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## On the Cover

Pastor Samuel Jones of Gainesville is one of many community members who is helping the Southeast Center for Research to Reduce Disparities in Oral Health. The center is working to end alarming disparities that show African-American men are significantly more likely to develop and die from oral cancer than white men.

Photo by Jesse S. Jones



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## UP FRONT

# High achievers

So who recently received 100 percent pass rates on a national exam? The College of Dentistry Class of 2013 ... and the College of Nursing students who took the acute care nurse practitioner exam. In Dentistry, the class of 2013 (shown here) achieved an outstanding 100 percent first-time pass rate on Part One of the National Board Dental Exams in June. In Nursing, advanced-practice nursing graduates continued to perform better than the national average, with a 95 percent pass rate on their national specialty certification examinations. This year those taking the acute care nurse practitioner exam achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the first attempt. Congratulations to all of the students, and to the faculty and staff who played a role in these accomplishments.



PHOTO BY JESSE S. JONES

## LIBRARY GETS A NEW LOOK

The HSC Library received a facelift this summer when many journals, books and other reference materials were moved from the cluttered first floor to allow more study room for students. Work stations were added to provide a place where students can collaborate on projects while enjoying the sunlight that now pours in through the windows. When students need to use the journals, they can find some of them online at [library.health.ufl.edu](http://library.health.ufl.edu) and the rest on the third floor of the library. Monographs can be found on the second floor. Want more info? Visit the library!



## WALK FOR YOUR HEART

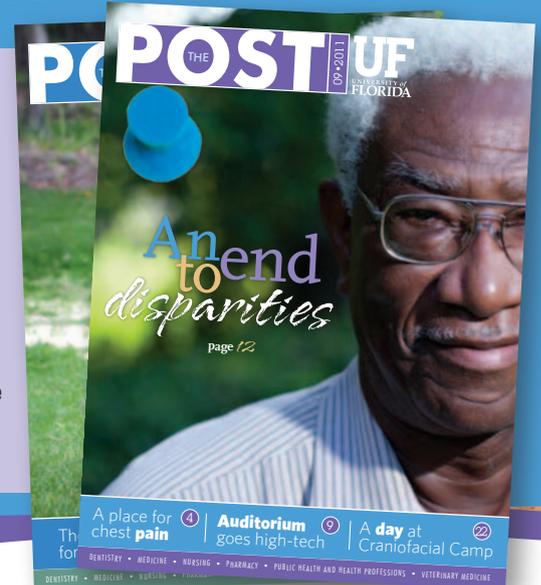
Strap on your best sneakers. It's time for the the American Heart Association Alachua County Heart Walk. The event will be held at 7:30 a.m. Sept. 24, beginning at the North Florida Regional Medical Center duck pond. Join in the fight against heart disease and stroke by showing your support for the UF&Shands team. Don't forget to stop by the UF&Shands tent the day of the event for a special heart healthy warm-up, heart disease risk assessment, ambulance tour and more. Want to join the team?

### Here's how:

1. Visit [www.alachuaheartwalk.org](http://www.alachuaheartwalk.org)
2. Click "Find a Company" and select UF&Shands
3. Join an existing team or create a new team

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Dear readers, Want to help us make *The POST* a better magazine? Then take a couple minutes to answer a few quick questions and share your opinion on the types of content you would like to see on these pages. Just visit our website [post.health.ufl.edu](http://post.health.ufl.edu) and click on the link "Take our survey." Or go straight to the source: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/98GZKGW](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/98GZKGW). We know you're busy. It's really short, we promise. Love, *The POST*.



## REMEMBERING SEPT. 11

To commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, the Malcom Randall Veterans Affairs Medical Center chaplains will hold time for reflection and prayer at 1 p.m. Sept. 9 in the VAMC auditorium. Visit [www.northflorida.va.gov](http://www.northflorida.va.gov) for updated information. On Sept. 11, UF's Bob Graham Center for Public Service will hold a special event to discuss biological terrorism at 6 p.m. in Pugh Hall. The discussion will feature Bob Graham, who served as Florida's governor and as a U.S. senator; 70 Bob Graham Center students who reviewed county emergency preparedness plans related to terrorism during the summer; and Craig Fugate, Federal Emergency Management Agency administrator and an expert on large-scale emergency preparedness and response. UF's Samuel Proctor Oral History Program has been collecting audio recordings of remembrances and experiences from Sept. 11, 2001, and some of these clips will also be played at the session. The recordings will be part of the 9/11 Memorial in New York.



Chest pain does not always mean that someone is having a heart attack. Former UF Head Football Coach Urban Meyer talked about a bout with pain that turned out to be unrelated to any cardiac problems during the opening of the Chest Pain E.R. at Shands at UF Aug. 24.

PHOTO BY JESSE JONES



# Helping hearts

## Shands at UF opens new Chest Pain E.R.

By April Frawley Birdwell

**H**e woke up at 4 a.m., his hand clasped to his chest. He tried to stand and tumbled to the floor.

Shelley Meyer's voice quickens as she recalls that moment in December 2009, when she dialed 9-1-1 fearing something was seriously wrong with her husband, Urban Meyer, then coach of the University of Florida football team. Meyer was rushed to Shands at UF.

"I was really scared it might be his heart," Shelley Meyer said, speaking to a crowd gathered at Shands at UF Aug. 24 to celebrate the grand opening of the new Chest Pain E.R. "I'm really happy to hear that if we had come here tomorrow, he would be taken to the exact right place ... and that, as a wife of a patient, is very comforting to know."

Meyer, whose health issues have received much publicity, did not suffer a heart attack in 2009 when he came to Shands. He would later learn the problem was esophageal spasms.

"I was a guy who always tried to take care of myself, I was in control," Meyer said. "I lost that control one day when I was lying on a gurney here at Shands. That is a very vulnerable state to be in, one you would not wish on your worst enemy, even if he is a Georgia Bulldog."

Meyer also took the opportunity to thank physicians and Shands staff for helping not only him, but all patients who find themselves in that situation, on a gurney, scared and in need of care.

"God bless you people. You do a lot for a lot of people."

Located in the Shands Critical Care Center, the new Chest Pain E.R. houses eight beds dedicated to treating patients with chest pain and other symptoms of a heart condition. Last year, 9,000 patients were seen for chest pain at Shands at UF, representing about 13 percent of emergency department cases, said David S. Guzick, M.D., Ph.D., senior vice president for health affairs and president of the UF&Shands Health System.

"Our goal is to do what is best for each of these patients and their families each time," Guzick said. "Chest pain is frightening for the person experiencing it and for the family."

The goal in the new Chest Pain E.R. is to evaluate patients within 10 minutes of their arrival, said Preeti Jois, M.D., an assistant professor of emergency medicine and the Chest Pain E.R. medical director. An interdisciplinary team of emergency medicine specialists and cardiologists will quickly make a diagnosis and deliver appropriate treatment.

Two UF emergency medicine attending physicians and five emergency and cardiac-trained mid-level practitioners, including Shands advanced registered nurse practitioners and UF physician assistants, are dedicated to the unit. A nurse and an emergency physician trained in cardiovascular care will always be available.

"A system of care integrating the emergency physicians and cardiovascular physicians is essential to improving cardiac care in the nation's emergency departments and hospitals," Jois said. "The Chest Pain E.R. in Shands creates such an opportunity for Gainesville and the surrounding communities." 



September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. For more information and local events, visit this story on [post.health.ufl.edu](http://post.health.ufl.edu).

The UF Prostate Disease Center, led by Executive Director Dr. Johannes Vieweg (right), and Thomas Crawford, chief operating officer, is spearheading a statewide effort to improve prostate disease care and raise awareness about the disease.



## What's your promise?

**A**s part of the 'I Promise' initiative, faculty, staff and students across UF&Shands are making their individual promises to help make every patient's experience the best it can be. Some folks are even putting their thoughts on display on bulletin boards across Shands at UF, like the one shown here. Share your promise with us by visiting the 'I Promise' website at [ipromise.health.ufl.edu](http://ipromise.health.ufl.edu) or emailing [ipromise@shands.ufl.edu](mailto:ipromise@shands.ufl.edu). Here are a few of the promises your colleagues have shared with us so far:

**"My promise is to give the patients I see in the afternoon and evening the same enthusiasm as I give to the patients I see in the morning."** Renard Seals, a patient account coordinator at the UF Proton Therapy Institute in Jacksonville

**"I promise to treat all our patients like family and answer all of their questions before they go home."** Roger Adams, a patient and family resources case manager for Shands HealthCare

**"I promise to use all my abilities to eliminate the time patients and families wait to receive care at UF&Shands."** Michael L. Good, M.D., dean of the UF College of Medicine

**I Promise**

# Florida's prostate team

## UF Prostate Disease Center leads charge for new state prostate disease program

By April Frawley Birdwell

**I**n Florida, one in four men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer — more than the national average — and black men are nearly three times more likely than white men to die from the disease, according to experts from the University of Florida department of urology and Prostate Disease Center.

But new legislation that took effect in July aims to change these statistics with the establishment of a state of Florida Prostate Cancer Awareness Program, coordinated through the UF Prostate Disease Center. The program will bring together experts and leaders from across the state to tackle prostate cancer, the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the state, according to the Department of Health.

"Prostate cancer is a complex disease requiring a multidisciplinary approach," said Johannes Vieweg, M.D., executive director of the UF Prostate Disease Center, who led the efforts to get the bill passed and establish the program. "It is a hidden disease no one wants to talk about. This is the No. 1 cancer in men throughout the nation, and our efforts will impact not only Floridians, but patients in adjacent states as well. This bill holds great potential to develop a national precedent for how prostate cancer care, education and research will be conducted in this country."

Vieweg rallied UF leaders and began lobbying for a bill to establish the statewide program. Gov. Rick Scott signed the bill into law on May 31 and it took effect July 1. David S. Guzzick, M.D., Ph.D., senior vice president for health affairs and president of the UF&Shands health system, and Michael L. Good, M.D., dean of the UF College of Medicine, support the program's ambitious goals.

"This program will bring the expertise and resources from the UF Prostate Disease Center together with key experts and advocates from across the state," Good said. "Collaborations like these are crucial to making significant progress in the fight against prostate disease."

As part of this new program, Vieweg established a Prostate Cancer Advisory Council, which includes partners from the Mayo Clinic, the American Cancer Society and the University of Miami. Physicians, researchers, advocates, survivors and other prostate disease and cancer leaders comprise the group, which will hold its inaugural meeting in September in Orlando.

The council's initial goals will be to develop both an action plan to improve prostate cancer awareness, outreach, education and care for Florida, and build a list of recommendations for the Legislature.

"This is part of our mission," Vieweg said. "It is good for patients, and it is of great benefit to the state." **P**

# Helping others, helping herself

On her own road to recovery, Heather Resos is reaching out to help others struggling with disordered eating



PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS

Heather Resos shares her experience battling an eating disorder and how Shands at UF helped.

By Marissa Lyons

Every morning it was the same routine: wake up and immediately weigh.

For Heather Resos, 21, the number that appeared on the scale had a huge impact on her day. That number decided if it would be a good day or a bad day. Those digits determined if she could have an extra snack, or if she would skip another meal.

Resos, a graduate student in the College of Health and Human Performance, suffered from disordered eating throughout her undergraduate career at UF.

Now, she no longer emphasizes the numbers on the scale. Instead, she is focusing on helping others. Currently in the process of recovery herself, she is helping to start an Eating Disorders Anonymous group in Gainesville this fall. Resos has come a long way, but it has been a trying journey.

The problem started during her fresh-

man year. She reached her lowest weight, 102 pounds, during her junior year in 2009. That was the year things became very bad, Resos said.

“Everything revolved around the eating disorder,” Resos said. “That was my whole world.”

A typical day of meals for her back then was half a grapefruit with cinnamon sprinkled on it for breakfast, half a low-fat quesadilla for lunch, an apple as a snack, half a quesadilla for dinner, and half a cup of low-fat frozen yogurt for dessert. The day’s total? About 800 calories.

“I was hungry all of the time,” Resos said.

This past year, Resos started dating her boyfriend, Rasheed, who helped her realize she needed to stop starving her body. She had begun seeing Maria Constantinidou, a psychology resident at the Shands Behavioral Health Unit, for problems with anxiety, which led to her diagnosis of disordered eating.

Now, Resos said she is mostly recovered. She no longer counts calories and tries not to step

on the scale at all. Stress is still a huge trigger for her but weekly sessions with Constantinidou help.

“Every day is really a battle when I wake up,” Resos said.

She continues to fight her battle and will soon help others as a leader in the new Eating Disorders Anonymous group.

Resos was inspired to start the group after searching for a support group she could join herself and realizing there were none in the area. This new group will be open to people in the community who suffer from any kind of eating disorder.

Resos is in the process of completing a 12-step program for disordered eating. She plans to finish the program by fall so she can sponsor someone else. She will be a co-founder of the group, partnering with another girl.

“I hope to really reach out to people,” she said. “Knowing that I can help just one person by sharing my story really gives me the push to do this.” **P**

## Eating disorders expert joins UF

A leading expert on eating disorders has joined the UF College of Medicine to establish and run a new treatment and research program aimed at helping patients with conditions such as anorexia and bulimia.

Kevin Wandler, M.D., the former chief medical officer and director of the Center for Anorexia and Bulimia at Remuda Ranch, has been named an assistant professor in the UF department of psychiatry and chief of eating disorders programs at Shands Vista.

"This illness is very severe; eating disorders have the highest mortality rate among young adult women of any psychiatric illness," said Wandler, whose first day on the faculty was Aug. 15. "I am excited to be able to work with Dr. (Mark) Gold and tap into all the resources at UF, and hopefully we will be able to make a huge difference in this field. There is no magic therapy. The recidivism rate is huge. Here there are opportunities from the brain chemistry side and from the therapy side to figure out how to help these people best."

The new UF eating disorders program will be the first of its kind in the region, and will feature both inpatient and outpatient treatment options, said Mark Gold, M.D., chair of the department of psychiatry. "There is a huge need for this," Gold said. "This is one of the major women's health problems right now."

According to the National Eating Disorders Association, approximately 10 million women and 1 million men in the United States have an eating disorder, an umbrella term that includes anorexia, bulimia and binge eating. — April Frawley Birdwell

KEVIN WANDLER, M.D.

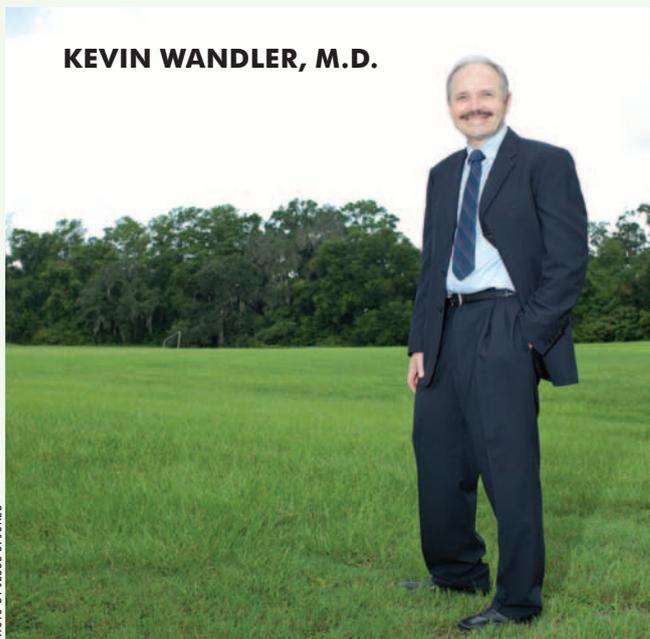


PHOTO BY JESSE S. JONES

## What's (APP)ENING?

This month, we take a look at some of your favorite research apps. Want to suggest an app for What's (app)ening? Email [afrawley@ufl.edu](mailto:afrawley@ufl.edu).



### LabCal by iSheepSoft

**Devices:** iPhone, iPod touch, iPad

**Cost:** Free

LabCal is an app that allows users to calculate molarities, convert grams into moles and work out dilutions of stock solutions. When converting a solution, the app tells how many grams of a compound to measure out. "I like it because I can input my knowns and get an answer without worrying about incorrect calculations," said Heather Brown, a doctoral student in biomedical sciences with a concentration in immunology and microbiology. "It's so easy our undergrads can use it, and I don't have to worry about their calculations."



### PubMed On Tap by ReferencesOnTap

**Devices:** iPhone, iPod touch, iPad

**Cost:** \$2.99

PubMed On Tap allows users to search PubMed for scientific articles anywhere. The app enables users to find reference information easily. "The best feature is that it can remember 'EZProxy settings' on campus, essentially providing full access to UF-licensed scientific articles," said Mukundh Balasubramanian, a doctoral student in biomedical sciences with a concentration in biochemistry and molecular biology. Balasubramanian said it's great because if he's talking to a colleague about a certain topic and no computer is nearby, he can use the app to pull up a scientific article no matter where he is on campus.

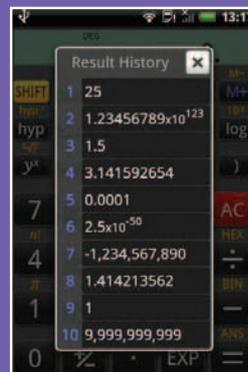


### RealCalc Scientific Calculator by Quartic Software

**Devices:** Android

**Cost:** Free

RealCalc gives users the full functionality of a scientific calculator on their phone. It looks and works just like an actual calculator. The app has all the functions of a regular calculator, including exponents, logarithms and unit conversions. It's great for science and very easy to use, said Levi Watson, a doctoral student in biomedical sciences with a concentration in genetics. "It's great to have that functionality at all times without carrying an additional device," he said.



# Lessons in the lab

High school teachers return to UF to develop new science curriculum

By Claire Baralt and Jamie Harrison

**W**e all live by the clock in one way or another. For high school students, it often means waiting for a bell to signal class is over. For people living with glycogen storage disease, it means precisely timing when they eat all day, every day — being just five minutes late can lead to serious health problems.

This is one of many lessons that Allison Moyel and Mary Russ hope to incorporate into a new high school science curriculum they are writing as part of a novel project led by the UF Center for Precollegiate Education and Training.

Funded by a one-year grant of \$114,000 from the National Institutes of Health, the curriculum development project complements the center's Biomedical Explorations: Bench to Bedside program, which connects Florida high school teachers to UF researchers, facilities, equipment and expertise to help educators spark interest in and prepare their students for bioscience careers.

"It's very real-world and it allows you to keep up with the high-tech stuff," said Russ, who teaches science at Williston High School. "You get to meet a unique group of teachers with whom you can share practices and curriculums."

In July, one year after participating in the first Bench to Bedside institute, Moyel and Russ returned to UF with six other teachers to participate in the three-week curriculum development internship, which offered them a more intensive clinical research experience.

The teachers shadowed labs related to the UF Clinical and Translational Science Institute. What the teachers learned then served as the inspiration for the curriculum they drafted.

Moyel and Russ shadowed the lab of David Weinstein, M.D., M.P.H., an associate professor of pediatrics and director of the UF Glycogen Storage Disease Program. The other teachers shadowed labs studying autism, HIV, stem cells, anthrax and vibrio in oysters.

This fall, the teachers will continue refining their curriculums with the help of UF faculty and students. The goal is to publish the final curriculums online as a free resource for teachers nationwide. **P**



PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS

Teachers Allison Moyel and Mary Russ work in Dr. David A. Weinstein's lab during the Center for Precollegiate Education and Training's Bench to Bedside curriculum development program.



PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS

Second-year College of Dentistry student Ed Cronauer helps USF sophomore Hetty Hong wax teeth during the 2011 Impressions Program at UF. The program is held every summer to expose undergraduates from underrepresented minorities to a career in dentistry.

# A GOOD IMPRESSION

Dental student group shows undergrads the ropes

By Marissa Lyons

**A**spiring dental students were given a glimpse into their possible futures July 15 as participants in the fourth annual Impressions Program, held by UF's Student National Dental Association, an organization for minority dental students.

"The purpose of the Impressions Program is for college students who are considering dentistry as a future career experience a day in the life of a dental student," said Abi Adewumi, B.D.S., an assistant professor in the College of Dentistry department of pediatric dentistry and faculty adviser of SNDA.

The all-day event at UF's College of Dentistry included a tour, mock interviews, a student panel and hands-on activities, such as tooth waxing. The participants also learned about admissions.

The program aims to increase minority representation at the UF College of Dentistry by preparing potential students for the application process.

Sanjie Jackson, a 2007 graduate of the UF College of Dentistry, shared personal experiences and advice with the program participants, reflecting on her dental school days. There are so many important things to know that she didn't know when she was in their shoes, Jackson said.

"I think it's my duty to help students on their road to becoming dentists," Jackson said.

USF senior Sherief Hussein attended to familiarize himself with the UF College of Dentistry, one of his top choices.

"It gave me a sense of what I will be doing after I graduate and am in dental school," Hussein said. **P**

# Auditorium of the future

## College of Veterinary Medicine unveils high-tech auditorium



PHOTO BY MARIABEEN FARMS

Dr. Glen F. Hoffsis, dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, demonstrates some of the ways in which the college's new auditorium will aid in teaching efforts during the grand opening celebration Aug. 19.

By April Frawley Birdwell

Clad in navy blue scrubs and surgical masks, the team swarmed around the small brown dog, swabbing the pup's belly and prepping it for the day's procedure. A camera in the University of Florida Small Animal Hospital operating room captured the activity.

A few buildings away, a crowd gathered in the College of Veterinary Medicine's new auditorium watched the scene unfold live in high-definition on a white-screen wall as wide as the lecture hall itself. The ability to videoconference in high-definition with operating rooms and lecture halls at UF and around the world is one of the key features of the new space, which College of Veterinary Medicine leaders officially unveiled Aug. 18.

"We can take advantage of this technology to enhance our teaching," said Glen Hoffsis, D.V.M., dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine, as he demonstrated the room's capabilities. "This can be a teaching tool for the whole class instead of just who is in

operating room."

The new auditorium, located behind the Veterinary Academic Building, seats 161 and has everything needed to not only connect to a wider audience but also do so in the most technologically advanced way possible. The hall is equipped with three high-definition cameras, high-definition projectors, a sound system with flat panels embedded in the ceiling to capture not only what the lecturer says but also what students say and an expanse of white-screen wall large enough for three projections to appear at once. In addition, four large flat-screen monitors were placed toward the back of the room for folks sitting in the last rows.

Lecturers can use a desktop computer or laptop to present their material and a document camera is in place in case they want to project a specimen. A tarantula helped demonstrate this capability to the crowd, crawling across a staff member's hand as every fuzzy leg was projected in high-def glory on the vast white screen.

As the only veterinary school in Florida, class sizes will likely continue to expand in coming years and lectures remain the most efficient way to educate these students, an important fact in today's economic climate, he said. Currently, there are about 100 students in each class, and second-year students spend the bulk of their time in lecture halls.

"We are going to be educating a lot more veterinarians and we are going to need more facilities. So our idea was let's build this for the future," Hoffsis said. "It was my wish that we would have lots of technology in here. That we would have a showcase for the whole campus and the technology would last long into the future."

Aside from incorporating new technology, Hoffsis and other leaders also wanted the room to be comfortable for students. The lighting is optimized for note-taking, wireless connections and outlets are available for laptops, and the chairs were selected by this year's sophomore class.

In addition to the new Small Animal Hospital and auditorium, the college is also poised to begin construction of a new education center, remodeling its reading room into a place where students can meet and use the same technology found in the auditorium in small groups.

"I hope with the facilities we have here that we truly can be leaders in veterinary education," said Paul Gibbs, Ph.D., B.V.Sc., associate dean for students and instruction at the college. "I think this is going to be an enormously welcome auditorium for the sophomores."

Mark Belyeu, president of the second-year class, said: "We are excited to use this new technology and see where it comes into our learning ... We are excited this is going to be our new home for the next year." **P**

# A World of Sound

Au.D. student teams up with Special Olympics to promote healthy hearing



The Special Olympics Healthy Hearing team.

By Jill Pease

In June, thousands of athletes gathered in Athens, Greece, for the world's largest sporting event of the year. Kari Morgenstein, a Doctor of Audiology student in the College of Public Health and Health Professions, was there to catch some of the action while providing an important service to the athletes.

As a volunteer with the Special Olympics Healthy Hearing team, Morgenstein helped conduct hearing screenings for 1,200 Special Olympics World Games athletes during the first several days of competition. The team fitted 21 athletes with hearing aids and provided vouchers to another handful of athletes to receive free hearing aids in their home countries.

"A team from Turkey would come in to go through the hearing screening process followed by teams from Pakistan, Australia, China and South Africa — the list was endless," Morgenstein said. "Getting to interact with the Special Olympians from all over the world was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and something I will remember forever."

People with intellectual disabilities have a 40 percent greater risk for health issues, and many health care professionals are not trained to care for these

individuals, according to the Special Olympics organization. The Special Olympics Healthy Athletes program has offered health screenings to athletes at local, regional and world games for 14 years. Athletes receive screenings in audiology, dentistry, health promotion, physical therapy, podiatry, sports physicals and vision. The program has provided health screenings for 1 million athletes in 100 countries, making it the largest public health organization specifically for people with intellectual disabilities.

"Individuals with intellectual disabilities are an extremely underserved population in terms of hearing health care, no matter the country and resources available," Morgenstein said.

Morgenstein is president of the national Student Academy of Audiology, which recently developed a unique relationship with the Special Olympics Healthy Hearing program to encourage audiology graduate students to volunteer at Special Olympics events at local, regional and state levels.

"I hope to be a part of and contribute to the Special Olympics Healthy Hearing program for years to come," Morgenstein said. "While at the Special Olympics World games, I realized there are many selfless, determined individuals in this world. I saw this firsthand. The Special Olympics Healthy Hearing venue was run entirely by volunteers who donated their time and services to a cause bigger than them." **P**



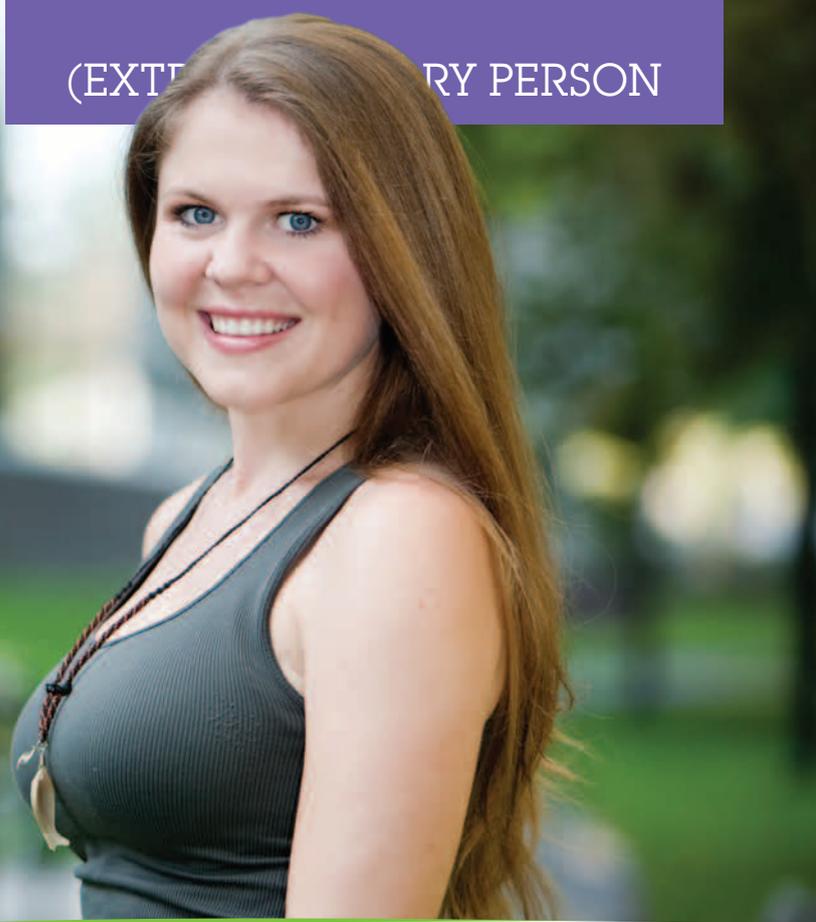
Kari Morgenstein with Dr. Stephen Corbin, dean of Special Olympics University, at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Special Olympics World Games' Healthy Athletes venue.

PHHP student Traci Reynolds visited Nicaragua this summer to take part in a program for bilingual speech-language pathologists to train to be effective interpreters.

# Two weeks in Nicaragua

## Student takes part in program to train bilingual speech therapists

PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS



By Marissa Lyons

To gain hands-on clinical experience and enhance her skills as a speech-language pathologist, UF student Traci Reynolds ventured to Nicaragua this summer to participate in the EBS United Interpreter Training & Clinical Outreach Program for Speech-Language Pathologists.

Reynolds, a second-year graduate student studying speech-language pathology, was selected to participate in the two-week intensive program based in Managua. The program provided an opportunity for bilingual speech language pathology student-clinicians to train to be effective interpreters in medical, home and school settings. Participants also learned how to provide better service to Latino and Hispanic populations.

During the first week, the students visited an underprivileged school in Masaya. They worked with preschoolers through sixth-graders on literacy skills and language therapy, entirely in Spanish.

"We were really able to create a wonderful environment for learning and growing together because the children were encouraged to be attentive and supportive of one another," Reynolds said.

She enjoyed witnessing the genuine interest of the children. Reynolds loved seeing the excited faces of the younger students as they sounded out words on their own for the first

time and as the older children added creativity into their written responses.

"I loved it," Reynolds said. "They were so fun."

The second week was a very different dynamic, she said. They went to an orphanage in Managua and worked with school-age children with developmental difficulties. Since these children were mostly nonverbal, they worked on picture recognition and feeding.

Even though it was more difficult to communicate, Reynolds said she was still able to connect with the kids in the orphanage.

"They were full of life," Reynolds said.

While Reynolds was there she not only added new words to her vocabulary, but she also learned about the culture. She saw first-hand the expectations people in Nicaragua have for their children and how eager the little ones were to learn. She said it was also a great opportunity for her to work with speech-language pathologists who have similar interests.

Lisa Edmonds, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the department of speech, language and hearing sciences, thinks programs like this are



a great experience for students.

"The programs are important for students to provide them with clinical experiences to enhance their skills in working with diverse populations," Edmonds said.

Edmonds said currently there are not enough bilingual speech-language pathologists in the United States.

"There is a great need for trained bilingual speech-language pathologists to address the needs of bilingual children and adults with communication disorders," Edmonds said.

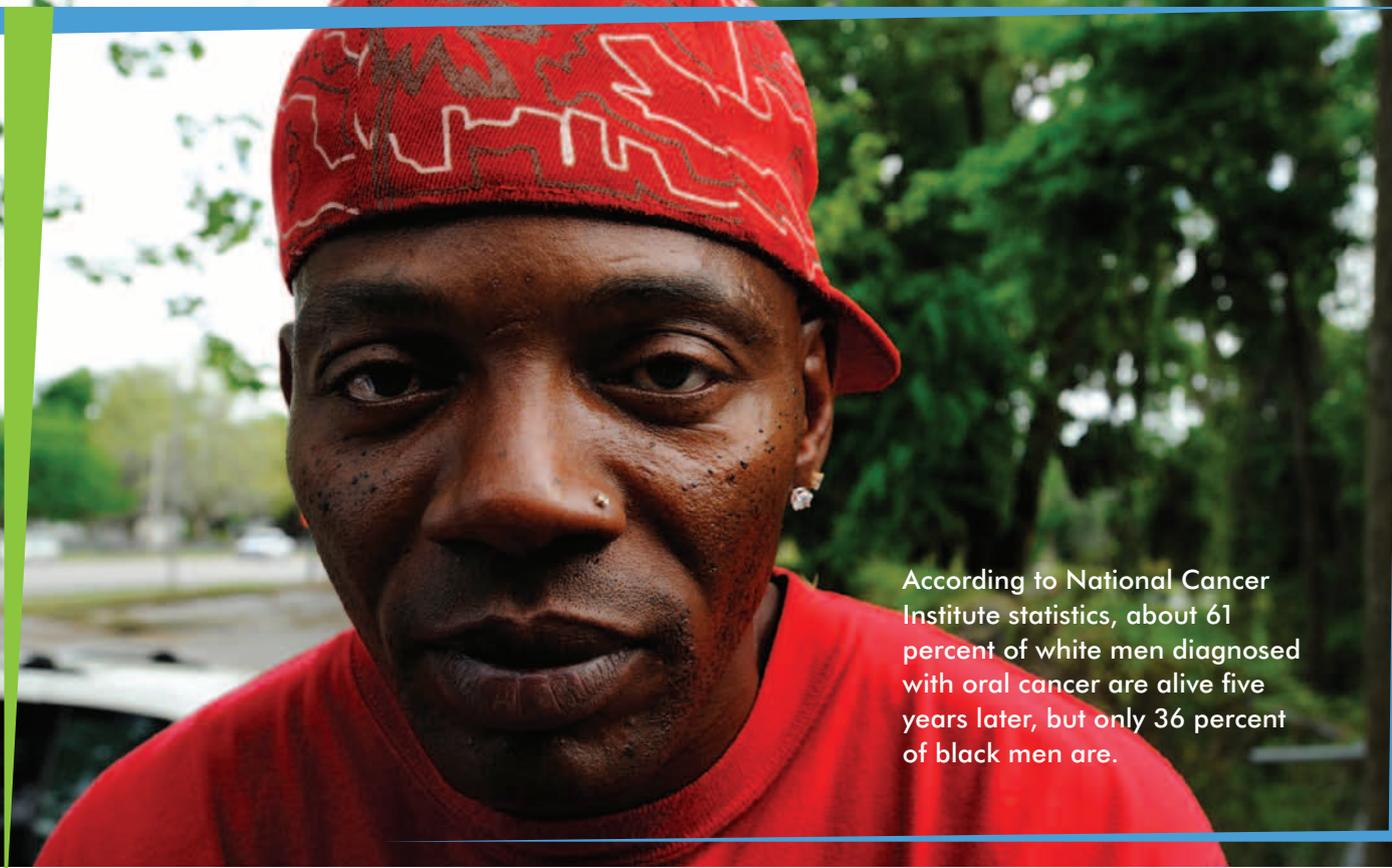
Now, back from the trip, Reynolds said she is looking forward to doing some learning of her own and working on her thesis. But, she will never forget her rich experiences in Nicaragua.

"Anytime you're immersed in something like that you can't help but learn a lot" Reynolds said. **P**

# An end to disparities

By Kathryn Stolarz

African-American men are significantly more likely to die from oral cancer than white men. The question is why and what can be done to stop it? UF's Southeast Center for Research to Reduce Disparities in Oral Health is dedicated to finding these answers and putting an end to inequalities in health care.



According to National Cancer Institute statistics, about 61 percent of white men diagnosed with oral cancer are alive five years later, but only 36 percent of black men are.

**B**elinda Quarterman spent her summer knocking on doors — 140 of them to be precise. In the heat of Florida’s summer sun, she roamed the rural neighborhoods of Alachua, High Springs, Worthington Springs and Lake Butler to ask African-Americans questions about their oral health.

Quarterman was working as a surveyor for the Southeast Center for Research to Reduce Disparities in Oral Health. The survey sought to discover what keeps rural, minority and low-income people from getting screened for mouth and throat cancer.

According to recent data from the National Institutes of Health, even though Caucasians are more likely to get oral cancer, African-Americans are more likely to die from it. About 61 percent of white men diagnosed with oral cancer are alive five years later, but only 36 percent of black men are, National Cancer Institute statistics show. There’s something wrong with that picture, experts say.

“Here is a highly curable cancer, and it’s killing a disproportionate amount of African-Americans,” says James Shepperd, Ph.D., the survey’s principal investigator and a psychology professor in UF’s College of Liberal Arts and Science.

The survey results affirmed just what researchers speculated — the need to increase awareness and screening among these populations.

“Some of the people hadn’t even heard of mouth or throat cancer,” Quarterman says.

Head and neck cancer includes cancer of the nose, lips, mouth, salivary glands, throat or larynx. It’s among the top five most common cancers among black men in the U.S., according

to the National Cancer Institute. Tobacco and alcohol use are the most significant risk factors, and 85 percent of oral cancers are linked to tobacco use. Other possible risk factors include sun exposure, human papillomavirus infection, radiation exposure and poor oral hygiene.

About 82 percent of people survive oral cancer when it’s caught early, statistics show. But most cases are not caught soon enough — about half are found after the disease has spread to lymph nodes and surrounding organs, and only about half of those diagnosed then survive past five years. The numbers get even worse for people diagnosed after the disease has spread to more distant organs.

The Southeast Center for Research to Reduce Disparities in Oral Health was established in October 2008 when College of Dentistry researcher Henrietta Logan, Ph.D., received a \$5.3 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to fund community-based research and educate low-income, rural and minority citizens about head and neck cancer. The center’s goal is to increase detection and prevention of oral cancer among such populations. In its three years of existence, the center has become a magnet for investigators and a gold mine for related projects looking to address disparities in oral health.

The center reached a milestone in April when the state of Florida and UF recognized it as an official research center, a move that will help expand collaboration across different areas of health care.

“This creates a higher profile for their activities but also encourages collaboration,” said Teresa Dolan, D.D.S., dean of the College of Dentistry. “By having researchers collaborate from a variety of disciplines, it will increase the likelihood of us finding a better understanding of what causes head and neck cancer and how to prevent the disease.”



Pastor Samuel Jones of Gainesville is one of many local leaders involved in the Southeast Center for Research to Reduce Disparities in Oral Health's community advisory board.

## A call to action

Prior to the center's work, little was known about the best ways to reach out to rural and minority communities, Shepperd says. Having surveyed members of these communities about why they don't get oral cancer screenings, he believes he can use the data to break down barriers.

A simple, five-minute examination is all it takes to detect a possible problem, Shepperd says. During a screening, the screener looks for and asks about common oral cancer symptoms, such as a lump, a continually sore throat, difficulty swallowing and a change in or hoarseness in voice. If cancer is suspected, patients are sent for further tests to determine if they have cancer.

Shepperd said there were three main reasons people said they hadn't gotten screened: They had never heard of oral cancer or didn't think it was important; they didn't want to know if they had oral cancer; and they lacked resources, such as time and transportation, to get screened.

He plans to create persuasive messages that encourage people to get checked by tackling the barriers to screening.

Shepperd hopes to increase awareness by recruiting community leaders to display messages on car magnets, and also to display messages on billboards and posters.

The center also aims to recruit community leaders to serve as role models to inspire others to get screened. Virginia Dodd, Ph.D., a primary investigator on one of the center's studies, formed a community advisory committee of about a dozen people in Gadsden County, including church leaders, business owners, a cancer nurse and a radio personality, to help spread the word. Dodd is an assistant professor of health, education and behavior in UF's College of Health and Human Performance.

"If we can learn how to produce messages that are meaningful, relevant and a call to action, I believe we can be effective," says Logan, a professor of community dentistry and behavioral sciences and the primary investigator on the grant that established the center.

Sometimes a key to reaching people can be as simple as changing the way things are described, like telling patients to get checked or examined for oral cancer instead of getting screened, Logan says. To many people, screening means the wire mesh that covers their windows, not a check for cancer.

PHOTO BY JESSE S. JONES

## Disparities in breast cancer research

African-American women have a higher incidence of premenopausal breast cancer, but they remain under-represented in genetic family linkage studies of breast cancer. Elisa M. Rodriguez, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the College of Public Health and Health Professions' department of behavioral science and community health, and colleagues recently published a study in the *Journal of Community Genetics* that addresses barriers to participation in genetic studies for women with breast cancer and their female relatives. Using a community-based participatory approach, the researchers found that themes of helping future generations through research participation were viewed positively by the women, while reluctance to talk about disease within a family and fears of cancer and death may discourage participation in family-based genetic research. Using this information, the team, led by principal investigator Heather Ochs-Balcom, Ph.D., of the University at Buffalo, developed "The Jewels in our Genes" study to educate and recruit African-American women and their families for genetic breast cancer research studies. The program is currently being used for study recruitment in Buffalo, N.Y., and nationwide.

— Jill Pease



Henrietta Logan, director of the Southeast Center for Research to Reduce Disparities in Oral Health, speaks to members of the center's community advisory board during its August meeting.

## Moving forward

# Making an impact

Beyond Shepperd and Dodd's groundbreaking work, the center funded a study by Joseph Riley III, Ph.D., an assistant professor of community dentistry and behavioral science in UF's College of Dentistry. Riley carried out a rural media campaign that promoted oral cancer screenings, also funded by an NIH grant.

The center's researchers have already involved more than 3,400 community members in research and produced about 30 publications, posters, abstracts and presentations. Five distinguished members also have spoken at faculty and graduate student assemblies.

The center has been able to accomplish so much because it offers its researchers valuable resources, Shepperd says. Experts are available to help with planning and submitting grants; budgeting and monitoring research and reporting progress; a community liaison connects investigators to research participants; and the center has a close relationship with the NIH's National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.

Beyond its research accomplishments, Logan said she and her team are proud of the positive effect the center has had on the community. The center has a thriving community advisory board that seeks input from numerous community leaders, from church leaders to politicians.

The center has provided \$300,000 to participating communities throughout North Central Florida by creating local jobs, giving incentives to research participants and compensating local vendors. Through a collaboration with the College of Dentistry, about 40 UF dental students have been trained to perform free head and neck cancer screenings for rural communities in North Florida, and the center has participated in about 100 area health fairs.

At the August community advisory board meeting, member Cynthia Moore Chestnut told Logan, "You have really built communication with the community and you have listened and you have empowered."

In Bradford County, community advisory board member Ross Chandler led several satellite community meetings to find out more about people's concerns and why they don't get screened for the disease. He said some of the obstacles community members voiced were a lack of trust, a lack of insurance, a fear of finding out something is wrong with them and a lack of funds to pay medical bills.

"It has brought a tremendous amount of awareness about mouth and throat cancer. It's brought a tremendous level of understanding about it," Chandler says. "Because of that awareness, many of the people here have been able to communicate their frustrations with health care services and the lack thereof and why many African-Americans don't seek medical help and are afraid of going to the doctors."

Although it's based out of Gainesville, the center involves satellite clinics and rural communities throughout the state and has branched into dozens of projects geared toward reducing disparities.

For example, researchers have established a saliva bank that has already collected about 75 samples and supplemental health data about subjects that will help predict health disparities.

The center is also participating in a five-year, \$1 million Health Resources and Services Administration-funded project interviewing low-income and minority adolescent boys to identify what promotes risky behavior and what keeps them from seeking dental and medical care.

Research assistant Cameron Brown began surveying participants and found finances and transportation to be commonly mentioned barriers to regular dental and medical care.

"There's a lot of important research coming out of the center that will benefit Gainesville, Fla., and the U.S. in general," Brown says.

On Sept. 17, the center will take part in a health fair in Starke, doing screenings and helping spread the word about oral cancer. It's the type of thing they do regularly. For many of the people the center is trying to reach, folks who have limited access to physicians and limited funds to pay, these screenings can literally be a lifesaver.

"Knowledge is power," says Cynthia Agyemang, the center's community liaison for Northern Alachua and Bradford counties. "If we can get the message out about mouth and throat cancer, it's saving someone's life." **P**

# Do painkillers hurt your heart?

Long-term use of certain painkillers may raise health risks

By Czerne M. Reid

**P**ainkillers such as ibuprofen, naxopren and celecoxib provide needed relief for many patients who have chronic pain. But an ongoing source of contention is whether those drugs and others

*The American Journal of Medicine.*

“It does strengthen our practice recommendations,” said lead author Anthony A. Bavry, M.D., M.P.H., an assistant professor of cardiovascular medicine in the College of Medicine department of medicine.

Physicians already discourage the use of NSAIDs among the elderly and after heart attacks, on the basis of several studies showing that the drugs are linked with a higher risk of stroke and heart attack.

But the UF researchers, including senior author Carl J. Pepine, M.D., a professor of cardiovascular medicine in the UF College of Medicine, advise patients to talk to their doctors before stopping use of prescribed treatments.

Patients who have both high blood pressure and coronary artery disease are generally put on aspirin, a unique type of NSAID, to reduce their risk of a heart attack. Physicians are concerned that giving those patients other NSAIDs for pain relief could cancel out aspirin’s beneficial effects and raise the risk of negative cardiovascular effects. **P**

in their class known as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs, are linked to harmful health effects.

A new UF study raises the concern about potential risks to a higher degree than before, finding a doubling of deaths from heart attack, stroke and related events among people who have both hypertension and coronary artery disease and use the drugs long term.

The findings, based on data from the international INVEST clinical study of hypertension therapies, are published in



**ANTHONY A. BAVRY,  
M.D., M.P.H.**

## Every step counts

Study shows that everyday activity helps keep seniors healthy

By Czerne M. Reid

**R**eaching over to make the bed or bending to get a grocery bag might not be the typical idea of being physically active. But all those everyday movements add up and could contribute to health benefits, especially among older adults — even if it’s not clear just how much energy seniors are exerting.

Previous research has been mostly based on error-prone self-reports of physical activity rather than actual measurements. Now, UF researchers and colleagues have used laboratory-based methods to objectively measure the amount of energy older adults use up as they go about their daily activities, and linked that to cognitive performance.

The researchers found that older adults who expend relatively high amounts of energy in their daily activities are substantially less likely to become cognitively impaired than those who exert less energy. The findings were published in the July 25 issue of the *Archives of Internal Medicine*.

“There are millions and millions of people who don’t exercise, but we’re beginning to understand that a lot of these people do a lot during the day, and they are likely to accumulate more energy expenditure during the day than others who go out and exercise,” said study co-author Todd Manini, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the department of aging and geriatric research at the College of Medicine and the UF Institute on Aging. “These studies are starting to shed light on the fact that accumulating activity during the day can potentially provide health benefits.” **P**

**TODD  
MANINI,  
PH.D.**



PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS

UF biomedical engineer Bryan Conrad measures his blood sugar levels with the help of his daughters.

## Setting the standard

In the quest to cure diabetes, better research standards needed

By Czerne M. Reid

**A** cure for Type 1 diabetes has been the holy grail of researchers worldwide since the first clinical trials seeking to cure the disease began some three decades ago. But despite many advances, the target still seems just out of reach. That point was made frustratingly clear for scientists worldwide this year when several clinical trials that had held great promise based on laboratory studies yielded disappointing results.

A lack of universal standards for defining diabetes and reversal of the disease in animal studies makes it difficult to translate laboratory successes into human trials, said Mark A. Atkinson, Ph.D., an eminent scholar in the College of Medicine department of pathology, immunology and laboratory medicine and co-director of the UF Diabetes Center of Excellence.

In a commentary appearing Aug. 17 in the journal *Science Translational Medicine*, Atkinson proposed criteria on which the scientific community can hinge discussions aimed at building a consensus and forging a foundation for more successful human trials.

Laboratory studies have paved the way for clinical trials in humans. But without better animal models and a standardized way to define the disease or its reversal in those models, it has been difficult to develop an effective clinical strategy. Individual researchers have been free to decide in their own animal studies what blood sugar levels over what time frame indicate diabetes, how long to administer therapies being tested, how many animals to treat, what represents a cure, and other variables.

Implementing standards could help advance research efforts, because laboratory studies could be compared more easily. That would enable only the most promising methods to proceed to human trial, and in so doing, ease emotional turmoil and stress for patients, families and investigators, reduce the number of animals used in laboratory studies, and cut costs.

Atkinson's suggestions for standardizing diabetes reversal studies include establishing a minimum number of animals used, defining control groups, limiting the age of specimens used, and standardizing the time from the onset of high blood sugar to the start of treatment. He also calls for the definition of diabetes to be based on blood rather than urine measurements, establishment of a specific blood glucose concentration as the threshold for diabetes onset, and agreement on whether insulin therapy should be used after diagnosis. **P**

Spotlight on research

## The problem with teens and medication

Skipping doses of medicine or taking it at the wrong times can worsen a patient's condition and lead to costly complications — even organ rejection in patients who have undergone a kidney transplant. A consortium of researchers in the U.S. and Canada, including at UF, has received a \$2.5 million, five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health to test techniques that may increase medication adherence in teenagers. "Newer medicines and technologies have improved the lives of people with illness. But such improvements have much less of an effect if patients don't take their medicines on time or use the technologies appropriately," said **Vikas Dharnidharka**, M.D., one of the study's investigators. Researchers will study whether a menu of techniques, including a high-tech pillbox, will improve how well patients stick to their medication regimens.



## A step toward a life-saving vaccine

Researchers at the UF College of Veterinary Medicine say proteins common to multiple strains of *Anaplasma marginale*, a tick-borne pathogen that costs the U.S. cattle industry millions of dollars annually and is even more devastating in developing countries, could hold the key to developing an effective vaccine against the disease. In the July issue of *Vaccine*, UF veterinary scientists report sequencing the genes of multiple strains of the bacteria from across North America to identify common substances that could be candidates for vaccine development. *Anaplasma* bacteria infect red blood cells and are estimated to cost the cattle industry \$300 million a year, according to industry estimates. Thirty percent of the animals that contract bovine anaplasmosis die. The research team included **Michael J. Dark** (right), D.V.M., Ph.D., **Anthony F. Barbet** (left), Ph.D., and **Basima Al-Khedery**, Ph.D.



# A *new* hospital for Jacksonville

Shands Jax seeks state approval for new hospital on city's Northside

By Dan Leveton

Jacksonville's Northside could soon be another home for UF&Shands.

In August, Shands Jacksonville submitted a letter of intent to file a Certificate of Need application with the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration to construct a hospital in north Jacksonville, the city's fastest growing area. The hospital will be called Shands Jacksonville North.

"This move represents the long-term commitment of UF&Shands to the Jacksonville community as we seek to ensure area residents have access to the health care they need," said David S. Guzick, M.D., Ph.D., senior vice president for health affairs at UF and president of the UF&Shands Health System. "Our academic health center continues to serve a vital role in the community. In addition to promoting high-quality care, we are advancing research discoveries and providing a boost to economic

development in the area, while the UF College of Medicine helps to train the next generation of physicians. The new facility will help us continue to deliver top-notch health care to an even larger number of patients."

The new 110-bed facility will be located at the northeast corner of Interstate 95 and Duval Road. Shands Jacksonville purchased the land in 2007 to construct a medical office building with outpatient services and a hospital. The first phase of construction will include a medical office building that houses UF faculty and both primary care and specialty physician practices as well as diagnostic, ambulatory and urgent care services, and outpatient surgery. A Certificate of Need is not required for this phase of development.

The population of north

Jacksonville has grown 22 percent in the past decade, 50 percent faster than the rest of Duval and Nassau counties. As the population continues to rise, so does the need for a hospital to serve this growing area. Shands Jacksonville North will provide greater access to more health care services for these residents, as well as those living in surrounding communities.

"North Jacksonville is currently home to almost 145,000 residents. Shands Jacksonville North will offer them many of the same quality health care services available on Shands Jacksonville's downtown campus," said Jim Burkhart, president and CEO of Shands Jacksonville.

The full-service community hospital will include all-private rooms, an emergency department, obstetrics, general surgery and ancillary services such as imaging, laboratory and outpatient rehabilitation.

"Shands Jacksonville North

anticipates both UF and community physicians working collaboratively to offer patients greater access to the latest treatments and technologies closer to their homes," said Robert C. Nuss, M.D., dean of the regional campus at the University of Florida College of Medicine-Jacksonville.

Estimated cost at this point for the new hospital is approximately \$125 million, which will be funded through philanthropy, retained earnings and bond financing. Construction could be completed within three years following approval from the state.

"The development of Shands Jacksonville North represents a significant investment in the community, and once fully operational is expected to generate around 350 new jobs," Burkhart said. "The hospital will have an ongoing impact to the economy with recurring supply and equipment purchases." **P**

# A magnetic FORCE IN NURSING

Shands Jacksonville receives prestigious Magnet credential



By Robert Coon

**S**tanding at a table before nearly 100 nurses, administrators and other staff, Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer Kelly Miles waited for the words she and her colleagues so wanted to hear: “The Commission of Magnet has unanimously voted to credential Shands Jacksonville Medical Center as a Magnet-designated organization.”

This affirmation from Craig Luzinski, director of the Magnet Recognition Program, sparked cheers throughout the room, as years of diligent preparation had come to fruition.

Shands Jacksonville is now a Magnet-recognized organization by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. The prestigious designation is nationally recognized as the gold standard of nursing excellence.

“Shands Jacksonville is such a special place and so deserving of this special recognition,” Miles said. “I am just thrilled that our nurses and other staff are being honored with this prestigious national distinction because our nurses and staff give so much to this community and our patients.”

The Magnet Recognition Program was developed by the American Nurses Credentialing Center to recognize health care organizations that provide nursing excellence and to disseminate successful nursing practices and strategies. Nursing staff at Shands Jacksonville underwent a rigorous and lengthy application and review process that demanded widespread participation from leadership and staff.

“Magnet recognition is a shining example of the work our nurses do every day. This is something they have been working toward for a long time and it is well-deserved,” said Jim Burkhart, president and CEO of Shands Jacksonville. “The quality of care that they provide to our patients is unmatched. On behalf of the UF physicians and the staff at Shands Jacksonville, I would like to thank our nurses and congratulate them on this prestigious honor.” **P**

## HOME, SWEET MEDICAL HOME

Organization recognizes UF, Shands Jacksonville for patient-centered care

By Dan Leveton

**T**he National Committee for Quality Assurance has recognized the UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville and Shands Jacksonville as Patient-Centered Medical Home providers. This prestigious designation highlights UF and Shands’ commitment to following a set of national standards geared toward improving teamwork, better coordinating patient care and building the relationships between providers and patients.

The UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville and Shands Jacksonville are the first and only health organizations in Northeast Florida as well as the only academic medical group in Florida to receive this designation.

“Our focus is always on providing the most comprehensive and meaningful care possible for patients and their families,” said Nipa R. Shah, M.D., chair of the UF department of community health and family medicine in Jacksonville. “This means using the core principles of the Patient-Centered Medical Home model of health care. As part of our mission, we also want to make sure that care is accessible and centers on what is best for each individual. This designation recognizes us for the high quality of care that we strive to provide at every patient visit, and beyond.”

The Patient-Centered Medical Home is a model of health care delivery that aims to improve the quality and efficiency of care and includes practices that promote partnerships between patients and their personal clinicians. Clinician-led care teams provide for all the patient’s health care needs and coordinate treatments across the health care system.

“Our patients always come first, and the medical home program is another way to give them the compassionate care all physicians strive for,” said Robert Nuss, M.D., dean of the regional campus for the UF College of Medicine-Jacksonville. **P**



## A leader in equine care

**David Freeman, M.V.B., Ph.D.**, a professor and the interim chair of large animal clinical sciences, was honored by the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil for his outstanding contributions to the development of equine surgery worldwide. Freeman's research interests include the pathophysiology and treatment of diseases that cause colic in horses, with special emphasis on ischemic diseases of the small and large intestines. Shown here with Freeman (right) is equine surgeon Geraldo Alves of the Federal University of Minas Gerais.

### COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

**TERESA A. DOLAN, D.D.S., M.P.H.**, a professor and dean of the college, was appointed to serve a four-year term on the National Advisory Dental and Craniofacial Research Council of the National Institutes of Health beginning December 2011. The council advises, assists, consults with and makes recommendations to the secretary of Health and Human Services and the director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research regarding activities and policies of the NIDCR.



Teresa A. Dolan

### VENITA SPOSETTI,

D.M.D., an associate professor in the department of prosthodontics, has been appointed the college's associate dean for education. Since July 2001, Sposetti has served as the assistant dean for admissions and financial aid, which is part of the Office of Education. In that role she managed admissions and financial aid and led efforts to implement holistic admissions practices in the D.M.D. program, managing the program during a decade of dramatic growth in application numbers.



Venita Sposetti

**CLAY WALKER, Ph.D.**, a professor and associate dean, was accepted into the 2011-2012 UF Advanced Leadership for Academics and Professionals Program. This yearlong program is designed to support ongoing development for faculty and professionals in leadership positions at the university.



Clay Walker

### JACKSONVILLE

### ROGER L. BERTHOLF,

Ph.D., a professor in the department of pathology and laboratory medicine and director of clinical chemistry, toxicology and point-of-care testing, has been selected to receive the 2011 American Society for Clinical Pathology Regional Member Award for the Southeast Region. The award will be presented at the group's annual meeting Oct. 20.



Roger L. Bertholf

### JAYSON EDWARDS, M.D. and CAROLEE CUTLER PECK, M.D., M.P.H.,

both ophthalmology residents, returned home from the annual Florida Society of Ophthalmology meeting as award-winning presenters. Edwards received first place for his presentation "Tumor Necrosis Factor-alpha (TNF- ) Levels in Aqueous Humor of Primary Open Angle Glaucoma." Peck's presentation



Jayson Edwards

"OCT Findings with Structural and Functional Correlation in Two Siblings with North Carolina Macular Dystrophy" garnered her a tie for second place.



Carolee Cutler Peck

### COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

### MARK L. BRANTLY,

M.D., a professor of medicine, has been named chief of the division of pulmonary, critical care and sleep medicine in the department of medicine. Serving as interim chief for the past year, Brantly has built the division into a national force for the advancement of clinical care, research and education. As permanent chief, Brantly will continue to advance the mission of the division and of the department as a whole.



Mark L. Brantly

### ROBERT R. LEVERENCE, M.D.,

has been appointed vice chair for clinical affairs for the department of medicine and founding chief for the newly formed division of hospital medicine. In his dual role, Leverage will direct a number of departmental priorities, including overseeing outpatient clinics, developing patient-centered health care teams and expanding services and access. He also will serve as a liaison to other departments to further the UF Academic Health Center mission of providing outstanding, comprehensive, patient-centered care.



Robert R. Leverage

### FREDERICK A. MOORE,

M.D., has joined the department of surgery as chief of acute care surgery. Moore, who came to UF from The Methodist Hospital in Houston, said his goals for the acute care surgery program at Shands at UF include establishing a two-year acute care surgery fellowship, expanding a team of surgeons experienced in a wide variety of trauma, burn and surgical critical care, and strengthening partnerships with smaller community hospitals in the region.



Frederick A. Moore

## One of the best, again

Seven medical specialty programs at Shands at UF were recognized among the nation's best in the 2011-2012 U.S. News & World Report's Best Hospitals rankings, which were released in July. Shands at UF had the highest ranking among Florida hospitals in five specialties: urology (tied for 23rd nationally); cardiology & heart surgery (tied for 27th nationally); neurology & neurosurgery (28th nationally); pulmonology (28th nationally); and nephrology (tied for 35th nationally). Shands at UF was also ranked in cancer (35th nationally) and gastroenterology (38th nationally).



PHOTO BY JESSE S. JONES

### ERIC I. ROSENBERG,

M.D., M.S.P.H., an associate professor of medicine, has been appointed chief of the division of general internal medicine in the department of medicine. During his tenure as interim chief, which began in July 2009, the division has successfully recruited eight new faculty members and initiated several novel projects, including the creation of a Health Services Research section and a pilot outpatient medical home.



Eric I. Rosenberg

### JULIE A. JOHNSON,

Pharm.D., the V. Ravi Chandran professor of pharmaceutical sciences and a distinguished professor of pharmacy in the department of pharmacotherapy and translational research, has received a \$500,000, one-year administrative supplement from UF to launch a personalized medicine program in the Clinical and Translational Science Institute.



Julie A. Johnson

Association's Division 54, the Society of Pediatric Psychology. Fellow status is awarded for long-term and broad achievement contributing to the science and practice of pediatric psychology.

### WILLIAM W. LATIMER,

Ph.D., M.P.H., a leading drug dependence and infectious disease epidemiologist, has been named chair of the department of clinical and health psychology. Latimer comes to UF from the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health, where he served as director of the Drug Dependence Epidemiology Training Program, which is funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the U.S. State Department Humphrey Fellowship Program.



William W. Latimer

## COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

### VERONIKA

**BUTTERWECK**, Ph.D., an associate professor of pharmaceuticals, has received the 2011 Bionorica Phytoneering Award from the Society for Medicinal Plant and Natural Product Research at the 42nd International Symposium on Essential Oils in Turkey. She received the recognition for her work on the pharmacokinetics of flavonoids and their metabolites.



Veronika Butterweck

### LESLIE HENDELES,

Pharm.D., a professor of pharmacotherapy and translational research, has been elected to the National Academies of Practice as a distinguished scholar for his academic achievements and his educational and research contributions to practice.



Leslie Hendeles

## COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

**MERYL ALAPPATTU**, D.P.T., and **ELISA GONZALEZ-ROTHI**, D.P.T., doctoral students in the rehabilitation science degree program, received 2011 Promotion of Doctoral Studies scholarships from the Foundation for Physical Therapy. The program funds the most highly qualified doctoral and postdoctoral physical therapy students preparing for research careers.



Meryl Alappattu



Elisa Gonzalez-Rothi

### DAVID JANICKE,

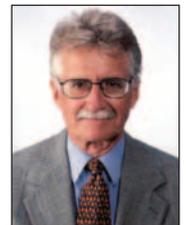
Ph.D., an associate professor in the department of clinical and health psychology, was awarded fellow status from the American Psychological



David Janicke

### JOHN ROSENBK,

Ph.D., a professor in the department of speech, language and hearing sciences, has been awarded the Kawana Award for Lifetime Achievement in Publications from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The award recognizes a sustained history of publications with significant educational, scientific or clinical value. In his research, Rosenbek has focused on behavioral treatments for language, speech and swallowing disorders, particularly those caused by neurological disease.



John Rosenbek

Photos by Maria Belen Farias

# BEAUTIFUL **f**aces



Alex Johnson, a graduate of speech-language pathology at UF, helps Connor Schultz, 7, with his pronunciation at Craniofacial Camp.

Tucked away 40 miles east of Gainesville is Camp Montgomery, the site of the annual Craniofacial Camp organized by Virginia Dixon-Wood, M.A., CCC-SLP, a speech pathologist with the UF Craniofacial Center. The four-day camp is designed to help children with craniofacial differences develop better articulation of sounds and improve self-esteem. This month, *The POST* brings you a look at what life at this year's camp was like.



Virginia Dixon-Wood high-fives Timothy Saige Davis-Wilson, 7, after a session of speech therapy during Craniofacial Camp.



Andrew Wong, 12, Sarah Funderburke, Aaron Tucker, 11, and Joshua Bush, 11, play Topple during Craniofacial Camp. Downtime usually includes activities to help campers who are shy about speaking in front of others come out of their shells.



Ashton Jarvis, 8, is launched off the blob by camp counselor Corey Elsemore.

# THE QUEST

## for answers

PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS

**SCOTT GRIESHABER, PH.D.**

## UF scientist's work focused on one of the most common STDs

By Marissa Lyons

For Scott Grieshaber, Ph.D., science has been a lifelong love. In school, he was always fond of science class because it satisfied his curiosity. In particular, he was drawn to biology.

"I really enjoyed discovering how things work," said Grieshaber, an assistant professor in the College of Dentistry's department of oral biology.

It was at UF that he found a scientific environment where he could flourish, primarily studying the interaction between host cells and bacteria.

"The collaborative environment is definitely something I enjoy about being at UF," Grieshaber said. "You can always find someone to talk to about science."

Currently, he is a guest lecturer in several courses, including microbiology and oral biology. His research interests focus on the basic biology of the bacterial disease chlamydia trachomatis, the most commonly reported sexually transmitted disease and the most frequent cause of preventable blindness throughout the world.

Grieshaber said he is trying to determine how chlamydia hijacks components of the cell to set up its replicating niche. He is also interested in the consequences on the host cell.

Chlamydia must use the cell in order to survive. It invades the cell, replicates inside the cell and then kills the cell. This is how the disease progresses. Grieshaber said he works in hope of fully understanding how chlamydia goes through its life cycle so that one day a vaccine or better drugs can be developed.

He received his undergraduate degree in microbiology from

Colorado State University and his Ph.D. in molecular biology from the University of Wyoming. He did his postdoctoral work at the Rocky Mountain Labs, a division of the National Institutes of Health, in Montana.

Grieshaber said he likes finding answers. He particularly likes studying chlamydia because it is an obligate intracellular bacterium, allowing him to combine his passion for both microbiology and cell biology.

He joined the UF faculty in the spring of 2006. Setting up his lab at UF took about one year, and Grieshaber said it has been one of his greatest accomplishments. Starting with an empty room and building the lab from scratch was a very rewarding experience, he said.

Grieshaber supervises several students and their research. In his lab, he works with three graduate students, one postdoctoral student and one technician.

"They have been terrific," he said. "They have probably taught me more about running a lab than I have taught them about science."

They all have individual thesis projects that are helping to answer the larger question of the lab: how chlamydia can exploit the host cell for its replication. Grieshaber oversees all of their work.

He also acts as a mentor to the students. He gets them as incoming graduate students, helps them choose their classes, guides them through the research experience and gives them career advice.

One aspect of conducting research Grieshaber stresses to the students he works with is the importance of clearly presenting the data found.

They recently showed that chlamydia uses the microtubule network to traffic within cells, he said. This affects replication of the host cell, or cell division.

"I hope my studies continue to add to our basic knowledge of how humans and disease-causing organisms interact at the cellular and molecular levels," Grieshaber said. **P**

SEE YA!



PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS

Devyn Wonders, 4, holds Albert's hand during the Shands at UF neonatal intensive care unit reunion Aug. 6. To view a multimedia presentation of images and video from the reunion, visit [news.health.ufl.edu](http://news.health.ufl.edu) and click on "Multimedia."



PHOTO BY JESSE S. JONES

College of Medicine Dean Michael Good greets the arrivals at a welcome dinner for new students.



PHOTO BY MARIA BELEN FARIAS

North Fort Myers High School teacher Jacqueline Curls performs chest compressions on a Human Patient Simulator during the Bench to Bedside program.

# THE POST

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**Senior Vice President,  
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David S. Guzick, M.D., Ph.D.

**Director, News &  
Communications**

Melanie Fridl Ross

**Editor**

April Frawley Birdwell  
[afrawley@ufl.edu](mailto:afrawley@ufl.edu)

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