

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Published by THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL CENTER ■ www.ufic.ufl.edu ■ VOLUME 3 No. 1 ■ WINTER 2007

The UFIC Recognizes International Educators

The University of Florida International Center recognized faculty with outstanding contributions to international research and education at a ceremony in November.

Terry McCoy, professor of political science and Latin American studies, was named International Educator of the Year in the category of senior faculty.

Karen Kainer, assistant professor in the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and Guido Mueller, assistant professor in the Department of Physics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, were junior faculty winners.

Sixteen other faculty members were recognized as International Educators of the Year. Candidates were nominated by their colleges, with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and the College of Medicine each nominating two candidates.

The UFIC established the awards to support UF's strategic goal of internationalizing the campus and the curriculum.

UFIC Dean Dennis Jett and Provost Janie Fouke presented the awards at a ceremony in the Keene Faculty Center Nov. 14.

McCoy has focused his entire career at UF on internationalization. He has held appointments in political science, Latin American studies, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Latin American Business Environment Program in the College of Business. His research specialization is the political economy of Latin America, and he has conducted extensive research on Caribbean migration.

He has served as supervisor of 70 master's candidates and has excelled in administration and grant application. In addition, he has appeared on radio and television programs and has testified

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2006 Global Culture Photo Contest



UNADORNED by Sydney Schaeff

Winner

Study Abroad Student Category

In the fall of 2005, Sydney Schaeff was in an exchange program in northern Tanzania, where he hoped to explore a culture very different from his own in the United States.

During a trip to a small village, he noticed how elaborately the Masai women adorned themselves with a variety of colorful jewelry. Schaeff's eyes and camera were drawn to the bright colors of their dresses and the drab color of their unadorned feet, which blended with the natural colors of the earth and reflected the hard work these women perform for their families.

More Global Photo Winners on p. 4, 5 and 7

Contest attracts Prize-Winning Photos

With an array of prize winning photographs from throughout the world on display at Grinter Gallery, winners of the UFIC Global Culture Photo Contest 2006 received their awards in January.

The UF International Center recognized photographs submitted during the fall of 2006 in four categories: study abroad student; international student; faculty, staff, alumni; and photography and journalism student. First prize winners were awarded \$200; second prize winners, \$100; and third prize winners, \$50, with honorable mention in all four categories.

International Educators *From p. 1* before the U.S. Congress on international topics.

The subject of Kainer's research is tropical forest ecology and management in Latin America, particularly the Amazon rainforest. With a joint appointment in Latin American studies, Kainer has focused her teaching, mentoring and curriculum development on international forest issues.

She collaborates with institutions and scientists abroad, particularly in developing countries.

She has served on numerous student research committees, and as major adviser she facilitates overseas research for her students. She has served as co-principal investigator for numerous projects in the Amazon. She has disseminated her research information to lay audiences through local and global activities, and she participates in international societies.

Mueller's research focuses on ground-based and spaced-based interferometric gravitational wave detectors. He is a member of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory collaboration. His gravitational wave research group at UF has raised UF's reputation significantly and enables UF to compete with prestigious research universities for funding and students.

Mueller has authored successful grant applications, most with an international dimension.

He has developed one of the few programs in physics that provides international experiences for students. He collaborates with colleagues from around the world in gravitational waves, routinely organizing workshops, conferences and exchanges.

Other faculty nominated for the International Educator of the Year Awards are

Nicolas Comerford, professor and graduate coordinator in the Department of Soil and Water Science, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences;

Lawrence Datnoff, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences;

Edward A. Evans, assistant professor and associate director, Caribbean Affairs in the Center for Tropical Agriculture, Tropical Research and Education Center, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences;

Geoffrey J. Giles, associate professor, Department of History, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences;

Raphael Haftka, distinguished professor, Department

of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, College of Engineering;

M.J. Hardman, professor of linguistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences;

Jorge Hernandez, associate professor and director of International Programs in the Department of Large Animal Clinical Science, College of Veterinary Medicine;

Berta Esperanza Hernandez-Truyol, professor, Levin College of Law;

Leah Hochman, assistant professor, Department of Religion and Jewish Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences;

W. Robert Knechel, professor, Fisher School of Accounting, Warrington College of Business Administration;

Davis Kushner, professor of musicology, College of Fine Arts;

Marilyn Roberts, associate professor, Department of Advertising, College of Journalism and Communications;

R. Terry Schnadelbach, professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, College of Design, Construction and Planning;

Glenn E. Sjoden, associate professor, Department of Nuclear and Radiological Engineering, College of Engineering;

Brijesh Thapa, associate professor, Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management, College of Health and Human Performance;

Sergio Vega, associate professor, art and art history, College of Fine Arts.

International News

is published by the University of Florida International Center.

Dean: Dennis Jett

Executive Editor: Sandra Russo

Editor: Larry Schnell

We welcome submission of articles and photographs on international themes from faculty and students. Send submissions to srusso@ufic.ufl.edu.

The University of Florida International Center
P.O. Box 113225

Gainesville, FL 32611

(352) 392-5323, Fax: (352) 392-5575

www.ufic.ufl.edu

UF Moves up in International Ranking

The University of Florida has moved up in its ranking among top universities in the numbers of study abroad students and international students.

The change in UF's rankings reflects the initiatives of the UF International Center as well as a campus wide commitment to internationalizing the curriculum and the campus.

The Institute of International Education compares universities based on various international indicators and compiles annual rankings in its Open Doors report.

Its 2006 report of the nation's top doctoral research universities is based on data from the 2005-2006 academic year. UF ranked sixth in the number of students studying abroad. UF had 1,805 students studying abroad in the last academic year, and the number has increased this year. UF moved up from 11th place a year earlier.

Susanne Hill, coordinator of Study Abroad Services, said more students are studying abroad each year because UF policies support faculty development of study abroad programs. In addition, the UFIC supports study abroad opportunities with \$85,000 in scholarships. A promotional program includes two Study Abroad Fairs

and 22 presentations at Preview, when incoming students are introduced to campus. Another factor is that UF allows students to apply their scholarships to courses abroad, whether they are UF courses or courses established by other universities.

For the same time frame, UF jumped from 18th place to 12th place in the number of international students, with 3,749 on campus in the 2006 report.

International students seeking degrees in the United States find several advantages at UF. For one thing, UF is a good deal, said Debra Anderson, coordinator of International Student Services. UF offers high-quality programs at a competitive price. Some UF colleges actively recruit international students. Graduate students on fellowships or assistantships pay in-state tuition and get health insurance.

The improvement in UF's ranking in this area reflects a growing international dimension to the campus, where U.S. students gain international perspectives from their classmates, Anderson said.

For a complete ranking of institutions, visit the IIE website, <http://opendoors.iienetwork.org/>

UF Students Win Study Abroad Scholarships

Five UF students have won national scholarships to study abroad this spring.

The students have received support from either the Freeman Awards for Study in Asia, the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, or both.

Christopher DeMarco received a \$5,000 Freeman-ASIA award to study at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

Han Le received a \$1,000 Freeman-ASIA award and a \$4,500 Gilman award to study at Mahidol University in Thailand.

Jessica Neafie received a \$3,000 Freeman ASIA award and a \$3,500 Gilman award to study with the University Studies Abroad Consortium in China.

Carla Rubio received a Freeman ASIA award of \$5,000 to study with the Alliance for Global Education at Beijing Language and Culture University in China.

Rebecca Williamson received a \$5,000 Gilman award to study at Freie Universitaet in Berlin, Germany.

This is the largest number of UF students winning national study abroad scholarships, and the first time four UF students have won Freeman-ASIA awards in

one semester.

Freeman-ASIA awards support U.S. undergraduate students who study in East or Southeast Asia. Recipients are expected to share their experiences with students at their home campuses to encourage Asian study abroad participation and to promote understanding of Asian peoples and cultures.

The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. It offers scholarships for U.S. undergraduate study abroad students who receive a Federal Pell Grant.

*Contacts: Gilman awards, Susanne Hill, SHill@ufic.ufl.edu
Freeman-ASIA awards, Kirsten Eller, Keller@ufic.ufl.edu*

The UFIC has moved

The UF International Center has moved to a new location in room 170 in the Hub. Please visit us at our new offices.

Global Culture Photo Contest
From p. 1

2006 Global Culture Photo Contest

Homeless Under the American

Dream Wei Zhou

Winner

International Student Category

Coming from China, Wei Zhou saw the American dream from a perspective much different than that of many Americans.

While looking at the giant arch in St. Louis, he could not help but notice a homeless man, seemingly insignificant beneath the gleaming arch that soared skyward in a pose of grandeur.

But in that contrast, Wei Zhou saw a story to tell with his photograph.

“It gives the perspective that the homeless person is so trivial under the arch of the American dream,” he said.

Wei Zhou is a doctoral student in decision information science.



New Study Abroad Programs Unveiled in Fall and Spring Fairs

UFIC unveiled new opportunities for international education and highlighted dozens of established programs at the fall and spring Study Abroad Fairs.

Each fair featured about 60 exhibits related to studying abroad and attracted some 2,000 students to view educational opportunities throughout the world.

At the fall fair in September, the UFIC highlighted the Center for International Studies in Beijing, where students can study a range of business and communication topics as well as the Chinese language.

UFIC promoted the program with a fortune cookie drawing that included prizes for those who drew the lucky cookie. Numerous students stopped by the UFIC table for information, and many recognized the growing need to learn more about China and its increasing role in a global economy.

Daniel Hobbs, a junior in finance, would like to start a business in China that focuses on renewable energy. Hobbs hopes to help reduce greenhouse gasses by developing energy conservation programs involving solar

and other alternative energy systems. Studying in China through the UF program is the best way to begin the process, he said.

Others looked for more traditional international opportunities in Europe. Christina Mathew, a nursing student, visited many booths looking for a summer 2007 program.

“I’m looking to gain a good experience with other languages such as French,” she said.

International experience is becoming increasingly important in nursing, she said.

Two new programs
See *Study Abroad*, p. 5



A student prepares to select a fortune cookie at the Center for International Studies in Beijing exhibit.

2006 Global Culture Photo Contest

Sunset Soccer Mujahid Abdulrahim

Winner

Faculty, Staff, Alumni Category

Mujahid Abdulrahim was in his native Syria in August taking photographs of mosques.

The mosque he photographed in Aleppo is among the most elaborate in the country. At sunset, it cast intricate shadows across the courtyard, where a variety of elements caught his eye.

The architecture of the mosque at sunset provided the setting for children, inspired at the time by the World Cup, playing soccer.

The blend was not just visual; it reflected local and international issues occurring simultaneously in his native country.

“There were a variety of elements in one frame that is representative of the culture of mosques,” he said.

Abdulrahim further wanted to show the positive elements of his native country, which, he said, has been cast in a negative light by the Bush administration.

Abdulrahim is receiving his doctorate in aerospace engineering.



Study Abroad, from p. 4

were among the many established programs at the spring fair, with opportunities in Malaysia and Nicaragua.

UF in Malaysia, a summer program through the Center for Written and Oral Communications, is an opportunity to study at the University Science Malaysia Penang campus in international and intercultural communication.

Students will take courses on the cultural aspects of Malaysia in the context of international business.

The UF in Nicaragua summer program is designed to expose students to urban and rural Nicaragua as well as a cross section of Nicaraguans. Students live with Nicaraguan families and attend presentations by Nicaraguan officials. They travel with Nicaragua students and explore the culture of this developing country.

“Students will see how 75 percent of the world’s population lives. For people who want a real cross-cultural experience in social class, language and culture, this is the course to take,” said program coordinator Tim Fogarty.

Contact: Susanne Hill, SHill@ufic.ufl.edu

International News

International Honorary Organization

Phi Beta Delta Inducts New Members

Phi Beta Delta, the University of Florida’s international honorary organization, inducted six UF students for the fall 2006.

At a ceremony Nov. 27, 2006, at Matthew Lounge, the new members officially joined an organization of international students dedicated to recognizing their scholarly achievements, experiences and interests.

Phi Beta Delta provides a forum for international students to share their thoughts and experiences.

The organization, which has about 30 members, promotes awareness on international issues and campus diversity, said Annamarie Gabrenya, Phi Beta Delta president.

New members are Mina Bishop, Erin Smith, Steve Cimorelli, Stephanie Smith, Heather Lear and Jason Scott.

Phi Beta Delta is supported by UF International Center and NaviGators, a student organization.

Contact: Annamarie Gabrenya, agabren@ufl.edu

International Figures Speak at UF

FORMER PERUVIAN PRESIDENT ALEJANDRO TOLEDO

Peru's former President Alejandro Toledo exemplifies the value of education. Born in the Andes Mountains, he was one of 16 children. At age 5, his family moved to the coast and he entered adulthood as a shoeshine and newspaper sales boy. Peace Corps volunteers recognized his potential and assisted him in getting accepted at the University of San Francisco.

After a Stanford Ph.D., study at Harvard University, and a position with the United Nations, Toledo was elected president of Peru. During his campaign, he met International Center Dean Dennis Jett, who was ambassador to Peru at the time.

"I doubt that many of you, or any of you started so far down," Jett said in introducing Toledo. "I hope some of you will rise as high."

Toledo emphasized the importance of education in his rise to the presidency but expressed regret that millions of Latin Americans have not had such an opportunity.

Democracies cannot function in extreme poverty, he said. "Poverty conspires against democracy."

SYRIAN AMBASSADOR IMAD MUSTAPHA

Syrian Ambassador Imad Mustapha traveled across the United States telling a story about Syria that many have not heard. At the University of Florida Oct. 2, he told a standing-room audience that Syria is not a terrorist, anti-American nation, as it has been characterized by the Bush administration.

Mustapha said the United States and Syria have cooperated in international affairs for years. In the Gulf War in 1990, Syrian and U.S. troops fought side by side to force Iraqi forces from Kuwait. Syria provided the Bush administration intelligence information about Iraq prior to the invasion in 2003, he said. But Syria warned Bush not to invade the country. Syria does support the U.S. occupation of Iraq, he said.

In his speech entitled "Syria: Challenges and Crises," Mustapha was optimistic that peace with Israel will be achieved. He faults the Bush administration for its lack of interest in brokering a peace plan between the Arab states and Israel.

RETIRED AIR FORCE COL. KIM OLSON

Retired Air Force Col. Kim Olson knows Iraq. As executive officer to Gen. Jay Garner, director of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance for Iraq in 2003, Olson saw the war from many perspectives.

She shared her perspectives in a speech at the University of Florida Jan. 24.

Olson was deeply involved since U.S. troops entered Baghdad. The early days of occupation were a honeymoon of Iraqis and U.S. forces. She and Garner visited hospitals, schools and homes to try to understand the needs of Iraqis. In conversation with an Iraqi family, the mother said her greatest need was schools for her children. If basic needs such as education and health care are not fulfilled, democracy is doomed, Olson said.

The U.S. should utilize economic, social and international tools in dealing with Iraq. A military strategy alone will not resolve Iraq's problems, she said.

She doubted that an increase of troops in Iraq would change the situation, which she called a civil war.

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

University of Florida and Santa Fe Community College faculty, meeting at The People Speak Presentation, provided international perspectives on security.

Three faculty members, David Price, Vilma Fuentes and Richard Nolan, and UF International Center Dean Dennis Jett, who served as moderator, presented their perspectives on the theme "Working together with the World — what's in it for the United States?"

Faculty discussed how the concept of human rights has evolved, its implications to different cultures and political settings, and how the United States' concept of human rights is applied and perceived worldwide.

The panel also discussed the difficulties and threats that have arisen from the increasing number of countries with nuclear weapons. Finally, the growing threat of global warming emerged as important international issue for developed and developing nations.

Contact: Amanda MacDougall, amac27@ufl.edu

SANAM VAKIL, JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Sanam Vakil, a native of Iran and a faculty member at Johns Hopkins University, gave UF students and faculty a fresh perspective on Iran and its controversial nuclear program.

Vakil also presented her perspective Oct. 12 on the Bush administration's efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons in the Middle East.

She explained that President Mohammad Khatami is gaining support and his nuclear program is strengthened by U.S. efforts to stop it. Khatami draws power from

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Speakers, from p. 6

U.S. threats, she said.

“Washington has no understanding that they are legitimizing Iran’s need for nuclear weapons to protect this regime,” she said.

Iran has the technology, skills and materials to construct nuclear weapons, she said. Military attacks on Iran will only strengthen the regime and its resolve. The Bush administration would be more successful in dealing with Iran through a policy of engagement, she said. “Nixon went to China,” she said. “Why can’t Bush go to Iran?”

MORT ROSENBLUM, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mort Rosenblum, longtime Associated Press foreign correspondent, described the decline of foreign correspondence and international reporting.

“If we’re not there, you’re not there,” he said in a speech Nov. 16. Rosenblum described a scenario in which reporters are increasingly remote from their subjects, and editors have little interest in foreign affairs. These factors combined with the high cost of maintaining foreign correspondents has led to a decline in the awareness of U.S. citizens about international issues.



2006 Global Culture Photo Contest

Home on the Farm Ginger Larson

Winner

Photography and Journalism Students

Location: La Esperanza, Ecuador

When you need to reach us

International Center Contacts

Administration

Dennis Jett, Ph.D., Dean

djett@ufic.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-1523

Lynn Frazier, Executive Associate Director

lfrazier@ufic.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-1505

Pat Schauweker, Coordinator, Administrative Services

pschauw@ufic.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-1534

International Faculty & Scholar Services

Yvette McKinney, Coordinator, Academic Programs

ymckinney@ufic.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-1525

International Student Services

Debra Anderson, Coordinator of International Student Services

danderson@ufic.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-1501

Study Abroad Services

Susanne Hill, Ph.D., Coordinator of Study Abroad Services

shill@ufic.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-1500

Office of Program Development

Sandra Russo, Ph.D., Director of Program Development & Federal Relations

srusso@ufic.ufl.edu

Phone: (352) 273-1533

The University of Florida
International Center
P.O. Box 113225
Gainesville, FL 32611

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Winter and Spring 2007 Calendar

March

9 Global Coffee House	Reitz Union Bryan/Matthews Lounge	7 p.m.-9 p.m.
12 Film: Blue Spring	Hippodrome Cinema	8 p.m.-10:30 p.m.
19 Film: Kids Return	Hippodrome Cinema	8 p.m.-10:30 p.m.
The Japan Foundation Film Festival South, Introduced by Dr. Maureen Turim, Department of English		
21 Teaching About the EUI Education Workshop for Teachers		
	UFIC New Location at HUB	9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
23 Global Coffee House	Reitz Union Bryan/Matthews Lounge	8 p.m.-10 p.m.
27 Rewriting Music History: the 'Purification' and Perversion of Cultural Scholarship in the Third Reich		
	Anderson Hall Room 216	1 p.m.-3 p.m.
30 Global Coffee House	Reitz Union Bryan/Matthews Lounge	8 p.m.-10 p.m.

April

5 Lecture by Karen DeYoung, associate editor of The Washington Post		
	Reitz Union Lecture Hall 282	7:30 p.m.-8 p.m.
6 Global Coffee House	Reitz Union Bryan/Matthews Lounge	7 p.m.-9 p.m.
13 Global Coffee House	Reitz Union Bryan/Matthews Lounge	7 p.m.-9 p.m.
20 Global Coffee House	Reitz Union Bryan/Matthews Lounge	7 p.m.-9 p.m.
26 "The Arts and Politics" Education Workshop for Teachers		
	Harn Museum of Art	8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.