner of Clear Passage Therapies, based in Gainesville, has written a 500-page therapist training manual on the therapy she developed to treat abdominal and pelvic dysfunction and pain, including female infertility. Wurn has published three studies on the therapy, which appeared on Medscape. For more information, visit www.clearpassage.com. ●



WHAT'S NEW

Share your news with classmates!

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

NAME (INCLUDING MAIDEN)

MAJOR/YEAR

PHONE

HOME ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP)

E-MAIL ADDRESS

CURRENT POSITION

NEWS TO SHARE

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

PHHP E-News

Want more news on alumni and college activities? Sign up for our newly launched e-newsletter, published every other month for alumni and friends. You'll get the latest on alumni events, news and a chance to win prizes with our trivia contest. Send your name and e-mail address to Carlee Thomas at carleeth@ufl.edu. Please reference PPHP E-News in the subject line. See you online!