

## **The RFUF 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year Book Celebrating The Retired Faculty of the University of Florida at 50**

As the Retired Faculty of the University of Florida (RFUF) proudly celebrates its 50th year since its founding in 1974, it is becoming increasingly clear that life after retirement can be vibrant. This milestone project explores the active lives of many of our members, revealing how they navigate this new chapter with enthusiasm and purpose. Their stories showcase a remarkable tapestry of experiences which illustrates that academic retirees lead busy, fulfilling lives, often harnessing skills, experiences, and interests cultivated during their careers, or perhaps reimagining them, in exciting new directions.

Many retirees maintain a strong commitment to intellectual engagement, continuing their academic pursuits by conducting research, writing books and articles, and remaining active in their fields. Some share their knowledge by teaching, presenting guest lectures, or mentoring the next generation of scholars. Others may offer their expertise through consulting or serving on advisory boards in businesses, educational institutions, or government agencies.

Lifelong learning and community involvement are central themes in retirement. Learning activities extend beyond those offered by RFUF in weekly seminars held at the Harn Museum. Volunteering for nonprofits, educational organizations, or community groups presents opportunities to utilize skills for the greater good. Engaging in financial and estate planning to ensure preparedness for the future and for the benefit of heirs is prioritized. Health and wellness also remain top priorities for many, including tailored exercise, attention to nutrition, and mindfulness and meditation to support mental health. Newfound leisure time permits expanding social connectedness with friends and former colleagues as well as exploring new travel destinations, hobbies, musical skills, cultural events, and deepening relationships with children, grandchildren, and other family members, sometimes to include caregiving roles.

In short, academic retirees strike a remarkable balance between continuing their intellectual pursuits and exploring new passions. As our membership continues to demonstrate, retirement opens a door to personal growth and ongoing contributions to society, a fulfilling new journey worth celebrating. The following collection of short stories illustrate how many of our members enjoy rewarding pathways in retirement.

**Robin Poynor and Anna Calluori Holcombe  
August 2024**

## **Alan Agresti**

I served in the Statistics Department from 1972-2010, finishing as a distinguished professor. I developed service courses for students in the social sciences and courses in categorical data analysis for MS and PhD students in Statistics.

Following UF retirement, I taught fall semester each year for seven years at Harvard University. There, I wrote the book "Foundations of Linear and Generalized Linear Models" based on a course I developed for PhD Statistics students at Harvard and edited a book on the history of academic Statistics departments. I have also prepared new editions of four older books on categorical data analysis and social statistics, and more recently, wrote "Foundations of Statistics for Data Scientists, with R and Python." Over the years I have taught short courses in about 35 countries, including nearly every year since 1990 at many universities in Italy. In 2017 I took advantage of my grandparents' heritage to receive Italian citizenship at a ceremony in the lovely hilltop village of Ferrazzano in Molise, from which my grandmother had emigrated. In 2018 a conference was held in my honor in Florence, Italy, attended by statistician friends from around Italy. Recently I assisted my wife, Jacki Levine, as she edited the book "Once Upon a Time in Florida" for Florida Humanities. (She had been managing editor of the Gainesville Sun, founder and editor of Gainesville Magazine, and editor of Forum magazine for Florida Humanities.) Jacki and I live part of the year in Boston and part in Gainesville but spend some time each year in the UK and Italy. I am still slowly working on becoming more fluent in Italian and better satisfying my intentions of going to a gym regularly, and Jacki has leadership positions with several service organizations in Gainesville.

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## **Leon Hartwell Allen, Jr.**

Earlier, I was involved in research with other UF-IFAS faculty members in a Citrus Soil-Water-Atmosphere-Plant Project centered at Fort Pierce involving productivity of orange and grapefruit scions on six rootstocks with three soil tillage systems and two subsurface drainage systems. Also, I was involved with hydrology and water quality research on the Taylor Creek-Nubbin Slough Watershed. This water quality work was assumed by the South Florida Water Management District.

Most importantly, later I was involved with UF-IFAS faculty members, post-docs, and graduate students in research on the effects of the combination of rising atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and elevated temperature on growth and productivity of various crops, including soybean, rice, peanut, kidney bean, citrus, maize, grain sorghum, sugarcane, rhizoma perennial peanut, and Bahia grass. I was also involved with UF-IFAS faculty members in research on alternatives to methyl bromide soil fumigant.

Since retirement I have continued to analyze data and write manuscripts for scientific journals, but at the age of 88, all activity is declining. I remain a member of American Society of Agronomy-Crop Science Society of America-Soil Science Society of America and view their frequent online communications. I continue to view SCIENCE and NATURE, including their online news stories.

I remain convinced that solar ultraviolet radiation and possibly also daytime ground-level ozone play an important role in control of COVID and other saliva droplet transmitted diseases in the daytime outdoor environment. (There are a few pre-COVID publications that support this concept.) Probably rapid dispersion of saliva droplets and rapid desiccation of droplets (except in rainy conditions) also play an important role.

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## **Donna Hodgkins Berardo**

My first academic position (1968-72) was an Administrative Professional Counselor to Students at Florida State University. There I helped the campus police develop the first drug education program on campus and with Ellen Amantea (retired Counselor Education at UF) held programs for young women matching them with professional women in Tallahassee to expand their career horizons.

On the faculty at Florida State College (73-82) I taught and developed multicultural social science courses on an NSF grant. A highlight was going with 15 US faculty with Terry McCoy on a curriculum development Fulbright to Brazil. For almost 30 years (1982-2009) I was a Medical Sociologist in the UF College of Pharmacy, served as President of the Women's Faculty Association, was on President Lombardi's Faculty Advisory Board, was a faculty advisor to Phi Mu sorority, was active in the Gerontology Center and with Anita Spring wrote the graduate curriculum for the Gender Studies Program. A Fulbright to teach and do research on the Pharmacist's role in HIV education at Chaing Mai University in Thailand was a highpoint.

Retirement has been a time to try new things, travel to new places, and meet people beyond academics. My partner Wes Thorne and I find time to travel between doctors' appointments! We met at our 50th high school reunion in Alexandria, Va.

Volunteer work expands my social network and helps me enjoy people of like interests. As a Master Gardener I feel as though I went back to college in horticulture. I enjoy planning and finding speakers for the monthly continuing education programs and meeting a wide variety of talented people in IFAS, Forestry, Entomology, and the UF Horticulture Programs as well as

agribusiness people. The MG group supports a wide variety of community, school and public gardens and teaches people how to bring nature home and protect the environment. I have a dream of reestablishing a medicinal plant garden on campus and pushing for a resurgence of knowledge of the history and current use of plants in healing. This could mean the development of a multidisciplinary course too! I also enjoy supporting and serving on the Gainesville Orchestra Board. We are so lucky to have Maestro Evans Haile and a wonderful group of musicians who come from all over the state to play a terrific concert series every year. Financial Understanding Network (aka FUN) is a group of women investors who study and do monthly reports and purchase stock in various market industries. We learn so much from each other and do well in the market too! After 7 years of working the Sociology Table at Friends of the Library (FOL) I still work the 2 big sales in April and October and rejoin all the "kids in the candy shop" who love to read.

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### **Shirley Bloodworth**

After completing my master's degree in Psychiatric Nursing, I became a nursing instructor of psychiatric nursing at Central Florida College. In 1968, I joined the UF College of Nursing, an adjunct faculty position, as the Nursing Director of the inpatient Clinical Research Center (CRC) at UF. After my first retirement, in 1980, I pursued additional education at UF, with post master's studies in Counselor Education. I accepted a Nursing position with Hospice, and established the "Bridges" program, which later evolved as the "Transitions" Program. While at Hospice, I was appointed Community Chair of the "End of Life Coalition" and helped develop an Advance Directive "Kit," as an educational tool, and I have conducted many seminars in the Community about Advance Directives, and health care planning. In my later career, I developed and served as Director of the PrimeTime Institute at SFC, a lifelong learning program, which is now a continuing program at the Senior Center in Gainesville.

In 2015 I became employed in a Citizen Scientist Group, with the College of Medicine and CTSI. I am serving on the Clinical and Translational Science Institute Steering Committee, The Cancer Advisory Board and I am involved in Research review and Community outreach.

I have recently moved to the Village in Gainesville and am continuing with Lifelong learning programs here.

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### **Linda Benjamin Bobroff**

I joined the UF faculty in 1985, and at my retirement in 2018, I was Professor and Extension Nutrition Specialist in the Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences, IFAS. My primary role was to provide statewide leadership for Cooperative Extension programs that address significant nutrition and health concerns, including diabetes prevention and management, cancer risk reduction, heart health, weight management, and nutrition in aging. Working with a team of state and county faculty, I developed the award-winning Take Charge of Your Diabetes curriculum, targeted to adults with type 2 diabetes, and

the nationally recognized Elder Nutrition and Food Safety (ENAFS) curriculum, among others. I received over \$900,000 in grant funds to support Extension nutrition and health programs and was the recipient of several prestigious awards from my primary professional associations. I especially enjoyed serving as mentor for tenure-track assistant professors in FYCS.

I retired in December 2018, and for the first 15 months after retiring, I went to the University one or two days a week for several hours each day to work on Extension publication reviews and updates, review manuscripts and tenure/promotion packets (informally) for colleagues, and otherwise contribute to my colleagues and the Department. Then COVID hit and the University shut down. When things opened up, I returned to the Emeritus faculty office that had been set up for me in 2018, but things were never the same and I did not continue going to campus very long after that. I still help out my colleagues on occasion; reviewing a promotion packet for Professor for one of my mentees, who started with me as an Extension associate years before, was especially rewarding. I have weaned myself away from direct involvement in the Department and in my field and that has been fine. I maintain membership in my primary professional society, the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior, whose annual conference I attended every year for 33 years. They honored me with two prestigious awards during my career, including their highest honor the year after I retired. I also kept my membership in Sigma Xi to support young scientists and to receive their mailings.

After retiring, I joined the Board of Family Promise of Gainesville, a non-profit that assists families with children who are homeless or at risk of becoming unhoused. It was rewarding to work with a dedicated and engaged Board and staff. Due to other commitments, I stepped down from the Board this winter. I have also been playing a leadership role in my synagogue's Sisterhood, a women's organization that supports the synagogue and its schools, and provides educational programs, some for women and some for all Congregation members, as well as social action projects to benefit those in need in our community. I belong to a book club that meets on Zoom every month, and I enjoy reading other books that I have accumulated from the FOL sales or downloaded on my Kindle. I have also joined the legion of Wordle, Connections, Phrazle, and Strands players, and I play ScrabbleGo with two friends, who live in Hollywood FL and Iowa. I also have been improving my Spanish on Duolingo since the start of COVID - 1,376 days!

My husband retired about a year after I did and the year before COVID we went on a life-changing Jewish heritage tour of Eastern Europe, including sites in Krakow (we experienced Auschwitz the second day of the trip), Budapest, Prague, Dresden, and Berlin. After the tour, Steve and I rented a car and drove to central Germany, where his mother was born and resided until 1937, when she and her parents and brother left and came to Jacksonville. Almost all of the family who did not leave by that time died in the death camps. We hope to take another major trip soon, but in the meantime, we have driven to the mountains (Smokies) a couple of times, drove to Chicago, stopping at fun places like Nashville, Louisville, and Mammoth cave on the way there and back last summer, and visited my family in south Florida a couple of times.

We are blessed to have our son, daughter-in-law, and two smart, fun-loving, and beautiful young granddaughters here in Gainesville, and we spend lots of time with them. I like to say retirement is a great gig, and it really is.

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## **Willis Bodine**

My work at UF began in 1959 and continued until my retirement in 2003. Prior to UF I used a Fulbright grant to attend Nordwestdeutsche Musikakademie, Lippe-Detmold, Germany from 1957-59. As Professor of Music at UF, I provided individual instruction and taught classes. In addition, I was University Organist and Carillonneur, founded the UF Chamber Singers and the Christmas Madrigal Dinners and served the Florida Baroque Ensemble as harpsichordist. I was awarded the Florida Blue Key Distinguished Faculty Award for 2002 and retired in June 2003 after 44 years at UF. My community choral group, The Willis Bodine Chorale, gave its final concerts in 2004. This group was significant in the local musical scene for some 17 years, presenting larger works such as Bach's Mass in B minor and Handel's MESSIAH.

Anna and I continued to travel. We visited Paris in 2005, and while there I accepted the position as Director of Music and Organist for St Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church in Sanibel Island (2005-2008). We returned to Gainesville in 2009.

Contact with former students who now hold academic, concert representation, and church positions throughout the world allows me to hear of the accomplishments of these young artists from Florida to South Africa to Australia as their careers unfold.

Since retirement I have made three RFUF presentations and served two terms on the Board. I am active in the American Guild of Organists and serve as chapter historian. I am also involved in the Gainesville Music Teachers Association and am secretary of the Sugarfoot neighborhood association.

I remain active in musical composition, especially creating works commissioned for a specific event or person. For example, my UF Fanfares for Carillon, commissioned for the 1987 dedication of the Kniker Carillon at UT-Austin (my alma mater), was selected for a 2015 performance at the Peperbus Carillon in Zwolle, Netherlands, as part of Zwolse Beiaard Stichting composition contest, and published in 2017 by the Koninklijke Nederlandse Klokkenspel-Vereniging.

My interest in genealogy (family history) has led to membership in the Sons of the Republic of Texas, Sons of the American Revolution, and Society of the War of 1812. It has allowed me to examine family roots in France (Bodin) and Germany (Löhmann and Buchan).

I am looking forward to the gala 2025 Centennial Celebration for the great Andrew Anderson

Memorial Organ in the University Auditorium (1925-2025): concerts, alumni visits and publication of documents. I am nearing publication of my 2013 major discovery in music theory: structural use of the prime number sequence by Western classical composers (Josquin to Bach, Beethoven to Stravinsky).

For more please visit <WillisBodine.com>.

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## **Diana Boxer**

I am Professor Emerita of Linguistics and a member of the Academy of Distinguished Scholars at the University of Florida. My teaching and research focused on discourse analysis and pragmatics, sociolinguistics, second language acquisition, the ethnography of communication, and gender and language. I am the author/editor of six books/volumes and dozens of articles on pragmatics and discourse analysis. My commentaries on language have aired on National Public Radio's All Things Considered. During that time, I served for many years on the consultancy board of the International Pragmatics Association and continue to serve on the editorial boards of several international journals (e.g., The Journal of Language Aggression and Conflict; Contrastive Pragmatics) and as a reviewer for other journals and conferences in her field.

Since retiring in 2021, I have served as co-chair of Voter Services of the League of Women Voters of Alachua County, this year acting as coordinator of the 2024 election forums. I am also on the board of directors of the Friends of Susan B. Anthony Society. After a career that included mentoring over 150 graduate and undergraduate students, I became a certified Life Coach, specializing in personal and professional development.

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## **Jane Brockmann**

I received a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and was hired that year (1976) by Zoology at UF. I advanced through the ranks eventually becoming chair. Professional activities included being president of the Animal Behavior Society, Secretary General of the International Ethological Conference, editor of *Advances in the Study of Behavior* and Program Director for the Animal Behavior Program at NSF. I was also actively involved in the faculty union, United Faculty of Florida. I taught Animal Behavior at undergrad and graduate levels and directed grad students. My research focused on the reproductive behavior of horseshoe crabs.

When I retired, I knew a lot about the horseshoe crabs living near Cedar Key, FL where I conducted my research. A recent genetic study revealed that the horseshoe crabs of Florida were divided into a number of genetically distinct, and somewhat isolated, populations. Were the breeding patterns of the other Florida populations similar to those at Cedar Key? Were the populations increasing or decreasing? Nothing was known except that horseshoe crabs occurred throughout Florida. I had thought for a long time that something should be done about this total lack of information, but population studies were very distant from the research I was conducting, and such a study would require a lot of manpower to get meaningful data.

In 2015, several years after I retired, I partnered with biologists from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in St. Petersburg, FL, and the Nature Coast Biological Station in Cedar Key, to set up a citizen science program to monitor horseshoe crab populations. Initially we worked only at Cedar Key, but within a few years we enlisted SeaGrant and IFAS Marine Extension Agents from around Florida to help us coordinate the program. Together we enlisted and trained volunteers from the public to survey, tag and monitor horseshoe crab breeding populations. Our program, called "Florida Horseshoe Crab Watch," is now collecting data in all 18 coastal counties of Florida, providing the first long-term and comprehensive data on the breeding patterns and population status of Florida horseshoe crabs. This project was well outside my area of expertise but by developing a collaboration with State and IFAS scientists and science education specialists, we were able to develop a program that is now being used to inform the management and conservation of this valuable species in Florida.

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## **Allan F. Burns**

My graduate days at UW were a mix of anthropology and 60s changes: mathematical models of kinship and anti-war activism, including several thousand of us marching down the I-5 interstate to close it down for several hours. Then a research position at Abt Associates taught me how to be an applied anthropologist, and a chance meeting with UF professor Dr. Elizabeth Eddy brought me to UF in the fall of '77. I began the UF-Yucatan exchange program in '84 that now has over 1,000 alumni. I was elected chair of anthropology in '97, Associate Dean of CLAS in 2003, and retired in 2012 with good memories to spare.

Retirement began with an invitation to China for a lecture, and in 2014 my wife, Dr. Alba Amaya Burns, MD, was recruited by Duke to be a pioneer faculty member at Duke Kunshan University near Shanghai. I followed as a trailing spouse and was given the title of Visiting Professor. We had a remarkable four years of enjoyable teaching and research, traveling throughout SE Asia, and learning survival Mandarin. We were invited to lecture at China CDC, and other hospitals, and met physicians who were trained in Traditional Chinese Medicine as well as Western medicine. Conversations with them led me to start learning Tai Chi, and I became the teaching assistant of the master practitioner I studied with.

I played guitar with some other Duke professors at different venues but was in awe of the traditional Chinese musicians we met. During summers in Gainesville and up through today I had time to rekindle my woodworking interests and made some guitars and a series of Lithuanian "kankles" stringed instruments. Beginning in 2010, I had been asked to serve as an expert witness for human rights attorneys working with Mexican and Central American refugees and asylum seekers. Over the years I helped out on probably 150 cases, all of which were marked by astounding experiences of persecution and harm. One highlight was achieving asylum for a family of 14 whose traditional lands had been the target of criminal organizations. The cases that have been successful are very rewarding, but those that are denied have left me sadly wondering what happens to those unfortunate people who are denied safe haven.

Our days are filled with spending time with family and grandchildren, some traveling, and experiencing the 5 months of the heat and humidity of Gainesville followed by the agreeable climate the rest of the year.

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## Daryl D. Buss

In 1976, I was recruited from a position of Postdoctoral Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Physiological & Clinical Research in Bad Nauheim, Germany, to the new College of Veterinary Medicine, then being formed at the University of Florida. Transitioning to the University of Florida, I served as Professor & Chair of the Department of Physiological Sciences until 1994. I was then recruited to the position of Dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a position I held from 1994 until my retirement in 2012. I was awarded Professor Emeritus status by the University of Florida and by the University of Wisconsin- Madison.

Subsequent to my retirement from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2012, I was recruited to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Veterinary Medical Education, a publication of the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges in Washington, DC. I served as Editor- in-Chief from 2013-2021, at which time I "re-retired" to pursue hobbies, most notably woodworking. Throughout retirement, I continued to serve on committees of the American Veterinary Medical Association, most recently completing two terms on their Council on Education Selection Committee. Travel has always been a favorite activity of my wife and I, and we have continued our love of travel during retirement, focusing on travel in Europe. Our most recent trip was a month in France, with two weeks in the Loire Valley followed by two weeks in Brittany. As has often been the case in the past, we benefited from wonderful VRBO houses in the Loire and in Brittany!

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## Regina Bussing

My faculty career at the University of Florida included significant research and administrative responsibilities. Research efforts spanned mental health services, measure development, pharmaco-epidemiology, psychotherapy intervention, and clinical pharmacology trials. As NIMH- funded investigator, I led/co-led studies on attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD), preschoolers' response to a non-medication intervention for ADHD, Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT), and other pivotal NIH funded children's mental health services studies. I served as principal investigator on multiple pediatric clinical psychopharmacology trials. After serving as child division chief and training director, my final administrative role was as chair of the Department of Psychiatry.

In retirement I sought to not just turn the page, but find myself in a different bookstore, so to speak. The non-stop demands of an academic physician career were accommodated and consistently supported by my family and friends, which took a significant toll on our lives. Right before retirement my two closest friends died unexpectedly within months of each other, speeding up contemplation of mortality and appreciation of the current moment. This insight was further reinforced by a subsequent health crisis at home.

In the first year of retirement, I wrapped up several existing professional obligations, but now no longer hold office, nor seek opportunities for consultation. Instead, the focus is on being available for family, developing friendships, and opening myself to completely new experiences. It is a detoxification experience from the consistent pressure for rushing and perfection that came hand-in-hand with a successful academic career.

I am now discovering great pleasure in working outdoors, learning about plants, insects, and conservation, and spontaneously responding to opportunities of the moment. I also really enjoyed the recent experience of enrolling in a Santa Fe College ceramics class, finding that I lack natural talent and, therefore, really benefit from being taught step by step. My meditation practice is blossoming. Travel is not feasible, but my horizons benefit from membership in relevant groups, like RFUF, League of Women Voters, Florida Native Plant Society, and National Alliance on Mental Illness; and from online and community classes, including those offered by the UF Institute on Food and Agricultural Sciences, by Coursera, and the online community of YouTube teachers.

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## **James (Jim) Cato**

I was a research economist in the Economic Research Service, USDA, with a courtesy appointment in the Food and Resource Economics Department (FRED), IFAS. I was an Extension marine economist in FRED, working with the fishing and the marina and boating industries. I was director of the Florida Sea Grant College Program, a partnership program with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), involving all the universities in Florida in conducting research, education, and outreach programs. UF is the host institution for Florida Sea Grant. I was then senior associate dean and director of the UF School of Natural Resources and Environment, before retiring in 2009 as professor emeritus.

Since retirement, I volunteer with Florida Sea Grant (FSG) at UF. In 1986, I assisted a private donor with establishing the Aylesworth Foundation for the Advancement of Marine Sciences for the purpose of funding graduate student scholarships through FSG. I assist FSG in the annual scholarship application and selection process. I also chair a Director's Operations and Advisory Panel to serve the current director.

Soon after retirement I joined the Sunrise Rotary Club of Gainesville. I have served as president, have been writing and publishing the club's weekly bulletin the past four years, and am fully engaged in all club projects and activities. I am also a member of Friends of the Library. When in town, I sort books every Monday morning at the book warehouse in preparation for the bi-annual sale which raises funds for the Alachua County Library System, and I volunteer during the sales.

We travel extensively not only in the U.S, but also internationally, and I organize an annual international trip for friends and family members. Trips have included New Zealand, Iceland, Japan, and Kenya and Tanzania, as examples. We have been to 49 of the 50 states and to 50+ countries. I write looseleaf books summarizing trips for gifts to fellow travelers and have published one hard copy book with a fellow traveler.

I did woodworking projects while working and in my early retirement years. I then learned to paint with watercolors and have published a book of my paintings of fish I have caught in the Bahamas. Fishing is my main hobby. I fish for redfish, trout and snook in the Crystal River, Florida area during the fall, winter, and spring months. We spend each June on Spanish Cay in the Abaco Islands of the Bahamas where I fish for snappers, groupers, hogfish, and various other species.

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## **Anna Calluori Holcombe**

I came to the University of Florida in 2007 as Director of the School of Art and Art History. After 3 years of administrative duty, I went back to teaching. Professor, University of Florida, 2007 – 2022, teaching Ceramics, Professional Practices, Theory and Criticism. I was a member of the Graduate Faculty 2002 - 2023, a Research Professorship, 2013 – 2016, Term Professorship, 2017 – 2019, Fulbright Senior Lecturer, Güzel Sanatlar Fakültesi (College of Fine Arts), Anadolu University, Eskisehir, Turkey, Fall 2013. I was made Professor Emeritus upon retirement in 2022.

Most important to my retirement is time in my Ceramics studio at home. I also travel to artist residencies to focus on making work and to interact with other artists. Upon retirement, I was approached by many organizations to participate in boards and committees. I promised myself I would only do activities that bring me joy. So far, the joy has come from Chairing the Ceramic Exchange with Women in Ghana, a small group in the US. I am one of the Professors, working to bring more opportunities to the women students in Ceramics at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST). I have been appointed chair of the International Academy of Ceramics Governance Commission working to update the Articles and Internal Rules of the organization. Recently, I was elected to the Board of the The Marks Project – A Dictionary of American Ceramics, 1946-present. Their website includes marks usually found on the bottom of ceramic objects. It helps curators and collectors identify the maker of these objects. And finally, I am proud to be a new member of the RFUF and look forward to working with this dedicated group to the benefit of its members.



I continue to provide my expertise in Professional Development tailored specifically for artists, by facilitating sessions on both a national and local level, as well as offering one-on-one consulting. I firmly believe that cultivating a professional image is critical for an artist's success.

Travel was curtailed first by the pandemic then by health issues, but I am back to engaging in my love of travel, particularly road trips to the Northeast, VA, GA, and NC. I will be attending the biannual Congress of the International Academy of Ceramics, to be held in Portugal in September 2024. One continent I have not been to is Africa and I am working on visiting KNUST in Ghana in the near future

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## **Susan Cooksey**

I was the curator of African Art at the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida from 2001 until retirement in 2020. I acquired works for the African collection, doubling its size, and also oversaw the Ancient American and Oceanic collections. I curated/organized over 40 exhibitions, including four major travelling shows with publications. Throughout my career, I collaborated with UF faculty and students, the local community, as well as national and international scholars, collectors, museum professionals and artists. I also conducted research on historical and contemporary work in the US, Belgium, France, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Mali, and Senegal. For several years I was an editor and submitted publications for African Arts Journal, and African Studies Quarterly.

Post-retirement, I have consulted with museums to shape collections and exhibitions and continue to work with collectors and art world colleagues. For three years I shepherded my travelling exhibition on African metal arts to three US museums – giving public talks, training docents, and advising museum staff at each venue. I am currently volunteering on committees for local projects focused on African art and African American art and cultural heritage. I have also resumed painting and drawing and enjoy engaging with local and international artists. My great inspiration is nature, explored in gardening, birdwatching, and visiting our wonderful wildlife sanctuaries.

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## **Leon W. Couch II**

I spent my 36-year career in the Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) Department of the University of Florida. Graduating from Duke University in 1963 with a BSEE degree, I earned my master's and Ph.D. degrees ECE from UF in 1964 and 1967, respectively. In 1968 I was appointed Assistant Professor at UF and rose through the ranks to become Professor in 1984. From 1990 to 2004 I was the Associate Chair of the ECE Department at UF. Since 2004 I have been retired as Professor Emeritus. My field of interest is in communications systems, with expertise in modulation theory and applications to wireless communication systems.

In retirement I have continued my love of teaching in the field of electrical communication systems by publishing new editions of my textbook, which is written for seniors and first year graduate students. While the first edition of Digital and Analog Communication Systems was published in 1983, the eighth edition has been published since my retirement, with a copyright date of 2013. This text is also available in Italian and Spanish with copyright dates of 2008, an Indian Edition in English with a copyright date of 2009, and a Chinese Edition in English with a copyright date of 2010. Since its inception, schools have adopted the book worldwide and is available from Pearson/Prentice Hall in English, Indian, Spanish, Italian, and Chinese editions.

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## **Richard (Rick) D'Alli**

It took me 40 years to decide what I wanted to be when I grew up. With two UF degrees (BS in physics and MEd) in the late 60s, I began my career as a public high school physics and earth sciences teacher and coach in Georgia, but after 4 years headed to Brown University for a MS in planetary geology (participating on NASA's first Mars lander imaging teams, Viking 1 and 2). After 2 years as a staff geologist at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, NASA HQ sent me to Arizona State University to develop short summer institutes in planetary geology for university geology professors from

western states. A serendipitous appearance on KPNX TV 12, NBC in Phoenix, to explain why NASA's Skylab, then tumbling out of orbit, would avert impact into the city, evolved into a full time TV science reporter gig on KAET TV 8, PBS in Phoenix, where on February 23, 1983, I anchored the first ever, live, prime time, network broadcast of open-heart surgery. After years of TV medical reporting, I was persuaded to enter medical school at age 40. Residency and fellowship training in pediatric psychiatry at Duke (no doubt influenced by my years as a teacher) launched me on a better guided academic trajectory, first on the faculty of Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock, next on the faculty of Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore to direct community mental health services for youth, then back to Duke to build and lead as chief a novel division embedded in the Department of Pediatrics providing pediatric psychiatric and substance abuse treatment, finally landing back at UF jointly in Pediatrics and Psychiatry, to build from scratch and lead a multidisciplinary team of doctors, nurse practitioners, psychologists, and therapists embedded in Pediatrics caring for children and teens with psychiatric disorders and autism and in Psychiatry supervising fellows and consulting to children hospitalized in Shands Children's Hospital.

I retired from the UF Departments of Pediatrics and Psychiatry on June 30, 2022. The next day my wife persuaded me that it was time to embark on long delayed travel adventures, first to the small island of Culebra, Puerto Rico, later to my father's birthplace and that of my mother's parents in Sicily, later to the rainforest and volcano on the Big Island of Hawai'i, later to Berlin, next to Riga, Latvia, my wife's parents' homeland, several visits to see the grandchildren in Indianapolis, a return to the NC mountains and to Cocoa Beach, where I grew up watching rocket launches, and recently to Hyde Park, NY, and the Catskills, immersing ourselves in the days of the Roosevelts. Gainesville living means enjoying "just being home," gardening, getting back to building my O-gauge electric train (Lionel rolling stock) layout, becoming a late afternoon MSNBC addict, grilling as needed, and reading just for pleasure. Early on in retirement, September 7, 2022, to be exact, I was surprised to receive an email from Robin Poynor, inviting me to join RFUF, an organization I knew nothing about. Accepting his invitation was the best decision I've made in retirement and has turned into so much more than I expected. As to leaving behind a 30 plus years' role as an academic child psychiatrist, well, not so fast. I agreed to a UF child psychiatry request for a little part time help filling faculty vacancies, supervising resident doctors, giving the occasional venerable expert lecture, and consulting to pediatricians treating youth in psychiatric crises. But that still leaves plenty of time to join with and serve my new friends in RFUF as best as I can.

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## Janis J Daly

Career summary: Full Professor (Tenured), Department of Neurology, in College of Medicine, UF, and School of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University; Director, National Brain Rehabilitation Research Center, NF/SG VA Medical Center; Director, Motor/Cognitive Learning Research Program (Cleveland/Gainesville VA Medical Centers and universities). Majority of research discoveries and publications reported results of development and testing of successful new interventions for recovery of upper limb function and gait in stroke survivors, including innovative exercise methods, new devices (e.g., robotics, FES), and brain signal technologies. Mentoring service included: engineers and clinicians, graduate students (PhD/Masters), post-docs, fellows, and early-, mid-, and senior-career level scientists.

After retiring 5 years ago, I have published 11 research papers; mentored two young scientists; served as Citizen Scientist (volunteer) for the following: IFAS/F&W study of horseshoe crabs, living shoreline work in Cedar Key, and Lake Watch water quality monitoring in ocean waters near Horseshoe Beach; IFAS courses to learn about ecology in north Florida.

I am spending treasured time with adult children and each of 9 Grandchildren (west coast, NY City, and Gainesville), designing and supervising the necessary completion work required to finish 6 heirloom quilt tops inherited from my Grandmother (some, with fabric and stitching close to 100 years old), and writing up some memories for my Grandchildren.

I attempt to keep healthy through lap swimming 3 – 4 times/week to calm myself, along with slow-motion 5 – 20-minute jog on soft surface, 3 – 4 times/week to keep knee joint fluid healthy and forestall total knee replacement and doing 3 – 5 lb. weight-work-out to prevent another frozen shoulder.

In the meantime, I sing in Trinity United Methodist Church choir, participate weekly in women's book club, and in reading. Recent books include *Eve* (by Bohannon), *Lessons in Chemistry*, *The White Lady*, *Maisie Dobbs* (all of them), *Hungry Season*, and all of Louis Penny's fiction novels. To damp down my terror of losing my mind, I play brain games. In addition, I attempted a vegetarian diet (thus learning to cook in a whole new way) for two years in order to avoid taking a statin. (It did not work because not enough protein to maintain cognitive function.)

Retirement has allowed travel, including a recent, exciting Galapagos adventure trip, and a very fun 5-day stay in Yellowstone National Park Lamar Valley to watch wildlife (wolves and pups, grizzlies and cub, coyote and pups, etc.). A motorhome trip 1 time/year allows us to bring our "driveway bedroom" to stay with adult children/Grandchildren for some weeks at each home. And walking at Crescent Beach!

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## **R. Hunt Davis**

I received the Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin and joined the University of Florida faculty in 1967 as its first historian of Africa and taught African History and African Studies until my retirement in 2004. I served as Director of the Center for African Studies, 1979-1988; the founding Associate Director and then Interim Director, Office of International Studies and Programs (which later became the UF International Center), 1992-94; and Graduate Coordinator, Department of History, 2002-04. I was a visiting Professor of History, Dartmouth College in 1988 and a Senior Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Professor of History at the University of Cape Town in 1999.

In the 1980s, I was editor of the *African Studies Review* (the journal of the African Studies Association), and in retirement I took up two major editing projects. The first was as editor and senior author of Volumes 4-5 and of the revised Volumes 1-3 of the *Encyclopedia of African History and Culture* (2005). Several years later I assumed the editorship of the *African Studies Quarterly*, which is the on-line, open-access, peer-reviewed journal of UF's Center for African Studies. Although I stepped down as editor at the end of 2017, I remain active on the ASQ editorial committee, especially in connection with overseeing the book review section. Another major UF-related activity was in 2006 co-organizing with UF law professor Winston Nagan the Center's annual Gwendolen Carter Conference. Titled "Law, Politics, Culture, and Society in South Africa: The Politics of Inequality Then and Now," the first of the two sessions was held at UF, with a subsequent session with different papers and presenters hosted by the University of Cape Town. Seven of the papers appeared in a special issue of the ASQ (fall, 2007), which I guest-edited. Since retiring, I have been a frequent visitor to Southern Africa as well as to other parts of the continent. For example, my wife Jeanne and I visited South Africa, Namibia, and Senegal in spring 2019 when I was a guest speaker on the Africa portion of the Viking Sun's world cruise. Other recent visits were to Eswatini and South Africa in 2022 and again to South Africa in 2024. Cape Town has been a favorite destination. Locally, I have been active with the Alachua County Library District Foundation, serving as its chair and as a member of its board of directors. I have also been on the UNA/USA board. I also recently served a three-year term as RFUF Treasurer

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## **Ross Dealy**

I received my PhD from Indiana University in Early Modern European History. I was a professor at The University of Wisconsin—Marinette, Brown University, and St John's University (NY). Throughout, research was my prime interest. I "blew my life" on two books on Intellectual History, *The Stoic Origin of Erasmus' Philosophy of Christ* (2017) and *Before Utopia, The Making of Thomas More's Mind* (2020).

The books cited above, built from decades of research, were completed only after a number of years in retirement. In 2022 I published a work that is both personal and historical, *A Moment in Time: Teenager's Motorcycle Odyssey, Arctic Circle to Rio de Janeiro, Morocco to Cape Town, 1952-1955* (Apple Books, text with photos). Recently (preparing for my demise!), I have been reading books on evolution, world history, and the workings of the cosmos.

For relaxation, I walk 4 miles a day, mostly with Jonah (my toy poodle) and Lilly (my toy Maltipoo) and listen to music.

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### **Carmen Diana Deere**

While at UF I served as Distinguished Professor of Latin American Studies and Food & Resource Economics at UF. I am also recognized as Distinguished Professor, Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO)-Quito, Ecuador and Professor Emerita of Economics,

University of Massachusetts, Amherst. I earned the M.A. in Development Studies from The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from the University of California, Berkeley, and came to UF in 2004 from UMass. A former director of the UF Center for Latin American Studies and President of the Latin American Studies Association, in 2018 I received LASA's highest distinction for scholarship and service, the Kalman Silvert Award.

I have been on a "permanent sabbatical" since my 2015 retirement, dedicating myself to research, writing, lecturing, consulting, and traveling. Prior to the pandemic I concluded several unfinished research projects, among them overseeing the translation into Spanish of nine of my co-authored articles from a comparative study of women's asset ownership and wealth in Ecuador, Ghana, and India, which resulted in a 2021 edited book published by FLACSO- Ecuador. I continued to teach an annual course on Gender and Economics at FLACSO, give numerous keynote and invited lectures throughout Latin America (including as a country expert on a cruise to Cuba), and was a consultant on gender and land titling efforts for the Inter- American Development Bank.

During the pandemic I began a seven-country study of first-wave feminism in South America and the quest for civil and political rights during the early twentieth century. The study is primarily based on the congressional records and the publications of the early women's organizations and legal scholars that are now available online. This material is complimented by archival research carried out in 2022 in the property registry in Quito on women's use of Ecuador's 1911 Economic Emancipation of Married Women Law. This summer I am presenting chapters of *Feminists, Jurists and Politicians* (tentative title) at professional conferences in Bogota and Rome and hope to submit the completed manuscript for publication by early fall 2024. My other activities in retirement have included serving in the leadership of RFUF during 2020-2023; fundraising, organizing, and canvassing for the Democratic party; gardening and preparing my home for eventual sale; lots of Pilates; and quality time with family (in Boulder, San Juan, and Tucson), friends, and my dog Chloe.

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### **Sheila K. Dickison**

After two years in Rome as a graduate student, I taught at Wellesley College for five years and then was hired in the Classics Department at UF in 1976, doing research and teaching Roman social history and Latin literature. From 1989-95 I served as an Associate Dean in CLAS and directed the University Honors Program from 1996-2007. Launching the Lombardi Scholars Program and substantially increasing the number of prestigious scholarships awarded to UF students were among my accomplishments. I also served as Associate Provost during part of that time, focusing on undergraduate education. In 2007 I returned to the CLAS Deans Office, retiring at the end of 2009.

When I retired at the end of 2009, I did not imagine I would be coming back to work at UF. But one month later I got a call from Ann Henderson, Director of the Bob Graham Center, asking me if I would consider working half time for the Center on student programs (internships, leadership activities). I expected to work for two years. I stayed ten years and retired a second time at the end of 2019 just before Covid.

I stay in touch with former UF colleagues from my department and various administrative offices. Especially pleasurable is a monthly lunch with retired Classics colleagues which we have been doing for several years.

I also continue to work informally with students on scholarship and graduate and professional school applications. A recent example would be mentoring Aimee Clesi, our wonderful Rhodes Scholar (2022).

During my years at the Center, I was able to travel extensively (at least three trips a year): a cruise from Tahiti to Easter Island (unfortunately not able to get ashore at Pitcairn Island because of the weather); South Africa and Botswana; Japan, Paris, Barcelona, and Madrid (with the Harn Museum group) and so on.

My major volunteer activity has been with the Southern Scholarship Foundation, which provides free housing for 470 financially needy students at UF, FSU and FGCU. In Gainesville we have 8 houses near campus. I have been on the Board for over 10 years and next year will chair. It is gratifying to help students who could not otherwise afford a college education be successful.

Oak Hammock provides numerous opportunities for involvement. I enjoy my participation in the Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) as a member of the Humanities Curriculum Sub-Committee, helping to recruit speakers and develop programs.

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### **Donald W. Dickson**

Extension plant pathologist, extension nematologist, research and teaching as nematologist, pesticide coordinator, research mainly on nematode management, active in pursuit of methyl bromide alternatives, mentored numerous graduate students.

Less and less involvement with academic and disciplinary organizations, no committee involvement, no consultations, or involvement with civic organizations. Spend time with carpentry, gardening, caring for my miniature poodles, some travel.

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### **Maarten Drost**

I moved from the University of California at Davis (where I was a faculty member at the CVM, to UF in 1977 to be a fellow founding father of the College of Veterinary Medicine. I established the Department of Reproduction. My research was in collaboration with the Department of Animal Sciences. Upon introduction of water buffalo into the USA, in Florida, I studied reproductive management in this species. A highlight was the creation of the birth of the first WB calf in the world by our means of embryo transfer, in 1983.

As an emeritus professor I still maintain a desk, filing cabinet, and bookshelf in the FARMS (Food Animal Reproduction & Medicine Service) building of the College of Veterinary Medicine. I no longer teach in any way. I continue to maintain my active global website, A Visual Guide of Animal Reproduction (<https://visgar.vetmed.ufl.edu>).

My wife and I have been living in The Village at Gainesville, a retirement community across the road from Santa Fe Community College since 2017. We are active members of Trinity United Methodist Church. At our ages in the late 80's we no longer travel. We keep in regular contact with our four children (all Gator graduates) and nine grandchildren, who live in different states.

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### **R. Paul Duncan**

My academic career extended over fifty years, with more than forty of those spent at UF. My research interests were in health care, primarily health insurance, and the causes/consequences of being uninsured. I greatly enjoyed teaching at the graduate level, helping to train some 500 health administration professionals, most of whom are successful health care managers working in hospitals, clinics, health insurance settings and the like. Mentoring about twenty Ph.D. students to degree completion and subsequent academic career contributions is a source of considerable pride and satisfaction. Beyond teaching and research, my UF career included substantial administrative contributions, with service stints as program director, department chair, and finally as a senior associate dean in the UF Graduate School.

Since retiring, I have retained some modest, but gradually declining involvement in health services research and administration. Activities have included guest lectures (at other universities, until the required period of retirement absence from activities at UF was completed); grant review activities; educational and research consultations; working with colleagues to complete several articles and chapters that were at some early stage of development prior to my retirement.

My wife (Margo) and I are fortunate to have a large residential lot. Beyond the usual landscape plantings, we have wonderful trees and other native plants. I now have the time to begin cataloging and managing that flora, as well as observing the various fauna with whom we share the property. Both activities provide joy and some exercise. Excursions to the coast (Atlantic side) for sailing and time at our second home are more frequent and a great pleasure. As is learning...slowly...how to help take care of my wife's equine companions.

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### **Jennifer Harrison Elder**

I began teaching at UF's College of Nursing as an instructor in 1992. With a background in psychiatric/mental health nursing and pediatrics, I focused my teaching and research on child development, specifically autism related disorders and family-focused mental health. While on faculty I also served as a Department Chair, Associate Dean for Research, PhD Program Director, and UF Senator.

Since retiring in 2020, I have remained involved with the College and the University's Faculty Commons branch of Cru. I continue to provide consultation both within and outside the University. I currently serve as Secretary in Gainesville Opportunity Center and am a docent at Micanopy's Historical Society's Museum. My husband and I are elders and Bible study leaders at Micanopy Christian Fellowship. Since retiring we have traveled both within and outside the US -- most notable was our 2023 photo safari in South Africa. We also have a home in Steinhatchee, FL where we keep a boat and enjoy fishing and scalloping. We are blessed to have all of our children and eight grandchildren in the area. We delight in getting to spend good quality time with them and making lasting memories.

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### **Katherine Ewel**

I hold degrees in zoology from Cornell University (AB: 1966) and UF (PhD: 1970). After developing expertise in ecology and management of forested wetlands and in ecosystem modelling, I was hired as Assistant Professor of Ecosystem Ecology in UF's School of Forest Resources and Conservation in 1977. In 1994, I joined the USDA Forest Service in Hawaii where I led a team conducting research and outreach on forested wetlands in US-affiliated islands in the western Pacific. I retired in 2005 and returned to Gainesville, becoming Professor Emerita in 2007. In 2022, I was awarded UF's Stephen C. O'Connell Distinguished Service Award for my work in both Florida and the Pacific.

In our retirement, my husband, Jack Ewel, and I split our time evenly between our home near campus in Gainesville and our farm at the north end of Alachua County on the Santa Fe River.

For several years, I continued to publish papers primarily based on data gathered in the Pacific, and I served on a few graduate committees at UF, as well as one at the University of Central Florida. I was also an external advisor for three dissertations at Australian universities. I was President of the Society of Wetland Scientists when I retired and was later named a Fellow. As a consultant, I served on the Science and Engineering Board of the Louisiana Office of Coastal Protection and Restoration, providing input on preparation of their 5-year master plan. As a volunteer, I served as Secretary for the City of Gainesville's Nature Centers Commission for three years, for which I was given a Star Volunteer Award. I continued to participate in professional meetings, serve on committees in my professional societies, and review papers submitted for publication, but I have tapered off over the last few years. Because I was associated with UF's Center for Wetlands when it was founded in 1973, I gave a seminar in 2023 as part of the Center's 50th anniversary celebration.

Our farm includes a small grove of approximately 300 pecan trees, several acres of longleaf and loblolly pines, and several acres of floodplain forest, as well as a small house and three outbuildings. One of my

main activities has been to retail shelled pecans each fall. For several years we have hired young men and women to help us operate the farm. Most of these have been students, and most have been from the School of Forest Resources and Conservation (now the School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatic Sciences), enabling me to keep up with the School's progress.

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### **Fonda Davis Eyler**

Developmental Psychology PhD, FL license, faculty in Neonatology and affiliate in Psychology: Teaching/mentoring included all level students; clinically assessed infants, premature/development problems, supported parents, and followed-up in UF Early Steps (Director). Committee service included Neonatal Ethics, Medical School Selection, Compensation and Chair of COM Faculty State. As a founding faculty, I participated at Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies. I served on Women Faculty committees; awarded Woman of the Year. As a member FL Psychological Association, awarded Distinguished Psychologist. Research centered on perinatal precursors of development. 15+ years of NIH funding supported a prospective follow-up of infants prenatally cocaine-exposed and matched-controls. I retired as Professor Emerita, Pediatrics in December 2012.

After retirement, I continued involvement with the Zucker Center, working with faculty in the earlier stages of development, writing educational texts, supporting conferences, serving on dissertation committees, and mentoring post-doctoral students. I remain an affiliate faculty and continue to connect with the Center's leadership.

I have continued as an active member of UCG, e.g., bereavement service as part of a Kairos Team. I've increased political activism, working for candidates for local, state, and national offices. I am on the Board of the local Democratic Women's Club, now involved in voter registration, etc.

My husband and I joined a couple in St Augustine (longtime friends from when we were all working at UF) to sponsor war refugees from Ukraine. After the arrangements with Welcome.US, in September 2022, we greeted 2 sisters, each with one child (as husbands and an older male child remained in Ukraine). For sponsored refugees, the federal program provided a visa and some benefits. Our commitment was to support and assist them for 2 full years, with housing, food, etc. They learned quickly, made friends and, with some help, facilitated the son playing on his high school baseball team, and enrolling the younger daughter in dance lessons. They are learning English and the youngest is now fluent. They found jobs and are now self-sufficient. They have become part of our extended family, and we are called their "American parents." We have been enriched by this loving, generous family and will likely maintain a relationship wherever they are in the future.

After retirement, we have travelled, for pleasure, but more often to CA where our son's and daughter's families live and have especially enjoyed being with our 5 grandchildren. We also set aside and spend more time each week with our close friends, sometimes attending Gainesville's cultural events.

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### **John R. Eyler**

After earning a B.S. in Chemistry from Caltech in 1967 and a Ph.D. in Chemical Physics from Stanford University in 1972 and then two years as a postdoctoral associate, I joined the UF Chemistry department in 1974, retiring in 2009. I primarily taught either general chemistry or advanced laboratory courses in physical or analytical chemistry. I served as Chair of the Department from 1994-2000. My research involved using magnetic fields to trap positive or negative molecular ions and study their reactivity and spectral properties. Much of it involved joint projects with the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory in Tallahassee, and several free-electron laser facilities in The Netherlands.

After "official" retirement I continued mentoring several of my own graduate students as they finished their dissertations and also my research at a free-electron laser facility in The Netherlands for about five years. While there I also advised graduate students at US university researchers under an NSF grant that supported their travel and longer-term visits of their students to the facility. My only other Chemistry-related activity for the past 10 years has been attending an occasional national American Society for Mass Spectrometry or American Chemical Society meeting.

Much of my time in the past 15 years has been spent on broader community activities. My wife and I have been active in our church, serving on many boards and committees. I have spent much time supporting progressive candidates in many local, state, and national elections, including canvassing, phone banking, and writing letters to encourage potential supporters to vote. One of my most rewarding community activities has been serving as both a volunteer and trainer of new volunteers for the Community Weatherization Coalition. This group works primarily with lower income families in Alachua County to help them save money on their utilities and to help all of us conserve valuable natural resources by installing energy-efficient lighting, low-flow aerators, and insulation. For the past two years my wife and I have co-sponsored four Ukrainian immigrants in St. Augustine Beach (two sisters, each with one child). It has been most gratifying to see them integrated into life here, and they constantly thank us for all we and the other co-sponsors have been able to do for them. Since our children and grandchildren all live in California, we travel there several times each year for often extended visits to help carpool, etc. while their parents travel and to enjoy their sports and dance events.

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### **Michael Joseph Fields**

Professor Emeritus of Physiology, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from UF and Ph.D. from Texas A&M University. I chaired a team of international scientists that researched the peptidyl hormones of the bovine ovary that controlled reproductive processes, funded by NIH, NSF, and USDA. I am a member of the Endocrine Society, Society for the Study of Reproduction and American Society of Animal Science. Recognition includes: UF Professorial Award of Excellence, UF Gamma Sigma Delta Senior Faculty Award of Merit, and College Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Since retirement in 2008 I have been active in the Department of Animal Sciences chairing MS graduate student committees up to 2022 for a total of 49 years of continuous mentoring of graduate students. I serve on the Board of Directors of the International Stockmen's Education Foundation chairing the International Livestock Congress at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the world's largest event of its kind. The event raises over \$24 million each year to support scholarships for students in Texas. I am an active member of the Florida Cattlemen's Association. Dr. Fields in retirement is a notable voice in raising the national visibility of the beef industry in Florida.

My interest in philately as a worldwide collector has been rekindled recently, and I am active in the local Gainesville Stamp Club. Stamp collecting serves well for my passion of history and geography.

My family, including my brother Phillip, wife Margaret, sons Greg, and Corey and daughter KathrynAnn and grand kids, are interested in the international and have taken trips to Morocco, Scotland, Ireland, Italy, Greece, Nova Scotia, France, Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and others. Stateside we have traveled to the Western National Parks and most recently the Civil War National Parks. It is just mindless that 750,000 young men gave their lives in a civil war and particularly over the stain of slavery.

I was instrumental in having a major county road named after my mother, Ann R Fields, the first county health nurse of Sumter County. It is from her that I developed a strong empathy for those less fortunate and an urge to give back to the community that provided so many opportunities to me and my family. Along with my family, we established a Family Foundation that supports 4-H and FFA students majoring in agriculture from my alma mater, South Sumter High School in Bushnell.

Retirement has given me an opportunity to return to my roots of ranching at Jumper Creek Ranch just south of The Villages. The ranch is a beautiful oasis for the wildlife in a developing area with Jumper Creek free flowing across the land. The beef cattle ranch established in 1952 is the epitome of conservation ranching protecting the land, its fauna, animals, and water from development.

To preserve the land in its natural state it is in an expansion phase preparing for the next generation of stewardship with the development of an Agritourism Center. I am most excited about building a museum and have taken up the challenge of videotaping the oral histories of the descendants of the settlers and the descendants of the slaves of Sumter County. The museum honors those who served this country with the highest sacrifice going as far back as the Civil War. As a former USMC draftee this project is special;



preserving the legacy of those that came before me. None of this would have been possible without the leadership and support of my loving wife Margaret U. Fields.

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### **John Foltz**

I enjoyed working 29 years as a forest entomologist in the Department of Entomology & Nematology. My principal responsibilities were teaching, research, and extension on insects affecting forest and shade trees. More broadly, my interest was insect population dynamics - the understanding of why populations vary in time and space and how changing management practices might affect desired population changes.

A friend invited me to join RFUF at the time of my retirement; a year later he nominated me to fill his position as secretary of the group. Two years later I volunteered to digitize the membership records and since then I've been the database manager.

Early in my retirement, while my wife was still working, I gradually decreased my participation in professional organizations and increased time for volunteer activities. I regularly helped Alachua County Emergency Management in the training and retention of CERT volunteers. I became a SHINE Medicare counselor when I needed the knowledge for myself – 16 years later I continue to counsel owing to the satisfaction of helping others understand their options for Medicare health plans. Finally, an essential component of enjoying retirement is participating in the many fellowship and service opportunities of my church community.

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### **Alice Freifeld**

I taught Habsburg history and 20th-century Eastern Europe. I was director of the Center of European Studies and affiliate in Jewish Studies, my work focusing on nationalism, crowds' politics in undemocratic states, migration, and displaced persons. My publications include an award-winning monograph, *Nationalism and the Crowd in Liberal Hungary, 1848-1914*.

I find retirement to be something like adolescence: fretting about changes, trying on this or that as one sheds the old. In my case, I've shed my job, everyday interactions, and a busy household was replaced by two empty nests. I am splitting my time between DC and Gainesville--socially more complicated than I imagined. DC think tanks have largely moved to online programming since COVID, but music and theater are reviving. Fortunately, RFUF remains hybrid and UF's offerings are rich.

My scholarship provides continuity, although that too is transforming. I was writing an historical study of 1945-8 in East-Central Europe, the years between WWII and the Cold War and the largest mass migration in world history until the recent surge in migration. In Hungary there was a coalition government with a Smallholders Party majority; war crimes trials run by Social- Democrats; frantic infrastructural reconstruction, and economic crisis. New borders forced ethnic swaps and mass expulsions of Germans. Half of Hungary's 200,000 surviving Jews slipped across borders. Black marketeers took them one way and foodstuffs the other way, and half remained into the Communist era.

Holocaust-related documents that have recently been made available substantiated family stories that I am weaving into the narrative, expanding its scope back to the Russian front, the Holocaust death and work camps, and the mines of France, return, refugee life in DP camps, and the 1954 Kasztner trial in Israel.

My immediate audience for "Displaced Hungarian Jewry" has shifted from the students in the classroom to my grandchildren, neighbors, and other academics.

*Nationalism and the Crowd* is being translated into Hungarian and I'm writing a new epilogue adding Viktor Orban's crowd politics, the reconstruction of interwar statues and crowd spaces, and now a potential crowd-based opposition. The chapter is taking on a life of its own.

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## Henry T. Frierson

As a Professor Emeritus in the College of Education and retired Associate Vice President and Graduate School Dean, I received my Ph.D. in educational psychology from Michigan State. I spent 33 years at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 22 years as a Medical Education Professor in the School of Medicine and 11 years as Professor of Educational Psychology in the School of Education, including six years as Associate Dean in the Graduate School. Coming to the University of Florida in 2007, I served 14 years as Associate Vice President and Graduate School Dean.

Through this summary, I realize I have been quite active in retirement. In this brief two-plus-year time, I wrote a Sloan-funded proposal for undergraduate research for students at Florida A&M University, Jackson State University, and North Carolina A&T State University to prepare them for environmental-related Ph.D. programs. I am involved in the program, too. Along with three colleagues, I published the edited *Race and Culturally Responsive Inquiry in Education* through Harvard Education Press including my two chapters. This September, I completed the edited volume, *Voices of Black Graduate School Deans in Advancing Graduate Education at Historically White Universities* through Emerald Publishing including my four chapters. Currently, along with two other colleagues, I am leading the preparation for a handbook for Oxford University Press on *Culturally Responsive Evaluation*. Currently, I am working with two young colleagues to conduct retrospective studies of undergraduate research programs I conducted at UNC-CH for 20 years. That program has produced over 250 Black, Latino, and American Indian Ph.D. recipients. I have continued to conduct an annual Presidential Session at the American Education Research that I started 29 years ago, where senior scholars meet with graduate students and more junior scholars to establish networks and possible mentoring relations. I am a member of the Florida Museum of Natural History's Director's Council; on the Board of the Center of Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment at the University of Illinois; served on two committees for the American Educational Research Association; a member on the external advisory committees for three National Science Foundation's Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate projects headed by the University of Maryland College Park, Howard University, and the University of South Florida, respectively; Howard University Graduate School Board of Visitors member. Finally, I am actively mentoring students, faculty members, and administrators who seek me out.

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## Don Goodman

I graduated from the University of Missouri (Columbia) in 1966 with a B.S. in zoology and then received a PhD (after completing a MS bypass curriculum) in zoology at UF under Dr. Archie Carr. Thereafter, taught at UF, SFCC and InterAmerican University in Hato Rey, Puerto Rico. I established the North Florida Botanical Society in 1977 and orchestrated the development of Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, serving as director until retirement in 2010.

In my role as Kanapaha Botanical Gardens' Director Emeritus, I am minimally involved in gardening activities and serve mostly in an advisory role. I also serve on the board of directors of the region's other botanical facility, Cedar Lakes Woods and Gardens (Williston, FL). I am still actively engaged in gardening at home. This has involved plant propagation and collecting as well as domestic landscaping. I was minimally involved in travel prior to retirement but have since indulged in some international travel.

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## Jacob U'Mofe Gordon

I served on the faculty of the University of Kansas (KU) as a History Professor for 34 years, 1970-2004. I have a Ph.D. in History from Michigan State University, M.A. from Howard University, and a B.A. (Honors) from Bethune Cookman College (now University). I began my academic career at Albany State College (now University) in Georgia as an Associate Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History and Political Science; I also wrote a column for the Albany Times. I was the Founding Chair, in 1970, of the Department of African Studies at KU. Thereafter, I served as Founding Executive Director of the Institute for Black Leadership Development and Research (later the Center for Multicultural Leadership) within the Institute for Lifespan Studies. In collaboration with the KU Spencer Research Library, we established the Black History Collections. While at KU I published more than 20 books, monographs,

research reports, numerous articles in academic journals, and book chapters and actively participated in professional organizations such as the American Historical Society, African Studies Association, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) and organized a chapter of ASALH at KU. I retired from KU in 2004 as Professor Emeritus.

Upon retiring I began serving as a consultant for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Fighting Back Project. My passion for scholarship led to the publication of over a dozen books, including significant works such as *African American Studies: 50 Years at the University of Florida* (2021), co-edited by Paul Ortiz, *"African Studies Matters..."* (2019), *Double Heritage: A Memoir* (2019), and *Revisiting Kwame Nkrumah* (2017). In 2012, I served as a Fulbright Senior Scholar at the University of Ghana. The following year, I was appointed as the Kwame Nkrumah Endowed Chair at the Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, a role I held until 2015. During this period, I received a grant from the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) to conduct fieldwork on African leadership and governance, which took me to Ghana, Senegal, Nigeria, Morocco, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Botswana, Rwanda, and South Africa. I am a founding life member of the Association of African Studies of Africa (ASAA) since 2013. Additionally, I was an external examiner for Ph.D. dissertations at the University of Cape Town.

I serve on the Board of Directors for the International Bullying Prevention Association and the advisory boards for the African American Studies Program at the University of Florida and the KU School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. As the founding president of the Alachua County African & African American Historical Society, Inc., and chair of the Alachua County African American History Task Force, I have worked to preserve and promote African American history. I also contribute to the Alachua County Historical Commission. I have travelled throughout Africa, Europe, South America, the Caribbean, and the United States.

My involvement with the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) includes serving as past president and current editor of its annual journal. I mentor students through the UF Active Learning Program and am a member of the Humanities Committee at the Institute for Learning in Retirement at Oak Hammock.

These roles and activities reflect my ongoing commitment to education, research, and community service, continuing to make meaningful contributions in my fields of expertise.

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## **Jon Graham**

My doctorate is in health policy, and most of career has been as a health care executive in hospitals, physician practice and consulting. For six years I was in the faculty of the Department of Radiation Oncology, College of Medicine, and I served as Deputy Director of the UF Health Cancer Center.

Have always been bit of a shutterbug, so on retirement I decided to try my hand at bird photography. I figured I should learn a bit about birds, so I joined the Audubon Society and began birding with the Alachua County chapter. Suzi and I have traveled to Europe three times since retiring in 2017 along with a number of trips to the west coast, northeast, North Carolina, and throughout Florida. I am involved with Rotary Club of Gainesville, serve as volunteer Guardian- ad-litem for Florida District 8 dependency court, and mentor students at Project YouthBuild. We manage our yard for pollinators and birds having eliminated our lawn and planted pollinator friendly and Florida native plants. We have an abundance of butterflies, 40 species of birds we have identified in and around our home, and 100 species of trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses in our yard.

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## **Jim Grantham**

Undergraduate at Brown University; Medical School at UVA; UF Radiology resident, then faculty, retiring in 2016

I am no longer working as a radiologist at UF Health or elsewhere. No teaching, committees, or other involvement. In retirement, I continued my volunteering at the Natural History Museum and McGuire

Center. I became a Master Gardener though I am no longer active. Briefly, I volunteered at Wilmot Botanical Gardens. I recently have started as a worker at the polls.

My wife and I used to travel, but not so much lately. We have been season ticket holders at the Hippodrome since 1983 and the Philips Center for the Performing Arts since it opened. We love living in Gainesville and are still in the first house we ever bought in a great neighborhood. We are so lucky.

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### **Abraham G. Hartzema**

I came to the US as a Fulbright Scholar, completed graduate studies at the University of Washington and the University of Minnesota. After graduate studies I joined the faculty of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where I was a tenured full professor. In 2000 UF recruited me as the Perry A. Foote Endowed Professor and Eminent Scholar. I retired in 2016.

As for most retired faculty, academic obligations and involvement do not stop after retirement. I maintain active membership in major professional organizations. Endowed an annual lecture series in pharmacoepidemiology in the UF College of Pharmacy.

On a successful NIH submission, served as PI on NIH NDA SBIR R44DA 051272-01 for 08/01/2020-07/31/2023. Following that, I became Chief Scientific Officer of SureMed Compliance LLC, the startup resulting from the NIH grant. I am also invited to serve as CSO of 3ARx, which I have been doing since September 2023; a start-up that focuses on making Health Technology Assessments of pharmaceuticals more efficient. Further, I co-edited with my former graduate student Dr Ali, the book Post-Authorization Safety Studies of Medicinal Products, which was published in 2018 by Elsevier and subsequently translated into Japanese and published in 2022. I was fortunate to be invited to give the keynote address in Kobe Japan to the 27th Japanese Congress of Pharmacoepidemiology, December 2022. Retirement is sweet. No must-dos; but great opportunities to further the recognition of the University of Florida.

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### **Marité Rodriguez Haynes**

I earned my master's and doctoral degrees in Developmental Psychology at UF, graduating in 1986. I taught Psychology at Clarion University, a small university in Western Pennsylvania, with about 6,000 students. The teaching load was 4 classes per semester and because of the small size of our department and the presence of a branch campus, I taught 11 different classes in 28 years at Clarion. I was very active in academic advising and was Advising Coordinator for the university for 2 years. The most exciting part of my teaching was introducing Team-Based Learning in my last few years teaching. It invigorated my students and me!

When I retired in 2015, I adjusted to no meetings and no grading of papers in about 5 minutes! Quilting and volunteer work are what keep me busy today. I am involved with 2 local quilting guilds and spend much of my time making charity quilts and other sewn items for 10-15 local non-profit groups. I was an elected officer for one of the guilds for 5 years and continue to volunteer for different events. I have also volunteered for the non-profit Haven Hospice since 2021 in administrative support.

In retirement, I have continued annual trips to the Dominican Republic as an interpreter for a group of volunteers from western Pennsylvania where I used to live. We work with the same group in the Dominican Republic and determine priorities and projects with our Dominican partners throughout the year. Our group includes a varied age group, from teenagers to adults in their 80s, so we have people who are experts in many fields. We provide medical clinics with free medicines, leaving the bulk of the medicines to supplement the public clinic's supply. We do construction (e.g., adding concrete slabs to people's homes, repairing homes, etc.), teacher training, and whatever is needed in any particular year.

My husband Vernon and I have always traveled (we budgeted for trips from the beginning of our marriage, even if not all the rooms in our house were furnished!). In retirement, we are now able to take long trips. We have been to Europe, South and Central America, Japan, Canada, Hawaii, and Alaska. Our longest trip was driving cross-country to Spokane, Washington (our son used to live there) and coming back through Canada, on an 8-week, 10,250-mile trip.

## **George J. Hochmuth**

I have been a faculty member at two Universities: The University of Massachusetts – Amherst (1980 - 1984) and The University of Florida (1984 to present Professor Emeritus), retiring in 2016. I started out in the old IFAS Vegetable Crops Department (which became the current Horticultural Sciences Department), then Center Director for several of the IFAS research and education centers in northern FL and the panhandle, then back to campus as Associate Dean for Research, then to the Soil, Water, and Ecosystem Sciences Department to complete my career. I have taught many courses, trained many graduate students and County Agents, and conducted research in the areas of soil, water, and nutrient management for agriculture with many journals' articles in print.

After retiring in 2016, I remained active with UF for several years. I continued teaching one of my courses until a replacement was found. I served on numerous graduate committees, and continued writing. I have served with several civic organizations including the Alachua County Environmental Protection Advisory Committee for two terms. Until 2024, I consulted actively with various companies, grower groups, and state agencies. I have a book, Knott's Handbook for Vegetable Growers (Wiley). Now, I am devoting more time to enjoying retirement with traveling and working on family/ancestry history documents. I am active with the Retired Faculty of UF.

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## **Pushpa S. Kalra**

I was born and educated in India with a Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of Delhi. Subsequently I specialized in neuroendocrinology during post-doctoral fellowships at The University of Milan, Italy, and at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas, under the mentorship of two pioneers in the field. My husband, the late Satya P. Kalra, came to Gainesville in 1971. After another 2+ years of post-doctoral fellowship I was recruited to the Department of OB-GYN as Instructor. Here I established and ran a clinical service laboratory, as well my own basic science research program. I rose through the ranks to Professor in 1986 and in 1993 transferred to the Department of Physiology and relocated to the McKnight Brain Institute. My research projects on unraveling how the brain controls the secretion of hormones related to reproductive processes and on the brain peptides that regulate appetite were conducted in partnership with Dr. Satya Kalra. I have been continuously funded by grants from the NIH. I have published nearly 200 papers and book chapters, edited books, mentored graduate students and served for 20 years on several NIH Study Sections reviewing grant proposals. I enjoyed teaching endocrinology to Medical and Dental students.

Although I loved conducting research and teaching I did not particularly care for committee assignments! After retiring in 2006 I changed my focus in life. I have been busy traveling around the world. My last few trips have been to Patagonia, Iceland, Sicily, Egypt and Jordan. I also took up volunteering in local community organizations. I have served on the Boards of several community organizations including the Alachua County Library District Foundation, Altrusa International, The Gainesville chapter of the United Nations Association, and the Institute for Learning in Retirement. I tried my hand at making stained glass and pottery only to discover I am completely devoid of artistic talent. My hobbies are traveling, reading, golf and pickle ball. Presently my duties on the Board and the Curriculum Committee of the Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) at Oak Hammock and on the RFUF Executive Committee keep me busy.

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## **Stan Kaye**

My academic journey has taken me from the streets of Brooklyn to the beaches of Honolulu, spanning institutions such as Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn College, the University of Hawaii, Northeastern University in Boston, the University of Nebraska, and finally, the University of Florida. Over the years, I've served in various roles: staff member, assistant professor, associate professor, and full professor. I've also undergone the tenure and promotion process twice—an experience I know few have shared. I've been an area coordinator, and I've had the privilege of launching the careers of many

students. This has kept me energized and connected, knowing my contributions were meaningful. Today, I'm proud to hold the title of emeritus professor at the University of Florida.

Although I'm a member of this organization, I don't consider myself truly retired. I like to say I've been "deinstitutionalized"—or that I've dropped out of college. Entrepreneurship has always been a part of my life. My career as a faculty member afforded me the privilege of building businesses and engaging with the private sector over the past 40 years. In my field—centered on theatrical design and technology—staying professionally active is essential, as the pace of innovation is relentless. I could never isolate myself within an institution; I had to remain connected to professional practice, and I still do. I'm proud to say that my company is one of only a few practicing theater consultancies in Florida, and meaningful work continues to flow in. I now take on projects that genuinely excite me—a privileged position for which I'm deeply grateful.

Colleagues have remarked that I look less stressed these days, and I'm happy to hear it. Leaving full-time academic life with my health mostly intact feels like an accomplishment. Academia was incredibly demanding but also incredibly rewarding. For now, I'm enjoying a balanced life: running my business, spending time with family, traveling, and savoring each day on my own terms. It's only been seven months since my "deinstitutionalization," so check back with me in a few years to see how it's going!

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### **Ed Kellerman**

I was Master Lecturer, Dial Center for Speech and Communication Studies (1992-2019). I was a Fulbright Scholar to Malaysia in 2015, and in 2017 I was named Florida Communication Association Teacher of the Year.

I still serve as an advisor to the Dial Center, a member of the Fulbright Lecture Series committee through the UF International Center and am a frequent public speaker on communications and leadership. After full time retirement, the Honors College asked me to teach The Roots of American Music: Blues and Beyond class. A recent grant allowed me to travel the Blues Trail from Macon, to Atlanta, Tupelo, Memphis, Clarksdale, Indianola, and New Orleans to continue research on the origins of Delta blues, its spread around the US and the world, and efforts to preserve this unique musical heritage. I continue to operate the National Museum of Political Memorabilia, which houses thousands of political buttons, clothing, posters, stickers, and 3-D items ([www.nmpm.net](http://www.nmpm.net)).

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### **Saeed R. Khan**

I came to the University of Florida on Fulbright Fellowship to do the Ph.D. After stints in Australia and Saudi Arabia I came to UF, eventually joining the Department of Urology as Finlayson Professor of Urological Research, and later in the Department of Pathology. I finally retired as Emeritus Professor, Department of Pathology. My early research focused on fungi. Later became involved in kidney stone research, publishing over 300 articles, organizing many conferences on kidney stones, including two at UF. Elected President of the Florida Society of Electron Microscopy, I also served as President of the ROCK (Research on Calculus Kinetics) society. I travelled extensively to national and international meetings and edited a book and many special issues of conference proceedings and journals. I spent more than 20 years on various study sections of National Institutes of Health reviewing grant applications. Also participated in various NIH organized and supported conferences. NIH supported my research.

Received many academic and civic awards including Honorary Award at 13th International Symposium, UF Faculty Council and American Urology Association Lifetime Achievement Awards, UF Research Foundation Professorship; Rosa Parks Quiet Courage Award and Heart of the Community Award.

I am continuing my involvement in kidney stone research, writing invited reviews, and helping younger faculty with ideas. I am an Associate Editor of the journal Urolithiasis, the journal dedicated to publishing articles on kidney stones.

After retirement I became involved in many city of Gainesville boards as volunteer. I served two terms on Park and Recreation Board and Cultural Affairs Board, chairing the Cultural Affairs Board in my final year.

I was also a member of the City of Gainesville's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee. I am currently on the board of the Alachua Habitat for Humanity, raising funds, recruiting volunteers etc. Members of the RFUF elected me as President-elect. Just finished my three years stint: President-Elect, President, and Past President/Chair of the Nomination Committee. I am a member of the board of the local chapter of the United Nations Association and served as its President. Currently I am President of the Welcoming Gainesville & Alachua County, organization that has worked with the city in various city-wide celebrations recognizing the international character of the city and creating a welcoming atmosphere for the newcomers and developed a guide of local resources and services for them. I am also a member of the steering committee of Gainesville Immigrant Neighbor Inclusion program. In addition, I am involved with city's interfaith groups and served as President of the Mercy Clinic, a Muslim run clinic for the indigent.

I spend my free time visiting our state and national parks and forests with my wife of over 50 years, taking pictures of mostly birds and sometime flowers and trees.

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### **Jerry Kidder**

My academic career was preceded by six years as research agronomist and manager for a banana company in Central America. I then spent five years as Extension Sugarcane Specialist at UF's Everglades Experiment Station and 22 years as Extension Soils Specialist in the Soil and Water Science Department. Principal duties included authoring technical papers and newsletters for general audiences, giving presentations to client groups, providing support and training for county Extension faculty, and conducting applied research. Subject matter ranged widely from soil test interpretation, plant nutrient management, resource conservation, waste utilization, and more. Retired in 2002 as emeritus professor.

The twenty-plus years since I retired have been filled with wonderful trips to many parts of the U.S. and the world, volunteering as GED math instructor, food pantry helper, invasive plant remover, Friends of the Library worker bee, agricultural consultant, and laboratory technician at the Florida Museum of Natural History's Ceramic Technology Lab. My ten years of volunteering at the Museum have been most interesting and rewarding and have included co-authorship on publications and Volunteer of the Year award. I have been continuously active in the League of Women Voters including many years on the local board of directors. Gardening keeps me close to soil and plants and provides occasional fare for the table. Fishing is a sport of which I never tire, especially on the local saltwater flats. Once I fly-fished in Tasmania and two months later fished halibut in Alaska. On my fourth once-in-a-lifetime fishing trip to Alaska, I was able to take along my two sons, son-in-law, and two grandsons to make it a capstone trip.

Over the years my wife Kathy and I helped with care of our three grandsons when their parents were away. From board games at home to rafting on the Colorado and family gatherings in northern Wisconsin we have had wonderful times and formed memorable bonds. We have taken advantage of the cultural offerings of Gainesville – lectures, the HIPPI, Harn, Phillips Center. We have had some unique experiences like walking on Cape Horn, lunch with former president Carter, Rosalynn, and Amy at the Carter Center, and a hot air balloon ride during a mass ascension at the Albuquerque Balloon Festival. I have spent time on genealogy and preserving evidence (such as this little exercise) of what I consider having been a life of good fortune and one reasonably well lived.

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### **Steven P. Kirn**

I am a UF alumnus (M.A.1971, Ph.D. 1974 - Clinical Psychology), but went away for 36 years to practice clinical psychology, teach college undergrads, and eventually work in Human Resource consulting and corporate management roles. I returned to serve as the Executive Director of the Center for Retailing Education and Research at UF and taught upper division undergraduate and MBA courses in Retailing Management.

Since Retirement in 2018 I continue to live in Gainesville and have remained active in some consulting work in the Retailing area, with a special focus on leadership development, organizational change, and international retailing. Some special activities have included organizing week-long study/tours for international retailers from South America and Europe, plus occasional speaking engagements at various

conferences. Unfortunately, COVID brought many of these activities to a halt. I continue to be active with the UF chapter of United Faculty of Florida (UFF-UF), the faculty union, having served as chapter President in the 2017-2018 academic year. I have spent a UFF Membership Fellow, working to engage faculty with the union, as well as organizing activities such as bus tours for new faculty to acquaint them with the Gainesville area and its many resources and attractions, as well as organizing social events to encourage cross-discipline interaction and a greater sense of camaraderie and “fun”! 2 I also am a frequent donor of blood platelets to the local blood bank, serve as a poll worker in all local, state, and national elections, and am regular “on-air talent” for WUFT-FM, the local NPR radio station. There is still significant down-time, but I simply enjoy being active, and having the flexibility to listen to music (and occasionally get out my saxophone), read and savor the year-round outdoor activities available here. Current goal: More involvement with RFUF. I can’t imagine just “sitting around”!

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## **Sally Kimberly**

I am a family nurse practitioner and a nurse-midwife. I was hired in 1985 to teach normal obstetrics to third year medical students. Also, in the 1990’s I was active in the University Faculty Club and served as president for two years.

In 1990, I became the nursing director for the Maternity and Infant Care Project, still a part of the College of Medicine. This program went to as many as 12 outlying counties providing high quality prenatal care to indigent women who, in most counties, had no access to local care. They would then come to Shands to deliver, and there was a seamless connection between the two services.

It was extremely rewarding, and difficult to leave when I retired in 2008. I continued to work as a clinician one day a week until 2014.

In around 2003, I began an acting career. I had always loved theater, primarily working backstage in props, sets, and costumes. By chance I was selected to be in the chorus of “Ragtime” at the Star Theater. I had 3 lines. That was the start.

Subsequently, my friend, Jerry Rose, cast me in some comedy sketches we did for charity. He liked my work and cast me in a rather iconic role in “The Beauty Queen of Leenane.” I never had an acting class and had no idea what I was doing, but I then earned several other roles, primarily at the Acrostown Theatre and The High Springs Playhouse. I also had the opportunity to work with David Young at the Hippodrome.

My favorite all-time role was playing a 15-year-old in “Kimberly Akimbo” by David Lindsay-Abaire, at the ART. It was later made into a musical on Broadway, and won a Tony for best new musical, but the play is still my favorite.

About the time of my retirement, I started taking Improv classes with Karelisa Hartigan as leader, at the Senior Center. I had also joined Gainesville Co-housing, the first co-housing development in Florida, and we met every Sunday, from 2012 to the time it was built in 2018. After it was built one of the members asked me to lead an Improv group here, and we have been meeting every Wednesday morning for Improv since. In my quest for new games, I have been joining and leading groups every chance I get. My “peak” occurred last year when I performed before a large group with Colin Mochrie, in Vancouver, B.C.

Another of my hobbies is playing the ukulele. I played while in college, but then there was a gap of 60 plus years and I took it up again. I belong to the Gainesville Ukulele Club, and sometimes the Unitarians let me play with them in the UUketarians ukulele group.

I also belong to a writing group and several organizations dealing with social justice and climate change, largely, but not exclusively, through UCG.

I have trouble reading music and plays because I have AMD but am grateful that I can still see at all -- thanks to modern medicine and science. I am not yet blind.

And, of course, the most fun of all is being with my grandchildren. Both girls, at this writing, are aged 3 and 5. They live in Georgia. Not close enough to see all the time, but fairly easy to visit. Recently, the 3-year-old, called me to say “Gramma, I’m eating a peanut butter and honey sandwich!”



## Jim Kurtz

My career in the academic world was at the UF Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and at Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI). At UF, I worked as a research engineer and later as Director at the Electronic Communications Laboratory. I was with this laboratory for 25 years, and director for almost 17 years. I worked at GTRI as a senior research engineer for almost 9 years. I performed sponsored research for federal and state agencies as well as private industry. I supervised full time staff as well as students for most of my time at these institutions. I was on the graduate committee of several engineering students at UF.

I retired from the University of Florida Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, as Director of the Electronic Communications Laboratory in 2012. For the first four years of retirement, I was trying to determine what to do with the rest of my life. I spent time with my wife traveling throughout the United States as well as on cruises to the Caribbean stopping at many different islands. Also, for four years, I was a volunteer for the AARP tax-aide program, preparing taxes.

In 2016, at the encouragement of my daughter, I began exploring painting and drawing. The medium I chose initially was acrylic painting, but I also took two drawing classes offered by the University of Florida Harn Museum. I began using online resources to learn how to become a better painter. I painted still life paintings, landscapes, and pictures of family pets. I also became a Docent at the UF Harn Museum of Art in 2016 and began giving tours to children, students, and adults. I have found the experience as a Docent at the Harn to be very rewarding and, at the same time, have learned a great deal about art and history. I took a six-week watercolor painting class from one of the Docents and I have also created some paintings in that medium. I am continuing to paint but trying to find time to do more of that hobby as my wife and I spend considerable time working inside and gardening outside our home and visiting our three grown children and one grandchild as much as possible.

I was a Director of RFUF for three years, ending in 2023. The weekly talks and friendships in RFUF have been a highlight in my retirement.

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## David Z. Kushner

I attended Boston University (B.M.), the College-Conservatory of Music of Cincinnati (M.M.), and the University of Michigan (Ph.D.). As an undergraduate, my major was Piano Performance. My Senior Recital included J.S. Bach's Concerto in F minor and Franck's Prelude, Chorale, and Fugue. In graduate school, my focus was on Music History/Musicology. I held academic positions at the Mississippi University for Women, Radford University, and the University of Florida. At the latter institution I served as Professor of Music in the Doctoral Research Faculty and Coordinator of the Music History/Musicology Area in the School of Music. I developed a Musicology Lecture Series featuring members of the Musicology Faculty, Graduate Students in the Musicology program, and guest lecturers. Coordinator of Graduate Studies in Music was also part of my duties. I was a founding member of the U.F. Chapter of the Society of Pi Kappa Lambda and an honorary member of Sigma Alpha Iota, and I am a Life Member of the Music Teachers' National Association and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

I have stayed involved in my discipline by way of continuing to do research and to present papers, lectures, and lecture-recitals (Piano). In addition to the traditional venues, my "Recitals in the Schools" program has brought me into contact with students ranging from those in elementary schools to those in high schools (public and private); the repertoire is chosen to accommodate the age levels of the students (composers whose works were performed include J.S. Bach, C.P.E. Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Chopin, Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky, Debussy, Ravel, Gershwin, and Copland). My academic papers and lectures have taken me to various locations in the United States, and to such foreign countries as Hungary, Austria, Germany, Poland, England, Scotland, and Costa Rica. I was a founding member of, office holder in, and paper presenter for the Southern Chapters of the American Musicological Society and College Music Society. I was also a co-founder of the American Liszt Society, host of a Liszt Festival at Radford University, and presented papers at their gatherings. In retirement I have given courses and lectures at Oak Hammock Retirement Center in Gainesville, FL. State and local activities have included memberships in the Florida State Music

Teachers' Association, the Florida Federation of Music Clubs, and the Gainesville Music Teachers' Association. I have served as a judge for various music organizations.

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### **Lucinda Lavelli**

My professional life has been in service to the arts. Following college graduation, I completed a dance therapy internship in Louisiana beginning my travels pursuing my service to the arts. Graduate degrees were from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland (MFA and MNO). I taught in many institutions in Northeast Ohio including the University of Akron while also working freelance as a choreographer and performer. My next home was Winston-Salem to serve as Provost of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and my final move was to the University of Florida to serve as Dean of the College of the Arts.

Retirement has many different manifestations. For me and no doubt for others it has been an intense introduction to medicine, to the ins and outs of health insurance and to the benefits of Zoom for staying connected to parts of one's life.

I have limited time and energy as I have accepted new responsibilities serving as the primary caregiver for my husband while also managing my own healthcare. I have achieved success in these areas as we are both still celebrating life.

These changes in daily life have curtailed my time with arts and civic organizations but I have continued to contribute what I can when I can. Being a part of the Retired Faculty of the University of Florida is an example of a rewarding connection as well as serving in an advisory capacity to Dance Alive.

In one change of pace, I have been working with an author on a biography of my father, Dante Lavelli, who played on the original Cleveland Browns. His life as a first-generation Italian, veteran of the Battle of the Bulge and Pro Football Hall of Fame inductee affords worthwhile lessons for today.

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### **Steve Lodle**

I earned the BA and MA in Communication from California State University, Long Beach and worked an additional 36 Graduate hours from Michigan State University and University of Florida. I was Professor at Santa Fe College 1972-2007 where I taught Communications, Journalism, and Public Speaking. There I was president of the Santa Fe College Senate 1994- 96, President of the Coalition of Community College Faculty representing Florida's 28 community college faculty senates 1995-97, Faculty Liaison to the State of Florida Community College Board 1995-97, Recipient of the Santa Fe College Lifetime Achievement Award 2007- 08, Recipient of the Santa Fe College Outstanding Instructor Award 2003, Recipient of the Florida Communication Association Award for Outstanding Instructor in Communications 2007

I am currently serving as the Communications Director of the Retired Faculty of the University of Florida (RFUF). I attended government meetings to protect the Santa Fe river which flows alongside my home. I also participated in protest against the installation of a phosphate mine in Bradford County. Fortunately, we were successful, and the mining has been stopped. I have traveled widely since my retirement in 2007. My biggest adventure involved getting to the Mount Everest base camp and hiking around part of Mount Kailash in western Tibet. Since retirement I have also traveled around Russia, Siberia, Mongolia, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Japan, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, the Balkan countries, and once attended Burning Man in Nevada.

Since Covid, I have limited my travels to visiting my daughter who lives in Northern California. I enjoy keeping up with current events, reading books on science, doing some writing, and attending local music performances.

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### **J Bernard Machen**

As a Board-Certified DDS pediatric dentist with a PhD in educational psychology, I enjoyed teaching,

research, and patient care at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill for twenty years. In 1989 I made what turned out to be an irreversible decision by moving into administration at the University of Michigan, first as the Dean of the School of Dentistry and then as Provost. In 1997 I became president of the University of Utah and in 2004 president of the University of Florida. Serving as a president of major universities for 17 years and as a special advisor for an additional five years has afforded me numerous opportunities to impact higher education. It has been rewarding to work with faculty and staff and interacting with the best and brightest students.

Chris and I are fully retired and living at Oak Hammock at the University of Florida. We continue to enjoy being part of higher education and hope for the best for our state and nation.

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### **Richard K. MacMaster**

I am a Gator only by courtesy, having taught at Western Carolina University and James Madison University but never at UF. I taught American History survey, Colonial America, American Church History, and introduced a course on Black America at WCU in 1969. Eighteenth-century America was my major research and publication field. I had an NEH fellowship for a study of Cultural Pluralism in the Shenandoah Valley 1730-1790 and a British Council fellowship for research on the flaxseed trade and immigration from Ulster 1718-1775.

I've tried to keep busy in retirement. I published *Scotch-Irish Merchants in Colonial America: The Flaxseed Trade and Immigration from Ireland 1718-1775* (Belfast: Ulster Historical Foundation, 2009) and University of Virginia Press brought out a new edition of my 1975 book *The Five George Masons: Planters and Patriots of Maryland and Virginia* in 2014. I was co-editor of *The Journal of Scotch-Irish Studies* 2001-2008 and published articles and reviews in *Pennsylvania History* and the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* and other journals. I presented papers at the Southern Historical Association and more specialized conferences at University of Georgia, Queen's University Belfast, University of Edinburgh, and Clare College Oxford. I was a consultant for over twenty years for the Ulster-American Folk Park in Omagh, Northern Ireland, helping select buildings for an open-air museum of immigration and researching their story.

I was president of the Scotch-Irish Society in 2000-2001 and a board member before and after that.

Sam Trickey introduced me to the problems faced by farm workers and other immigrants. We organized Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice as a coalition of Gainesville faith communities in 2010. I've been coordinator since 2012. With then City Commissioner Randy Wells, Sam and I established Welcoming Gainesville and Alachua County in 2015.

With my wife Eve, pastor of Emmanuel Mennonite Church, I've been involved in different projects, Muslim-Christian dialogue, racial reconciliation, and responding to war in Israel- Palestine, Iraq, and Afghanistan. We've been active for many years in Fellowship of Reconciliation and Episcopal Peace Fellowship.

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### **Paul Joseph Magnarella**

At UF, I was Professor in the Anthropology and the Criminology, Law, and Society Departments. Affiliate Professor of Law, African and European Studies. I worked as Expert on Mission with UN Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia and as legal researcher for the UN Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Elected President of the Association of Third World Studies and served as U.S. State Department Scholar-Diplomat for Near Eastern Affairs. Legal Counsel to the American Anthropological Association's Human Rights Committee. Recipient of Teaching Excellence Award. My book *Justice in Africa* (2000) received the Association of Third World Studies 'Book of the Year 2000' Award.

Immediately after retirement from UF, I joined the faculty at Warren Wilson College (Asheville, NC) where I created and directed the Peace and Justice Studies Program. While there I offered courses on human

rights and peace and published academic articles in journals devoted to these subjects. I also authored the book *Human Rights in Our Time* (2011) and served as visiting professor at Georgetown University's program in Turkey. I also served as appellate attorney for a former Black Panther in US Federal Court. Based on that experience, I authored *Black Panther in Exile: The Pete O'Neal Story* (UP of Florida, 2020), which earned the Silver Medal in the 2020 Florida Book Awards General Nonfiction category. After retirement from Warren Wilson, I returned to UF and for three years served as an Adjunct Professor in UF's College of Law. Currently, I review applications to the College of Law and teach civics at Santa Fe College to highly motivated immigrants who plan to sit for the US Citizenship test. Recently, the Paris-based International Encyclopaedia of the Histories of Anthropology (BEROSE) invited me to write an intellectual autobiographical account of my research in Turkey. That article appeared in 2024 as "My Anthropological Adventures in Turkey." While back in Gainesville, I splashed to records for the 100 yard and 200-yard butterfly events in the Florida Senior Games old geezer category.

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### **Barbara McDade Gordon**

I had not planned to be a university professor, but it was my best career choice ever! It has been an exciting and challenging adventure. In 1990 I was hired as a faculty member in the UF Geography Department. I also served as an affiliate in the Center for African Studies and the African American Studies Program. I taught large undergraduate courses with enrollments in the hundreds, and intensive graduate courses with 5-7 students. I received the University Excellence in Teaching Award which included a salary increase. My research on economic development allowed me to travel to 10 African countries as well as Europe and the Caribbean. Publications include articles, book chapters, and a seminal book on entrepreneurship and indigenous businesses throughout the Continent, co-edited with Dr. Anita Spring. I served as Chair of the Africa Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers; and Board Chair of the Florida West Africa Linkage Institute (FLAWI) which provided educational and economic exchanges between Florida and West Africa. As Director of the federal-funded Upward Bound Program for eight years, I helped promising high school students from low-income households prepare for college. I spent a year as a Visiting Scholar at the University of Ghana where I had also conducted my dissertation research as a Fulbright Scholar.

In retirement: "It's never too late to live happily ever after." When I retired from the University of Florida in 2016 after 26 years, I was eagerly looking forward to lazy days watching old classic movies and maybe sleeping until Noon on Sundays. Well, au contraire! That didn't happen.

Instead, I've had the opportunity to travel to Ghana and Nigeria to deliver research papers at professional conferences, publish a chapter in a book on 50 years of the African American Studies Program at UF, serve as conference organizer and co-editor of a proposed book in the UF Center for Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship, serve on the Boards of several community organizations, and be elected as President of this organization: Retired Faculty of the University of Florida (RFUF). As a Board Member of the Cotton Club Museum & Cultural Center, I have organized popular events such as the "Boogie Woogie Rock n Roll Dance" featuring music from the 1950s-1980s, the Enstoolment of a local community leader as the first ever Queen Mother in Alachua County in the Ghanaian and African Diaspora tradition. And, in Spring 2024, a 2- Day program featuring Black Cowboys/Cowgirls in Florida & American history with a walk-through exhibit from the Florida Museum of Agriculture, horse riding, food vendors, and promotion of Black Farmers in North Central Florida. I was recently appointed to the UF Center for African Studies Advancement Council. As a founding Board Member of the Alachua County African & African American Historical Society, Inc. along with my husband, Jacob U'Mofe Gordon, I am working to ensure that African American history and culture are taught in K-12 schools. For more than two decades I have participated in the annual Center for African Studies Teachers Institute which enrolls teachers throughout the USA for a one-week course on Africa. There are three things that I want to accomplish in retirement: write a historical novel, paint/draw portraits, and learn to play the flute. I am now in the sixth month of weekly flute lessons and—though I am struggling—I love it!

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## Michael W. McKenzie

I joined the University of Florida College of Pharmacy as an Assistant Professor in 1972. Research focused on the incidence and severity of adverse drug reactions in hospitalized pediatric patients and pharmacy education advances. Teaching focused on pediatric therapeutics and an Honors Seminar: In Search of Magic Bullets. I was promoted to Professor. I served as Director of the Post-baccalaureate Pharm.D program. In 1984 I was appointed as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs. Over the next 32 years I was involved in administrative activities culminating as Senior Associate Dean for Professional Affairs. I retired as a Professor Emeritus in 2016.

During my retirement years I have enjoyed being home more with my wife, Lynda. We have worked on house projects, gardening, and landscaping for our home. In addition, we have focused on travel prior to and after the pandemic. We have enjoyed cruises to Alaska, selected Caribbean islands, and to Mexico. Visits to Key West have also been very pleasant experiences. We have enjoyed visits with family and relatives.

We also enjoyed our grown children's activities. Our daughter, Amanda, married in 2020 and is a TV journalist and real estate agent in Orlando. Our son, Mark, has begun a successful marketing business in video games.

Time to read a variety of books and magazines has been another enjoyable experience during my retirement. I have also enjoyed supporting my wife's activities as a volunteer for the Friends of the Library.

I have become active in the Alachua County Association of Pharmacists. I have served on the Board of Directors and as a co-coordinator for continuing education programs.

I have enjoyed attending Bible study sessions at Trinity United Methodist Church.

We attended my 50th year anniversary commencement celebration at Samford University in 2019. We also enjoyed a meeting of many of my fellow graduates from my high school to celebrate our 55th anniversary year since graduation.

Another enjoyable event is a monthly luncheon with retired faculty from the UF College of Pharmacy. Maintaining communications and interactions with long-standing faculty colleagues has been a meaningful experience. Attending the presentations by speakers at RFUF has been a very pleasant and informative experience.

I have also spent more time writing poetry and prose. To date, I have created a collection of over 70 poems/prose with Christian perspectives. I have entitled the collection as *Take My Hand and Walk with Me*.

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## Mary McLean

I was Assistant and Associate Professor at Auburn University (1982-1992) and Director of Auburn Intervention Model (Project AIM) inclusive preschool. Then I was Associate Professor and Professor, U. of North Dakota, Center for Teaching and Learning (1992-1995), Professor, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and Director of Early Childhood Research Center (1998- 2014), Kellner Endowed Professor in Early Childhood Education (2007-2014). Finally, I was recruited by UF as professor and Preeminence Faculty Member of Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies (2014 - 2022). I then retired as Professor Emerita, School of Special Education, School Psychology and Early Childhood Studies, College of Education and Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies, University of Florida

In August of 2023, my husband and I moved from Florida back to the state of Wisconsin where we were living prior to my 2014 move to UF. I have the opportunity to work with projects in Wisconsin and California through the Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies and the School of Special Education, School Psychology and Early Childhood Studies (SESPECS) in the College of Education at UF. This has provided an opportunity for me to work with individuals in Wisconsin and California who want to receive professional development and who will provide training to others on the application of Embedded Instruction for Early Learning which was developed through research led by Dr.

Patricia Snyder, Director of the Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies at UF. Embedded Instruction for Early Learning is a research-based strategy for helping young children gain skills during everyday activities at home, in early learning programs and in the community. This important work has demonstrated the effectiveness of “embedding” instruction in ongoing activities for young children with and without special needs. It has provided an opportunity for me to engage in the development of professional learning and embedded instruction materials, to assist in teaching others, and to be part of a team of professionals focused on the application of Embedded Instruction for Early Learning content and materials at community, state, and national levels.

I am grateful for the opportunity to remain involved in my field and to continue to learn as we move forward with intervention strategies for young children. I am enjoying life with family who live in Wisconsin and having the opportunity to travel to visit family living in other states. With seven grandchildren, we have plenty of opportunities to remain active!

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### **Richard (Dick) Moyer**

I was Chair of the Molecular Genetics and Microbiology Department, in the College of Medicine from 1987-2003. I then served as Senior Associate Dean for Research Development (under Craig Tisher) in the College of Medicine from 2003-2008. I was also Co-Director of the Southeast Regional Center for Bioterrorism and Emerging Infectious diseases (12-member group of Universities and Research Institutions from 2005-2009). I retired in 2014.

After retirement I pursued through the College of Music my interests in music (piano). I am now a member of the "Friends of Music" a leadership, steering, and oversight committee in the School of Music. This group advises the Chair of the School of Music (Kevin Orr) and other music administration officials. One of our responsibilities is the organization of "Cadenza", an annual Springtime concert demonstrating for the public the range of musical entertainment available through the School of Music in the College of the Arts.

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### **Rebecca Martin Nagy**

I earned my PhD in art history at UNC Chapel Hill. Having started my career as a lecturer at the Cleveland Museum of Art, I then served in several positions at the NC Museum of Art in Raleigh, ending my tenure there as Associate Director of Education and Curator of African Art. From there I moved to the Harn Museum of Art at UF, serving as director for 16 years from 2002-2018.

Since retiring in 2018 I have remained active in the art and museum fields. In 2019 I served as a consultant to the Board of Trustees and as interim director of the Lightner Museum (a Gilded Age museum) in St. Augustine and in 2020 as a consultant to the Board of Trustees of Gainesville's Matheson History Museum. I serve as a museum peer reviewer for the

Accreditation Commission of the American Alliance of Museums. From 2019 to 2024 I resided in Tampa where I did pro-bono consulting for the Henry B. Plant Museum (Gilded Age history) and served on the Advisory Committee for the Hillsborough Community College Art Galleries. In the civic arena I served on the Board of the Rotary Club of Tampa, the Downtown Committee of the Community Redevelopment Agency and the Urban Design and Planning Committee of the Tampa Downtown Partnership. In the field of African art, I am a consulting editor for the scholarly journal, African Arts. Returning to Gainesville in June 2024, I have been appointed to the Development Council for UF's Center for African Studies and am a member of the Matheson Museum's Advisory Council. My research interests focus on contemporary artists from Africa and in the African Diaspora. At present I look forward to presenting at the Triennial Conference of the Arts Council of the African Studies Association in August 2024 and am preparing an article for publication in an upcoming issue of African Arts.

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## P. K. Nair

I was Distinguished Professor (Emeritus) and am recognized as a pioneer and world leader in Agroforestry. Major areas of my work include soil-plant interactions related to carbon sequestration, climate change mitigation, and other ecosystem services of multispecies land- use systems. I have conducted research with my students and collaborators across five continents, delivered lectures worldwide, and published prolifically for nearly six decades. I am a Fellow of several scientific societies including the AAAS. Honors and recognitions include the Humboldt Prize (Germany), and Honoris Causa Doctoral degrees from universities in Canada, Ghana, India, Japan, and Spain. Wikipedia page: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P.\\_K.\\_Ramachandran\\_Nair](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P._K._Ramachandran_Nair)

In retirement I continued to be professionally active. A few such activities are a new college- level textbook, *An Introduction to Agroforestry* (Springer). Originally published in 1993, it was translated into Spanish and some sections into Portuguese and Thai. Over the years, it became obvious that the book needed a new edition. Despite my strong desire and the publisher's support to bring out a new edition, it did not make much headway. Finally, I decided to retire and complete the project! With the involvement of two able co-authors, the second edition was published in early 2022: Nair, PKR, Kumar, BM, and Nair, VD (2022), *An Introduction to Agroforestry*, 2nd edition, Springer, 665 p. (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-75358-0>).

Following the publication of the new edition of the book, I developed a new Online Course on Agroforestry, with five sections or modules and launched it in collaboration with Coursera (<https://www.coursera.org/specializations/agroforestry-all>) in August 2023. More information: [ffgs-online@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:ffgs-online@ifas.ufl.edu); <https://ifas.catalog.instructure.com/>

I accepted the invitation to serve as Editor-in-Chief of a new online international journal published by OAE Publishing Inc., *Carbon Footprints* (<https://oaepublish.com/cf>). The first two issues were published in 2022 – 2023. Gradually, it became difficult to continue working with the publisher and I left in mid-2023.

Other professional activities include speaking at multiple international conferences, all online (because of the COVID-era travel restrictions) and serving as peer reviewer of manuscripts for various journals, books, and research project proposals, averaging one every month.

Otherwise, my wife and I travel occasionally to visit family and friends in the US and India and to attend some professional events.

## O. Norman Nesheim

For 17 years I was the Director of the UF-IFAS Pesticide Information Office. I coordinated pesticide safety education programs conducted by IFAS County Extension Offices. The office was responsible for developing educational materials and programs for Florida growers, commercial and governmental applicators to meet state and federal requirements to use certain pesticides. As an extension specialist, I focused on issues related to pesticide safety, environmental safety, and regulation of pesticides. I served on several USDA, EPA and state committees related to these issues and received a USDA Superior Service Award from the Secretary of Agriculture and recognition from State agencies and Florida commodity organizations for my work. Prior to UF, I was a faculty member at Oklahoma State University.

Since retirement in 2005, I have found several activities to keep me interested and active. I completed several renovation projects on our home as well as helping my children with their home projects. We have traveled extensively to Europe. Significant highlights of this travel have been to explore our Finnish and Norwegian roots and make connections with family in those countries. In 2019 I lead a tour with 15 family members to Norway to see the country that their grandfather (my father) came from. We visited our ancestral farm called Nesheim that is the source of our last name.

Retirement has given me the time to devote time to a hobby and passion of mine – genealogy. I have traced my wife's Finnish ancestors to the late 1400s and learned of several ancestors' roles in Finnish/Swedish history and written a history of her family in Finland and America. I have researched the genealogy of my paternal and maternal ancestry and have written detailed histories of both families starting with their origins in Denmark/Norway and Germany.

I served as property manager (Trustee) for my church for about 14 years. During that time, I served as general contractor and directed a major refurbishment of the church, classrooms, and classrooms. I joined the Kiwanis Club of Gainesville shortly after I retired and worked on several service projects conducted by the club.

For the past 4 or 5 years, I have become my wife's caregiver as her health and abilities have declined. It is a role that I am happy to be able to do as she has been a great support to me and my career and to our family. Retirement has allowed us to spend more time with family.

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### **Barbara Oberlander**

I worked at Santa Fe College for thirty years, teaching American History, coordinating the Honors Program, and serving as Assistant Chair for the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department.

Since retiring, I have become very involved in giving talks to community groups--the Institute for Learning in Retirement, the Village, Prime Time Institute, RFUF, and other local organizations. My presentations center on America's First Ladies, and other outstanding women in history. I also help to coordinate the Friends of Susan B. Anthony, and work with the local Democratic Party. Jigsaw puzzles and beach trips preserved my sanity during COVID!

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### **Thomas A. Pearson**

My academic career began at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with most of my academic training received at Johns Hopkins University in programs leading to BA (1973), MD (1976), MPH (1976), and PhD (Epidemiology, 1983) degrees, and clinical training in Preventive Medicine, Internal Medicine, and Cardiology. My research and teaching have focused on pathogenesis and prevention of atherosclerosis. My faculty appointments included Johns Hopkins (5 years), Columbia University (9 years), the University of Rochester (16 years), and UF as Executive Vice-President for Research and Education at the UF Health Science Center.

Since retirement from UF in January 2022 and my UF appointment as Emeritus Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine have facilitated my continued affiliation with the Department of Epidemiology. I continue to supervise PhD candidates with three completing and defending their dissertations in 2023, and now submitting their dissertation work for publication. The final PhD candidate should defend his dissertation in the Fall of 2024. I also provide graduate course lectures and mock reviews of NIH fellowship applications by MD-PhD students. We have also endowed named lectureships for the MD-PhD Programs at UF and URochester to support eminent scholars to present the keynote address at their annual symposia. I continue to publish scientific work, with a recent publication of a State-of-the-Art Review.

Another activity related to my academic career entails the formation of TAProots Grant Services LLC, which provides consultation and educational services pertaining to preparation of applications for research and training grants, targeting new investigators from underrepresented minority groups. A major effort in the past two years has been focused on a subcontract from Morehouse College of Medicine in support of the National Research Mentoring Network. New investigators write their first NIH grant applications, which are reviewed in an NIH-like Mock Study Section, with the author able to hear the discussion, receive written critiques, and make revisions prior to NIH submission.

I also have a number of interests outside of UF, including membership on Corporate and Not-for-Profit Boards of Directors. A second LLC, TAProots Farms LLC, manages a vineyard in the Finger Lakes Region of Upstate New York and other agricultural businesses. I also have more time for personal interests, including gardening, birdwatching, international travel, and visits by our four grandchildren to our Gainesville home or Finger Lakes cottage.

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## **Richard F. Phillips**

Following my work in Peace Corps (Brazil – 1971-72) and Catholic Relief Services (Guatemala - 1973), and after independent travel and study in the Andes (1974), I logged over 40 years as a librarian, mainly in Latin American and Caribbean Studies academic programming. Places I worked include UF Smathers, Princeton University, and the University of Colorado.

I continue interest in Latin American and Caribbean matters, reading online regional newspapers such as "A Critica" from Manaus, "Prensa Libre" from Guatemala, and "El Tiempo" from Bogota.

Writing : I have collaborated on articles for Library Science publications.

Locally: I volunteer at the Micanopy History Museum, and have found that to be a fascinating, fun, and rewarding endeavor.

Personal: I pedal my bicycle: my estimate is that I have ridden at least 7500 miles in the 10 years since my 2014 retirement. That is a lot of pedal time; mainly errands to grocery stores, bakeries, UF campus, and Gainesville's many scenic parks.

International: travels since retirement include Cuba, France, Spain, London, Portugal and the United Arab Emirates; domestic trips have been to Georgia, Connecticut and Washington, DC. Family keeps me busy as well: our 2 sons are out of state, and we visit as much as we can. Yard work in Gainesville is another matter : garden and mow !

## **Joseph R. Pisani**

I previously taught at the Universities of Maryland (1964-69), Texas, Austin (1969-73) and Kentucky (1978, visiting professor) At UF, I taught advertising courses and did research in the College of Journalism and Communications for 32 years, chairing the Department of Advertising for 19 years.

I retired in 2005, and I retired from academic activities completely except for RFUF. I spend my time reading nonacademic books and watching TV shows that I didn't have time for while I was at UF. I spend as much time as possible with my family and friends. Taking care of my home eats up considerable time. I love Gator sports and have season tickets for football, basketball, baseball, and gymnastics.

I participate in activities at Holy Faith Catholic Church and serve as a Eucharistic Minister. Every Thursday for the past 15 years I bring the Holy Eucharist to the Catholic patients at North Florida Regional Hospital. This ministry is personally rewarding because I believe that I am helping to relieve the anxiety and suffering that goes with a patient's hospitalization.

I play a lot of word games like JUMBLE and NUMBRIX on my computer to exercise my mind. I still go to the gym, do stretching exercises and walk a lot to stay in shape.

Overall, my retired life may not seem exciting, but I always seem to have something to occupy my time. To me it seems like I am busier now than when I was working.

## **S. Michael Plaut**

I am a psychologist and was a member of the psychiatry faculty of the University of Maryland School of Medicine from 1973 to 2008. I was also assistant dean for student affairs for most of those 35 years. I taught part-time at the University of North Carolina Wilmington for about five years after retirement.

I no longer seek professional involvement, but I still give talks and review books or chapters for possible publication when invited to do so. My wife Judy (a UF alumna, Class of 1967) and I travel as much as we can, especially cruising. We enjoy attending concerts, gymnastics meets and baseball games. We have lived at Oak Hammock at the University of Florida for the last 11 years. I have served six years on the residents' council and have chaired or served on a number of committees.

I have returned to playing clarinet and play in the Gainesville Community Band (of which I am a past president) and in a chamber group that I started at Oak Hammock soon after we arrived. I am also immediate past president of the New Horizons International Music Association. I still take clarinet lessons

with a former UF grad student. I am president of Friends of Music at UF and serve on the board of the Foundation for the Promotion of Music. I am a precinct clerk for the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections and wrote an invited chapter on that topic for a book published in 2021 by the Matheson Museum. I serve on the Adelphi University Alumni Advisory Council and on the past-presidents' advisory council of the Society for Sex Therapy and Research.

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## Robin Poynor

Prior to coming to UF, I taught at the University of Minnesota Duluth where I was also curator for the Tweed Museum of Art. From 1978 until my retirement, my focus was teaching the history of African art at the School of Art and Art History. Alongside teaching and publishing, I initiated the development of the African collection at the Harn Museum of Art. I held roles as Graduate Coordinator and as Assistant Director within the school. Since 1978, I have actively served on 109 graduate committees. Over my tenure at UF, I authored four books on African art and curated/co-curated numerous exhibitions. Furthermore, I contributed to ACASA (the Arts Council of the African Studies Association), serving on its board, and holding the position of president, enriching the international discourse on the expressive arts of Africa.

Since retiring from my academic duties, I have found myself liberated from the demands of class preparation, exam creation, the reading of research papers, theses, and dissertations, and the extensive departmental, college, and university committee work that once consumed my days. This newfound freedom has provided me with the opportunity to deepen my engagement in research and publication.

Remaining active in my field, I continue to contribute to scholarly discourse through research, writing, and publishing. As a committed member of the international academic community, I serve as an editor for *African Arts*, a journal published at UCLA and distributed through MIT. In this role, I stay connected with emerging scholars by reviewing and providing editorial feedback on article submissions. I am active in ACASA, the international academic organization for a number of disciplines (anthropology, art history, history, etc.) that study the express arts of Africa and the African Diaspora.

Since stepping into retirement, I've enjoyed an increased focus on research endeavors, resulting in the publication of four articles in the past year alone and ongoing work on another book. Leveraging, advancements and technology and social media, I maintain daily communication with collaborators in Nigeria, where my initial fieldwork took place in 1973. One of my articles reflects on the technical innovations observed over the 57 years since I entered my field of study. In August 2024 I was awarded the ACASA Leadership Award, given every third year to two individuals whose accomplishments best exemplify excellence in the study of African and/or African Diasporic arts and its dissemination.

Beyond academia, retirement has afforded me the opportunity to engage in various community activities. I proudly serve on the boards of Welcoming Gainesville & Alachua county and the United Nations Association, alongside my past involvement as a member of the board for our RFUF. Additionally, I dedicate time to visiting Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees at Baker County ICE detention center. Most importantly, I get to spend time with three fantastic grandkids!

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## Alice Primack

My career as a Science Librarian started as a Student Assistant in my College library at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois where I grew up. With majors and minors in several sciences and mathematics, and then a master's degree in library science at University of Wisconsin and an Internship at Ohio State University, I prepared for my 30-year career, most of which was at University of Florida. I was in the Engineering and Physics Library and then in Marston Science Library, where the science libraries came together in 1987, until retirement in 2005. Highlights were moving from filing Card Catalog cards in those little drawers to later carrying each drawer to a Library computer center and typing in the information to make the online Catalog; and creating classes, handouts, books, and websites to teach students and faculty how to find, evaluate and use information for their purpose. Most important and rewarding during these years was raising our three wonderful children along with my husband. Volunteer

work included taking Foster Children, mainly teenage girls, before my own children were born; and leading a 4-H Club and Career Mentoring with Alachua County 4-H; and starting and chairing an Anti-Racism Coalition.

Since retiring, travel and experiences have included camping and exploring nature all around Florida with my children; and taking my children on trips to many areas of the United States, and to Mexico, Europe, Asia, and Africa. Finally having time to read books has been a major joy of retirement, and I am in three book groups to read and discuss together. In retirement, I have focused my volunteer work on Social Justice. As Chair of the Social Justice Council at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for about 20 years, major projects included starting and maintaining an after-school program for children in the Pineridge subdivision and creating and leading Study Circles on Racial Prejudice and Bias working with the Gainesville Office of Equal Opportunity. The Social Justice Council provided monthly programming and projects for the congregation, as well as programming and collaboration with Statewide groups. Each Study Circle consisted of five weekly sessions in which participants moved from exploring assumptions and values about race and racism, to looking at inequities in Gainesville and Alachua County, to planning an action which they could take to make a difference.

And now there are grandchildren! Five so far, each being a ray of sunshine and hope. And their parents, taking on important roles contributing to society! I have made a Grandbaby Book for each grandchild; and wrote my own Life Stories for StoryWorth. My current volunteer work is starting an Aging in Place group in the condo area where I live, Wood Creek Village. A group of six women have worked together to help others complete end-of-life documents, modify our homes to prevent falls and stay healthy, and socialize with a weekly coffee hour, book groups, and other activities.

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### **Cynthia Ramos**

RN, MSN/Ed. Registered Nurse. Masters in science of nursing. I specialized in Health Education and retired from the Gainesville VA Medical Center.

Since retirement I have enjoyed gardening and traveling.

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### **Francisco A. Ramos-Caro**

Prior to retirement I was Associate Professor of Dermatology at UF, Associate Professor of Medicine at UF, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology.

Since retirement I have spent my time traveling, reading, gardening, and bird watching.

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### **Ralf Remshardt**

I began my academic career in my native Germany (Munich and Berlin) and then received a Fulbright to UC Santa Barbara where I completed a PhD in Theatre Studies. Appointments followed at Denison University and UF. At Florida, I was last Full Professor and sometime Director of the School of Theatre and Dance. I headed the graduate performance training program for many years and published widely on German and European theatre, genre theory, and early film. I taught theatre history and dramatic literature and frequently directed on the stage.

I retired soon after the pandemic because I felt that academic life, especially in my always fragile discipline, had irrevocably changed, and not for the better. That left me, at a relatively young 62, with a lot of life (and life of the mind) to fill. I took it as an opportunity to (re)turn to scholarly projects, to be completed at my own pace. Last year saw the publication of a voluminous 93-chapter book on contemporary European theatre which I edited for Routledge. Currently, I am working on a monograph on theatre and early film. In between, I have contributed chapters and articles to other publications, reviewed books, served as external evaluator for P&T and grant applications, and more. On occasion — if the location is enticing — I will still attend a conference. In 2023, for instance, I gave a paper in Accra, Ghana.

But my academic discipline is no longer focal to me. I do still enjoy the challenge of directing for the stage — I have directed a number of productions at the Hippodrome Theatre, most recently Fahrenheit 451 in 2022. I am just as content, however, to merely be an attentive audience member in New York, London, or Berlin. As my wife and I travel more — we now have an apartment in Germany as well as in Gainesville, and we alternate between locations — we get to indulge our passion for art, both as collectors and admirers. Our particular love is for imperial Chinese porcelain and for modern studio glass, and we will go out of our way to see a great collection. For 2024, we have planned an ambitious 2-month trip that will take us to New Zealand, Tasmania, Singapore, Taiwan, and Japan.

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### **Barbara Rienzo**

Professor, Department of Health Education and Behavior and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, College of Health and Human Performance.

My time in retirement is spread amongst various activities: volunteer through my church for Food 4 Kids, participate in spiritual direction, and other committees; travel to family (parents!), children, grandchildren in 4 states, and fun (mainly cruises) to places such as Baltic states, Normandy/Paris, South Africa (safari), Alaska (with grandsons). I continue to work out and play some golf, and (most importantly) be with close friends.

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### **Charles E. (Chuck) Riggs, Jr.**

The seminal event sparking my academic career was my decision to leave South Florida, where I had spent the first 18 years of life, to settle in at Johns Hopkins University. From there were clinical training at the University of Florida and specialty clinical and laboratory positions at the National Cancer Institute. Independent laboratory and academic oncology practice were pursued and enjoyed at the University of Maryland, the University of Iowa, and finishing out at the nascent Cancer Center at the University of Florida, in clinical research and practice. I mostly retired in early 2023.

Although I am a newcomer to retired life, I have benefited from mentorship and guidance provided by Drs. Henrietta and Nelson Logan and Dr. Rich Neiberger. I keep a foot dangling in the waters of clinical oncology-hematology practice by serving as an inpatient attending at the Gainesville VA Medical Center. This provides an impetus to keep current, if not sharp, in the science that drives practice, as well as the treasured opportunity to mentor and to guide trainees in the medical sciences. Nelson Logan guided me to join the missions of The Education Foundation, and I am now mentoring 2 middle-high school students with interests in life sciences (and they are mentoring me in facets of teen-age life!) There is now time to devote to politics, supporting causes and candidates which will facilitate the societal, social and medical issues necessary to permit progress in this country. My wonderful wife of 46 years, Christine, and I plan to travel to the exotica of this country and others. We are raising 2 puppies which assure our active lifestyles. We have found a welcome community in RFUF and hope to increase our participation in and contributions to this unique association.

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### **Ann-Marie Rizzo**

In a 41-year academic career first at Florida International University then Tennessee State University I taught pre- and in-service civil servants about the meaning and criticality of good government in the American federal system and tried to cultivate an ethical, mission-driven public service grounded in democratic values. My areas of emphasis included teaching how to: manage citizens' problems responsively and accountably, analyze issues of public concern, navigate complex work cultures and networks, and identify and resolve ethical dilemmas in the workplace. I can honestly say I was never bored teaching.

I authored two books and over three dozen peer-reviewed journal articles primarily on public management issues and my research into how government workers build reasoning and analytical skills

in ethical problem resolution. I also directed two research and training institutes at FIU and headed the Institute of Government at TSU as well.

I moved to Gainesville in 2019 when I retired from academia. I no longer teach public administration although related political causes never leave me; I support various community and political enterprises locally.

I recently completed a Florida Master Naturalist Certificate enabling me to appreciate Florida's unique nature and before Covid served as a docent at the Florida Springs Institute. Lately I've resumed traveling, in 2024 to northern California, Thailand and Japan and count this as a major interest. My Anglophile leanings have not yet prevented from relentlessly pursuing the French language. If you want to test my movie IQ, invite me to your Trivial Pursuit game. In addition to my love of cinema I also enjoy classical music, museums, American jazz, modern poetry and world literature, and when all is done, I much prefer cats to dogs

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### **Donald Rockwood**

I served the School of Forest Resources and Conservation as Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor from 1972 until the end of February 2009. During the 37 years I was privileged to teach Forest Mensuration and related subjects, to advise undergraduates in forestry and natural resources, to mentor graduate students and post doctorates in forest tree improvement, short rotation woody crops, and dendroremediation, and to conduct and publish research in the same fields, while being recognized in many ways, my work-life balance was heavy on the work side.

In retirement, as Professor Emeritus in the now School of Forest, Fisheries, and Geomatics Sciences (SFFGS) and President of Florida FGT LLC, the accumulated experience with the development and use of fast-growing trees continues to afford opportunities that are more balanced with life events such as daily walks and travel with my wife, Joanne, our daughter Kim in Madison, WI, our son Brian in Tampa, and of course our grandchildren. Retirement benefits from the University of Florida (free parking!), the Florida Retirement System, and the continuing affiliation with SFFGS (notably Red Baker, Scott Sager, Sarah Rushing, and several others) are much appreciated components of my long association with UF/IFAS/SFFGS. Ongoing membership in Retired Faculty of the University of Florida has provided insights into a wide range of topics. Retirement has also allowed Joanne and me to give back to our Forest Ridge neighborhood of 45 years by donating land to the Alachua Conservation Trust for the creation of Rockwood Park, an urban nature park in northwest Gainesville. At the end of retirement, our final give-back will be an endowment to SFFGS for supporting undergraduate research.

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### **Barbara Elaine Rothstein**

Variation is a word describing my academic career. I have been an environmental researcher, medical school professor, nursing school professor, Biology college professor, AP high school Biology teacher, book editor, Developer and Dean of BEAM. Science High School. In conjunction with FIU, leading to up to 2 years of college for disadvantaged students and nature photographer.

I have continued to carry out Environmental research. I have written two children's books and published about a dozen poetic prayers. I have refocused on my early interest in nature painting and nature photography and have taken up wood carving. Applique quilting takes up some of my time as does the designing Jewish prayer shawls, tallit. I bead and make jewelry. Much of my work is donated for sale for charity. In addition, I am back editing fiction and nonfiction books

My 15 acres of land occupies some of my time and energy. With my Bio Buddy, Ann Marie Rizzo, we study the environmental activities in Sweetwater Park and go to many concerts and museums. In between, I go to RFUF and ILR at Oak Hammock. My schedule is most often busy.

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## Malcolm T. Sanford

I was an IFAS Extension Specialist in Beekeeping (Apiculture) Department of Entomology (<http://apisenterprises.com/vita.htm>). I am also an amateur actor ([http://apisenterprises.com/acting\\_index.htm](http://apisenterprises.com/acting_index.htm)). You may see my entry in the Samuel Proctor Oral History Project at UF.

Since retirement I am still somewhat involved in general with consulting activities in beekeeping and author of Storey's Guide to Keeping Honey Bees (<https://tinyurl.com/4mse4rre>) and Beekeeping Without Borders (<https://tinyurl.com/2yzsxfkh>). I am involved with (<https://www.insidethehive.tv/>) and continue to manage a website (<https://beekeep.info>). I have moved into Gainesville Cohousing since retirement and spend most of my time involved in the community (<https://www.gainesvillecohousing.org/>).

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## Marianne Schmink

My 39-year career at UF was devoted to building research and training programs that bridged theory and practice in the social and biological sciences, both at UF and through collaborative projects with university and non-profit partners in Latin America. The Tropical Conservation and Development program provided innovative interdisciplinary courses and practicum opportunities for graduate students from over a dozen UF departments. I chaired master's and Ph.D. committees for 80 students from 9 different countries. My research focused on learning with local communities in the Amazon and supporting initiatives to improve their livelihoods in sustainable, equitable ways.

Since retirement, I have invested my time and energy in volunteer activities here in Alachua County community. I volunteer as a certified mediator in small claims court, and participated for several years in the Mommy Reads program that collected new children's books and took them to the women's prison at the Florida Women's Reception Center (FWRC) where we recorded mothers and grandmothers reading the books, and then sent the books and recordings to their children on the outside.

I was a co-founder of the Community Weatherization Coalition (CWC) in 2008 and served as Advisory Board President for 9 years. Since 2008, CWC has trained over 300 volunteer Energy Coaches like me to install energy-saving improvements and to educate residents on how to read and understand their utility bill and consumption of water and energy. CWC has helped over 1800 families to save an average of 10% on their utility bills.

As a member of the Alachua County NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Committee I have participated since 2022 in the EMPOWER Coalition, supported by the US Department of Energy as a LEAP Community. I have facilitated monthly meetings of the Coalition (including representatives from city and county government, Santa Fe College, local non-profit organizations, and neighborhood associations) and of the Green Jobs Advisory Committee, which was formed in 2022 to expand awareness and opportunities for underserved residents to access quality green careers. Currently the EMPOWER Coalition is carrying out a pilot institutional solar leasing program to generate funds to support expanded weatherization of homes in disadvantaged communities.

In addition to my community volunteer activities, since 2020 I have served as a Lead Author for the Science Panel for the Amazon (SPA). The SPA has published the encyclopedic 2021 Amazon Assessment Report and several Policy Briefs

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## Pasquale M. Sforza

I joined UF in 1998, serving for five years as Director of the Graduate Engineering and Research Center near Eglin AFB and continuing as a professor in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department in Gainesville until retiring in 2010.

During retirement I continued my research, writing three textbooks covering the courses I taught at UF. I engaged in consulting services to aerospace companies and presented papers at several professional

society meetings, here and abroad. Living on the Intracoastal Waterway in Florida with the ocean just across A1A continues to provide a wonderful ambience

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## **Gerry Shaw**

At UF I worked in a typically atypical fashion, in several disparate and somewhat unrelated areas. One was the function and expression of neurofilament and associated proteins. Another was the function of signaling molecules, notably those containing pleckstrin homology (PH) domains. A third was studies of neurofilament and other neuronal proteins as blood and CSF biomarkers of neurodegeneration. A fourth was the origin and characterization of widely used human and rodent cell lines, notably Hek293 cells. Finally, I published several novel computer- based methods of studying proteins. So, I didn't get bored with just one project.

I didn't really retire, I just stopped working at UF in order to concentrate on my spinoff company EnCor Biotechnology Inc. EnCor makes, characterizes, manufactures, and sells high quality monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies. These are sold to labs directly and to Abcam, Biolegend, ThermoFisher, EMD-Millipore, and many other suppliers. The company currently has six full time employees including three PhDs, all targeted for specific removal from UF due to their awesome competencies. EnCor has had growing income in excess of \$2M per year for the last several years. I am able to run some research in the company and have continued to produce an average of 2 peer-reviewed publications per year. I still go to scientific meetings, sometimes as a scientist, sometimes as a businessman and sometimes as both. I still present talks and posters at meetings but may also have a commercial booth. I have given career development talks at UF and at local biotechnology venues. I have consulted in my areas of expertise and reviewed numerous grants and papers. I have avoided most committee work at UF and also turned down numerous requests to get involved in journal editorship. I have traveled to South Africa, Sweden, England, Germany, Hungary, Alaska, all over the US, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, the Galapagos and others, sometimes around scientific meetings, sometimes just for fun. I have been getting into laser cutting and engraving, 3D printing and continuing my interest in photography. I have displayed some of my arty stuff at the Gainesville Downtown Arts Festival and at the Friday Artwalks. I suppose I will eventually fully retire, but I like actually working in the lab which I can still do. As my good friend Jake Streit recently commented "Gerry will probably die with a pipette in his hand". Who Knows?

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## **Jonathan J Shuster**

I joined the UF Statistics Faculty (CLAS) in September 1969, after receiving my PhD in Mathematical Statistics from McGill University in Montreal. For my first 10 years, I was transitioned into a Biostatistician. In 1979, Jeff Krischer, James Boyett, and I competed with 8 other universities to become the founding Research Data Center of the Pediatric Oncology Group (POG), a network of 125 Pediatrics Departments (including UF, St. Jude, Harvard, and Stanford). In 1980, I became the founding POG group statistician, which I served for over 20 years, until the group merged with the Children's Cancer Group in 2001. Although we competed and won the data center for the merged group, and the office still exists at UF under my former mentees, in 2002, I transitioned again to be the Director of Biostatistics for the UF General Clinical Research Center, under Dr. Peter Stacpoole. In 2009, I became the Director of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics for the UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute, a role which I served until my retirement in 2016. A notable date was 2004, when I left the Department of Statistics to join what is now called the Department of Health Outcomes and Bioinformatics, College of Medicine. My chair, Dr. Elizabeth Shenkman, provided me with an amazing array of projects where creative solutions to important public health problems made real differences in people's lives. Finally, without the support of my wife Sandy, I would never have come close to achieving my career objectives.

Since retirement, I have expanded my role in two key areas. (1) Biomedical Research. I have the time to work on problems that I never had time for while employed. (a) Meta-analysis of Randomized Clinical Trials (assembling the total collection of trials on a clinical treatment) is at the apex of the evidence pyramid (Google it). I suspected a serious flaw in how mainstream methods were used. Since retiring, I was able to prove the flaw and developed rigorous methods. I also serve as mentor to a UC Davis faculty

member who is working in meta-analysis. (b) University oversight of Research Misconduct is known to be highly conflicted, but the Office of Research Integrity completely defers this oversight to the universities for non-federally funded research, and almost completely for federally funded research. The editor of a bioethics journal and I are proposing a centralized government system, modeled after US Civil Law, which will be fair to all parties. The paper is slated for late this year. (2) Duplicate Bridge. I fell in love with Online Bridge, and for the years 2022 and 2023, I was the top online masterpoint winner in North Central Florida and placed in the top 0.1% nationally. I am also continuing my activities as a bridge journalist, publishing a quarterly column in the Sunshine Bridge News, the second leading bridge publication in circulation. (Google this).

My wife, Sandy, and I go to the gym daily and eat well. I have more cooking responsibilities. Retirement gives us more opportunities to be parents and grandparents. Nothing is more fun than that.

Notable Career Accomplishments:

- Peer-Reviewed Publications: 451 (49 since retirement), over 31,000 citations, D-Index 96 (19th highest Research.com rated UF Medical Researcher, 2nd highest rated UF Public Health Medical Researcher)
- Over 10 years' service on UF Health Center Institutional Review Board

-15 Years service on NIH standing grant review committees (study sections), chaired one -Currently on editorial board of Research Synthesis Methods (a meta-analysis journal) -About \$30,000,000 as Principal investigator on Federal Grants

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## **Ann P. Smith**

After coming to University of Florida for an advanced degree in nursing, I was offered a job in the faculty of the College of Nursing. After five years, I was offered a position as Asst. Director of Nursing in 1973 to assist in the opening of HCA North Florida Regional Hospital. We collaborated with the College of Nursing in the education of the students. After I left HCA in 1996, I began volunteering in the History Department, Oral History area. I transcribed, interviewed, and taught Oral History for the 20 years until retirement. We collected many oral histories from WWII of residents in the area.

I am involved in two writing groups and have been for many years. My intent was to improve my writing ability. So far, I have finished one memoir and am polishing material for additional stories.

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## **Wayne H. Smith**

I came to UF as an Assistant Professor in what is now the School of Forest Fisheries and Geomatic Sciences to research and teach in forest biogeochemical relationships, with an emphasis on plant nutrition. I assisted in forming two research cooperatives to advance science in this area. Afterwards I directed 3 interdisciplinary centers in UF/IFAS then served as School Director, retiring 2003. I did faculty development with USDA in DC and then one year as IFAS federal agency liaison in DC.

In retirement. I consulted for the IFAS Vice President, leading a task force examining issues relating to the Fisheries and Aquatic Science Program. I was consultant to the IFAS Dean for Research on measuring and gauging research quality beyond counting papers. I was then Interim Dean for IFAS Research and for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

I have served on the Program Advisory Committee for the forest and natural resources programs and Advisory Board for the School of Forest Fisheries and Geomatic Sciences. For a time, I met monthly with the current School Director. I served on stakeholder committees for School accreditation and for internal evaluations by IFAS Deans. Much time was spent fundraising for the Stern Learning Center and Restoration of a Turpentine Still at the Austin Cary Forest. These tasks, I guess, earned me membership on the SHARE Council (now Advancement), the IFAS fundraising arm. I served four years as Council Chair. My wife and I were Founder Donors to the Stern Learning Center and are Endowing the Forest Resources Policy and Law Program and the Wayne Smith Student Leadership Fund in the School. I am



active in my scientific and professional organizations, including RFUF, and until he became Provost, I met quarterly with the Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources.

As a long-time member and Past President of the Gainesville Sunrise Rotary, I have supported many community service projects and chaired the Newberry High School Scholarship Committee and the District Scholarship Committee. I chaired the Club Foundation Committee for several years to raise funds for the Rotary International Foundation. Besides encouraging members to contribute to their club billing, we have promoted members naming themselves/family/friends Paul Harris Fellows (\$1,000 to become a fellow). We have named over 250 Fellows. Having personally named 10+ Paul Harris Fellows, I am a Major Donor.

Having traveled extensively in my UF position, I have continued to do so with my wife, who also likes travel. Our motto: Travel all we can while we can, and our plan has been: Visit AT LEAST one place in Florida, one place in North America and one place abroad each year. We have been to most of the states and last count, 60 countries.

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## **Anita Spring**

Professor Emerita, Department of Anthropology, University of Florida retired in 2009. Specializes in International Development; Entrepreneurship (Micro-enterprises to Global Businesses) & Women/Gender in International Development. Expert on Women & Agriculture, Resource Management, & Food Security. During my tenure at UF I was Professor of Anthropology, Associate Dean College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Chief FAO United Nations. I carried out extensive research in 20 African counties, (Zambia, Malawi, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Ghana, Kenya, & Swaziland), along with extensive fieldwork in Caribbean countries--Jamaica, St. Lucia, & Barbados. As Chief, Women in Agricultural Production & Rural Development, Food & Agricultural Organization (FAO) United Nations, I provided oversight to its global operation, supervising projects & designing policies to Member Governments. My Gender Analysis programs raised US \$40,000,000 for donor projects (headquarters & countries including Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, El Salvador, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Malawi, Somalia, Thailand, Trinidad, etc.) My teams and I provided projects and policy advice to governments, as well as linking FAO to International units in Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, and USAID which paid for the Ethiopian scientists on my projects teams.

After Retirement, I have served as President of RFUF 2012-2016 (3-year term, extended for additional year), served as Principal investigator Business Environment Project, 2010 to 2014 as well as for the Fort Caroline Archaeology Project, with funding from the State of Florida. I mapped, conducted field data, studied historical French and English documents, etc. I have directed projects in Barbados, Netherlands, Eritrea, Ghana, Jamaica, South Africa, and Tanzania. Since 2015, I have been Co-Director with Dr. Agnes Ngoma Leslie of the China-Africa Group, Center for African Studies. Another post-retirement project renews my early archeological investigations on Native Americans, and the search for Fort Caroline, the first fortified settlement in North America settled by the French & subsequently captured by the Spanish. In 2019, I was appointed Professor, Center for the Arts, Migration & Entrepreneurship, College of the Arts. My term was extended to 2028 last month. I am working with Dr. Barbara McDade on producing the Center's first book.

I continue writing and publishing. Examples of post-retirement publications include Spring, Rolfe, & Odera. Sub-Saharan Business Environment 2012-2013; Spring, Rolfe, & Parent. Sub-Saharan Business Environment 2011-2012; Santos, Trigo, & Spring, China & Portuguese Speaking Africa: Business Models in China, Mozambique & Cape Verde.

In 2020 I was inducted as a National Fellow of the Explorers Club.

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## **Ann Wehmeyer**

In 35 years at UF, I taught courses in Linguistics and a variety of Japan(ese)-related courses in my home departments (African & Asian Languages & Literatures, then Languages, Literatures and Cultures). I did a lot of service—as Undergraduate Coordinator, and as Chair of both of my departments for seven years. It

was fun to create my “dream” course for the Quest program, Language and Emotion, and then to fashion a fully online version of it. My two books reflect my research interests, the origin of linguistic thought in Japan (Kojiki-den, Book 1, by Motoori Norinaga, translated and annotated, 1997), and my teaching interests, folklore, and image (Tokaido Texts and Tales, 2015).

Since retiring in 2023, I have attended job talks on campus and responded to queries from former grad students and colleagues in the field. I continue to work on several research projects. I took advantage of the State program allowing those aged 60 and above to audit UF courses for free by taking Beginning French 1 and Beginning French 2 online. Great to experience UF as a student! The courses were tough but fun. I also took the Alachua County/IFAS Master Gardener course and am contributing hours to community service in community gardens, the annual plant sale, and improving our master plant label list.

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### **Roy S. Weiner**

Cum Laude from Williston Academy, 1959; B.A. from Williams College, 1963; M.D. from SUNY Downstate, 1967; Training in Internal Medicine at Johns Hopkins and UCSF; Clinical Research at NIH and Dana Farber Cancer Center; Postdoc Fellow at Institut de Cancerologie et d'Immunogenetique in Villejuif, France with Georges Mathe; Chief of Medical Oncology at UF (1976-1993); Cancer Center Director and Associate Dean for Clinical Research at Tulane until retirement in 2017 (currently Emeritus Professor).

In retirement I will review articles for journals selectively. I no longer have a teaching role or serve on committees. AACR just recognized me for 50 years of active membership. I am devoted to reading historical novels for pleasure. Our travel was extensive during my active career and beyond. Today, Marjorie and I welcome our children and grandchildren from NYC and Portland, Oregon

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### **Robert Westin**

I came to UF in 1978 to serve as the Chairman of the Department of Art. After nine years, I returned to teaching Renaissance and Baroque Art History. I did 15 summers in Rome as part of the UF in Rome program. I retired in 2012.

With retirement I began lecturing on cruise ships working for Viking, Azamara, Oceania, Royal Caribbean, Holland America and Amawaterways. This worked out well for me and at my peak I did 150 days per year.

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### **Dave Wilson**

While growing up as a kid in Ithaca, New York, I was fortunate to have a multitude of friends who were sons and daughters of professors at Cornell. Of equal importance were my teachers at Ithaca High School (IHS). All my math teachers were single women, who focused all their energy on teaching us serious mathematics. While I only had 6 weeks of calculus, my training was better than virtually all of the several thousand students I taught in my career at the University of Florida (1972-2007). In fact, I found myself teaching graduating senior math majors at UF the mathematics I had learned at IHS. These students were often surprised to learn there are 3 geometries, not just one. (I learned this important idea in the 10th grade.) As for education, I spent 4 (1960-64) years as an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where I had nationally known professors teaching me freshman calculus. My graduate work was all at Rutgers (1964-1969), where I was also blessed with terrific professors. My graduate advisor, Louis McAuley, even managed to get me appointed to a postdoc at The Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. This experience was intimidating to say the least. In 1970 I landed in Dekalb, Illinois, as an assistant professor at Northern Illinois University, where I enjoyed the company of other young professors on the way up.

In 1972 I was invited to join the UF math department, where I enjoyed 35 years teaching topology, conducting research in imaging, collaborating with Dr. Edward Geiser in Cardiology, and organizing

numerous conferences including the First SIAM imaging conference in Boston in March 2002. At UF I taught students from across campus including physics, engineering, computer science, and medical school. While trained as a topologist, I taught myself applied mathematics (e.g., numerical analysis, Fourier Series, splines, computer programming, and wavelets) by teaching it. Since my teachers at IHS had always discussed the history of the subject (e.g., geometry and algebra), I followed their lead and always integrated the history and background of whatever subject I might be teaching. These connections are integral to understanding the importance of the subject. Overall, I had a fun and exciting 35 years at UF. I never felt I was working. I was doing what I loved.

While I have little direct contact with the UF math department, I continue to mentor students in a variety of ways including participation in the UF math department outreach program Math Circle. Dana Bartosova created this outreach program a few years ago to connect UF faculty with talented middle school and high school students in the Gainesville area. Each Saturday morning a professor or volunteer presents problems and ideas to the students. They work either alone or in groups to solve the questions. Better yet, the students get to know adults interested in mathematics. Social barriers break down and a math culture is formed. This program is successful beyond any expectations.

My wife, Della, and I love to travel. Whether nearby or to far off lands we are ready to go. Canada, England, Scotland, France, Germany, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Japan, and Egypt are all on our checked list. We recommend them all.

Probably my most important hobby is my daily listening to books on tape while walking through our neighborhood. Being outside is much more fun than exercising in a gym. Listening to a book is a great benefit to my brain. In the last few years, I have listened to dozens of books including Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, To Kill a Mockingbird, Moby Dick, Krakatoa, The Jungle, The Canterbury Tales, The Map that Changed the World, The Professor and the Madman, The Wright Brothers, The Path Between The Seas, and How Not to be Wrong. In addition, I have listened to histories of Egypt, China, and England. Love them all.

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## **Richard A Yost**

I retired in 2022 as University Professor and Head of Analytical Chemistry after 43 years on the faculty at UF. I directed the Southeast Center for Integrated Metabolomics and NIH's nationwide Metabolomics Consortium Coordinating Center. I am a leader in the field of analytical chemistry and tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS). My research has been recognized with the highest US awards in my field (the ASMS Award for Distinguished Contribution in Mass Spectrometry and the IMSF Thomson Medal). I am a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors. I served as the UF Faculty Senate Chair and on the UF Board of Trustees and the Florida Board of Governors (Regents).

Since becoming Emeritus in 2022, I have continued being active in research and in fundraising and development for UF. I still serve on PhD committees and co-advise graduate students, having graduated over 100 PhDs at UF. I continue to serve as co-PI on grants and support younger faculty in collaborations. I continue to serve on committees in my scientific

organizations, and to my surprise still seem to garner awards. I miss teaching undergraduates but have taken advantage of retirement to travel with my wife for fun and to see family.

The freedom of retirement has allowed me more freedom for travel and more time for hobbies such as hiking, camping, rockhounding, and lapidary work. I also continue to be involved with the Boy Scouts, having been promoted to Scoutmaster Emeritus after 25 years as Scoutmaster.