

InsideUF

Your campus news source
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for faculty, staff and students
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UF Voices

Fewer vehicles goal of UF programs



Allan F. Preston

Last fall, the University of Florida introduced a plan to reduce the number of vehicles in its fleet and support its goal to become a more sustainable campus. The plan included a \$3,000 assessment on all university vehicles that would be used by the Physical Plant Division to provide transportation alternatives for faculty and staff.

In January, PPD and its partner Flexcar launched a car-sharing rental service that offers access to UF's fleet of low-emission vehicles. UF currently has eight vehicles available for rent by the hour.

Flexcar members reserve vehicles online through the Flexcar Web site (www.flexcar.com/UF). Once reservations are made, members use their membership cards to access vehicles parked in four campus locations.

UF departments may choose to rent Flexcars for official business. Or, employees and students over 18 may want to take advantage of Flexcar for personal travel. Additional information on the Flexcar service is available online at www.flexcar.com/UF.

UF also has a pilot service called Campus Cab that is available to a limited number of units on campus. This service is currently free for full-time faculty and staff and provides point-to-point transportation to and from UF facilities in Alachua County. Look for e-mail notices sometime soon as UF expects to expand Campus Cab service.

All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to review their current transportation needs. Help UF reduce its fleet where possible by taking advantage of these new programs.

Allan E. Preston
Coordinator, PPD Quality Office

Top Stories

Panelists hope to raise awareness in discussion on race

On Feb. 26, a nationally syndicated newspaper columnist will lead an open discussion on race in an expert panel sponsored by the University of Florida Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations.

Jabari Asim, columnist and deputy editor at The Washington Post Book World, writes on topics ranging from social issues to politics to popular culture in his weekly column. His upcoming book, "The N Word: Who Can Say It, Who Shouldn't, and Why," explores the history of the racial slur and its modern uses.

"Race has been in the news," Russell-Brown said. "We knew that there are a number of experts here at UF, so we wanted to take advantage of that."

Last November, an 88-year-old black woman, Kathryn Johnston, was shot by three undercover police officers in her Atlanta home. The officers broke down her door using a "no-knock" warrant. Four days later, Sean Bell, a black man attending his bachelor party, was shot 50 times by plainclothes New York Police Department detectives. He was unarmed.

"Seinfeld" TV actor Michael Richards' racist tirade at a comedy club and actor-director Mel Gibson's anti-Semitic drunken ramblings also garnered national attention.

"This is not just a black-white conversation; it's for everyone," Russell-Brown said.

The racial dialogue begins at noon in the Levin College of Law, Room 355B.

Panelists are: Faye Harrison, professor, anthropology and African-American studies; Yuko Fujino, instructor, sociology; Kenneth Nunn, professor, law; and Milagros Peña, associate professor, sociology and women's studies.

"Race is not part of the national conversation. We need to begin to start talking about race with an academic approach," Nunn said. "We talk around it, but we never really

squarely address these issues so they keep coming back in one form or another."

Peña has studied the Hispanic experience in the United States and written extensively on the topic. She said she agreed to be a part of the panel because of the "recent militarization of the Mexican border and marginalized status of Latinos and Latinas."

"I hope it will bring attention to the way in which racism in the U.S. continues to rear its ugly head," she said.

While keynote speaker Asim admits that young people are more enlightened about race than his generation, he finds existing prejudice among the educated surprising and distressing. He said he hopes people leave the panel with more confidence in dealing with those unlike themselves and a motivation to continue the discussion.

"The education is an ongoing process, and we all have to be educated," Asim said. "Once you know, there is no excuse for racially provocative behavior."

By Panagiota Papakos



Jabari Asim



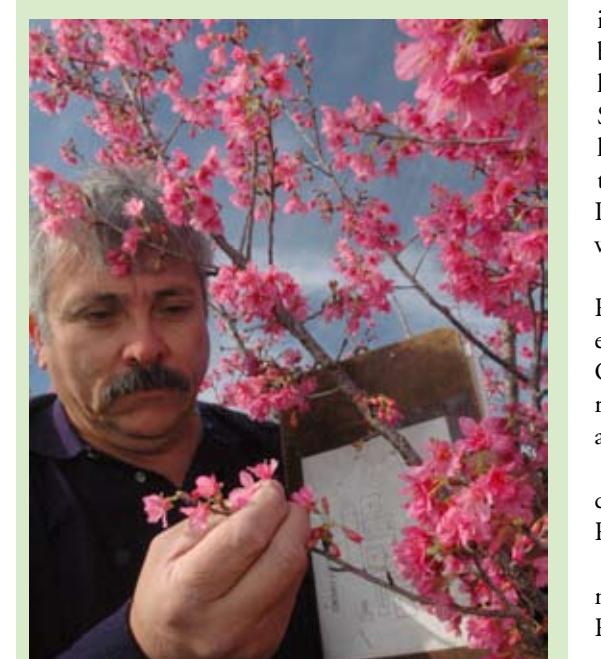
Faye Harrison



Kenneth Nunn



Milagros Peña



Josh Wickham

A touch of spring

Jose Chaparro, an assistant professor of horticultural sciences in the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, checks cherry blossom development in a campus teaching orchard in Gainesville earlier this year. Chaparro and other scientists are crossbreeding cherry trees in hopes of producing a variety that grows well in Florida's climate. Unseasonably warm weather at the time caused the trees to bloom early.

Happenings

Listings in this section are a sampling of events at the University of Florida compiled from entries listed in the full calendar that appears on the Web at calendar.ufl.edu. To submit an event online, send an e-mail to calendar@nervp.ogf.ufl.edu with the following information in this order: event date; event name; brief description and sponsor; time; location; costs; and contact information to include name, phone number and e-mail. Events, dates, times and programs are subject to change.

Feb. 20
9 a.m.-7 p.m., Engineering and Science Fair, Reitz Student Union, Grand Ballroom

4:30 p.m., "On the Muslim Question," talk by Gil Anidjar, Smathers Library, Conference Room West 212

8 p.m., "Daughters of the Wind," film screening by Brazilian director Joel Zito Araujo, Reitz Student Union Auditorium

Feb. 21
9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Engineering and Science Fair, Grand Ballroom, Reitz Student Union

Feb. 22
4 p.m., "Exercise-induced increases in cardiac

mitochondrial proteins," lecture by Zsolt Murlasits, Florida Gym, Room 35

7 p.m., Bruno Marcotulli and Brian Sparks of TV reality show "Black.White.", Reitz Student Union, Grand Ballroom

8 p.m., "Facing the Music: Microsoft, Apple and International Antitrust Law in the EU," panel discussion, Levin College of Law, Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom

Feb. 23
3:30 p.m., "Glimpses of Addis Ababa from Contemporary Diaries: Artistic Life in the Capital from the 1930s to the 1970s," lecture by Peter Garretson, Grinter Hall, Room 471

Feb. 26
4 p.m., "The Cuban-American Lobby: Myth and Reality," lecture by María Cristina García, Keene Faculty Center

4:05 p.m., "Prevention of Development of Dental Caries in Infancy and Early Childhood: The Role of Diet and Hygiene Practices," lecture by Meredith Galloway; "Efficacy of Vitamin D Supplementation for Treatment of Hypovitaminosis D," lecture by Adam Mates, CSE E121 Building

University Auditorium
Feb. 20 7:30 p.m., Choir concert
Feb. 21 7:30 p.m., Symphonic band concert
Feb. 22 7:30 p.m., Wind symphony

Feb. 23
12:50 p.m., School of Music convocation
7:30 p.m., faculty recital

Feb. 24 7 p.m., Gospel choir

Feb. 25 4 p.m., Chu-Fang Huang on piano

Florida Museum of Natural History
"In the Open: Sandhill Crane Studies," 19-piece photographic exhibit, through March 18

Galleries
Global Culture Photography Juried Exhibition by Study Abroad students through Feb. 23, Grinter Gallery
Student Arts Juried Exhibition through March 9, University Gallery; reception, 7 p.m., Feb. 23

Feb. 23
Friday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Phillips Center

Feb. 21
8 p.m., Michael Parenti

Feb. 24
7:30 p.m., Ballet gala

Feb. 25
2 p.m., Gainesville Community Band

Feb. 27
7:30 p.m., Kris Kristofferson

O'Connell Center
Feb. 23
8 p.m., Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley

Note This

Book drive aids libraries in Uganda

A University of Florida doctoral student is asking faculty, staff and students for donations of new and semiused books and magazines to help stock bookshelves of libraries in Uganda.

Joel Hartter, a Ph.D. candidate in geography, is collecting textbooks and fiction and nonfiction books geared toward all ages, as well as magazines such as National Geographic. Hartter became interested in the impoverished East African country on a visit there for his dissertation research. He has since helped establish four libraries in the country.

Donations may be dropped off at the Department of Geography, Turlington Hall Room 3241.

Deadline nears for leadership award

The deadline to submit applications for the 2007 Woman Leader of the Year Award is 5 p.m., March 8.

Sponsored by the Women's Leadership Council, the Woman Leader of the Year Award recognizes undergraduate women who have made the University of Florida campus and the surrounding Gainesville community a more positive and supportive environment through service to the public via volunteer programs and student organizations.

Applications should be directed to Nora Kilroy, 202 Peabody Hall.

For questions, contact Erin Cassidy by e-mail at ecc18@ufl.edu. Additional information may be found on the Web at www.dso.ufl.edu/wlc/leaderaward.php.

Grants available for international courses

University of Florida faculty members have until March 19 to submit proposals for the fifth annual competition for internationalizing the curriculum. Up to 16 grants of \$3,000 each will be awarded for proposals to develop new courses with substantial international content or for modifying existing courses to increase their international component.

Winners will be notified in early April. Links to this year's guidelines and proposal format and the lists of past winners may be found on the International Center's Web site: www.ufic.ufl.edu/ica.htm.

For more information, call 392-5834 or e-mail srusso@ufic.ufl.edu.

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Send submissions for publication consideration at least two weeks in advance to insideuf@ufl.edu.

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