‘Bridging Civilizations’

FSU’s Pepper Center to host world leaders at international conference

By Jill Elish
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

World leaders from Africa and the Middle East will gather at Florida State University for a first-of-its-kind intercultural dialogue designed to support a United Nations initiative, the Alliance of Civilizations.

The FSU Claude Pepper Center for Intercultural Dialogue will hold “Bridging Civilizations” on Feb. 11 at the FSU Alumni Center. The conference is intended to further the goals of the Alliance of Civilizations, a U.N. initiative launched in 2005 by the prime ministers of Spain and Turkey to promote mutual respect between civilizations and cultures and counter a trend toward extremism that has threatened international stability. It is the first event in the Pepper Center’s “year of dialogue” in which FSU will host other world leaders promoting the Alliance of Civilizations initiative.

President of the Republic of Rwanda Paul Kagame; Yuval Rabin, son of former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin; Minister of State of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Abdullah A. Alireza; and Michael Oren, best-selling author and senior fellow at the Shalem Center in Jerusalem, are among those expected to speak at the February conference. The lectures are free and open to the public, but seating may be limited.

“The conference will be an opportunity for the world’s most influential policy makers, business leaders and academics to forge alliances that transcend national and cultural boundaries,” said Monsignor William A. Kerr, executive director of the Claude Pepper Center for Intercultural Dialogue. “It is our hope that these relationships will lead to new foreign policy approaches, faculty and student exchange programs, research opportunities and activism among youth.”

The conference, structured around four sessions, will begin at 8:30 a.m. with an address by Shamil Idriss, acting director of the Secretariat for the U.N. Alliance of Civilizations, on the role of the Alliance of Civilizations in advancing international dialogue. Nancy Overholt, executive director of the Institute for International Education, and FSU College of Social Sciences Dean David Rasmussen will discuss the importance of education in promoting cultural understanding. During this session, Overholt and Rasmussen will announce that the Pepper Center will coordinate efforts of a new group called the Alliance Association of Colleges and Universities. The Alliance Association of Colleges and Universities will bring together institutions of higher learning to support the Alliance of Civilizations through research, teaching and outreach programs.
Schmidt lands $3.3 million grant to help smokers kick habit

By Jill Elish
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Florida State University professor will share a $3.3 million federal grant with a colleague from the University of Vermont to develop an innovative method that will help smokers with anxiety disorders extinguish the habit.

FSU psychology Professor Brad Schmidt and UVM psychology Professor Michael Zvolensky are recruiting about 600 people — 300 at each campus — to participate in the study over the next five years. Funded by the National Institute of Mental Health, the $3.3 million grant is one of the largest the scientific organization has ever awarded for this kind of study, Schmidt said.

Cigarette smoking, the leading cause of preventable death and disability in North America, is particularly common among those with, or at risk for developing, panic disorder, according to Schmidt. About 40 percent of individuals with panic disorder are regular smokers and more than 60 percent have a lifetime history of smoking.

These rates are higher than in the general population where about 25 percent are smokers. Yet no specialized approach currently exists to help smokers with anxiety problems quit, Schmidt said.

“The thing that makes this smoking cessation program unique is the focus on reducing anxiety sensitivity, which is a risk factor for developing anxiety problems,” he said. “Nicotine withdrawal produces all kinds of unpleasant feelings, and if you’re extremely sensitive to these kinds of bodily sensations, it could provoke anxiety and panic responses.”

People with anxiety sensitivity perceive certain physical responses — such as a pounding heart, sweaty palms or dizziness — as a sign of imminent personal harm, even if the cause is something as mundane as stress, caffeine or nicotine. They not only fear their own reactions, they also fear that other people will detect their anxiety, which then increases their anxiety and puts them at risk for a panic attack.

Some people with anxiety sensitivity actually begin smoking in a misguided attempt to assuage these feelings, while others develop anxiety sensitivity after they pick up the habit in response to the effects of nicotine on their bodies, Schmidt said. Either way, many of these anxiety-sensitive smokers find that withdrawal symptoms cause them to be even more anxious and panicky — thwarting their attempts to quit or triggering a relapse.

Schmidt and Zvolensky’s cessation plan involves four one-on-one sessions. The program includes education, coping skills and anxiety reduction strategies, along with nicotine replacement therapy, such as “the patch.”

“We have two inter-related goals,” Schmidt said. “The first is to see whether combining some of what we know from our anxiety treatments with the state-of-the-art smoking cessation treatments will enhance our ability to help people quit smoking, and the longer term goal is to determine if these treatments will prevent the development of anxiety problems like panic attacks.”

If the program is successful, it would reduce the public health burden of both anxiety and smoking-related problems, Schmidt said.
Nyahuma receives Warrick Dunn Foundation home

Atlanta Falcons running back and Florida State University alumnus Warrick Dunn (B.S. ’97, Information Studies) has presented a new home to Osei Nyahuma — a single father with four children — in Tallahassee in a first for “Homes for the Holidays,” a program of the Warrick Dunn Foundation that historically has assisted single mothers in Tampa, Baton Rouge, La., and Atlanta in achieving the American dream of home ownership.

Nyahuma, who is a program assistant with the FSU Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement, and his family contributed 400 hours of “sweat equity” to the construction of the home, which was sponsored by Big Bend Habitat for Humanity’s “25th Anniversary Build.”

On Dec. 18, Nyahuma, who was anticipating a home inspection, was greeted by Dunn and sea of supporters on the front lawn of his new four-bedroom, two-bathroom home in the Tallahassee Highlands subdivision. Dunn escorted him through his fully furnished home, equipped with everything a first-time homeowner needs. In-kind sponsor Aaron’s Sales & Lease Ownership provided all furniture, appliances and televisions. Through title sponsor Prudential Tropical Realty, the house was equipped with groceries, linens and lawn care products — everything down to the toothbrushes.

“I was worried about furnishing our home,” Nyahuma said. “I can’t remember the last time I sat on a new couch. This is truly a blessing.”

Nyahuma and his children realized the American dream of home ownership in time for the holidays.

“Over the years, I’ve matured and realized it is important to help out folks who are trying to help themselves,” Dunn said regarding the addition of a single father to the “Homes for the Holidays” program.

Since its inception in 1997, “Homes for the Holidays” has assisted 74 single parents and 192 children in Tallahassee, Tampa, Baton Rouge, La., and Atlanta. Of those, Nyahuma is the first single father to receive assistance — and the first in Tallahassee.

Blumenthal to co-curate Ringling’s Francesco de Mura exhibition

The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art has named Arthur Blumenthal as co-curator of its upcoming exhibition “In the Light of Naples: The Art of Francesco de Mura.” Blumenthal will assist with the planning, production and presentation of the exhibition, which is scheduled for February 2010 at the Ringling Museum.

Blumenthal is the director emeritus of the Cornell Fine Arts Museum of Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., where he served for 19 years. He received his doctorate in art history from New York University’s Institute of Fine Arts, and his curatorial and research posts have included positions at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College.

Blumenthal has received numerous awards and recognition for his work, most recently having received the 2006-2007 Florida Art Museum Directors Association Lifetime Achievement Award.

“As the State Art Museum of Florida, it is part of our vision to become recognized as one of North America’s leading cultural institutions, known especially for engaging interpretation of our collections as well as in-depth learning opportunities and a dynamic professional staff,” said Ringling Museum Executive Director John Wetenhall. “The scholarly exchange that will take place with Dr. Blumenthal now assisting us with this ambitious exhibition is important to supporting this vision.”

The exhibition is scheduled to be presented at the Ringling Museum in winter 2010. It will be the first major monographic presentation of de Mura’s work in history, consisting of approximately 50 paintings by de Mura (1696-1782), one of the leading Neapolitan artists of the 18th century.
“The Pepper Center hopes to be a catalyst in stimulating universities throughout the world to foster within their academic communities and in collaboration with the worldwide community of colleges and universities a global climate of dialogue,” Kerr said.

The conference will continue at 11 a.m. with Kagame’s address on the role education has played in Rwanda’s dramatic political and economic recovery from a war-ravaged nation in less than a decade. After his speech, Kerr will present Kagame with the “Spirit of Pepper Award.” The Pepper Center created the Spirit of Pepper Award last year to recognize outstanding members of the community who have demonstrated the same qualities and ideals of public service as the late Sen. Claude Pepper.

Kagame, 50, was sworn in as president of the Republic of Rwanda for a seven-term mandate in September 2003 after being elected in the first-ever democratically contested multiparty elections. He had served as president since 2000 when he was unanimously elected to lead the country by the Transitional National Authority. Born in Rwanda, Kagame fled the country as a small child and became a refugee in Uganda. In 1980, he was among the first 27 men who launched a five-year liberation war in Uganda, and he later served as a senior officer in the Ugandan army. In 1990, Kagame returned to Rwanda after 30 years in exile to lead the Rwandan Patriotic Army in the struggle for the liberation of Rwanda.

Kagame has been recognized by many African and international organizations for his work in promoting peaceful solutions to conflict in the region, economic development of the African continent, and the economic and political advancement of women. He recently received the “Abolitionist of the Year 2007” award after Rwanda abolished the death penalty.

Alireza, the former chairman of Saudi Services and Operating Co. and Xenel Maintenance Ltd., will discuss U.S.-Saudi relations during the third session at 3 p.m. As a Minister of State, Alireza is a member of Saudi Arabia’s Council of Ministers, also called the Cabinet. He also is a member of the Supreme Economic Council of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and has served as vice president of the Saudi negotiating team for joining the World Trade Organization. He works closely with academic institutions and nonprofit organizations worldwide in promoting education and cross-cultural understanding.

At 4 p.m., Rabin will introduce Oren as the conference keynote speaker. Rabin is managing partner of the firm RSLB, headquartered in Washington, D.C. He is a veteran of the Israel Defense Forces, having achieved the rank of major during his eight years of service. His father, Nobel Peace Prize winner Yitzhak Rabin, was assassinated in 1995 at a peace rally in Tel Aviv.

An expert on the diplomatic and military history of the Middle East, Oren has served as a visiting professor at Harvard and Yale and has briefed the White House and testified before Congress on Middle Eastern affairs. His 2002 book, “Six Days of War: June 1967 and the Making of the Modern Middle East,” was a New York Times best-seller and won the Los Angeles Times’ History Book of the Year prize and the National Jewish Book Award. His most recent book, “Power, Faith and Fantasy: America in the Middle East, 1776 to the Present,” also was a best-seller.

Raised in New Jersey, Oren moved to Israel in the 1970s and served as an officer in the Israel Defense Forces — in the paratroopers in the first Lebanon War, as a liaison with the U.S. Sixth Fleet during the Gulf War, and as an army spokesman in the second Lebanon War. He was the director of Interreligious Affairs in the government of Yitzhak Rabin.

The Claude Pepper Center for Intercultural Dialogue, housed in FSU’s College of Social Sciences, supports research, teaching and service projects that promote intercultural understanding and cross-cultural cooperation throughout the world.

Tallahassee’s Figg Engineering Group, a world-class bridge design firm, is one of the sponsors of “Bridging Civilizations.” Figg’s president, Linda Figg, chairs the corporate sponsors of the event. For more details about the conference, visit http://claudepepper-center.fsu.edu.
Magnet lab introduces ‘Flux’ magazine

Even though the research that is conducted at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory is extraordinarily complex, is it driven by a basic curiosity of “how” and “why” the natural world works. Now, the magnet lab has introduced Flux, a new publication that captures the same spirit of curiosity to tell the stories of the study of high magnetic fields to the non-scientist.

“Flux is an ambassador to the outside world,” said magnet lab Director Greg Boebinger. “It’s a tool to initiate conversations among mag lab scientists, educators, policy makers and the general public.”

The magazine, according to Boebinger, makes the complexities of the magnets and the science they enable accessible to a general audience.

“It helps answer the question so many of us hear when we tell friends where we work: ‘Exactly what do you do at the magnet lab?’” Boebinger said.

Flux will be published biannually (www.magnet.fsu.edu/mediacenter/publications/flux) and will feature news about research conducted at the lab; profiles of scientists working with the magnets or building new ones; explanations of the tools, machines and concepts that keep the lab running; and answers to commonly asked questions. In addition, it will describe experiments that can be conducted at home, and will include various educational resources.

Center for Educational Research and Policy Studies joins national alliance

By Connie Harris

The Florida State University Center for Educational Research and Policy Studies (CERPS) has joined with 32 other leading university education-research centers from 23 different states as a new member of the Education Policy Alliance. The alliance is composed of centers located at many of the country’s top universities, including Stanford, Columbia and the University of Pennsylvania. This national consortium promotes collaborative research efforts and is committed to the dissemination of high-quality research findings.

CERPS Director Stephen Nettles is pleased by the opportunity to expand its work and that of the College of Education on a national level.

“We are honored to be associated with such an impressive group of research and policy organizations,” Nettles said. “Florida State University and the College of Education will certainly benefit from this collaborative partnership.”

CERPS, which is part of the FSU College of Education, conducts research on a variety of educational issues, including the impact of school leadership on student achievement, charter school effectiveness and minority student achievement. More information is available about CERPS at www.coe.fsu.edu/cerps.

The Education Policy Alliance was developed by the Education and the Public Interest Center, the Education Policy Research Unit and the Commercialism in Education Research Unit at Arizona State University to further democratic deliberation regarding educational policies. Fellows of the Education Policy Research Unit and the Education and the Public Interest Center produce educational policy expertise, analysis and insight. For more information, visit www.educationpolicyalliance.org.

By the way ...

• Strozier Library’s spring Artrary exhibition will open with a reception on Feb. 1, from 5 to 8 p.m., sponsored by the Friends of the FSU Library. This fourth Artrary, anticipated to be the largest yet, will feature artwork by Florida State University faculty, staff members and students on the main floor and the third floor of Strozier Library. Hors d’oeuvres will be served. Information: Dawn Lowe-Wincentsen, 645-2707.
TRAINING AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

♦ TRAINING CLASSES: The following classes are free to employees and are held at the Training Center, Stadium Place, unless otherwise indicated:

• Building a Healthy Financial Lifestyle (must register and attend all three classes) (4279): Feb. 2; (4280): Feb. 23; (4281): March 1 - all classes on Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.-noon;
• Domestic Security Awareness (for classroom professionals) (4193): Jan. 31-R, 8:30-11 a.m.; or (4194) Feb. 6-W, 1:30-4 p.m.;
• DROPP (Mettle) (4354): Jan. 23-W, 1:30-2:30 p.m.;
• FSU Culture and Ethics (for supervisors and BSP) (4162): Jan. 23-W, 9-11 a.m.;
• Fundamentals of Communication (4178): Jan. 30-W, 1:30-4:30 p.m. (part of the Communication Certificate Series);
• How to Deal with Difficult People (4179): Feb. 7-R, 8:30-11 a.m.;
• Pilates Bi-Weekly Exercise: Bi-weekly exercise class on Mondays, starting Feb. 4 (previously listed as Jan. 28) through April 28, 5:15-6:15 p.m., C3300 University Center; Registration: 644-7943;
• Retirement Income Solutions (AIG Retirement) (4295): Jan. 24-R, 10-11 a.m.;
• Sexual Harassment Policy Information Training (4326): Feb. 5-T (previously scheduled on Jan. 30), 2-3 p.m.; and
• Workplace Accidents: Prevention and Management (for supervisors and BSP) (4171): Feb. 6-W, 9-11 a.m.

Registration: hr.fsu.edu/train (reference the 4-digit class ID).
Information: 644-8724.

♦ OMNI TRAINING:
• OMNI-AM-1000 – Asset Management Overview (4197): Feb. 6-W, 9 a.m.-noon, A6301 University Center;
• OMNI-AM-1500 – Intermediate Asset Management Overview and Inventory Training (4205): Feb. 6-W, 1:30-4:30 p.m., A6301 University Center;
• OMNI-PCARD-100 – PCard Proxy Training – New Proxies (4384): Jan. 24-R, 2-4 p.m., A6301 University Center;
• OMNI-SP-2089 – Sponsored Programs Proposal Development (4231): Jan. 29-T, 9-11 a.m., 301 Student Services Building; and
• OMNI-SP-2489 – OMNI Inquiry for Sponsored Projects (4247): Jan. 31-R, 2-4 p.m., 301 Student Services Building.

Registration: hr.fsu.edu/train (reference the 4-digit class ID).
Information: 644-8724.

♦ ONLINE TRAINING: The following free training courses and/or programs can be taken online anytime: Online New Employee Orientation (new employee information); Online Core Curriculum for Supervisors; Online Fundamentals of Discipline; Online Internal Controls; Online Performance Evaluation Training; Online Sexual Harassment Policy; and Online Sexual Harassment: What You Need to Know (for supervisors and BSP).

Registration: hr.fsu.edu. Information: Pat Mullins, 644-4579.

♦ NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: New employees now can go through the required university orientation by using the Human Resources Web site at hr.fsu.edu. Click the “New Employee Information” link for additional information on orientation sessions offered. For those who prefer a classroom session, New Employee Orientation will be offered on Mondays, Jan. 28 and Feb. 11, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in A6244 University Center.

♦ CERTIFICATE SERIES TRAINING: Employees have up to one year to complete all the courses within a series, which then will result in a certificate being earned. Participants should register for each individual course within the series.

COMMUNICATION IN THE WORKPLACE

• Fundamentals of Communication (4178): Jan. 30-W, 1:30-4:30 p.m.;
• Nonverbal Communication: Unspoken Messages in the Workplace (4180): Feb. 14-R, 1:30-4:30 p.m.;
• How to Deal with Difficult People (4179): Feb. 7-R, 8:30-11 a.m.;
• Conflict Communication Skills (4177): Aug. 13-W, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

BUILDING A HEALTHY FINANCIAL LIFESTYLE

• Session I – Understanding the Financial Planning Process; Managing Cash; Eliminating Debt (4279): Feb. 2, Saturday, 8:30-noon;
• Session II – Debt Management and Savings/Investments (4280): Feb. 23-Sat., 8:30-noon; and
• Session III – Insurance and Investment Planning (4281): March 1, Saturday, 8:30-noon

All classes will be held at the Training Center, Stadium Place.
Registration: fsu.edu/train. Information: 644-8724.

♦ NEW TRAINING CLASSES: The Office of Training and Organizational Development is offering a number of new classes, free to employees. The following will be offered in February and March:

• Firearm Safety in Your Home (4331): Feb. 13-W, 9-10 a.m. Class will review the requirements by Florida law of firearm ownership; storing a firearm in a safe location; utilizing gun safety tools, including gun safes and locks; and more. Presented by the FSU Police Department, Crime Prevention.

• Domestic Security Awareness (for facilities personnel) (4332): March 4-T, 1:30-4 p.m. An informative presentation by FSU Police on what university employees can do to help ensure campus safety and security from external and internal threats. This new class version is geared primarily for employees who work in facilities.

• Diabetes: Exercise Helps Control Blood Sugar (4333): March 5-W, 10:30-noon. This course, offered through the University Wellness Program, aims to educate FSU employees diagnosed with diabetes (or pre-diabetes) about the importance of reducing and controlling their blood sugar levels through regular exercise.

Registration: hr.fsu.edu/train (reference the 4-digit class ID).
Information: 644-8724. A complete listing of the spring/summer 2008 Schedule of Classes also is available on the Web site.

TIME AND LABOR

♦ SICK LEAVE POOL OPEN ENROLLMENT: Membership applications only will be accepted by Human Resources during the open enrollment period, from 8 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 8, to 5 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28. For additional information or to download the membership application, please visit hr.fsu.edu/index.cfm?page=FacultyStaff_BenAndPerks_SickLeavePool.
Information: Sick Leave Pool Administrator Lorna Fisher, lsfisher@admin.fsu.edu, 644-1978, or Michelle Gardner, mgardner@admin.fsu.edu, 644-9610.

BENEFITS / RETIREMENT

♦ FACULTY/SEASONAL DOUBLE DEDUCTIONS: Double deductions for nine- and 10-month faculty and seasonal employees will begin with the Feb. 1, paycheck. Employees enrolled in health, life and supplemental plans will have double deductions taken from their paychecks to pay for the summer months. Double deductions begin with the first paycheck in February and end with the first check in May. These double deductions pay for premiums for the summer months of June, July, August and September. Regular deductions will resume with the first paycheck in September. Employees should review their paycheck statements during the double deduction period to insure that the deductions are correct.

Information: Benefits office, 644-4015.

HUMAN RESOURCES

♦ DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVE MEETING: The Human Resources Spring 2008 Department Representative Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 26, from 8 to 11:30 a.m., in the Oglesby Union Ballroom. All department reps are encouraged to attend this meeting for important HR updates and information.
RECOGNITIONS

Jonathan Adams, Ed.D. (Communication), was co-recipient of a Top Panel Award from the Training and Development division of the National Communication Association for his role on the panel “Online or On the Way Out? The Status of Online Training as it is Perceived in Business and Industry.” Peggy DeFleur of Louisiana State University and Adams also co-wrote the paper “When the Gate Slams Shut: The Acceptability of Online Degrees in Business and Industry” at the 93rd annual meetings of the National Communication Association, Chicago, November 2007.

Rod Evans (Telecommunications) has been awarded the designation of Registered Communications Distribution Designer by Building Industry Consulting Service International. The RCDD designation is the premier industry benchmark for information transport systems professionals who have demonstrated their knowledge in the design, implementation and integration of complex information transport systems and related communications infrastructure.

Victor Ferreros (Northwest Regional Data Center) was the recipient of the William J. English Presidents Award given at the 2007 annual conference of the Florida Association of Educational Data Systems and was a nominee for the Information Security Executive of the Year Award for the third year in a row.

Mikal Haney (Northwest Regional Data Center) has been featured in a written case study by the data storage company SANRAD, highlighting the use of intelligent storage technol-ogy in Northwest Regional Data Center at Florida State University.

Adam J. Hirsch, Ph.D., J.D. (William and Catherine VanDercreek Professor, Law), has been ranked first among all wills, trusts and estates scholars nationwide by Brian Leiter’s Law School Rankings. The rankings are based on per capita citations to faculty scholarship.

Patrice Iatralola, Ph.D. (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies), was given a William R. Jones Outstanding Mentor Award by the Florida Education Fund, in conjunction with the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program. The award was announced during the annual conference of McKnight Doctoral Fellows, Tampa, Fla., November 2007.

Felecia Jordan, Ed.D. (Communication), won a Top Paper Award for “A Worldview on Race and Gender: An Assessment of Verbal Aggression of Black and White Men and Women,” from the African-American Communication and Culture Division and Black Caucus. The paper was presented during the panel “Changing Worlds with Faith, Intellect and Ethics: Teaching Communication in the 21st Century” at the 93rd annual meetings of the National Communication Association, Chicago, November 2007.


Donna Nudd, Ph.D. (Communication), was given the Distinguished Service Award by the Performance Studies Division of the National Communications Association at the 93rd annual meetings of the National Communication Association, Chicago, November 2007.

Gary Taylor, Ph.D. (George Matthew Edgar Professor, English), wrote the book “Reinventing Shakespeare,” which has been listed among the best 100 books about Shakespeare on the Random House/Modern Library Web site compiled by Shakespeare scholar Jonathan Bate. Taylor’s name also appears on three other books featured on the list: “Complete Works” as joint general editor, “William Shakespeare: A Textual Companion” as co-editor, and “The Division of the Kingdoms: Shakespeare’s Two Versions of King Lear” as co-editor.

BYLINES


Juan Carlos Galeano, Ph.D. (Modern Languages and Linguistics), wrote the book “Amazonie,” which was recently translated into French by Dominique Soucy, published by Écrits des Forsges, Québec, November 2007. Poems from this collection have appeared in more than 30 journals in the United States, including The Atlantic Monthly, Partisan Review, TriQuarterly and Antioch Review, and in international anthologies and textbooks. The poems also have appeared in “The Trees Have a Mother,” a documentary film on Amazonian folktales and religiosity that Galeano co-directed and co-produced; Galeano’s collection of oral narratives, “Folktales of the Amazon,” is scheduled to be released in the fall 2008.

Brian Galle, LL.M., J.D. (Law), co-wrote the article “Can Discriminatory State Taxation of Municipal Bonds be Justified?” Please see CIA, 9.

**Jonathan Klick, J.D., Ph.D.**


**Teresa A. Koncick**

(John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art) has been invited to serve as the keynote speaker for the European Circus Association Symposium, Monte Carlo, Monaco, November 2007.

**Caroline Joan “Kay” Pica**


**Terrie Mock**

(Northwest Regional Data Center) co-wrote several chapters in the January edition of IBM’s *Redbooks*, featuring the ISPT productivity tool.


**Manuel Utset**

(Charles W. Ehrhardt Professor, Law) wrote the article “Hyberbolic Criminals and Repeated Time-Inconsistent Misconduct,” published in the journal *Houston Law Review*, Vol. 44.


**George Blakely**, M.F.A. (Art), was invited to the Park School in Baltimore to install “The Florida Pictures Show” in the Richman Gallery and exhibited other works of art in surrounding exhibition areas. During his week of residency, Blakely lectured and gave workshops to various art classes, was one of 12 artists from across the country to be nominated by the chief curator of photography at the George Eastman House to participate in the Heroes of Horticulture project of The Cultural Landscape Foundation, and exhibited work at Edge Zones in Miami in conjunction with Art Basel.

**Tamara Blenkhorn**, J.D. (Law), presented “Legal Research and Citation” at the Certified Bankruptcy Assistant Seminar and Exam, Orlando, Fla., October 2007.


**Adam Hirsch**, Ph.D., J.D. (William and Catherine VanDercreek Professor, Law), presented “Twists and Turns in the Law of Inheritance by Slayers” at the fall meeting of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel, White Sulphur Springs, W.Va., October 2007.

**Shouping Hu**, Ph.D. (Education), presented “The Effects of Engagement in Inquiry-Oriented Activities on Student Learning and Personal Development” and “The Influence of Student Engagement and Sport Participation on College Outcomes Among Division-I Student Athletes,” both at the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, Louisville, Ky., November 2007.

Please see CIA, 10
Crow wins UCEA Master Teacher award

Gary Crow, chairman of the Florida State University Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, was named a 2007 Master Professor at the annual meeting of the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) in November.

“Receiving the Master Professor award has provided me an opportunity to remember the faculty mentors and students I have had over the years who have taught me why learning is exciting and rewarding,” Crow said. “My own research in leadership development and mentoring reinforce my understanding of how important these individuals can be and have been in my own life and career.”

SERVICE

Maggie Blackburn, M.D. (Family Medicine and Rural Health), has been appointed to the National Advisory Committee on Rural Health and Human Services, a 21-member citizens’ panel of nationally recognized experts who provide recommendations on rural health and human services issues to the secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Patricia Yancey Martin, Ph.D. (Daisy Parker Flory Professor of Sociology), served as the Marie Jaho Visiting International Professor of Feminist Studies at the Ruhr-University, Bochum, Germany, October-November 2007; and lectured on her research on gender in the workplace to faculty and students in gender studies and sociology at Leipzig University, Hannover, Germany, the University of Applied Sciences, Darmstadt, Germany; the University of Kassel, Kassel, Germany; and Raboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Michael Navon, Ph.D. (Computational Science, Mathematics), was invited by the editors and publisher of the International Journal for Numerical Methods in Fluids to join its editorial board. As a board member, Navon will assist the editorial board with difficult reviews when needed, act as a guest editor for special issues of the journal, promote the journal through submission of his work, and encourage colleagues to use the journal.

GRANTS

Tom Luschei, Ph.D. (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies), received a $35,000 grant from the American Educational Research Association to conduct an analysis of data from the National Center for Education Statistics Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study. The grant is supported by the National Science Foundation and the National Center for Education Statistics of the Institute for Education Sciences. Luschei, along with co-principal investigator Amanda Chudgar of Michigan State University, will examine the mathematics achievement of fourth-grade students in 26 countries.

Lawrence Krieger (Clinical Law) presented “Lawyering, Distress and Dysfunction” at the Conference on Law as a Healing Profession, Touro College of Law, November 2007; and presented the keynote address “Human Nature as a New Philosophy for Legal Education” at the Symposium on Humanizing Legal Education, Washburn University, Topeka, Kan., October 2007.


Leisa A. Martin, Ph.D. (Social Science Education), co-presented “Native American Students Speak Out” at the annual meeting of the College and University Faculty Assembly, San Diego, Calif., November 2007.

Dan Markel, J.D. (Law), presented “Criminal Justice and the Problem of Family Taxes” at a Loyola University-New Orleans School of Law faculty workshop, December 2007.


Anthony Morgan (dance) created the choreography “Idyll to the Music Helletused,” by Veljo Tormis, for the Vancouver company Dancers Dancing. It was performed at Simon Fraser University’s Mainstage Theatre, Vancouver, Canada, November 2007. In addition, Morgan’s dance film “Zoomorph” was screened at the MADance Screen Salon, Toronto, Ontario, 2007.

Jim Rossi, LL.M., J.D. (Harry M. Walborsky Professor, Law, Research), presented “The Associate Dean for Research: A Survey of Mechanisms for Aligning Self Interest and Institutional Interests in Scholarship Among Law Faculty” at a University of Tulsa School of Law workshop, November 2007.

Linda Schrader, Ph.D. (Education) presented “Ethics in Evaluation: At the Crossroads of Principle to Practice” at the annual conference of the American Evaluation Association, Baltimore, Md.

Lori J. Walters, Ph.D. (The Harry F. Williams Professor of French, Modern Languages), presented the paper “Mother-Daughter Conflicts and Their Resolution in the Works of Christine de Pizan” at the conference on Gender and Generational Consciousness held at the Otto-Friedrich Universität, Bamberg, Germany, December 2007; wrote the article “Performing the Nation: Christine de Pizan’s Biography of Charles V & the Play Performed at the Great Feast,” published in the book “Cultural Performances in Medieval France: Essays in Honor of Nancy Freeman Regalado,” edited by Eglal Doss-Quinby, E. Jane Burns and Bonnie Krueger, published by Boydell and Brewer, 2007; wrote the article “Re-Examining Wace’s Round Table,” which appeared in “Courty Arts and the Art of Courtliness,” edited by Keith Busby and Christopher Kleinhenz, published by Boydell and Brewer of Cambridge 2007.

Lesley Weksler, J.D. (Law), presented “Blood Diamonds” at the Legal Scholarship Workshop, University of Chicago School of Law, November 2007.

The grant is supported by the National Science Foundation and the National Center for Education Statistics of the Institute for Education Sciences. Luschei, along with co-principal investigator Amita Chudgar of Michigan State University, will examine the mathematics achievement of fourth-grade students in 26 countries.
Free Report and DVD Explains How To Prepare for a Secure Retirement!

Four Issues Most People Ignore When Planning for Retirement

It's been said that every 10 seconds, a Baby Boomer turns 65. This started in January 2008. I don't know if it's every 10 seconds, 30 seconds, or 20 seconds. The point is that Baby Boomers are turning age 65 and will for the next 18 years. This will have tremendous consequences for all of us.

Most people will not be prepared for retirement. Why? I think it's because of the following four issues:

#1 – Underestimating Life Expectancy:

We're living longer as a society. In 1900, life expectancy was 47 years. Currently it is 75 years for a male and 80 years for a female. Many people will live to be older than the mortality table suggests. This increased longevity will require better planning.

If we have 20 to 30 years of retirement, we will need an income stream we can never live with increases to help offset inflation. Retirees can no longer just put their investments into a "conservative" investment program and ignore it.

Inflation will steal from them. It also means we can't be too aggressive with our retirement investments because we could end up losing money due to the stock market downturns like we saw in 2000, 2001 and 2002. We have to find that delicate balance between too much risk and being too conservative if we are to assure ourselves that we will not run out of money in retirement.

#2 – Health Care Expenses and Long Term Care:

When I ask people what their number one concern is they tell me, "The cost of health insurance and Long Term Care." Health care costs are out of control and continue to rise. As Baby Boomers retire, there will be a need for medical services that we have never seen before.

If we agree that we are going to live a long life, we also have to agree that we are going to need some type of health care. Where will that care be delivered? Will it be in our home? Will it be in an assisted living facility, a skilled nursing facility, or a full-time nursing home? Very few of us will ever live in a nursing home; therefore most of the care is going to come from our families. In fact, most of the time children will have to care for their parents. What will be the financial and emotional impact?

#3 – Inflation, The Silent Thief:

If you ask 10 people what they think the inflation rate is, you will probably get 10 different answers. In reality, we all have a different personal inflation rate because inflation is not just one rate but many rates. Inflation is a silent thief. A stealth tax! Why? Because inflation is chipping away at the purchasing power of your dollars, that's why! Inflation is a silent tax. It takes money out of your pockets.

We have to make sure that we are not outsmarted by the thief. Inflation is a silent thief. We have to make sure that we are not outsmarted by the thief. Inflation is a silent thief.

#4 – Relying too heavily on Government and Employer Retirement Plans:

At one time in our country's history people focused on taking care of themselves. However, today it seems we are becoming an entitlement society. How many times have you heard that people are paying something like Social Security, that they have no right to even talk about reducing my benefits? That's what I mean by an entitlement society.

We have to make sure that we have a plan in place to deal with this issue. Congress will have to eventually deal with this issue. Private plans will be too costly for people that are already retired, or increase the tax rates for the younger generation, or a combination of the two. We must take personal responsibility for our retirement.

We all know that there are serious issues that will impact everyone in planning for their retirement. I hope that you will study these issues and I wish you much success and financial freedom.

Free Report and DVD available!!

Contact John Curry, PFS, at (850) 562-3000, e-mailing john.curry@adlic.com or visiting his website www.johnhcurry.com.

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John Curry earned his Masters of Science in Financial Services and has authored several articles and special reports. He is a Senior Associate of the North Florida Financial Corporation. John has assisted thousands of people in planning for a Secure Retirement through his retirement workshops, speaking engagements, DVD's and CD's, and personal consultations. John may be contacted by calling (850) 562-3000, e-mailing john.curry@adlic.com, or visiting his website www.johnhcurry.com.

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