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## The UCF Report, Vol. 21 No. 16, March 5, 1999

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### Recommended Citation

University of Central Florida, "The UCF Report, Vol. 21 No. 16, March 5, 1999" (1999). *The UCF Report*. 586.

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# UCF Report

Volume 21 • No. 16 • March 5, 1999

A publication for faculty and staff

## Will UCF teach medicine?

Regents are considering a proposal that would link UCF programs and South Florida's College of Medicine

To educate more physicians in Florida or not? That was the question posed by the state's Board of Regents in a recent meeting in Orlando to discuss the future of medical education in Florida.

If the answer is "yes," UCF hopes to be part of the solution to the expected shortage of physicians in the state.

UCF administrators asked the board to consider UCF for the Program in Medical Science, which would link UCF with the University of South

Florida's College of Medicine, allowing students to complete the first year of medical school at the UCF campus.

A study commissioned by the BOR raised the question as to how the state of Florida would fill its projected need of physicians. The study, conducted by MGT of America Inc., discovered that a perceived surplus of physicians would be non-existent in less than three years. It also found that 12 counties in Florida currently rank as underserved with many more counties falling well below the national average of 252 physicians per 100,000 people.

Last week, the BOR met at the Orlando Airport Hyatt Hotel to brainstorm Florida's tactic to the study's results. A number of university administrators were present to give suggestions as to how

Please see MEDICINE, page 2

## Drink water, but flush first

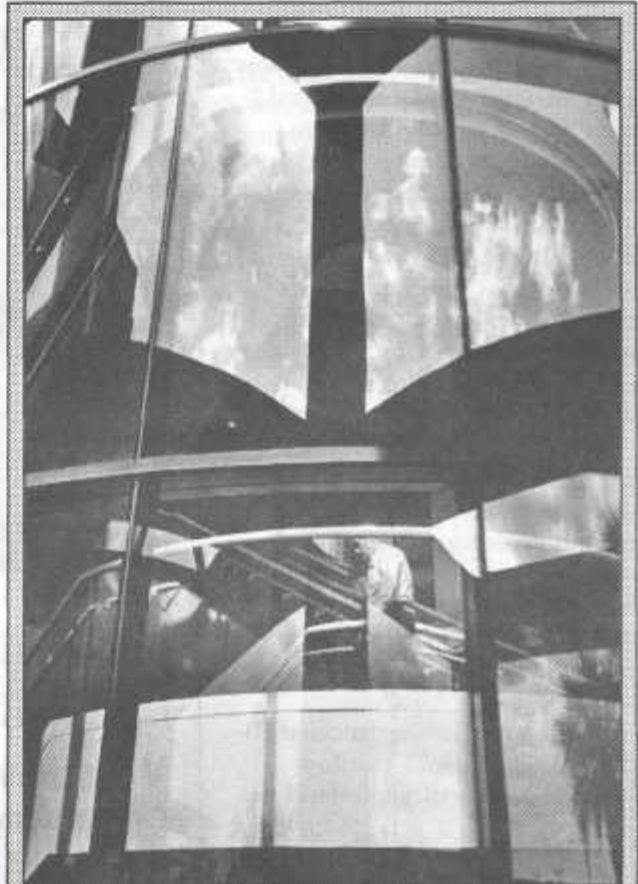
High levels of lead, copper can be unhealthy, but you can reduce long-term risks

You can drink the water; however, UCF will remain under a water advisory for a few months — at least until the Florida Department of Environmental Protection approves the water's quality based on a second and third set of tests.

Two weeks ago, notices were posted on main campus drinking fountains and in rest rooms alerting users of elevated levels of lead and copper in some UCF buildings. The notices advise that running water for 30 seconds to flush out pipes will make it safe to drink.

James Taylor, director of UCF's Environmental Systems Engineering Institute and an internation-

Please see WATER, page 5



Jacque Brund

### Reflections

A man appears to be caught in a maze of reflections as he walks up a staircase near a window in the Brevard campus library.

## Believe them or not, myths flourish at UCF



Jacque Brund

Joseph Rusnock, assistant chair for the Theatre Department, recalls evenings when performances were interrupted by dive-bombing bats in the UCF Theatre.

Urban myths aren't just tall tales from the big city; we have our share here at UCF

*Editor's note: Odds are you've heard the stories. At central Florida's most famous attraction, a well-organized pack of bad guys regularly snatch children, drag them into rest rooms to dye their hair, and sneak the kidnapped youngsters out the front gate. As part of one particularly ruthless gang's initiation rite, new members roam Florida's highways in the late afternoon and gun down motorists who turn their car headlights on before dusk. Angry kooks sneak behind unsuspecting innocents on crowded streets and prick them in the neck/arm/ankle with hypodermic needles to inject them with one deadly virus or another.*

*These are urban myths, stories that spread as truth despite the fact that nobody ever personally knows one of the victims. It's always a friend of a co-worker's sister's neighbor's aunt who was shot, pricked or otherwise victimized. Here at UCF — while not nearly as violent as most urban myths — we have a fair number of wacky stories that are just credible enough to be believable.*

UCF's history is rich with strange — and, in some cases, true — stories. However, some have become twisted in the retelling and others are far removed from a distorted core of truth. It's these "urban myths" that cause skeptics to smirk.

From the bizarre-but-true category: A pack of wild pigs once

Please see MYTHS, page 4

# March

Next issue of The UCF Report is March 19 • Deadline is noon, March 10

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## Founders Day honors UCF's best, brightest

The 11th annual Founders Day Convocation paying tribute to outstanding faculty and staff for their academic achievements is April 7 in the Visual Arts Auditorium.

Students to be recognized are recipients of the Founders Award, Founders Scholar Award and Honors in the Major, as well as students in UCF honor societies, the LEAD Scholars Program, and recently graduated and graduating seniors who are completing Honors theses.

Faculty will be honored for excellence in undergraduate and graduate teaching, research, advising and professional service. An award for excellence in librarianship will also be presented. Faculty completing 20 and 30 years of service and those retiring will also be honored.

All classes will be canceled 10-11:50 a.m. on April 7 to allow students and faculty to attend the ceremony.

For additional information, call Academic Affairs at 823-2302.



Jacque Brund

## Window to the world

Construction worker Daryl Keene cleans the glass outside the entrance of the new Health and Public Affairs Building. Departments will begin moving into the building soon.

## 100,000th degree around corner

In another sign that UCF is no longer a rookie among higher education's proven veterans, President John Hitt will confer the university's 100,000th degree during a commencement ceremony this spring or summer.

Considering we first opened our doors for classes just 30 years ago, it's almost unbelievable that

we've already reached that milestone. It wasn't that long ago — June 14, 1970 — that the university's charter class of 423 celebrated its graduation. Never in their wildest dreams could those first graduates have known that so many more would follow them across the platform in such a short time.

Yet, here we are, 3,761 degrees away from that magical mark of 100,000. Naturally, there's a bit of mystery in just when we'll hit that number. The problem is no one knows for sure how many students will complete their studies in time to graduate this spring. We won't have a firm number until later this semester.

What we do know, however, is that typically in recent years, 3,000 or so graduates take part in spring commencement ceremonies. If that trend holds true, we'll be oh-so-close to 100,000, but just shy of it. On the other hand, if 500 or 600 more students unexpectedly manage to fulfill their requirements ahead of schedule, we will reach that 100,000 mark in May. It's most likely that this summer some lucky student will receive that 100,000th degree. Either way, it's remarkable.

But equally amazing is that almost 17,000 of the 96,239 degrees conferred are since 1995-96. In comparison, our 10,000th graduate didn't come along until 1976, six years after our charter class. Our 25,000th graduate came in 1984. And our 50,000th in 1992 — a mere seven years ago.

Keep in mind, degrees awarded do not equal number of alumni. Even though 96,239 degrees have been conferred through December 1998, our actual alumni count is about 10,000 fewer because some have more than one degree from UCF.

Nevertheless, hold onto your mortarboards, folks. Because at this rate, we'll be conferring our 200,000 degree sometime around 2010.

— David Finnerty

## From the ivory tower

MEDICINE, continued from page 1

their universities might help solve the problem. UCF Provost Gary Whitehouse made the case for the development of a medical science program on campus, based on the university's strengths and partnership with USF on the I-4 High-Technology Corridor.

"We have a strong commitment to biomedical sciences," he said, citing graduate programs in nursing, physical therapy, communicative disorders, molecular biology and microbiology, chemistry, biology, physics, computer science and development of a doctoral program in biomolecular sciences.

"UCF also has a new state-of-the-art teaching facility for the health sciences to be opened this spring; a strong technology infrastructure that supports enhancements for medical instruction now widely used; and, the newly approved Center for Diagnostics and Drug Development," he said.

UCF has a history of partnerships with community hospitals with health science programs, plus outreach programs to underserved communities.

If a program is approved for the main campus, UCF faculty will most likely provide instruction in basic and pre-clinical sciences, such as gross anatomy, microscopic anatomy, biochemistry, embryology, molecular biology, genetics, neuroscience and behavioral medicine.

USF faculty would work with UCF's Center for Diagnostics and Drug Development and be housed in departments at UCF and USF. They would focus on biomolecular research

with the educational emphasis on training of medical and doctoral students of both institutions.

UCF would need new faculty, research support and personnel for support of the medical students. The medical program at UCF would strengthen the local health technologies industry and increase the number of minority students in medicine by targeting the large Hispanic population in central Florida.

The MGT study also showed that of the 2,500 new licenses issued annually to physicians in Florida, about 38 percent are international physicians and another 50 percent are from other states. Consultants said Florida needs to decide if it will continue to rely on outsiders to provide doctors, a supply that will dwindle dramatically over the next decade as many physicians retire and medical education enrollment continues its 15-year decline. Within three years, Florida will need to license 3,000 physicians annually just to maintain its current level of service.

Florida's age mix — a large number in the 65-84 range — creates a greater demand in that the older population uses physicians at twice the rate as the rest of the population. Most can afford services, which keeps the demand for services even higher than in other states.

The study suggests Florida tackle this problem on a variety of fronts, but only after careful study of the costs and needs of the state. Adding

*"[UCF] has a new state-of-the-art teaching facility for the health sciences ... [and] a strong technology infrastructure that supports enhancements for medical instruction now widely used."*

Gary Whitehouse, provost

new students to existing medical schools and programs would most likely be the first step to increasing the number of physicians trained in Florida. Programs in medical science are considered a reasonable option as long as accreditation stayed consistent and the responsibility remained with each college of medicine.

The study also suggested the creation of a new medical school (although it would take eight to 10 years to accomplish such a task) and expansion of other graduate medical programs.

Regents expect to make a recommendation to the state Legislature following their March meeting.

— Joanne Griggs

# Short Takes

## UCF folks lining up for Relay for Life

The UCF community has responded to a request for teams for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Of the 52 teams formed as of late February, 18 were from UCF. The relay is March 26-27 at the UCF Arena Track. To get involved and reserve a campsite, call **Karen Neely** of the American Cancer Society at 843-8680 or **Karen Breakell** of UCF's Constituent Relations Office at 823-3802. Those registered who have not selected a movie theme need to call Neely soon.

## Don't forget Garden of Remembrance

The Retirement Association reminds the campus community that the Garden of Remembrance fundraising campaign is still in progress. The association is asking everyone to consider making a contribution to help make the memorial to UCF workers a reality. Tax deductible contributions can be made to the UCF Foundation, 12424 Research Parkway, Suite 100, Orlando, 32826. The UCF Foundation phone number is 249-4740.

## Chapter celebrates anniversary at UCF

The Southern Chapter of the College Music Society celebrated its 20th anniversary at its annual conference last month, held at UCF, where it was founded in 1979. The meeting was hosted by the Music Department and faculty members **Stella Sung** and **Keith Koons**. Other UCF faculty who performed or presented papers were **Gary Wolf**, **Eugenia Garrity**, **Nora Lee Garcia**, **Eladio Scharron**, **Helen Hardy**, **Stephanie Poxon**, **Jeffrey Moore**, **John Almeida**, **George Weremchuk**, **The Pegasus Trio** (**Ayako Yonetani**, **David Cedel**, **Wolf**) and the UCF Faculty Woodwind Quintet (**Garcia**, **Koons**, **Janet Mascaro**, **Arnold Mascaro**, **Julie Fox**).

## Upcoming holiday

Can't wait for the next universitywide holiday? Be patient; it's Memorial Day, May 31.

## This issue

This issue of *The UCF Report* is for the weeks of March 5-11 and March 12-18. It is the 16th issue of fiscal year 1998-99. *The UCF Report* is published 23 times a year (every other week in the fall and spring, and every third week in the summer).

## The UCF Report

The UCF Report is a publication of the Office of Public Relations, Division of University Relations, University of Central Florida, P.O. Box 160090, Orlando, FL 32816-0090, (407) 823-2504. Publication of announcements and official memoranda about university policy and procedures in *The UCF Report* constitutes official notice to faculty and staff.

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# UCF to boost tourist industry

Partnerships to yield nation's first undergraduate courses serving timeshare sector

UCF has joined forces with one of Orlando's leading law firms and the charitable foundation of a Washington, D.C.-based trade association to develop the nation's first undergraduate curriculum targeting the growing timeshare sector of the tourism industry.

Under an agreement between the university and the American Resort Development Association International Foundation, UCF hospitality management professor **Randall Upchurch** will develop three courses dealing with aspects of the timeshare industry and will prepare a corresponding textbook. The law firm of **Baker & Hostetler LLP**, led by partners **Robert Webb** and **Kurt Gruber**, are providing funding and legal and educational support for the five-year, \$250,000 project.

"With a yearly domestic growth rate of over 20 percent, timesharing is the fastest-growing segment of the travel and tourism industry," said **Edwin McMullen Jr.**, a principal with **Shell Vacations** and **American Resort Development Association** chairman. "Florida has the greatest concentration of timeshare resorts in the world and it is therefore fitting that the University of Central Florida form this partnership with ARDA International Foundation. Together, we will prepare today's students for the job opportunities of the future and lay the foundation for the next generation of industry executives."

Nearly a quarter of the timeshare resorts in the United States are located in Florida. According to ARDA, central Florida dominates the state's

timeshare industry, accounting for 67 percent of the state's timeshare sales in 1996 and 25 percent of timeshare sales for the entire nation.

The three courses — introduction to the timeshare industry, timeshare resort development and timeshare resort management — are to be developed in each of three successive years, ending in the late summer of 2001. The courses will become part of the hospitality management curriculum in UCF's College of Business Administration. The textbook is to be completed in 2003. An ARDA-appointed advisory committee, chaired by **Webb, Baker & Hostetler's** national hospitality team leader, will provide guidance and oversight in preparation of the courses and the textbook.

President **John Hitt** said the joint course development project leverages resources and talents that neither partner alone could provide in addressing a need that is both local and national in scope. "Befitting a metropolitan university that seeks to unite with others on community improvement and economic development issues, this partnership enables UCF to play a leading role in strengthening one of the pillars of Greater Orlando's tourism industry," he said. "The likelihood that the courses and the textbook will help strengthen the timeshare industry nationally makes the partnership doubly satisfying."

**Tico Perez**, a **Baker & Hostetler** partner and UCF's 1998 distinguished alumnus, said that the firm decided to underwrite the ARDA-UCF program because of **Baker & Hostetler's** strong commitment to both organizations and because the central Florida economy will benefit from better-educated timeshare industry managers.

— *Dean McFall*

## Bombs away!

Right, **Trish Hackett** and **Deborah Marsh** drop a package containing an egg off the third floor of the UCF Arena during the College of Engineering's annual Project Create, held last week. (Below) Students from **Deerwood Elementary** wait for an egg to fall during the egg-drop experiment.



Photos: *Jacque Brund*



*"It's human nature to pass on a tall tale. There is always a grain of truth or something that sparks you to think, 'This is possibly true.' Usually, people will say, 'I know because a friend of a friend told me, [and] they were there.'"*

— Kristin Congdon, UCF folklore expert

roamed campus and the Reflecting Pond used to be a muck hole. UCF football players were test subjects for a glove covered with motor oil and tree sap. Miss Nude World 1978 was a UCF student and — this is no joke — a volleyball player.

There are bob-tailed critters among UCF's legion of stray cats — but they are not house cat/bobcat hybrids. It is a fact that during the university's earliest days some people who ventured onto campus, a haven for wildlife, carried sticks to ward off rattlesnakes. Occasionally, homeless people are found living in woods on campus.

And bats did invade the Education Building and UCF Theatre. During one performance at the Theatre, a bat landed in the piano player's lap. Another time, when a staff member reached for a light switch she grabbed a bat that was hanging there.

"There were bats over here in great numbers. They dive-bombed the audience," recalls Don Seay, Theater Department chair. "They [UCF officials] called in a bat specialist and took hundreds of bats out of the walls and ceilings."

Of course, time and retelling can cloud the line between truth and myth. It seems far-fetched that during the Roaring '20s gangsters from New York and Chicago traveled by train to Sanford, then boated down the St. John's River to Christmas to bring their girlfriends to isolated cottages around Lake Lee on what is now campus property. But Richard Paradise, director for the Physical Plant, says he's heard that the

goodfellas would travel on to Altamonte Springs to gamble and return to the lake to celebrate with the women.

One might be tempted to write the stories off as pure myth, except that in 1978 UCF archeology students excavated the site of three, tiny, turn-of-the-century dwellings on the lake shore.

Contrary to another myth, the drainage slots around the uppermost edges of the Administration Building are, well, drainage slots — not gunnery stations where, if the need arose, employees perched on the roof could have defended the university from protesting students in the riotous '60s and '70s.

And the upward curving of stone work beneath the windows on the north side of the Administration Building was not designed to cause a bomb tossed by a terrorist to roll backward toward him. "Heavens, no! I haven't heard that before," says Charles Millican, charter president.

However, he does remember that when landscapers installed spike-like bayonet palms outside the Administration Building a rumor blossomed. "I was accused of having them planted to break up riots if students got out of control. I didn't even know they [groundskeepers] were planting them."

Those were sensitive times. When former President Richard Nixon was commencement speaker in 1973, according to misleading lore, campus police and "men in black" broke all cameras and tape recorders — "just in case there was something inside them," says a longtime staff member who is an alumnus.

In another case of truth running amok, a drainage problem in the '80s caused the basement of Phillips Hall to flood during heavy rains and built-up water pressure buckled the floor. As a result, a waterfall cascaded down the basement steps when the overflow had no place else to go. Those are the facts behind a phenomenal myth: The basement of the building was originally the first floor, until it was swallowed — intact — by a sinkhole, transforming the first floor into a basement! Impossible, unbelievable, pure fantasy, says Peter Newman, director for Facilities Planning.

Art professor and folklore expert Kristin Congdon shares another myth: "The reason they built the university without a student union: They didn't want students to congregate in the '60s. Never let students sit too long — they might want to talk to someone. Move them in, move them out [was the theory]."

That notion, as well as stories of homeless men living in the Education Building and in the Library, are based in fragments of truth, Congdon notes. She says that many years ago, a former professor was found to be living in his office.

"Myths and lore are a way of formulating an identity of a place," Congdon says. "You can find the same kind of stories at similar places,



Jacque Brund

**Is the Administration Building really a fortress? Some people think so.**

other universities. It's human nature to pass on a tall tale. There is always a grain of truth or something that sparks you to think, 'This is possibly true.' Usually, people will say, 'I know because a friend of a friend told me, [and] they were there.'"

Some urban myths barge onto campus from the outside. Just over a year ago, a UCF police officer sought to put the campus on alert to the classic "kidney harvesting" caper, which has been on the national urban myth circuit for a few years.

Bernard McCarthy, chair for the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies, isn't surprised that this story of a victim — an anonymous student at the University of Texas, as reported in that university's student newspaper — caught the eye of UCF police. Typically, the alleged victim is a traveling businessman who awakens alone in a bathtub filled with ice in a strange hotel room. The businessman spots a warning scrawled on his chest in lipstick: "Call 911, or you will die." A telephone is nearby. The victim soon realizes one or both kidneys have been removed by a skilled surgeon.

"I have heard this story [which is widely reported on the Internet with a multitude of victims] ... and from law enforcement folks" despite the fact that an actual case of such a gruesome theft hasn't been documented by "legitimate" press in the U.S., McCarthy says. "I don't discount it because the story behind it rings true ... The need for organs and the creative and illegal ways people might go about harvesting them, who knows what lengths some physicians and organized crime groups might go?"

How about a fresh myth, unique to UCF and just off the press?

A couple of years ago when a maintenance worker was polishing the full-sized suit of armor in the showcase on the second floor of the Administration Building, bones began falling out of the armor. A skeleton was found inside. DNA tests determined this was the remains of a freshman who disappeared during a long, long ago Rush Week.

Believe it, or not. But pass it along ... only if you dare to tell a tall tale.

— Susan Loden



Jacque Brund

**Would you believe that decades before UCF was built gangsters had hideouts near Lake Lee on the south side of campus? Physical Plant Director Dick Paradise points to the area where cabins were supposedly discovered.**



Jacque Brund

**Did a sinkhole really swallow the first floor of Phillips Hall?**

# Nothing blue about her writing talent

Susan Hubbard's new short story collection is titled "Blue Money"

Award-winning fiction writer and English professor Susan Hubbard burned the first novel she ever wrote. It was too melodramatic, she says.

Three years later, she published for the first time. It was an essay on a homeless person. Hubbard was in the seventh grade.

"I always knew I wanted to write. Since I couldn't sing like an Ella Fitzgerald, then I definitely wanted to be a writer," she says.

Hubbard went from writing novels as a youngster and producing a family newspaper (for her father when he was hospitalized), to a six-year stint as a journalist after graduating from Syracuse University in 1974. But despite her successes — including a series on the juvenile detention system she wrote for *The Journal Courier* in Connecticut that led then-Gov. Ella Grasso to order a grand jury probe and subsequent statewide reform — she returned to Syracuse to earn an MFA in creative writing.

During that period, she worked with renown short story writers Ray Carver (while he wrote his classical collection "Cathedral") and Tobias Wolfe. Her first collection of short stories, "Walking on Ice," completed several years after finishing her graduate studies, won the Associated Writing Programs' Short Fiction Prize (1989) and reviews good enough to write home about, including one in the *New York Times Book Review*.

Her newest short story collection, "Blue Money," promises equal success. A review in *Publishers Weekly* says the 13 stories "debunk Rockwellian myths of familial happiness." Reviewers have called her "an assured storyteller and a complex narrative stylist" and say "Blue Money" celebrates her ability to explore the power of imagination.

"The title is from a song by an Irish singer. We think of money as a good thing; but the word 'blue' has

sad meanings," Hubbard says.

"I like the tension that creates because I'm always looking for the paradoxes in life; that is, what's going on [externally] and what's going on inside a person. One of the characters in one of my stories says 'People who know what they want rarely find it.' I think that is the common thread in all of the stories in this collection."

"Blue Money" was written after Hubbard received a grant from UCF's Research and Graduate Studies to take a semester off from teaching in 1996.

"It was a great gift for me. My first collection was written when I had very small children, so I would get up at 3 a.m. and write for a few hours. It was the only time I could write."



Susan Hubbard's latest book is "Blue Money."

Jacque Brund

Hubbard looks forward to the day she receives a summer residency to write a novel. "I need time away. Novels require the kind of sustained concentration that short stories don't. You have to cut yourself off from your family," she says.

She has several novels started, but it's her idea for a novel about Ireland that may win out. "I may have to go back to Ireland before I can write it," she says.

Back in 1970, after completing one semester as an undergraduate, Hubbard took off from school, then bummed around in Europe for awhile after working as a volunteer with an international group in Belfast. Images of barricades and search lights remain

with her today — each of her collections has one Belfast story. "We worked at the playgrounds with children, trying to keep them out of trouble — which wasn't possible," she says. "It was a political coming-of-age for me."

Before coming to UCF in 1995, Hubbard worked as an instructor at Syracuse and later as a senior lecturer at Cornell University. A one-year sabbatical allowed her to work as a visiting writer-in-residence at Pitzer College in California. "I found out how wonderful it is to live in a sunny place," she recalls. The experience inspired her to look for a warm-climate job, leading her to UCF.

Hubbard and her husband, Robley Wilson, editor for the *North American Review* and a fiction writer, are co-editing a collection of short stories with the working title "Florida Fiction 2000." She also reviews books for *The Orlando Sentinel* on a regular basis.

Nevertheless, Hubbard puts her teaching duties first. She won the Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 1999 and is currently teaching an innovative class, *The Creative Process: Music and Words*, with music professor John Whitney. This fall, she'll teach *Fiction into Film* with *Orlando Sentinel* movie critic Jay Boyar.

Teaching or writing, it's the writing process that enthalls Hubbard. "I'd much rather see a story with heart than one that is perfectly crafted," she says. "Every story should have a heartbeat. It's all about telling the truth. You can't really get at the truth except by writing or by using the imagination. It's essentially mysterious how the unconscious mind works with your conscious mind to create art."

— Joanne Griggs

Editor's note: Hubbard will be available at a book signing on March 30 at noon at the UCF Bookstore. Her Web page address is <http://www.pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~english/faculty/hubbard/home.html>. Information about her books can be found at <http://www.system.missouri.edu/upress/spring1999/hubbard.htm>.

WATER, continued from page 1

ally known water purity expert, is taking the lead in the testing and inspecting the campus system.

Taylor says that based on the EPA standard of .015 parts per million for lead in water, a person would have to consume two liters a day for more than 70 years to be at maximum risk. Even then, only one in 100,000 consumers is likely to suffer an adverse health effect.

However, he warns, the dangers are greater for higher levels of lead. December readings in the nine UCF buildings that are over the .015 EPA threshold ranged from a low of .025 to a high of .39. The level considered safe for copper is 1.3 parts per million. The highest level in the nine buildings that exceeded 1.3 was 2.7; the lowest was 1.42.

In all, lead or copper levels above federal guidelines for safe drinking water were found in 15 buildings — three of the buildings had a combination of both copper and lead.

University officials have continued to look for causes and solutions to the problem and are continuing to test water on campus. The advisory will continue until the copper and lead levels are acceptable, says Jim Uhler, director for Environmental Health and Safety at UCF.

In the meantime, flushing pipes is advised whenever a specific outlet hasn't been used for a lengthy period of time. Metals leach in when water sits for hours in copper and/or lead-soldered pipes. This is most common in systems installed before

the mid-1980s.

Lead is the more dangerous of the two metals. Too much "lead poses a significant public health threat because it builds up in the body over many years and can cause damage to the brain, red blood cells and kidneys," according to information distributed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The greatest risk is to young children and pregnant women. EPA literature states that high doses of copper can cause stomach and intestinal distress, liver and kidney damage and anemia.

It is possible that readings from December's semiannual water tests are misleading, since the system was being underused during the holiday break, Uhler says. That allowed water to sit in the pipes long enough to absorb more of the metals.

Prior to December's tests, concentrations of lead and copper had been dropping following the December 1997 installation of a water treatment system specifically designed to prevent leaching of heavy metals into the water.

Informal retesting of the system last month — after pipes were flushed by UCF testers — shows marked improvement. Routine flushing by Building Services night crews appears to be minimizing lead and copper levels, Uhler says.

"Lab analysis taken after 30-second flushes showed that 14 of the 15 buildings had better readings. Only the Print Shop still had high lead levels, so that facility has the option of getting

**"Lab analysis taken after 30-second flushes showed that 14 of the 15 buildings had better readings. Only the Print Shop still had high lead levels, so that facility has the option of getting bottled water until the problem is resolved."**

**Jim Uhler, director, Environmental Health and Safety**

bottled water until the problem is resolved," Uhler says.

Taylor's test and inspection results are slated to be reported to the state Department of Environmental Protection by March 17. The DEP will be the final authority as to when the water advisory is lifted, Uhler says.

— Susan Loden

# Coupled hands: Lotzes' artwork has special feel

Art Gallery exhibit features paintings, sculpture from Steve and Gretchen Lotz

Steve and Gretchen Lotz are soul mates and life mates who share dreams, nightmares and visions. Unique sides of the same coin, each is a master maker of powerful, moving, beautiful art.

Together, the husband and wife are sharing their art in an exhibit, "Coupled Hands: The Art of Gretchen and Steve Lotz," at the UCF Art Gallery, through March 26.

Steve, an acclaimed painter, was trained in fine arts and for 31 years at UCF has taught thousands. His vibrant floral and fauna creations have a high profile in central Florida and on campus.

"I just want to make things with my hands. I see it all as making things, as a way of identifying who you are," he says of his art. "If it's not as good as food and sex, it's [creating art] a close third."

Lotz, the first art professor hired by the university, is now in phased retirement and teaching just one semester a year. "It's great to have time for my own work ... I stand before a blank canvas as a seasoned artist with a history of making images behind me."

His most recent work is an intensely emotional series drawn from the secret world of his dreams. "It's useful to look at dreams as a snapshot of psyche. I wouldn't want

to say that a dream is something that is going to happen in the outside world," he observes. Yet, he is sharing his intimate dreams — including a painting of a joyful man surfing on a dragon's back — with the world.

"I've always been attracted to the depth of the underworld. I don't think of it as hell, but as a place of depth, as opposite of height. Some things belong to depth, [and] height and depth are equally important — you can't have one without the other ... I would hope my work would have a kind of range to it," he explains.

Gretchen, an Orange County Schools math teacher, didn't recognize the artist in her soul until, as a young mother, she was sitting on a lakeshore in Guatemala, while her husband worked in his summer studio. She picked up a piece of soft lava and began shaping it with the spoon she had just used to feed lunch to her children, Theo and Maya.

"It seemed so natural," Gretchen recalls. "It's easier for me to sit down and do it than to talk about it. I just seem to have an invisible image inside of me — it just wants to be born. I'll struggle and struggle until I see [in stone] what I see in my mind. I identify with the word 'sculptor' — it resonates well, it's who I am. It really is. I just want to make these things."

In the beginning, Gretchen, a self-taught sculptor, saw and made gargoyles. "I combined gargoyles and plants ... They have a sense of anger and hostility about them."

Her later works, which include giant turtles, fish and wings, as well as seashell-shaped furniture "seem



Jacque Brund

Artists Steve Lotz and Gretchen Lotz are showing some of their work at the UCF Art Gallery this month.

more universal, not personal," she says. "The furniture pieces rose up from the sea. It is almost like temple pieces. It's all dictated by something that I don't understand."

Steve and Gretchen are drawn independently to nature.

"I think we both share the vision that there's an invisible backing behind the visible world. We try to make images of what that backing is ... You look at nature and you are in contact with something that is true," Steve says.

"... We have always been on the same page. What a blessing that has been to have a soul mate who would never judge me," he adds.

The couple met at the University of Florida. She was a student from Miami. He was a teacher who grew up in Los Angeles. And although they share a beauty-filled life, this is the first time in 20 years they are sharing the central Florida spotlight in a joint showing of their unconsciously complementary work.

"For once it's all in one place," Gretchen says. "It's hard to see themes in one's life and one's art work."

Yet, the shared vision of two spirits working independently — each creating intrigue and mystery — is clear in the Lotz exhibition, as well as in their lives.

— Susan Loden

# Professor: Life can begin in golden years

Elizabeth Baab is collecting information on Grandma Moses, other senior achievers

Forget television's "Golden Girls" — professor Elizabeth Baab is mining for information on real women whose greatest accomplishments were in their golden years. Baab, director for Off Campus College Credit Programs, plans to fill a book with the stories of women like folk artist Grandma

Moses, Florida environmentalist Marjory Stoneman Douglas and presidential mom and Peace Corps volunteer Lillian Carter.

Douglas' death last year at the age of 108 caused Baab to think of women who had done something significant after reaching the age of 65. Douglas started a crusade to save the Everglades at age 82.

The golden years "can almost be just the beginning. It depends on the attitude of the person," Baab insists. "It's not over until it's really over. You can follow your dreams at any age."

Much of Baab's research has focused on Grandma Moses (Anna Mary Robertson Moses). A farmer's wife, Moses began her career as a celebrated painter in 1938 at the ripe age of 78. "[Moses] lived to be 101 and painted every day, almost to her dying day," Baab says.

Throughout her earlier life spent on farms in New York and Virginia, Moses created pastoral scenes in wool embroidery. When arthritis forced her to put aside her needle, she picked up a paintbrush. Baab's quest for information on Moses' led her to those home sites in New York and to the gallery which holds all rights to her work. "She painted from memory of the times of her life," Baab says.

It's interesting, she notes, that Moses wasn't "discovered" until an art dealer

passing through saw some of Moses' tiny works displayed in a pharmacy window. The dealer immediately bought all of the pieces in the store and then went to Moses' house to buy anything else she had. In order to give him the number of pictures he wanted, the resourceful Moses cut a picture in half and framed it as two works.

Discovery led to a gallery show and a pre-Christmas showing at Gimbels department store in New York City. When the gallery owner invited Moses to the show, she declined, saying, "No, thanks. I've seen the paintings." Nevertheless, she did send along with her paintings some of her homemade jams and jellies — which had taken prizes at the same rural fairs where her art was overlooked. "Bless her heart," Baab says. "She was a kind, gentle and generous person."

Moses sold her earliest paintings for \$2-\$5 each, Baab says, explaining that "she priced according to size — most were like little postcards." The most she ever received was \$1,000 for a piece commissioned as a gift for President Dwight Eisenhower. Today, seven recently recovered paintings are worth \$20,000-\$70,000.

Baab is scheduled to share more of Grandma Moses' story — including a 1955 televised interview between Moses and Edward R. Murrow — at the Women's Study Bluestocking Brown Bag Lunch Series on Tuesday, March 9, at noon in the Student Union's Key West Room 218A.

— Susan Loden



Jacque Brund

Elizabeth Baab holds a print by senior achiever Grandma Moses.

# Caught in the act

Lockheed Martin Corp.'s Harold Cates (center), vice president of Technical Operations, presented a check for \$60,000 to College of Engineering Dean Marty Wanielista during the college's Engineering Expo Banquet on Feb. 25. The check is the first of several installments of a \$480,000 contribution to finance high-tech projects. Also pictured is Paul Prokop of the UCF Foundation.



Jacque Brund



Jacque Brund

Distributed Learning staff were recognized last week by University Relations Vice President Dan Holsenbeck (center) for their outstanding usage of the university's official symbols in their publications. Others pictured are (from left) Dale Badger, Steve Sorg and Bob Reed of Distributed Learning and Mindy Colton of the Office of Public Relations. Campus departments are occasionally singled out by University Relations for consistent quality in their publication designs.

# Student athletic trainers score with WNBA

Sporting events are real-life classrooms for athletic training program students

The Women's National Basketball Association got an assist last month from UCF students learning to be athletic trainers.

Working in collaboration with Florida Hospital, the students received on-the-job training, helping WNBA players — in Orlando for a veterans camp at Disney's Wide World of Sports, Feb. 18-24 — care for and prevent injuries.

"This gave our students an exceptional opportunity to work with the country's elite [among athletic trainers and athletes]," UCF instructor David Cassidy says.

Florida Hospital invited UCF to take part in the camp, designed to prepare players for the upcoming WNBA season. It's not the first time students in the 6-month-old program have been involved in high-profile sporting events. Students and faculty

also assisted in the Walt Disney World Marathon and the All-Star Gridiron Classic in the Florida Citrus Bowl earlier this winter.

Currently, 11 students are studying athletic training, but the number is expected to jump to 40 next fall. A key component of the program is its ability to offer practical and clinical environments to students. In doing so, Cassidy says, "our students can become involved in the more formal clinical setting — a setting which is virtually unobtainable in the classroom.

"They work in the professional domain and receive invaluable experience. With the events we've already been involved with, students have been able to work with the elite athletes of this country. It's a great

*"They [students] work in the professional domain and receive invaluable experience. With the events we've already been involved with, students have been able to work with the elite athletes of this country. It's a great opportunity."*

David Cassidy,  
athletic training instructor

opportunity," he says.

UCF's athletic training program was instituted as a result of the national increase in demand for qualified, certified trainers. There has also been a movement within the profession to only recognize high-end institutions that have dedicated curriculum and a certified program.

# Welcome

Michael Bray — fiscal assistant, Library; Anjela Lewis — senior secretary, Criminal Justice and Legal Studies; Laura Peddie-Bravo — psychological specialist, Counseling and Testing Center.

# Kudos

Walter Gaudnek, art professor, has been honored with permanent membership in the prestigious Sudeten Germany Academy of Science and Art in Munich, based on his professional and international achievements. There will be a special induction ceremony for Gaudnek along with the opening of an exhibition of his paintings, "Angels and Saints," at the Sudetendeutsches Haus in Munich on March 17. Gaudnek was the only artist honored in the group's most recent round of annual awards. The academy, descended from art and science groups dating back to 1891, works to support the spiritual and cultural relationship between Germany, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic in this era of evolving European unity.

Denise DeLorme, assistant professor for the Nicholson School of Communication, presented "Getting Started: Reconstructions of First Drinking and Smoking Experiences of Young Adults" at the American Marketing Association Winter Conference in St. Petersburg.

Fred Fedler, professor for the Nicholson School of Communication, has completed his latest book, "Lessons From The Past: Reporters' Lives & Work, 1850-1950," to be published by Waveland Press.

# Fulbright scholars

Fulbright scholar grants for 1998-99 have been awarded to CREOL professor Luis Elias and engineering professor Avelino Gonzalez. They are among 750 U.S. faculty and professionals to receive Fulbright grants this year to lecture and conduct research abroad.

Elias will be working at the National University of Engineering and Multiphysics in Peru, March-August, focusing on accelerator and free electron laser physics.

Gonzalez of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering will be at the Technological University of Costa Rica, May-August. There, he will lecture on computer science and engineering.

Also, Hartley Marshall-Alleyne, senior tutor from the Department of Fine Arts at Barbados Community College, will be lecturing at UCF on the visual arts in the African Diaspora: the Caribbean Collection, through May.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is sponsored and funded by the U.S. Information Agency, with additional funding provided by the participating governments and host institutions.



# CALENDAR

5

**Art (through March 26):** "Coupled Hands: The Art of Gretchen and Steve Lotz," paintings, drawings and sculpture, UCF Art Gallery, 823-2676.

**Art (Library exhibits through March 31):** "Arabesque," by Ragda Kurdy; "Celebrating Women's Lives: Women's History Month 1999," by Shelly Park and Carine Desroches; "UCF Celebrates Leadership," by Edward Hampton and Jan Lloyd; "Animal Liberation," by Greg Rivera; "Making a Difference through Social Work," by Mary Van Hook; "Celebrating Caribbean Unity," by David Steele and Shaina Smith.

**Lecture:** Engendering Writing — "Knowing When It Is Good Enough: Responding to Criticism and Fighting Perfectionism," sponsored by Women's Studies and the University Writing Center, TR 616, 3-4:30 p.m. 823-8502

**Lecture:** Noontime Knowledge Series — "Dream Interpretation," Burton Blau, Downtown Academic Center, noon-1 p.m. 317-7700

**Theatre (through March 14):** "Big River," by Roger Miller. 823-1500

6

**Event:** UCF Women's Club — UCF Theatre ("Big River")/dinner, CREOL, 5:30 p.m. 366-3623

**Sports:** Women's Crew at Metro Cup Regatta, Winter Park, 823-1000

7

**Sports:** Junior Nationals Basketball, Arena, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. 823-3070

**Sports:** Men's Tennis vs. Winthrop, 1 p.m. 823-1000

**Sports:** Spring Break Invitational Track Meet, Arena, 10 a.m. 823-2411

8

**Music:** UCF Percussion Ensembles — Jeffrey Moore, director, Visual Arts Building, 8 p.m. 823-2869

**Sports:** Men's Tennis vs. Miami (Ohio), 2 p.m. 823-1000

9

**Lecture:** Bluestocking Luncheon — "Golden Age Women Achievers: It's Never Too Late," Elizabeth Baab, sponsored by Women's Studies, Student Union's Sand Key Room, noon-1 p.m. 823-6502

**Meeting:** AFSCME, College of Education, Dean's Conference Room, noon. 823-2773

**Sports:** Baseball vs. Lehigh, Tinker Field, 7 p.m. 823-1000

**Sports:** Women's tennis vs. St. Louis, 2 p.m. 823-1000

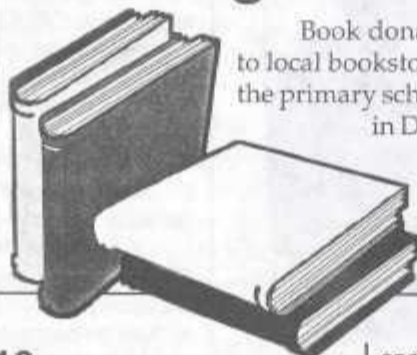
## Research conference drawing world's best

UCF will host an international research conference on differential equations and nonlinear mechanics, Wednesday-Friday, March 17-19. More than 50 of the world's leading authorities — from 13 countries — in differential equations, nonlinear mechanics, nonlinear analysis and numerical analysis will deliver talks. There will also be time for informal discussions. The conference is supported by the Departments of Mathematics and Mechanical, Materials and Aerospace Engineering, the Office of International Studies and the College of Arts and Sciences. For information, call Kuppapalle Vajravelu at 823-5089.

## Heavenly sounds

The Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity will host a gospel music extravaganza, "Let's Have Church," in the Visual Arts Auditorium on March 28 at 5 p.m. Performers include Manna Recording artist Zanita Whipple & Company, evangelist Christopher Coleman and the Voices of Shekinah Glory, and The UCF Gospel Choir. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Proceeds will benefit Greater Weekends of Orlando. For information, call 673-8162.

## Booking on UCF's help



Book donations and gift certificates to local bookstores are being accepted for the primary schools in the Carib Territory in Dominica until April 23. For information, contact UCF African American Studies Program at 823-0026.

10

**Event:** Wellness Expo and Academic Showcase, hosted by the Health Resource Center, UCF Bookstore, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 823-5841

**Lecture:** Noontime Knowledge Series — "Of Mice and Men: The Opera," Orlando Opera staff, Downtown Academic Center, noon-1 p.m. 317-7700

**Sports:** Women's tennis vs. Marquette, 2 p.m. 823-1000

11

**Music:** Duo Piano Recital — Deniz Arman Gelenbe and Charles Webb, Rehearsal Hall, 8 p.m. 823-2869

**Lecture:** Campus Activities Board guest

Deniz Arman Gelenbe



speaker, filmmaker Kevin Smith, Visual Arts Building, free, 8 p.m. 823-6471

**Music:** Duo Piano Recital — Deniz Arman Gelenbe and Charles Webb, Rehearsal Hall, 8 p.m. 823-2869

12

**Sports:** Baseball vs. Siena, Tinker Field, 7 p.m. 823-1000

13

**Sports:** Baseball vs. Siena, 3 p.m. 823-1000

14

**Event:** AMPAC Golf Scholarship Invitational, Ekana Golf Club, Oviedo, shotgun scramble, 8 a.m. <http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~ampac> or 207-4966

**Sports:** Blue Chip Basketball Shootout, Arena, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. 823-3070

**Sports:** Men's tennis vs. Murray State, 9 a.m. 823-1000

**Sports:** Women's tennis vs. Louisville, 2 p.m. 823-1000

15

**Sports:** Women's tennis vs. American, 2 p.m. 823-1000

16

**Book sale:** Friends of the Library, UCF Library, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 823-5982

**Sports:** Men's tennis vs. Northern Iowa, 10 a.m. 823-1000

17

**Meeting:** Toastmasters Club, The Trailblazers, Research Parkway Pavilion, 7:30 a.m. 823-3312 or 671-2656

**Sports:** Women's tennis vs. North Texas, 2 p.m. 823-1000

17-19

**Conference:** International Journal of Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences, Communication Building, 823-2754

18

**Lecture:** "Hispanic Professional Business," Antonia Novello, former Surgeon General of the United States, Arena, 7 p.m. 823-2716.

**Meeting:** Staff Council, BA 230, 9:30 a.m. 823-6060

18-21

**Workshop:** Syllabus Education Technology Conference and Workshops, Student Center, 823-6777

19

**Concert:** Sheryl Crow and Eagle Eye Cherry, Arena, 7:30 p.m. 823-6006

**Open forum:** Central Florida Quality Exchange, sponsored by UCF Quality Initiatives Office, 12424 Research Parkway, Ste. 225, free, 8:30-10 a.m. 275-4330

For a more complete calendar, check out the universitywide listing on the Web (<http://www.ucf.edu/pubrel/>).

# March

## CLASSIFIED

### For Sale

**Condo,** great rental property in Tuskawilla community, 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, all electronics. Near golf course, other amenities. Mitch, 856-6585.

**Home,** 2/2 in Palm Valley, 55+ community, 3 miles north of UCF off Alafaya Trail, 1,056 sq. ft. (24' x 44') move in

condition. \$34,500 obo. 366-0314.

**Saab 900SE,** 1994 spotless, garaged, 2.5 V6, auto, all power, climate control, ABS TCS, 180 watt sound system with 8 speakers, 1 owner, nonsmoker, all records, 55K. \$12,500. 657-4397.

**Sofa,** large "L" shaped sectional with 2 recliners and fold-out bed. Hunter green, good condition. \$500, was \$1,400 new. 365-1794, leave message.

### Wanted

**Apartment or house to rent,** reasonably priced for professional female. Will consider sharing with right person. My current lease runs out the end of April, so I need to find housing FAST! Debbie, 823-2391.

**Treadmill,** used. If you have one, please call John, 856-6585.