

RFUF

RETIRED FACULTY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, INC.

September 2009

Volume 34 Number 1

Board of Directors

2009-10

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Fall Luncheon

**Paramount Plaza Hotel
and Suites**
October 7, 2009
11:45 a.m.

President's Message

October will soon be here and that means cooler temperatures and even better, the beginning of the Fall Session of RFUF. Once again we'll have an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and make new friends at our weekly meetings.

Our fall program begins with the October 7th Fall Luncheon at the Paramount Resort. Please arrive around 11:30 AM for registration and socialization before our noon meal. Our weekly Wednesday morning meetings will once again be held in the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art – Coffee and doughnuts in the Lobby from 9:30 to 10:00 AM and then our business meeting and speaker's presentation in the Chandler Auditorium from 10:00 to 11:00 AM.

This Fall our Program Chairman and President-elect Steve Haulman has scheduled an outstanding group of speakers from the University of Florida and the Gainesville community. The diversity of topics and speakers is an excellent match for the diversity within our group. A quick glance at the program topics reveals some things new and some things familiar for our members. These presentations will keep us informed about important and interesting topics that affect us either locally or globally.

I regret to inform you that this newsletter is the last newsletter that Madelyn Lockhart will edit, as she has officially "retired" as editor of our Fall and Spring Newsletters. Special thanks go to Madelyn for her many years of service to RFUF in this role. She has done a superb job over the years and we all owe her a debt of gratitude. Madelyn will continue to attend our weekly meetings and provide guidance and encouragement to our group.

One of the goals established by RFUF officers for implementation this fall is to increase RFUF membership. In preparing this newsletter message I've read past President's messages. Most of these messages have also identified a need to increase RFUF membership. Thus, this fall I'll be asking for your assistance in bringing new members into our group. One easy way would be to invite colleagues who have retired to be your guest at one of our future meetings. In addition to retired UF faculty; faculty from other universities are also welcome to join RFUF as Associate Members. Another group eligible for membership is spouses of retired faculty. With all the "brain power" in our group I know we can identify innovative ways to increase membership.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the Fall Luncheon and our weekly meetings.

Sincerely,

Dennis B. McConnell

Programs Fall 2009

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


Wednesday, October 7	Fall Luncheon
Wednesday, October 14	Bonnie Bernau <i>Educational Opportunities for Everyone at the Harn</i>
Wednesday, October 21	Ron McAndrew <i>My Life as a Pro Death Penalty Warden and Why I Became an Abolitionist</i>
Wednesday, October 28	Dr. Michael Schwartz <i>Health Care Reform</i>
Wednesday, November 4	Mike Foley <i>How to Be a Good Consumer of the Media</i>
Wednesday, November 11	No meeting (Veterans Day)
Wednesday, November 18	Barbara Oberlander <i>Eleanor Roosevelt: First Lady of the World</i>
Wednesday, November 25	No meeting (This is the week of Thanksgiving)
Wednesday, December 2	Dr. Glenn Morris – Emerging Pathogens
Wednesday, December 9	Dr. Eric Wachsman <i>Sustainable Energy in the State of Florida</i>
Wednesday, December 16	Bill Messina <i>The Continuing Evolution of US Agricultural Trade with and Policy towards Cuba</i>

Campus USA Credit Union Donation *Larry Scott, CEO of Campus USA Credit Union, has provided \$500 to RFUF for coffee and doughnuts for the 2009-2010 year. The RFUF thanks Larry and Campus USA Credit Union for their generous donation.*

**October 7, 2009,
11:45am
Paramount Plaza**

**Fall LUNCHEON Speaker:
Joe Glover, Provost, University of Florida
*UF in the 21st Century***

Awards and Honors

- 
- ★ **DR. LONNIE INGRAM** received the SURA Distinguished Scientist Award for his work on Biofuels. Professor Ingram monitors the bioreactor in the cellulosic ethanol pilot plant in Rogers Hall. The bioreactor uses heat, chemical reactions and enzymes to break down feed stocks before they are fermented for ethanol production.
 - ★ **DR. P.K. NAIR** received his fourth honorary doctors, this one from the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Dr. Nair was honored for his contribution to the development of global agroforestry.
 - ★ **DR. REBECCA DARNELL**, Professor of Horticulture Sciences, has begun a three year leadership role with the American Society for Horticultural Sciences.
 - ★ **DR. JULIANA BARR**, Assistant Professor of History, was awarded the Berkshire Conference Women Book Prize as one of the top international book awards for female historians.
 - ★ **DR. ROBERT BURNE**, Professor and Chair of Oral Biology, is the recipient of the 2009 Research in Dental Caries Award from the International Association for Dental Research.
 - ★ **DR. GRANT THRALL**, Professor of Business Geography, received the American Association of Geographer's Distinguished Scholar Award. Professor Thrall has been elected President of the American Real Estate Society for 2012-2013.
 - ★ **DR. MILAGROS PEÑA**, Professor and Chair of Women's Studies, has been awarded a Distinguished Book Award from the American Sociological Association for her book *Latina Activists Across Borders*.
 - ★ **DR. MARTIN COHN**, Associate Professor of Zoology, has been named a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Early Career Scientist. Dr. Cohn, who his involve din research in embryonic development and evolution, will receive a six year appointment with a research budget of \$1.5 million from the Institute.
 - ★ **DR. JACQUELINE MILLER**, Florida Museum of Natural History, received the UF Foundation, Inc. Research Professorship Award for 2008-2010. She also was elected a Fellow of the Entomological Society of America and in addition, an Emeritus judge of the American Orchid Society.
 - ★ **DR. CHARLES COVELL**, Visiting Scientist Florida Museum of Natural History, was elected a Life Member of the Lepidopterists Society of America.
 - ★ **THE FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY'S** traveling exhibition "Megalodon: Largest Shark that Ever Lived" won the Southeastern Museum Conference's esteemed Award of Excellence for its design, educational value and contributions to the field.

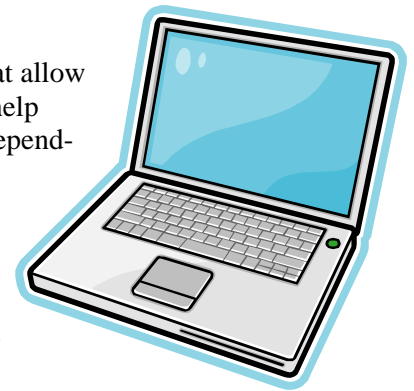
UF's Success Story for Young Gators



Florida's Opportunity Scholars Program was awarded scholarships to over 1100 students. These are successful high school students who would be the first in their families to go to college. However, since their families have an average household income of about \$24,000 a year, college is not possible for them. After entering UF on an Opportunity Scholarship, they have become a real Gator success story. The 319 male and 758 female students carry a GPA of 3.17 and a retention rate of over 95%. Billy Donovan and Urban Meyer are co-chairs of a fundraising drive which hopes to raise over \$280,000 for the program. President Machen and Chris Machen have pledged \$285,000 for the support of these students.

UF's Efforts for Older Gators

The Gator Tech Support House is full of features to aid the older Gator, features that allow the elderly to remain in their own homes. And this is just one of many projects to help older citizens. The Institute on Aging and the Claude Pepper Older Americans Independence Center includes researchers from seven UF colleges as well as personnel from Shands. Scientists in the McKnight Brain Research Institute have devised a way to slow memory loss, ways to help muscles remain strong, and to slow the onset of Parkinson's disease. UF's National Older Driver Research and Training Center, working with AAA, has developed car features which make driving safer for the elderly. The Colleges of Architecture and Business also have projects to help older Gators. So no matter what your age, Gators, we have you covered.



UF'S RECORD ON OUR GATOR ATHLETES



All of UF's Sport Programs are making the grade. All of them scored above the 900 minimum academic thresholds set by the NCAA. Football, with a score of 950, ranked in the 80-90 percentile of Division I programs. Men's basketball increased its score to 969, which is 31 points above last year's score. Nationally, 85 teams were penalized in football and men's basketball, 10 of which came from the 6 traditional power conferences.

Again, Agriculture is a Winner

In spite of the slowing economy (and Florida's money woes), one of the largest, most stable sectors of the Florida economy is agriculture, which encompasses natural resources, food and fiber manufacturing and related service industries. This sector is now larger than ever, adding nearly \$102 billion annually to the state's economy. In addition, this sector generates the second largest number of jobs, resulting in a multiplier effect on other sectors, thus providing nearly \$200 billion in total output impacts.



UF Money Woes

§ **The Bright Futures Scholarships:** Almost 40% of Florida's graduating high schools seniors qualify for the program. 112,000 state university and 35,000 community college students used the scholarship last year. There is growing consensus among lawmakers and leaders of education that the current funding scheme is not sustainable in the future. The Lottery was short by more than \$100 million last year, so plans to limit the scholarship to only a portion of tuition are being considered.



§ **Tuition:** There will continue to be a strong push to increase tuition, beyond the increases approved by the legislature this year. Florida's tuition is one of the lowest among the country's universities. And only 9% of the University of Florida's budget comes from tuition. Increases in tuition are certainly warranted. It would not decrease the number of good applications since tuition at comparable or more restrictive universities would be much higher. The only problem it creates is in the funding of the Bright Futures Scholarships at the state universities. There would probably be a change to partial funding of the scholarships.

§ **Other Sources of Income:** More than half of UF's budget comes from sources other than the Florida Legislature. In 2008, faculty, numbering more than 4000 from across the university, attracted about \$550 million in research funding from public and private agencies, including the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Defense, the National Science Foundation and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Endowments and gifts account for another \$200 million. Auxiliaries and miscellaneous sources bring in another \$500 million. For example, UF has 359 active licenses that are being commercially developed. Of these, 200 are producing income, UF currently collects about \$50 million a year in royalties.

Women and Wages



In Biblical times, women's worth was said to be 2/3 that of a man. This rate lasted for many years. Today, women earn just 78 cents on each dollar earned by her male counterpart. These differences appear just one year out of college even for those with the same job and the same training, and in spite of the fact that women hold almost half of the nation's jobs. And the percentage is growing. Boy, we women have come a long way, baby! But there may be hope...

In 1998, Lily Ledbetter who had worked at Goodyear for 20 years discovered after she retired that she was paid significantly less than her male counterpart. She filed suit and won her case. However, Goodyear appealed and the Supreme Court voted 5-4 in Goodyear's favor on the basis

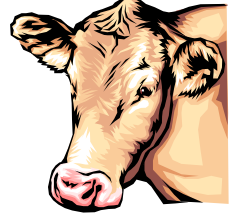
that Lily had not filed her complaint within 180 days. Lily then began to work for new legislation. In January 2009, President Obama signed the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. President Obama said he signed it in honor of his grandmother and for the benefit of his daughters. OK ladies, let's test it out!!!!



Check out Our Web site: www.retiredfaculty.ufl.edu

Did you know?

Do you remember when we reported that researchers in Animal Science were sending fertilized cow embryos into space? Well, they're back. After spending 15 days in space, they will now provide a glimpse of how mammalian embryos tough out space travel, e.g., how cells grow under lack of gravity.



Has your memory slipped away? Scientists in the McKnight Brain Institute have discovered an enzyme, PHLOP, known as Flip, that may be silencing a vital cell-survival protein. So, controlling this enzyme is important in determining whether cells survive and proliferate or die. In some cases, such as brain disease or diabetes, you would want a low PHLPP, but if you want to stop cells, as in the case of cancer, PHLPP can function as a brake.

Grocery stores have to throw away 25% of their produce within days or even hours, an average loss per store of \$200,000 per year. So Publix, for example, is teaming up with UF researchers to track and hopefully eliminate temperature fluctuations during shipment, one area that causes food deterioration. Devices, known as RFID tags, record and store information about a product which then allows a store to know which products must be sold immediately and which may have a longer shelf life.



The UF Biomechanics and Motion Analysis Lab studied Tim Tebow's throwing motion and discovered that he was relying too much on his arm and too little on his hips and legs. And Tim is not the only one they studied; athletes at all levels and in all sports have been tested to assess potential problems resulting in injuries. In the non-sports areas the objective is to understand knee injuries and arthritis, to evaluate the performance of shoulder implants and to gain knowledge of the gaits of children recovering from bone cancer.

Today's child spends hours each day using technical machines, including the ever popular video games. So why not use these devices as teaching tools, says Rick Fertig, Associate Professor of Education who has contributed to the Handbook of Research on Effective Gaming in Education. Although home schooled and remote area students have long taken virtual course on the Internet, there are little data on which courses or methods are most effective tools. Fertig's research covers students in all 22 situations, yielding data on millions of students. Although there are disadvantages in terms of socialization, virtual learning may be an important tool, especially in remote parts of the world.



Congratulations to our friend and colleague, William A. Van Dyke, former Treasurer of RFUF, who has had his second book published: *How to Protect your Intellectual Property and Make a Profit*—a comprehensive guide to patents, copyrights, trademarks and related legal affairs. Check it out on the Web.

In Memoriam

We regret to announce the departure from this life of our retired colleagues.

Ernest Bartley
Urban and Regional Planning

John F. Bowman
Dentistry

Arthur Broyles
Physics

Larry Conner
IFAS

Constante De Padua
Medicine

Joshua Dickinson
Biology, FLMNH

Samuel Gowan
Library

Joachim Gravenstein
Medicine

Eugene Grissom
Fine Arts

Harry C. Landeen
Dentistry

Roy Edgar Leilich
Phys. Education

Frank Martin, Jr.
IFAS

Francis T. McCoy
Law

Charles L. Robbins
Sociology

Bobby Louise Rowe
Education

Sidney Schochet
Medicine

Jack Reginald Smith
Elec. Engineering

A. Charles Tarjan
Nematology

Howard Underberger
Building Construction

Walter Weyrauch
Law

William Woodruff
History

John Wyman
Business

MEMBERSHIP

If you aren't a RFUF member -----yet !

The University of Florida Foundation's listing of UF retired faculty and administrators numbers 500 of us living in the Gainesville area. Those folks 55 years and older who have at least 10 years of service in a department or center are eligible to join RFUF, as are retired faculty members from other universities. This newsletter is mailed to all known retired UF faculty living in the Gainesville area even if they are not current members of RFUF.

If you haven't joined us, we would like to invite you to attend one or more of our meetings this fall as our guest. Have a cup of coffee and a donut, some good conversation with friends and hear a great talk. We are sure that a couple of visits will convince you to join us as a regular member.

The annual dues are only \$15. Weekly meetings are on Wednesdays during the academic year and take place at the Harn Museum. We begin with coffee, donuts and conversation at 9:30 am. The meeting begins at 10 am and we adjourn no later than 11 am. Check out the schedule printed in this newsletter and come join us.

The fall luncheon will be held on October 7, 2009 at the Paramount Hotel. The speaker will be UF Provost Joe Glover. The cost of the luncheon is \$18.00. Please use the reservation form on the reverse page. The reservation deadline of September 24, 2009

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

Date on Mailing Label:
August 2009 or earlier
August 2010 or later

Take this Action:
Pay \$15 (1) year's dues
Your dues are paid up or ahead



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



RFUF

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Address service requested

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RFUF Fall Luncheon	October 7, 2009
Name: _____	
Address: _____ _____	
E-mail Address: _____	
No. of Tickets @ \$18.00 _____	Deadline: September 24

RFUF Annual Dues 2009-2010	\$15.00
Amount Paid \$ _____	
Name: _____	
Address: _____ _____	
_____	Phone: _____
E-mail Address: _____	
Retired from _____	Dept. _____