



RFUF

RETIRED FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, INC.

September 2007

Volume 32, Number 1

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2007-2008

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Fall Luncheon

11:45 a.m.

October 3, 2007

Paramount Plaza
Hotel and Suites

President's Message

Welcome to the 2007-08 academic year at the University of Florida. With the thousands of new and returning students settled in for another semester, it is time for the RFUF to launch another exciting season.

The Fall Luncheon is scheduled at 11:45 a.m. on October 3 at the Paramount Resort. Starting October 10, our weekly Wednesday meetings will be in the Chandler Auditorium of the Harn Museum of Art. We begin with coffee, donuts and chatter at 9:30 a.m., and the Meeting begins at 10 a.m and adjourns no later than 11 a.m. The schedule for these meetings is included in this Newsletter.

Program Chair and President-Elect Robert Mansell has arranged an outstanding group of speakers for our programs. He has arranged for a variety of programs because of the diversity of the University faculty and persons residing in the area. Speaking from experience, you will often find that program topics that do not sound too appealing to you, turn out to be one of the best and most informative. Every program will provide you with new information.

Attendance at our weekly meetings is usually 50-65. We have room for twice that many. We still have retired faculty and administrators who claim to have never heard of RFUF. Let your retired friends know about RFUF and bring them to a meeting. There are retired faculty from other institutions living in the Gainesville area. If you meet any of this group, let them know that they are eligible to join RFUF and invite them to a meeting.

Come for coffee and conversations at 9:30. I have found this an opportunity to make new friends and renew acquaintances.

Looking forward to seeing you at the October 3 luncheon and each Wednesday thereafter.

Raymond C. Andrew

Programs Fall 2007

Speakers for 10:00 AM Meetings at the **Chandler Auditorium in the Harn Museum of Art**
[Coffee and doughnuts at 9:30 AM]:

- October 10* **KEITH DOTY**, Professor Emeritus, Electrical and Computer Engineering
"Robotics in 2007"
- October 17* **JOHN SOMMERVILLE**, Professor Emeritus, History Department
"The Decline of the Secular University"
- October 24* **BENJAMIN SMITH**, Assistant Professor, Political Science Department
"Shia-Sunni and Arab-Kurd Relations in Iraq and the Mideast"
- October 31* **JUDITH RUSSELL**, Dean, University of Florida Libraries
"University of Florida Libraries"
- November 7* **DAVID PYNE**, President ASR Systems LLC, Gainesville
"Water Management Using Aquifer Storage Recovery Technology"
- November 14* **J. O'BRIEN**, Professor Emeritus, Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction
Studies, Florida State University
"Global Climate Change"
- November 28* **GEORGE LEBO**, Associate Professor Emeritus, Astronomy Department
"Current NASA Space Programs"
- December 5* **PATTI R. BREEDLOVE**, Manager, Sid Martin Biotechnology Development
Incubator
"The Sid Martin Biotechnology Development Incubator"
- December 12* **JED KEESLING**, Professor, Mathematics Department
"Chaos: New Understanding of Non-linear Dynamics"

October 3 **FALL LUNCHEON, Speaker: Virginia G. Maurer**
11:45am Professor and Director of the Poe Center for Business Ethics,
Paramount Plaza Warrington College of Business Administration
Hotel and Suites *"The Poe Center for Business Ethics"*

Awards, Appointments, and Recognition

Faculty

- ★ Boaz Sharon, Professor of Music, was named Honorary Fellow by the faculty of education at Charles University in Prague for his contributions to that university and its cooperation with UF.
- ★ Judith Williams, Professor of Theatre and Dance, received the Florida Theatrical Association 2006 Award for Outstanding Achievement in Live Theatre.
- ★ Elizabeth Wing, Curator Emeritus, Florida Museum of Natural History, was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, one of the highest honors in American science. She is one of only 10 members from UF.
- ★ Paula Soltis, Curator, Florida Museum of Natural History, received, along with her co-authors, the Stebbins Medal for their landmark book, “Phylogeny and Evolution of Angiosperms.”
- ★ Rodney Bartlett, Graduate Research Professor of Chemistry and Physics, has received the American Chemical Society Award in Theoretical Chemistry.
- ★ Daniel Driscoll, Professor and Pediatric Geneticist, was inducted into the Johns Hopkins University Society of Scholars.
- ★ Jeremy Foley was named Athletic Director of the Year by Street and Smith’s Sports Business Journal.



New Appointments

- Steve Dorman—Dean of the College of Health and Human Performance
- George Hochmuth—Associate Dean for Research, IFAS
- Lucinda Lavelli—Dean of the College of Fine Arts
- Christopher Silver—Dean of the College of Design, Construction, and Planning
- Glen Hoffsis—Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine
- Bruce Kone—Dean of the College of Medicine
- Judith Russell—Dean of the Libraries
- Henry Frierson—Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School
- Jamie Lewis Keith—Vice President and General Counsel
- J. Glenn Morris, Jr.—Director, Emerging Pathogen Institute

Congratulations to Our Engineering Students

A team of seven seniors in the College of Engineering won first place at the International Conference on Manufacturing, Science and Engineering. Their submission was the development of an automated process that prints images on sticky note cubes. This is the third time a UF team has won first place in this competition.



Faculty Research

Dr. Louis Guillette, Distinguished Service Professor of Zoology, was named one of just 20 Howard Hughes Medical Institute Professors nationwide. He received a four-year grant of \$1 million to develop a unique mentoring program

which involves a new course entitled “Communicating Complex Ideas in Science.” Scientists from different part of the world will sit down with small groups of students and talk about their research and new ideas in science. Short films of these sessions will be made for use in K-12 grades and undergraduate courses.

Dr. Janet Yamamoto, Professor of Pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine, who discovered Feline Aids, has developed a vaccine for this disease and is in the process of finding a vaccine for HIV. Her earlier work developed an HIV diagnostic tool. She received her doctorate at the University of Texas, studying under Dr. Howard Johnson, now a Graduate Research Professor of Immunology at UF.

Dr. Julie Levy, Associate Professor of Pathology in the College of Veterinary Medicine, is the founder of the trap-neuter-return program, Operation Catnip, a program which has now spread around the country. In Gainesville, Operation Catnip has neutered or spayed more than 10,000 cats. Dr. Levy, one of the country’s leading cat veterinarians, is developing a contraceptive vaccine to control the cat population in one shot. Dr. Levy was recently named Outstanding Woman Veterinary of the Year by the Association of Women Veterinarians.

Florida, for many reasons, is particularly vulnerable to emerging pathogens; 1st, its long coastline which brings in products and people (76 million tourists a year) from all over the world, 2nd, its hot and humid climate which attracts disease carrying insects and which encourages growing fungi and spreading infection, and finally, its hurricanes. UF, with its scientists in many areas on one campus, is a natural venue for the necessary interdisciplinary activity that pathogen research demands. For some time, UF Scientists have conducted research on drugs, vaccines, and diagnostics to counter such infections and biotreats. In 2003, a research initiative was originated by UF faculty and is organized to include researchers at UF, Duke, Emory, Alabama at Birmingham, North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Vanderbilt. It is now funded by the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Richard W. Moyer, Associate Dean for Research, College of Medicine at UF, is the Acting Director and co-principal investigator for the Southeast Regional Center for Excellence for Emerging Infections and Biodefense. On the UF campus, Dr. J. Glenn Morris, Jr. has just been named Director of the Emerging Pathogens Institute. With Dr. Morris’ appointment and with a comprehensive research team already in place, UF’s emerging pathogens program is on the fast track.

Portrait of a UF Student

UF’s student body president, John Boyles, is not only a politician who handles multi-million dollar budgets and attends Trustee Board meetings, he also is a senior working on degrees in French horn performance, music theory and composition and mathematics. His political experience started early, when as a high school student he was an intern in the British House of Commons. He continued his political involvement by becoming President of the UF Student Honor Organization as a freshman and then student senator for the College of Fine Arts the next year. Unhappy with the involvement of students, he ran for President. In this position, he works with the UF administration and in addition, with city and county governmental groups.

Professor Paul Basler says, “John is, without a doubt, the most intelligent, talented, motivated and compassionate individual that I have had the pleasure to work with in over 18 years of university instruction.”

John is now a graduate student at Yale University, but still hopes to study at Oxford University under a Rhodes Scholarship. But while at UF, he showed all of us how the arts can help this research intensive university attain top standing and improve many aspects of society.

Notes from
President
Ray Andrew

Volunteer Needed

I would appreciate having an RFUF member volunteer to report regularly on our members who are unable to attend because of health reasons. If interested, please contact me at 373-9143 or RCAN7@juno.com.

Special Recognition

I want to express special appreciation on behalf of the RFUF Board and members for the 8 years that James Saucerman served RFUF as secretary. He did an outstanding job carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the position. He never missed performing any of the duties during these 8 years. It required a lot of his time. Be sure and thank him the next time you see him.

Short Notes

- ★ **UF ranked 7th in the nation in the number of patents** its researchers received and 1st among the public universities in research transfer to the market. 2006 was a good year for UF's research funding: \$518.8 million, passing the 1/2 billion mark for the first time.
- ★ **UF graduates winners on television:**
Kendra Todd won third season of "The Apprentice"
Jesse Palmer starred in "The Bachelor"
Christina Christian was a finalist in the first "American Idol"
Emmitt Smith won "Dancing with the Stars"
- ★ Incoming UF freshmen must now complete **Alcohol 101**, an online course on the risks of binge drinking.
- ★ **More than one-half, 54%, of UF's enrollment is female, and one-third of its faculty are women.**
- ★ **UF produces the third highest number of doctorate graduates in the country**—not surprising since UF along with The Ohio State University and the University of Minnesota are the only universities in the country which offer all doctorate degrees on one campus.
- ★ **Lee Cobb**, Master of Music at UF, is the **assistant carillonneur** at one of the nation's largest and most picturesque bell towers—the **205 foot Bok Tower in Central Florida**. He honed his skills at the Century Tower at UF and last August performed his new composition, *Sonata*, on its carillon.
- ★ **Do you have high blood pressure?** Dr. Zhongjie Zun, an Assistant Professor of Medicine, is testing gene therapy to block a protein in the kidneys that triggers high blood pressure. Dr. Sun is hoping that this is the first step toward a long term treatment for high blood pressure and kidney problems.
- ★ **Who needs a library? UF does!!** The nine UF libraries are open more than 100 hours per day. Last year, more than 2 million students and faculty passed through the turnstiles of the two largest—Library West and the Marston Science Library. UF's libraries now have a new leader, Dean Judith Russell, former Superintendent of Documents with the U.S. Government.

Technology Award

The UF Biotechnology Incubator came in second—to one in France—for the technology award given by the National Incubation Association. Business incubators provide support for start-up companies by providing shared facilities, expertise, and investment contracts. UF's biotech incubator currently includes an animal testing facility, fermentation facilities and a green house. It has graduated 19 businesses and houses 12 start-ups developed through UF research and licensed by UF. Applied Genetics Technology Corporation is one of its success stories. Among the current residents is one producing ethanol from agricultural waste and another company developing a brain trauma diagnostic.



Check out Our Website: www.retiredfaculty.ufl.edu

Changes on the Campus



A \$15 million expansion to Ben Hill Griffin Stadium, which includes renovations to the stadium's southwest corner and the coaches' office as well as the weight room, was begun this spring.

A new Veterinary Education and Clinical Research Center is being planned for the near future. Currently, the Legislature is considering appropriate funding.

By the spring of 2009, the new Biomedical Science Building will be expanded to create more space for cross-disciplinary collaboration. A grant from the Shepard Broad Foundation will permit an expansion of the atrium to 3400 square feet, providing an area for scientists and engineers to share ideas and develop interdisciplinary research studies.

A new Hurricane House, a structure able to withstand winds of more than 140 mph, has been built at UF'S Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. This structure will allow researchers to study how existing homes can be made more hurricane resistant.



Have you visited the Bat House lately? If so, you may have noticed a second fin-like addition in the opening. This addition, sponsored by the Florida Bat Conservancy, should prevent baby "pups" from falling to the ground and becoming victims of the elements and predators.

Students from the College of Design, Construction and Planning are renovating the Baby Gator Development and Research Center on the campus to allow more research and observation space. In addition, they are planning a vegetable patch and a butterfly garden for the little Gators.

There is hope that the 18 year old clubhouse of the UF Golf Course will be renovated this spring.



By the spring of 2008, the University Pride of the Sunshine Band will have a new rehearsal building of over 5000 square feet. Located south of the Music Building, it will provide space for the more than 600 UF students who participate in the 12 Gator band ensembles.

Have You Visited One of Our Great Museums Lately?

In the fall of 2007 and the spring 2008, the Harn Museum of Art is featuring the Ceramics of Toshiko Takaezu: Function, Form and Surface. Toshiko Takaezu is one of America's most eminent ceramists. Born in Hawaii, she has been creating both functional and sculptural ceramics for more than 60 years. She frequently treats the surfaces of her works like paintings and creates dynamic, abstract designs that give the pieces a strong kinetic energy. The tension between surface and form elevates even her simplest pieces to a high aesthetic level.

A major exhibit in the Museum of Natural History this fall will feature the Megalodon, the largest shark that ever lived. You can walk into the exhibit through the jaws of a full-size 60 foot long sculpture and learn about this shark's history and the world it inhabited. Megalodon lived world-wide until it became extinct 2 million years ago. The exhibit will explain the evolution and biology as well as the misconceptions regarding prehistoric sharks.

In Memoriam

*We regret to announce the departure from this life of our retired colleagues.
We extend our condolences to their families & friends.*

Francis A. Allen
Law

Bill Gordon Eppes
Building Construction

Lois Malasanos
Dean of Nursing

Alexander Bednarek
Mathematics

Arthur Funk
History

Ward David Noyes
Hematology/Oncology

Alvaro F. Bolanos
Spanish

Nathan Gammon
Soil Science

Harry Sisler
Chemistry

George Butler
Chemistry and Past President RFUF

Hulda Gross Grobman
Education

Daniel Spinks
Soil Science

Ioannis Constantinidis
Medicine

Barney Harris
Dairy Science

Betty Stevens
Dean of Women

Charles Eno
Soil Science

Kenneth Kerslake
Art

Jennet Mae Wilson
Nursing

Ferdinand LeGrand
IFAS

Also, we wish to remember two good friends of the University of Florida:

***Kathryn Bryan**, wife of former Vice President and interim President of UF, **Robert Bryan**, and **Dexter "Neil" Weber**, an architect who was instrumental in the design and construction of early UF buildings*

MEMBERSHIP

The University of Florida Foundation's listing of UF retired faculty and administrators shows that 500 of us are living in the Gainesville area. We'd like all to join the current 200 plus members of RFUF. Retired faculty and administrators 55 years and older who have at least 10 years of service in a department or center are eligible to join, as are like retired members from other universities. Members are challenged to invite those who are not members to join us. We will enjoy their participation.

For annual dues of only \$15, our members can join us on Wednesdays of each week from 9:30 to 11:00 at the Harn Museum where parking is free for our members. Our coffee and doughnut social time, our informative programs and our open question and answer sessions all keep us involved in the university and with each other. RFUF adds to the pleasure of retiring in Gainesville. Use the form on the reverse page for new members.

Our spring luncheon is scheduled for October 3rd at the Paramount Resort. Professor Virginia G. Maurer from the Warrington College of Business Administration is the scheduled speaker. Please send your reservation for the luncheon using the form on the reverse page.

We use the "address label" to advise our members whether or not their annual dues are up to date.

Date on Mailing Label

09/30/07 or earlier

09/30/08 or later

Take this Action

Pay \$15 (1) year's dues

Your dues are paid up or ahead

Please use the form on the reverse page of this newsletter to submit your dues.





RFUF

Retired Faculty of the University of Florida, Inc.
PO Box 15544, University Station
Gainesville, FL 32604-1554
Address service requested

PRESORTED STANDARD
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October 3, 11:45am
Paramount Plaza
Hotel and Suites

Speaker:
Virginia G. Maurer

**Please send your
reservations and
dues to:
RFUF
PO Box 15544
Gainesville, FL
32604-1554**

RFUF Fall Luncheon October 3, 2007

Name: _____
Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____
No. of Tickets @ \$18.00 _____ Deadline: **September 27**

RFUF Annual Dues \$15.00

(October 1, 2007-September 30, 2008)
Amount Paid \$ _____
Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
E-mail Address: _____
Retired from _____ Dept. _____