

UF Voices

Top 10 status begins with you

Faculty, staff and students can help the University of Florida reach its goal of becoming a top 10 public university in any number of ways. Here are just a few:



Diane Craig

- Stay informed. InsideUF highlights awards, milestones and important events. GatorTimes offers information on student scholarship and research opportunities. InfoGator provides news on benefits, training opportunities and employment. The myUFL portal features calendars and staff and research news, as well as other news from such sources as the Chronicle of Higher Education. DDD memos address major administrative announcements and policy changes.
- Get involved. UF employees can have a voice on policies that directly affect the campus community by serving on university committees. Nominations are open for 38 committees. Forms, available at www.ufl.edu/senate, are due on Jan. 26. Elections are held each spring for Faculty Senate, Academic and Professional Assembly, and Student Government.
- Be active. Besides training and professional development offered through UF's Human Resource Services, the APA holds seminars, lunch forums, library tours and monthly meetings that serve to keep staff informed and prepared.
- Go present. Whenever and wherever possible, present your work at seminars, workshops and professional meetings. Show the rest of the world the Gator Nation is more than athletics.
- Build relationships. Get to know the people around you. What you find might surprise you. We all have something to offer and getting to the top takes teamwork and partnerships built on trust.

Diane Craig
President, APA

Top Stories

UF extension Web site provides 'Solutions for Your Life'

Need gardening tips? Hoping to manage your family finances better? Worried about E. coli infections?

You can get answers from Solutions for Your Life, a Web site sponsored by University of Florida's extension service. Located at www.solutionsforyourlife.com, the Web site provides Floridians with a one-stop source of information on family life, gardening, agriculture, the environment and other topics.

The site isn't meant to replace direct contact with extension offices, but it supplements their services, said Liz Felter, extension faculty content development and training manager.

Contents include timely feature articles, how-to publications, an events calendar, a database of frequently asked questions, employment opportunities, links to relevant agencies and institutions, and contact information for extension offices in each of Florida's 67 counties.

New information and features are added regularly. One recent addition is Bug Bytes, which provides basic information about Florida's more common insects and other arthropods.

Launched last May, Solutions for Your Life has rapidly grown in popularity.

"The success has been tremendous," Felter said. Initially the site received about 4,000 visits per month, but in October that number had climbed to 71,000.

Career Showcase brings advantage to 2007 employment seekers

The Career Resource Center at the University of Florida encourages internship and job seekers to attend Career Showcase from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., today and Wednesday, in the O'Connell Center.

"Hundreds of organizations will attend Showcase and this means it is time for each student to take advantage of this opportunity," said Wayne Wallace, director of the Career Resource Center. "There will never be another time in a student's life when all these employers will come to them. It just doesn't happen."



Sally Lanigan

The number of visits to the Solutions for Your Life Web site has grown tremendously since its launch last May, says Liz Felter, extension faculty content development and training manager.

Reviewers who evaluated the site gave it high marks for layout and content, she said. Other land-grant institutions consider Solutions for Your Life a model for similar outreach efforts.

The Web site emphasizes material that could be useful anywhere in Florida. Information specific to individual counties – such as schedules for workshops,

meetings and volunteer opportunities – is available from county extension offices.

Extension is the public-outreach segment of UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, where experts take research findings and explain their applications to consumers and industry professionals.

By Tom Nordlie

More than 300 organizations are expected to attend Career Showcase; more than 45 companies are newcomers. Today, students and alumni may learn about opportunities for positions in accounting, communications, health care, human services, retail and others. Wednesday will see organizations with opportunities in computer science, construction, engineering, information systems, scientific research and other related fields.

"There are a great variety of employers

for students to choose from," Wallace said. "One size does not fit all for our university. We deliver very high caliber students who are geographically flexible and that keeps employers coming back."

Career Showcase gives students and alumni a chance to explore internship, co-op and full-time employment opportunities. UF IDs are required, and business attire is strongly recommended. For more information on registered organizations, visit the Web at www.crc.ufl.edu/showcase.

In Focus

Future Gator nurse, UF soccer player keeps her eye on the goal

As a goalkeeper on the University of Florida's top-ranked soccer team and a College of Nursing student, Brittni Goodwin juggles more than soccer balls in her very busy life.

Goodwin began her soccer and academic career at the University of Washington. Because she was so far from her family, the Fort Lauderdale native decided to move closer to home. Last May, she received her bachelor of science in degree psychology from UF.

To gain some clinical experience and prepare for graduate school in psychology, Goodwin worked at Shands VISTA alongside the nurses. She admired the dedication of the nursing staff so much that it inspired her to go into nursing.

"I fell in love with what they do, because there was so much compassion behind it," Goodwin said.

Goodwin enrolled in the prerequisites for the nursing program and this past fall she was accepted into the college. She admits that a large factor in her decision to attend UF was the soccer team, but she also was very impressed with what the nursing program had to offer.

Currently enrolled in the accelerated BSN program, Goodwin confesses that her experience at the college has been difficult. The program requires her to learn a great deal of information in a short amount of time, and she also has to incorporate her rigorous soccer training schedule.

"I know that I have to make a temporary sacrifice for now, but in the end the payoff will be rewarding," Goodwin said. "I have learned a lot about myself while being here, and I never cease to amaze myself in my capabilities."

Goodwin credits the faculty for her academic achievement and for giving her the opportunity to pursue nursing.

"My adviser, Sharon Bradley, has worked extremely hard to enable me to complete this journey," Goodwin said. "She is also an excellent professor and I enjoy her teaching style."

After graduation, Goodwin hopes to enter a certified registered nurse anesthetist program and then work as a CRNA in a critical care unit. In addition, Goodwin said she also would love to coach soccer someday.

"Being a Gator nurse encompasses pos-



Sarah Kiewel

Brittni Goodwin leads a busy life as a University of Florida nursing student and goalkeeper for the soccer team.

sibility, potential and growth," Goodwin said. "The nursing profession in itself is rewarding. It is a selfless profession."

By Lori Spicer

Seen & Heard

IBC slates student leadership conference

The Institute of Black Culture will host the fifth annual Dr. James E. Scott Black Student Leadership Conference from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 27, in the Reitz Student Union. This year's theme is "Black in Action: Answering the Call to Leadership" and will feature activist, novelist, sociologist and historian Erna Brodber as the keynote speaker.

The conference is free, but registration is required. Contact Darius Bost at bstodr4@ufl.edu for more information.

Center for Exercise Science to host spring seminar series

The College of Health and Human Performance's Center for Exercise Science kicks off its spring seminar series Wednesday with a grant-writing workshop presented by Michael Reid, University of Kentucky; Thomas Clanton, The Ohio State University; and Malcolm Jackson, University of Liverpool.

The seminars feature top researchers discussing their latest findings on various topics related to exercise science. All seminars are free and begin at 4 p.m. in Room 35 of the Florida Gym. For more information, contact the Center for Exercise Science at (352) 392-9575.

On Feb. 8, Daniel Corcus of the

University of Illinois-Chicago will discuss deep brain stimulation and bradykinesia in Parkinson's disease. Zsolt Murlasits of the University of Florida will talk about exercise-induced increases in cardiac mitochondrial proteins on Feb. 22.

Bruce Beynon, University of Vermont,

will present March 8. UF's Wilmer Nichols will speak March 22; and E. Dupont-Versteegdan, University of Kentucky, March 29.

The last seminar in the series on April 5 features Marybeth Brown of the University of Missouri.

CLAS committee addressing fiscal plan

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Faculty Finance Committee will continue this term to review the college's Five Year Plan and help Interim Dean Joseph Glover develop alternative ways to handle the college's fiscal deficit. Since November of last year, the committee has been working to advise the college on managing and controlling its budget. The committee consists of six elected members and three appointed faculty members distributed equally among divisions of the college. An elected student representative serves as the liaison to the graduate and undergraduate students.

Along with financial goals, the committee plans to create a more open budget process within the college administration. Together with the faculty, department chairs and Glover, the committee ultimately hopes to inform the university's central administration about the ambitions and needs of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Committee activities are expected to be reported by April.



Kevin Fitzsimons/The Ohio State University

Making good

The Ohio State University President Karen Holbrook sports a Gator T-shirt last week to hold up her end of a challenge with University of Florida President Bernie Machen before the Jan. 8 BCS National Championship football game between the two schools. Each president agreed to wear the other school's shirt if his or her school lost. UF beat OSU, 41-14.

University Auditorium

Jan. 25 7:30 p.m., Amber Watley, graduate recital

Jan. 26 7:30 p.m., Turtle Island String Quartet and The Assad Brothers "String Theory"

Jan. 27 7:30 p.m., Xiayin Wang

Jan. 28 7:30 p.m., Gainesville Chamber Orchestra's "Got Beethoven?"

Jan. 29 7:30 p.m., Bezzera and Estibalz, guest artists

Florida Museum of Natural History

"In the Open: Sandhill Crane Studies," 19-piece photographic exhibit, through March 18

Galleries

"The Legacy of A. Quinn Jones Sr.: All Negro Children Can Learn" exhibit through February, Smathers Library Special Collections Exhibition Gallery

Harn Museum of Art

"Contemporary Complexities: Photography Gifts from Martin Z. Margulies" through Feb. 25

Theater

Feb. 2-4, 6-11 School of Theatre and Dance presents "American Western," Constans

Theatre, Nadine McGuire Theatre and Dance Pavilion, weekday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m.

Phillips Center

Jan. 23 6 p.m., BBC National Orchestra of Wales with Joan Kwuon

Jan. 27 7:30 p.m., The Royal Ballet

Jan. 28 7:30 p.m., "I Can't Stop Loving You – The Music of Ray Charles"

Academic Calendar

Feb. 2 Deadline for spring degree applications

Note This

W-2s to be sent by end of January

Employees' 2006 IRS Form W-2s will be mailed on or before Jan. 31. The university also will provide Employee Year-End Earnings Statements, which are similar to the earnings statements issued by the Bureau of State Payrolls, before the university's devolution from the State of Florida.

Earnings statements will match the W-2 forms and provide detailed information on total gross earnings, non-salary earnings, and before- and after-tax deductions. The statements also will include other nontaxable items and the university's contributions on behalf of employees.

If you do not receive a W-2 form or an earnings statement, or if you have questions, call University Tax Services at 392-1324 or e-mail fa-tax-forms@admin.ufl.edu.

UF Community Campaign tops \$1 million mark

In 2006, the University of Florida Community Campaign raised more than \$1 million to support area service and health agencies. This is the highest amount collected since the campaign began in 1993.

The \$1,090,615 pledged will help provide a variety of local services, including child care, recreation, counseling and disease prevention. Some agencies are also partners with UF and will receive funding for health research projects.

Under the leadership of Neil Sullivan, former dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Robert Frank, dean of the College of Public Health and Health Professions, the UFCC provides UF employees the opportunity to make a positive impact on the Gainesville and surrounding communities.

Plan B available at UF health center

Emergency Contraceptive Pills (Plan B) are now available at the Student Health Care Center pharmacy. Students, faculty and staff 18 and older may obtain the pills without a prescription, but those under 18 must contact a provider for a prescription. One dose consisting of two pills costs \$30. Plan B may be taken for up to 72 hours after unprotected sex to prevent pregnancy. For more information, contact the Student Health Care Center at 392-1161 or visit the Web at www.shcc.ufl.edu.