

Flu: Teamwork needed

Teamwork. Nothing could be more important when many students, faculty and staff will have been in some way affected by this year's flu virus. Various departments within the university, along with the Alachua County Health Department, are working together to ensure campus safety in response to this year's H1N1 influenza illness.



Phillip Barkley

The Student Health Care Center will assist in vaccination efforts for seasonal and H1N1 influenza shots. We are expecting the H1N1 vaccine on campus this semester, and a plan is in place to initially vaccinate those considered high risk or who have direct patient-contact. As more doses become available, high volume vaccination initiatives will likely occur.

A Web site, <http://www.ehs.ufl.edu/H1N1/>, will serve as the primary communication tool for university efforts this flu season — including frequently asked questions and self-care guidelines. If you have questions or want to discuss your symptoms, contact your health care provider.

The fall is always a busy and exciting time as we face new challenges, but if we work together we can meet these challenges head-on and charge forward to a successful and healthy spring!

Take care,

*Phillip L. Barkley, M.D.
Director, UF Student Health Care Center
Clinical Associate Professor, Community Health & Family Medicine*

Homecoming offers fun for all

University of Florida Homecoming events are sure to have something for everyone. This year's activities, which have already begun, include the events listed below.

At 11:30 a.m. on Oct. 16, Gator Gallop will take place. Gator Gallop is a two-mile run that immediately precedes the Homecoming Parade and serves as its official escort. At noon on Oct. 16, the UF Homecoming Parade will march down University Avenue.

Beginning at 7 p.m. on Oct. 16 at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, Gator Growl will feature student-produced skits, UF athletes, comedian Dana Carvey, the JabbaWockeeZ dance group, musical group O.A.R. and more. Preferential seating and a discounted ticket price of \$15 is offered to faculty and staff this year. Student tickets are \$15 and general admission is \$25. For more information, visit <http://www.gatorgrowl.org/>.

Two hours before the Arkansas football kick-off on Oct. 17, the BBQ and Carnival will offer classic carnival-style games, food and prizes.

For more details on Homecoming events, visit <http://www.ufhomecoming.org/events>.



Ray Carson

Cynda Crawford, D.V.M., mingles with some retired greyhounds.

The flu's gone to the dogs

Apparently pigs are not the only mammal kind enough to share their flu with others. Horses now have passed their own flu version, equine influenza, to man's best friend.

The resulting canine influenza virus (CIV) is a new respiratory pathogen in dogs. This is another instance of mammal-to-mammal transmission of influenza-A viruses, which was previously thought to occur only between pigs and people.

Cynda Crawford, D.V.M., Maddie's assistant professor of Shelter Medicine at the University of Florida, is co-discoverer of the canine influenza virus. Crawford led a group of collaborators from UF, Cornell University, and the Centers for Disease Control in the first identification of the virus as a cause of respiratory infections in racing greyhounds in 2004. Subsequent determinations found that the virus was infecting dogs of all ages and breeds throughout the U.S.

The transfer and adaptation of the flu from one mammal host to another is a rare event. Although uncommon, jumping species is a trademark of the influenza virus, Crawford said.

Fortunately for dogs and their owners, a canine flu vaccine was released over the summer and is available nationwide. The UF College of Veterinary Medicine worked with pharmaceutical developer Intervet/Schering-Plough on a consultant basis to create the vaccine.

So far 30 states and the District of Columbia have reported cases of canine influenza, with the virus most prevalent in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Colorado and South Florida. Recent outbreaks have occurred in northern Virginia, Connecticut and Atlanta.

Canine influenza is a community-acquired infection, so dogs housed in boarding kennels and shelters are most at risk. The vaccine is intended for these at-risk dogs, dogs that belong to health-care providers and kennel staff, and dogs that travel to areas of the country where the virus is more prevalent.

[Read more of this story at www.insideuf.ufl.edu](http://www.insideuf.ufl.edu)

Fact

UF veterinarian Cynda Crawford is co-discoverer of the canine flu virus.

Your campus news source

By Allison Simpson

Produced by the University Relations Office for faculty, staff and students
Editor - Susan Stewart
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UF Calendar

Oct. 15
Academic & Professional Assembly (APA) session with guest speaker President Bernie Machen, 4 p.m., Smathers Library East, Room 1A. Free and open to the public.

Oct. 17
Gator football vs. Arkansas, time TBA. Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

Oct. 21
Career Resource Center presents Graduate and Professional Schools Information Day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Reitz Union Grand Ballroom.

Recurring Events
Healthy Gators 2010 - encourages faculty, staff and students to participate in its lunch-hour walking program, Walking Gators, now through Dec. 14.

Harn Museum of Art presents **Weekend Tours**, every Saturday at 11 a.m. Free and open to the public.

This is a sampling of events from the electronic UF calendar. For more event details, or to submit an event to the calendar, click "UF Calendar" at www.insideuf.ufl.edu.

Did you KNOW?

Both Homecoming and Gator Growl are produced almost entirely by students.

Note This

Disney Institute, UF offer workshops

The UF Leadership Development Institute and Disney Institute are offering three upcoming one-day workshops where business leaders can learn the keys to Disney's exceptional customer service. For more information, contact Chris Cupoli, ccupoli@dce.ufl.edu, 352-392-8660.

Deadline for nominations is Oct. 30

The Superior Accomplishment Awards program recognizes staff members who contribute outstanding and meritorious service, efficiency and/or economy, or to the quality of life provided to students and employees. The deadline for nominations is Oct. 30. For more information, visit <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/awards/saa/>.

Flu information now available

For more information on H1N1 flu, visit Environmental Health & Safety's Web site, <http://www.ehs.ufl.edu/H1N1>.

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