

STATE

Volume 42 ■ Number 18

May 12 - June 1, 2008

THE FACULTY/STAFF BULLETIN OF FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

ENGINEERING

Ostrach finds honors seminar especially rewarding, 4

ADVISING FIRST

Administrators elected to national offices, 5

SPREAD THE WORD

The 2009 edition of *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Graduate Schools" found several Florida State University graduate programs to be among the best in the nation: Environmental law (10th); speech-language pathology (18th); higher education administration (18th); education policy (19th); student counseling and personnel services (19th); education administration and supervision (19th); and educational psychology (24th).

2008 Lawton Distinguished Professorship

FSU faculty bestows highest honor on renowned literary scholar

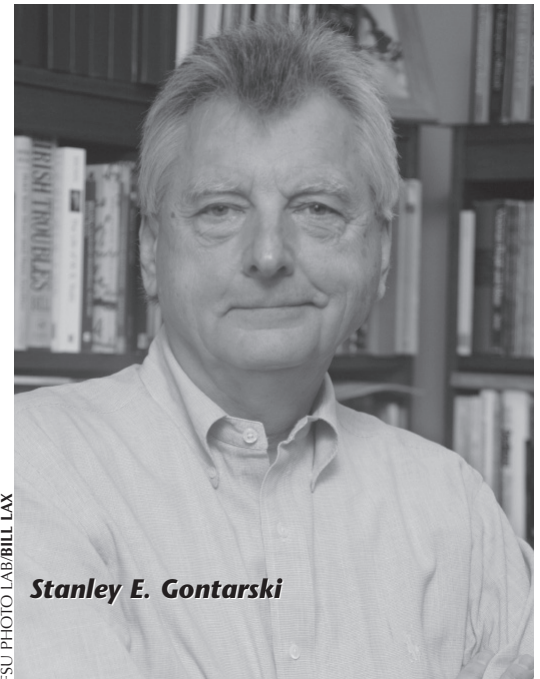
By Libby Fairhurst
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Florida State University Professor of English Stanley E. Gontarski, an internationally acclaimed scholar and critic, influential editor, innovative dramatist and inspiring teacher and colleague, has been named the 2008-2009 Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor. It is the highest honor bestowed by the FSU faculty on one of its own.

"We have an extraordinarily productive faculty here at Florida State, across all disciplines, and so to have one's own work singled out for such attention is simultaneously exhilarating and humbling," Gontarski said.

"The Lawton Distinguished Professorship is a truly fitting honor for Stan, who embodies what it means to be a model FSU colleague," said Joseph Travis, dean of FSU's

Please see GONTARSKI, 11



Stanley E. Gontarski

FSU PHOTO LAB/BILL LAX

Christiansen receives Distinguished Teacher Award

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Florida State University business professor recently selected to lead a new center that will promote research and service activities related to banking and finance has been named the recipient of FSU's 2007-2008 Distinguished Teacher Award. William A. Christiansen, who chairs the Department of Finance in the College of Business, received the award at the annual Faculty Teaching Awards Ceremony on April 7.

"William Christiansen joins a long line of Florida State University faculty who have received our highest award for teaching excellence," said Anne Rowe, dean of the Faculties

Please see FACULTY, 9



William A. Christiansen

The Impact of Long Term Care Issues

How to use Long Term Care Insurance to Protect your Retirement & Estate Plans

FSU Faculty & Staff

You Are Invited

Long Term Care Issues May 20, 2008

Location:
North Florida Financial
3664 Coolidge Court
Tallahassee, FL 32311

Registration & Refreshments:
5:30-6:00PM

Presentation:
6:00-7:30PM

RSVP by
Friday, May 16, 2008
at Noon by calling
(850) 562-3000

or by emailing
Kimberly_Fischer@glic.com

Website:
www.johnhcurry.com

If we live long enough all of us will need long-term care planning. Perhaps it will be in-home care, assisted living, skilled nursing or maybe we will reside in a nursing home.

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John Curry earned his Master 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@glic.com, or visiting his website www.johnhcurry.com.


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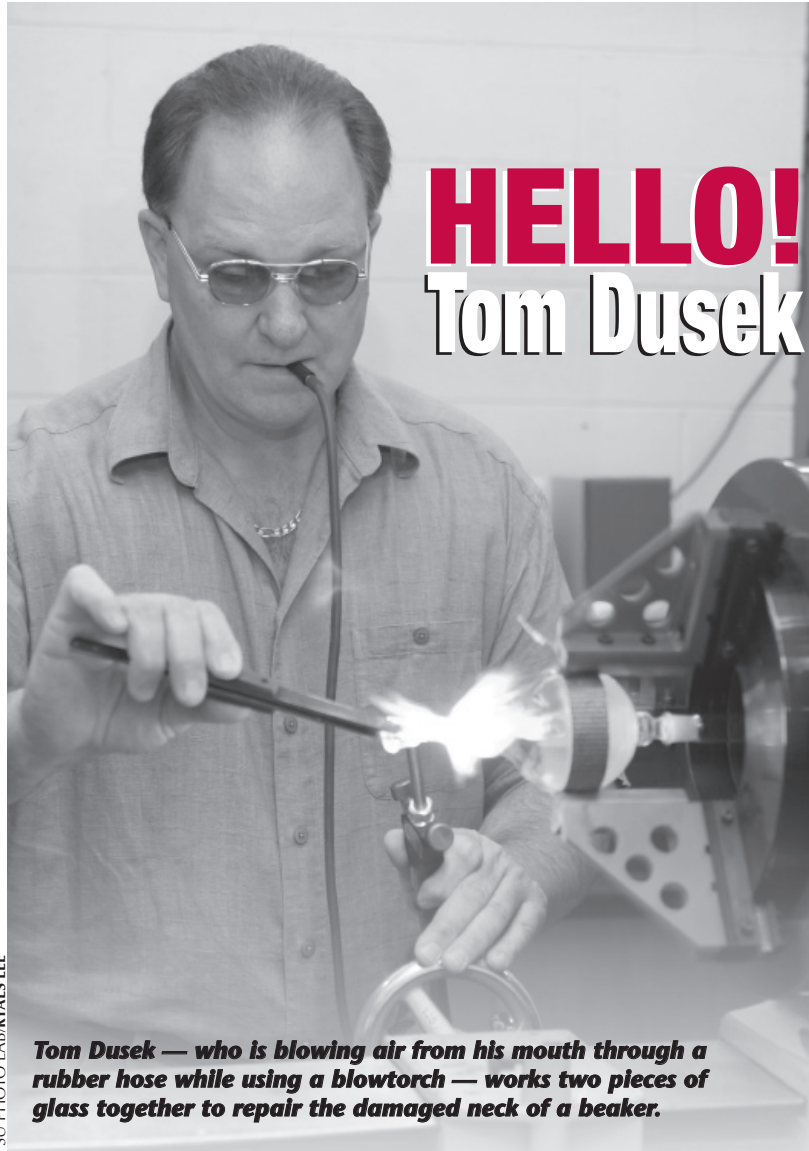
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GUARDIAN

"The sediment cores recovered during this year's successful ANDRILL expedition have filled in a major gap in the most direct record of the ice activity yet recovered from the period of about 20 to 14 million years ago."

Sherwood "Woody" Wise, who is the Lyman D. Toulmin Professor of Geological Sciences at Florida State University, was quoted April 30 by ScienceDaily discussing the FSU Antarctic Marine Geology Research Facility's newly acquired sediment cores, which were drilled from the sea floor beneath Antarctica's western Ross Sea. This news story was generated by a news release from the FSU Office of News and Public Affairs.

FSU makes headlines around the world: www.fsu.edu/~unicomm/news



HELLO! Tom Dusek

Tom Dusek — who is blowing air from his mouth through a rubber hose while using a blowtorch — works two pieces of glass together to repair the damaged neck of a beaker.

FSU PHOTO LAB/RVYALS LEE

Meet Florida State University's scientific glass blower, one of only two in Florida and roughly 60 in the nation. To hone his craft, Dusek completed a 10-year apprenticeship under his father, who was a glass blower and chemist. Dusek, a member of the American Scientific Glass Blowers Society, came to FSU three years ago from the Institute of Polymer Science at the University of Akron in Ohio.

What kinds of objects do you create?

TD: A lot of what I create is not standard, such as test tubes, but the more high-end, complex objects that would be quite expensive if ordered from a glass supply company. A professor will come to me with a design, and I'll create a custom piece that fits a specific need. I also do some repair work to standard pieces.

How many objects do you create or repair in a given semester?

TD: Probably about 350, depending on what they are. I might get into making something that would take two or three days. I might also do quantity work, such as making 50 identical pieces of the same custom design.

What are the advantages of having an in-house glass blower?

TD: Cost and speed. The work I do is much less expensive than working with glass blowers at a glass house somewhere. Also, I can't tell you how many times someone has come to me and said, "I've broken this piece and I've got to have it repaired today because of (the urgency of) my research." Some research involves compounds that they've been working on for two or three weeks to get to a certain point — that's where I come in, to repair or modify a crucial piece.

Sometimes a researcher will come in and say, "I don't really know what I need, but this is what I need it to do," and we'll design the object together.

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**The deadline for the
June 2 - 29, 2008 issue is
4:30 p.m. on THURSDAY, MAY 22.**



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People with disabilities who require special accommodation for any event listed in *State* should call the unit sponsoring the event, or for the hearing or speech impaired, use the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Requests for accommodations must be received at least five working days before the event. *State* is available in alternative format upon request.

The engineer and the receiver

FSU football player is enthusiastic about his interaction with esteemed scientist during honors seminar — and vice versa

By Bayard Stern
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Florida State University student Michael Hellman said he didn't know what was in store for him when he registered for "The Impact of Technologies of Society," an honors seminar taught by Simon Ostrach, FSU Distinguished Professor of Engineering and senior adviser for academic advancement.

"I registered because I'm in the honors college and it sort of fit into my schedule," Hellman said in April after completing the course. The honors seminar was taught in Landis Hall, the FSU residence hall reserved for honors students.

"Dr. Ostrach explained the significance of major engineering and technological achievements and he had personal stories about many of them," Hellman said. "I now have an entirely new appreciation for engineering and what efforts are involved in creating everything that uses technology."

That is exactly the type of feedback Ostrach loves to hear.

"The purpose of these honors col-

loquia, as I understand it, is to develop critical thinking," Ostrach said. "It's the first time I've had the chance to formally speak to kids from such diverse backgrounds. There were freshman students from business, computer science, communications, film and biology."

Ostrach said he fondly remembers Hellman, a 6-foot, 2-inches tall, 230-pound freshman from Pembroke Pines, Fla., who is a receiver for the Seminoles.

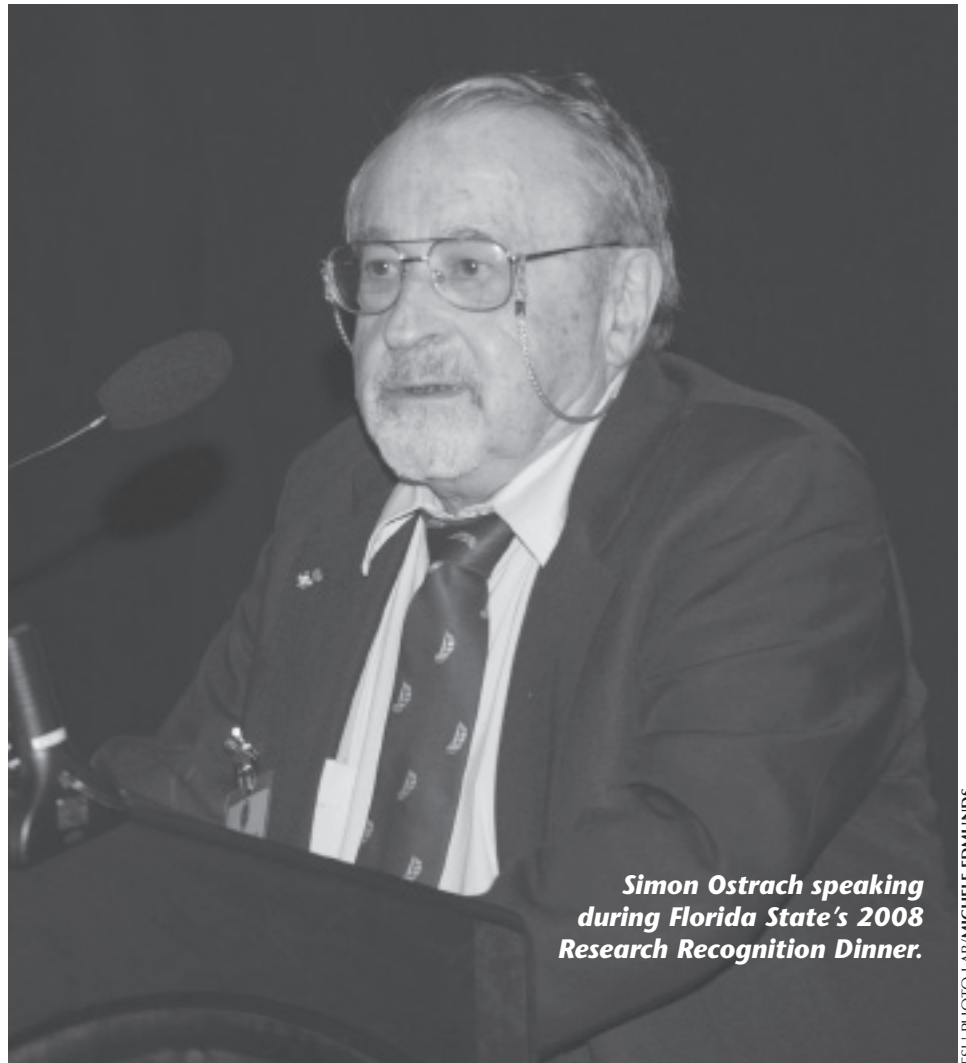
"Michael wrote three very insightful essays for the class," Ostrach said. "He is an interesting guy and he told me he was a pretty good football player but wasn't recruited by any of the big schools. One day he walked into class with a big smile on his face and he said he made the team as a walk-on. I kidded with him and said they let him on to raise the team GPA."

Part of the course, according to Ostrach, highlighted the National Academy of Engineering's list of the 20 greatest engineering achievements of

the century.

"I'm 84 and I realized when I was the age of the freshmen I was teaching, only seven of those achievements existed," Ostrach said. "In class we looked at each one and the students could see how each of those developments has impacted the world. I also identified a number of the global issues of their generation such as the lethality of war, poverty and disease. We discussed the many different roles engineering and technology can play in these issues. As the class progressed and they wrote their papers, I could see the blinders coming off these kids. A number of them suggested that I develop a similar curriculum for the high-school level, which I think should be done. Engineers have always had a complex that the public doesn't understand what they're doing, and it's largely true."

Ostrach is credited with helping to establish the FSU Office of Faculty Recognition and the Pathways of Excellence Distinguished Lecture Series.



Simon Ostrach speaking during Florida State's 2008 Research Recognition Dinner.

FSU PHOTO LAB/MICHELE EDMUNDS

Education professor works to improve adolescent literacy

By Molly Smith and Nash McCutchen
VISUAL MEDIA AND PROMOTION
AND
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Florida State University education researcher Judith Irvin is working to address an urgent problem in the United States.

"Adolescent literacy is a huge problem in our country," said Irvin, a professor of educational leadership and policy studies in FSU's College of Education. "Right now there are something like 6 million students who are reading or writing below grade level and not acquiring the skills that they will need after they graduate, or even to compete in school."

Irvin's prescription for fixing the problem is contained in a framework she has written, titled "A Leadership Model for Improving Adolescent Literacy." It was published last summer in the book "Taking Action on Adolescent Literacy: An Implementation Guide for School Leaders," which Irvin cowrote with Julie Meltzer of the Public Consulting Group's Center for Resource Management Inc. in Portsmouth, N.H., and Melinda S. Dukes, a doctoral candidate in FSU's Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies.

"There is a crying need for improving

adolescent literacy, especially in middle and high schools in the United States," Irvin said of their reason for writing the book.

While the goal is to create a higher rate of literacy among middle and high school-age students, "literacy" is a broadly defined term. It includes reading, writing, speaking, presenting and thinking -- but Irvin says literacy needs to include so much more.

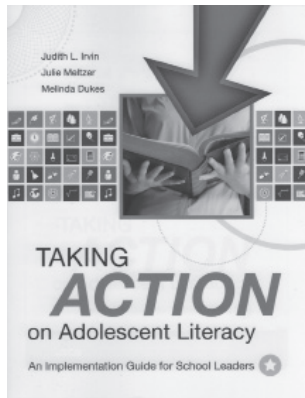
"When you think about what kids need for a very technological world, many of the jobs that they will be competing for haven't even been defined yet," she said. "And so we are also looking at 21st-century skills in terms of the technology that they need. It's

not only just reading from a textbook. It's also the Internet, the media and communication skills that they need to be successful as college students, as citizens, or in life in general."

Here is how Irvin's model works:

"Picture a bull's-eye," she said. "The center of this bull's-eye is student motivation, engagement and achievement. That is, of course, where we are targeting our efforts."

Around the outside of that bull's-eye, Irvin says, leaders must integrate literacy into everyday learning.



Judith Irvin

"And that's where literacy happens for kids," she said. "It happens in every single-content-area classroom. It also happens for some kids as they experience literacy interventions -- kids who are reading and writing below grade level."

The last piece to the puzzle is sustaining the effort -- and this happens best through a combination at school, at home, in the community and with coordination with the school district.

Irvin's adolescent literacy model recently was accepted by the organization New Leaders for New Schools (NLNS), an alternative certification initiative for the preparation of school leaders.

NSF gives nod to biophysicist's cell membrane research with award



Linda S. Hirst

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Armed with a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant presented to some of the nation's brightest young educators, a Florida State University faculty member is exploring complex biological processes involving cell membranes -- research with the potential to yield future breakthroughs in the fields of medicine and materials science.

"My group specializes in using physics to study biological systems," said Linda S. Hirst, an assistant professor of physics and researcher with FSU's Center for Materials Research and Technology (MARTECH) and its Institute of

Molecular Biophysics. "We aim to both understand fundamental biological processes, such as how cell membranes function, and also to develop new, interesting materials for technology that have been inspired by nature."

Hirst's research project, titled "Self-Assembly of Polyunsaturated Lipids and Cholesterol in the Cell Membrane," has been awarded an NSF Faculty Early Career Development grant worth \$572,831 over five years. According to its Web site, the NSF offers the awards "in support of the early career-development activities of those teacher-scholars who most effectively integrate research and education within the context of the mission of their organization."

Advisers lend FSU experience to national leadership roles

By Jeffery Seay
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With high-caliber advisers like these, Florida State University students can't go wrong.

FSU Advising First staff members Douglas K. Waddell and Kathleen S. Smith both play key roles in keeping FSU students' academic careers on track. Now, the two will share their know-how with advising professionals from across the nation. The members of the National Academic Advising Association, or NACADA, have chosen them to fill national leadership positions. Waddell, director of Advising First at FSU, has been elected region chair for NACADA's Region 4, and Smith, assistant director of Advising First's Center for Exploratory Students, has been elected chair of NACADA's Undecided and Exploratory Students Commission.

"This recognition of Kathleen Smith's research expertise and Doug Waddell's high-energy leadership is a testament to the strength and professionalism of the Advising First leadership here at FSU," said Karen Laughlin, FSU's dean of Undergraduate Studies. "The active participation of our Advising First advisers in their national organization not only brings recognition to FSU but also enriches the advisers' daily interactions with our students."

As region chair, Waddell will be responsible for representing and providing leadership to the membership within the geographic region. In addition, he will facilitate networking opportunities and member recruitment, identify needed member services for the region, establish and maintain a regional governing structure, and oversee the annual regional conference and



Kathleen S. Smith and Douglas K. Waddell

various workshops and professional development opportunities.

"I am truly ecstatic to have been elected into this position," Waddell said. "FSU is highly respected for its academic advising services and I am proud to be a part of that. The opportunity to represent our wonderful institution at a national and international level is an honor."

Waddell added that he is looking forward to taking the Southeast Region of NACADA to the next level.

Smith's duties will include providing leadership and direction to the commission regarding its special advising area of interest. She also will promote participation in commission activities and conference programming, and

propose and facilitate activities and publications to advance the professional development of the commission's members, and contribute to the commission's general body of knowledge.

"I am deeply committed to NACADA's mission and truly honored to serve in this leadership role," Smith said. "In our field, undecided students are considered an at-risk population and require additional information and support from advisers to navigate successfully through college."

As the new chairwoman of the commission, Smith plans to build a national network of exploratory advisers through an online forum where ideas can be exchanged and strategies for effective advising can be discussed.



On the air for May

This month's "FSU Headlines" television show highlights research at Florida State University, and details the ACC Meeting of the Minds — a research symposium hosted by the university, featuring its top students and those from fellow ACC institutions. "FSU Headlines" debuts on WFSU-TV channel 11 (Tallahassee Comcast Cable channel 5) May 21 at 7:30 p.m.

The show also can be seen beginning

May 21 on 4-FSU (Tallahassee Comcast Cable channel 4) on Mondays at 6 p.m., Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m. and Fridays at 7 p.m. In addition, it is seen statewide on the Sun Sports network (Tallahassee Comcast Cable channel 28) every Tuesday and Thursday during May on Sun Sports at 7:30 a.m.

In addition, the show's video stories can be viewed anytime at www.fsu.com/video.

State association appoints Henley to executive board

Robert W. Henley, director of Employee and Labor Relations with Florida State University Human Resources, has been appointed to the executive board of the Florida Public Employer Labor Relations Association.

As such, Henley will work with the association's elected board members from around the state to share information and best practices in public-sector labor relations, and provide leadership to FPELRA to best serve Florida's public-employer labor relations professionals.

"This appointment brings significant recognition to the University and is a reflection of Robert's expertise and accomplishments in public sector labor and employee relations," said Joyce A. Ingram, assistant vice president and chief human resources officer for FSU. "His participation on the board and the sharing of best practices will support continuous improvement and effective management of our campus labor and employee relations. It is also an opportunity for Robert to provide statewide leadership and service excellence to other public sector labor and employee relations professionals."

With more than 25 years of profes-



Robert W. Henley

sional human resources and labor relations experience, Henley has held both private and public sector jobs. He began his career in human resources at the Walt Disney World Company in the Employee Relations Division in 1982. He then began his public sector career in 1983 at the University of Florida in Gainesville as a labor-relations repre-

sentative and, later, labor relations manager. In 1988, Henley began working for the Office of Labor Relations in the Florida Department of Administration as a labor-relations specialist. In 1996, he returned to the State University System at FSU as an associate director of Human Resources, and has been in his current role since 2003. Henley serves as the chief negotiator for FSU's five USPS collective bargaining agreements with AFSCME Council 79, the Florida Police Benevolent Association and the Florida Nurses Association. He also serves on the management bargaining committee for the faculty of the Florida State University School, represented by the United Faculty of Florida.

Henley earned his Bachelor of Science degree in industrial relations with a double major in psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He earned his Master of Business Administration degree from FSU, where he was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma.

The FPELRA is a professional association of public sector labor-relations professionals in Florida dedicated to the highest standards of excellence in public-sector labor relations.



FSU PHOTO LAB/RYALS LEE

Remembering Wendy Crook: On May 2, the Big Bend Homeless Coalition dedicated its family dormitory to the memory of Florida State University social work Professor Wendy Crook, who passed away in October 2007. Crook was known for her tireless work for and advocacy of the homeless. During the dedication ceremony, her husband, Danny Crook (right), praised his late wife's compassion for homeless people and her commitment to solving homelessness "one person at the time." Showing support for his late colleague and friend was Aaron McNeece, dean of the FSU College of Social Work (left). Pictured over McNeece's shoulder is the dedication plaque designating the Big Bend Homeless Coalition's family dormitory as "Wendy's House," which can house 60 people.

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:

• **BSP: Orientation Session** (for supervisors and BSP) (4319): May 20-T,

9-10:30 p.m.;

• **DROP (Metlife)** (4358): May 06-T, 1:30-2:30 p.m.;

• **New: Exercise-Boot Camp:** May 29-R - July 10-R, 12-12:45 p.m.; meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays for six weeks.

Registration deadline: May 28 by noon. **Information:** Lynn Grasso, lgrasso@admin.fsu.edu.

• **Faculty/Staff Fitness Sampler:** Session-I, May 28-W through Aug. 20-W, meets Mondays and Wednesdays, 7-7:45 a.m.; and Session II, May 28-W through Aug. 20-W, meets Mondays and Wednesdays, 12-12:45 a.m.; **Registration deadline:** May 28 by noon. **Information:** Lynn Grasso, lgrasso@admin.fsu.edu.

• **Family Medical Leave Act** (4299): May 13-T, 8:30-10:30 a.m.;

• **Man to Man: A Frank Conversation about Cancer** (4309): June 12, 9-10:30 a.m.;

• **Nutrition: Portion Control Made Easier** (4294): May 14-W, 10:30-11:30 a.m.;

• **Sexual Harassment Policy Information Training** (4327): May 14-W, 2-3 p.m.; and

• **Sexual Harassment: What You Need to Know!** (for supervisors and BSP) (4316): June 4-W, 2-4 p.m.

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

◆ OMNI TRAINING:

• **OMNI-BUD-1000 — Ledger Reconciliation** (4145): May 14-W, 1-4:30 p.m.;

• **OMNI-GL-1000 — Accounting and Budgeting Concepts** (4214): May 21-W, 9-noon, A6301 University Center;

• **OMNI-GL-2000 — General Ledger Journal Processing and Reporting** (4218): May 21-W, 1:30-4:30 p.m.; A6301 University Center;

• **OMNI-GL-3000 — Advanced General Ledger: Reporting and Using Optional Chart Fields** (4452): May 28-W, 1:30-4:30 p.m.;

• **OMNI-HR-3100 — eTime for Time and Labor Representatives and Supervisors 8.9** (4227): May 7-W, 1:30-4:30 p.m.;

• **HR-PCARD-100 — PCARD Proxy Training: New Proxies** (4388): May 15-R, 2-4 p.m., A6301 University Center;

• **OMNI-PUR-1589 — Purchasing** (4306): May 15-R, 8:30-11:30 a.m., A6301 University Center;

• **OMNI-SP-2089 — Sponsored Programs Proposal Development** (4235): May 20-T, 9-11 a.m.; 301 Student Services Building;

• **OMNI-SP-2489 — OMNI Inquiry for Sponsored Projects** (4251): May 29-R, 2-4 p.m., 301 Student Services Building;

• **OMNI-TE-2189 — Travel and Expense for Representatives and Approvers** (4439): May 27-T, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.; and

• **OMNI-TE-2589 — Travel Card Training** (4245): May 29-R, 8:30-11:30 a.m.;

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

◆ **CONGRATULATIONS, BSP GRADUATES:** The Human Resources' Training and Organizational Development office held a graduation and recognition ceremony for participants of the Basic Supervisory Practical (BSP) training program on April 17. The 13th graduating class of this 35-hour supervisory training program consisted of 39 Florida State University employees from different departments across campus.

The featured guest speaker, President T.K. Wetherell, talked about the unique challenges associated with today's generation of employees and supervisors. John Carnaghi, senior vice president of the Division of Finance and Administration also attended, to congratulate the graduates and assist with the presentation of certificates.

To view pictures of the graduates and the event, visit the training Web site at hr.fsu.edu.

The next BSP program will begin on May 20, from 9-10:30 a.m., with the BSP Orientation (ID 4319) at the Training Center, Stadium Place. **Information:** 644-8724.

◆ **NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION:** New employees can take the required university orientation online or in a classroom. To register for either version, go to the Human Resources Web site at hr.fsu.edu. Click the "New Employee Information" link for orientation sessions that are offered and to register. For those who prefer a classroom session, New Employee Orientation will be offered on Monday, May 12, and Tuesday, May 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in A6244 University Center.

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

■ **ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH:** This celebration, held in May, is intended to commemorate the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent who live in the United States. This month was chosen because two important anniversaries occurred in May: The arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in America on May 7, 1843, and the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, which was constructed by many Chinese laborers.

Did you know that some commonly used English words have Asian origins?

tycoon: Japanese from "kaikun," meaning great prince.

ketchup: Malaysian from "kicap," meaning fish sauce.

gung ho: Mandarin from "gonghe," meaning industrial worker's cooperative.

tattoo: Samoan from "tatau," meaning "to mark or strike twice," and "ta," meaning hand.

karaoke: Japanese from "kara," meaning void or empty, and "oke" (okesutora), meaning orchestra.

at FSU. "We congratulate him today as we recognize this outstanding achievement."

Nominations for the Distinguished Teacher Award are submitted by students who seek to honor professors who have made a great impact on them. Those nominations then are reviewed by a faculty committee, which makes the final selection.

"With so many outstanding instructors at Florida State University, it is a real honor to receive this award," Christiansen said. "I place a very high value on teaching and working with my students at all levels. It is nice to be rewarded for something that I enjoy so much."

Christiansen, who holds the title of Bank of America Professor, has been a member of the FSU faculty since 1983. His teaching and research interests include commercial bank management, pension funds, real estate finance, and bank runs and failures.

As chairman of the finance department, Christiansen has overseen several major initiatives that have significantly improved the educational experience for the university's 1,000-plus finance majors. These include the establishment of the department's SunTrust Visiting Speaker Series, the reorganization of the department's Web site (www.cob.fsu.edu/fin), a restructuring of the Ph.D. program in finance, and the development of a new Master of Science in Finance program. (The master's program will start in summer 2009, while the restructured Ph.D. program will be implemented in fall 2009.)

Also, earlier this year, the College of Business announced its receipt of a \$2-million gift from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation to establish the Gene Taylor/Bank of America Center for Banking and Financial Studies. Christiansen was named the director of the new center, which will be used to encourage excellence in education as well as fund research and service activities related to banking and finance.

Dean Caryn L. Beck-Dudley of the College of Business praised Christiansen's selection for the Distinguished Teaching Award as "well deserved."

"In the classroom, he displays a pas-



William A. Christiansen, the Florida State University College of Business' Bank of America Professor (left), receives the 2008 Distinguished Teacher Award from FSU President T.K. Wetherell.

sionate attitude toward teaching and learning, and he has a genuine interest in motivating students to discover their own potential," Beck-Dudley said. "He has received the University Outstanding Teaching Award three times and the Outstanding MBA Program Professor Award six times during his tenure with the College of Business. This latest award is another example of his dedication in producing top graduates for our college."

Christiansen will receive a \$7,500 stipend along with the Distinguished Teacher Award.

Forty-six other outstanding FSU faculty members also were recognized in other categories during the Faculty Awards Ceremony:

•**Developing Scholar Awards:** Igor Alabugin, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Paul Eugenio, Physics; Laurel Fulkerson, Classics; Xiuwen Liu, Computer Science; and Teng Ma, Chemical and Biomedical Engineering.

•**Distinguished Research Professor Awards:** Nancy de Grummond, Classics; Efstratios Manousakis, Physics; and Joseph Schlenoff, Chemistry and Biochemistry.

•**Graduate Faculty Mentor Awards:** Henry Fuelberg, Meteorology; Don Levitan, Biological Science; Pam Perrewé, Management; and Anuj Srivastava, Statistics.

•**Undergraduate Advising Awards:** D. Craig Filar, Biological Science; Henry Fuelberg, Meteorology; Susan Gla-

ser, Education; Robbin Hand, Social Sciences; Janice Lindsley, Business; and Betty Stanton, Computer Science.

•**Honors Thesis Mentor Awards:** Susanne Cappendijk, Biomedical Sciences; and Cathy Levenson, Nutrition, Food and Exercise Sciences.

•**Distinguished University Scholars:** Sharon Hagopian, Physics; and William Denis Markiewicz, National High Magnetic Field Laboratory.

•**Undergraduate Teaching Awards:** Paolo Aluffi, Mathematics; Cheryl Beeler, Sport Management, Recreation Management and Physical Education; Radha Bose, Statistics; Joseph Calhoun, Economics; Billy Close, Criminology and Criminal Justice; Jerome Cronin, Marketing; Nanna Cuchens, Nursing; Norma "Jeanne" Dexter, Panama City Campus — Management; Donna Fletcher, Sport Management, Recreation Management and Physical Education; Larry Gerber, Music; Frank Gunderson, Music; Sandra Halvorson, Panama City Campus — Communication; Monica Hurdal, Mathematics; Alexander Jimenez, Music; Jeff Paterson, Accounting; Steven Ramsier, Statistics; Denise Tucker, Nursing; and William Woodyard, Risk Management/Insurance, Real Estate and Business Law.

•**Graduate Teaching Awards:** Andrew Epstein, English; Steven Gey, Law; Darrin McMahon, History; Carolyn Piazza, Childhood Education, Reading and Disability Services; and Nat Stern, Law.

Campus in Action

Compiled by Bayard Stern, bstern@fsu.edu

RECOGNITIONS

Janet Burroway, M.A. (McKenzie Professor, English), wrote the short story "Blackout," which won the \$750 third prize in *Narrative Magazine's* 2008 love story contest.

Eric Chassignet, Ph.D. (Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies), won a National Oceanographic Partnership Program Award for Excellence in Partnering for his work on the "U.S. GODAE: Global Ocean Prediction with the HYbrid Coordinate Ocean Model." The award presentation is scheduled for a NOPP-focused session at Capitol Hill Oceans Week, June 5, Washington, D.C.

Elizabeth Stuckey-French, M.F.A. (English), wrote the short story "Interview with a Moron," which won the \$2,500 first prize in *Narrative Magazine's* 2008 love story contest.

BYLINES

Justin Leiber, Ph.D. (Philosophy), wrote the article "The Wiles of Evolutionary Psychology and the Indeterminacy of Selection," published in the journal *Philosophical Forum*, Vol. 39.

Louis Mark Palazesi, Ph.D. (Human Resources), **Beverly L. Bower**, Ph.D. (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies), and **Robert A. Schwartz**, Ph.D. (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies), co-wrote the article

"Underlying Consumer-Valuing Structures of Baby Boomers as Older Adults in Community Colleges: A Grounded Theory," published in the *Journal of Marketing for Higher Education*, Vol. 17, No. 2.

Ebrahim Randeree, Ph.D. (Information), and **Melinda Whetstone** co-wrote the article "Personal Health Records: Addressing Consumer Needs for Access," published in the *International Journal of Healthcare Technology and Management*, Vol. 9, No. 3.

Frank P. Tomasulo, Ph.D. (Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts), wrote "'Adaptation' as Adaptation: From Susan Orlean's 'The Orchid Thief' to Charlie Kaufman's Screenplay to Spike Jonze's Film," published in the book "Film Adaptation," edited by Jack Boozer, published by the University of Texas Press, Austin; and wrote "'Life Is Inconclusive': A Conversation with Michelangelo Antonioni," published in the book "Michelangelo Antonioni: Interviews," edited by Bert Cardullo, published by University Press of Mississippi, Jackson.

PRESENTATIONS

Michael Barrett (Finance and Administration) presented "The Road Ahead — A Survey of Effective Post-Implementation Support" at the Alliance conference, sponsored by the Higher Education User Group, Las Vegas, March.

Susan Berry (Finance and Administration) presented "Accessing Management Data: How to Make Your PIs Happy" at the Alliance conference, sponsored by the Higher Education User Group, Las Vegas, March.

Beverly Bower, Ph.D. (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies), presented, as an invited speaker, "The Community College Baccalaureate: Mission Creep? Mission Kept?" at the Raines Colloquium, sponsored by the Program in Higher, Adult and Lifelong Education, Michigan State University, April.

Michael Collins, M.S. (Campus Recreation), Tommy Schorer and Tim Kellison co-presented "Florida State Intramural Sports: How the Unconventional Attracts the Masses" at the conference of the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association, Austin, Texas, April.

Marin Dell, J.D. M.L.I.S. (Law), and **Elizabeth Farrell**, J.D. (Law), presented "Playing Big Brother to Top Models, Biggest Losers, and American Idols: Surviving the Reality of Personnel Management" at the annual meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries, Alexandria, Va., March.

Craig Filar (Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavors), **Margaret Hansard**, **Delmar Little**, **Tan Perry**, **Taniesha Wright** (Advising First) prepared and co-presented the paper "Spicing Up Our Approach to Academic Success" at the conference of the National Academic Advising Association, Mobile, Ala., March.

Jennifer Hamilton (Finance and Administration) presented "Easy Money: The Path to Automation and It Doesn't Stop There" at the Alliance conference sponsored by the Higher Educa-

tion User Group, Las Vegas, March.

Lorrie Harvey (Finance and Administration) presented "AP Interface: HR to Financials — Everything You Need to Know and No One Will Tell You!" at the Alliance conference sponsored by the Higher Education User Group, Las Vegas, March.

Chuck Kemeny (Finance and Administration) and **Randy McCausland** (Finance and Administration) co-presented "Tracking Your PIA Statistics the Google Way" at the Alliance conference, sponsored by the Higher Education User Group, Las Vegas, March.

David Peters, M.S. (Campus Recreation), presented "Keeping Recreation in Intramural Sports" at the conference of the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association, Austin, Texas, April.

Lara Reglero, Ph.D. (Modern Languages and Linguistics), presented the paper "Adjacency Effects in Spanish wh-Questions" at the 18th Colloquium on Generative Grammar, University of Lisbon, Portugal, April.

Sharon Ryals (Finance and Administration) presented "Hiring Temporary Workers By The Hundreds. No, Make That Thousands and Counting" at the Alliance conference, organized by the Higher Education User Group, Las Vegas, March.

Maria Whitaker (Finance and Administration) presented "Charge It! The Use of Procurement and Travel Cards in 8.9" at the Alliance conference, organized by the Higher Education User Group, Las Vegas, March.

Maria Willstedt, Ph.D. (Modern Languages and Linguistics), presented the paper, "Dulcinea Virago," at the second annual Florida Cervantes Symposium, Rollins College, Winter Park, Fla., April.

College of Arts and Sciences. "He is an extraordinary scholar whose work has been recognized around the world and whose dedication to teaching has been recognized all over our campus."

Among his prolific array of scholarly, literary, editorial and teaching achievements, Gontarski is considered the world's foremost authority on the writings of acclaimed Irish author, poet and dramatist Samuel Beckett (1906-1989). In fact, he's the "dean of Beckett studies" who has made Tallahassee "the world capital of Beckett scholarship," according to the 2008-2009 Lawton citation prepared by Ralph Berry, chairman of the FSU English department.

"If not for Stan Gontarski, a one-man compendium of the history of literary modernism, where would Beckett now be?" Berry said. "Beckett likely would have retired to the margins of academic criticism as so many writers contemporary with him have done. Stan has been one of the most illuminating interpreters of Beckett's dramas. He has provided the scholarly introductions to the standard editions of many of Beckett's major works, including "Waiting for Godot," and has served as the editor of many of Beckett's previously unavailable texts and as publisher of the principal journal devoted to Beckett's study."

What's more, few scholars have done as convincing a job as Gontarski at demonstrating the central role that publishing and editing have played in the major movements of modernist literature over the past century, according to Berry. He has produced a vast list of published works, a significant portion of which has been translated into as many as eight languages. Among those works are dozens of essays, several edited volumes, and books — many considered groundbreaking in his field.

"In the humanities in particular most of our work is done in almost monastic seclusion," Gontarski said. "Our greatest challenge is finding the time to do the necessary reading, thinking and writing it takes to produce a body of work that has some, if small, cultural impact. Having colleagues from a variety of disciplines recognize that work is especially gratifying."

Gontarski joined the FSU English department faculty in 1988, after having held faculty and research positions at Ohio State University (where he earned his Ph.D.), the University of California-Riverside and the Georgia Institute of Technology. He already had earned wide acclaim for his scholarly work, which reflected not only rhetorical skill and critical sophistication but also his specialized training as a textual editor. Soon after arriving at FSU, Gontarski became editor of the *Journal of Beckett Studies*, a position he then held for nearly 20 years. Over the same period, he also produced a book series in European literature and philosophy and served as guest editor for "American Book Review" and "The Review of Contemporary Fiction," among other prestigious volumes.

"If not for Stan Gontarski, a one-man compendium of the history of literary modernism, where would Beckett now be?"

**— Ralph Berry
Chairman
FSU Department of English**

Colleagues have described him as an "intellectual ambassador who superbly, and frequently, represents Florida State University on an international stage."

Gontarski has been the recipient of more than 20 grants and fellowships, including five from the National Endowment for the Humanities. He won two Fulbright professorships as well as fellowships from the American Philosophical Society, the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Center, and the American Council for Learned Societies.

He also is well known and highly regarded as an influential director and innovative dramatist, and has overseen productions of Beckett's plays both in major U.S. cities and abroad, including for audiences in London, Edinburgh,

Madrid and Paris.

"Throughout my almost 20 years at FSU, the university's research support has steadily increased and that support has been invaluable to my work," Gontarski said. "FSU's International Programs also have been indispensable to me. I've taught regularly at the FSU London Study Center and in Florence, Italy, and given the focus of my research, each time is virtually a research semester for me."

Closer to home, Gontarski has served on FSU's Graduate Policy Committee and the Provost's Quality Enhancement Review, chaired the university's Professional Excellence Program, and served as the English department's director of Graduate Studies. His commitment to his students has been an inspiration to his colleagues, Berry said.

Gontarski has received four university awards for outstanding teaching, and since 1992 has overseen to completion a total of 14 doctoral dissertations, four master's theses and numerous undergraduate honors theses. For more than a decade, Gontarski has volunteered to lead his students in an informal weekly reading group that meets over lunch to read aloud and discuss James Joyce's "Finnegan's Wake." Under his tutelage his students together have generated more than 40 publications from their final projects and many now serve as professors themselves in English departments at colleges and universities around the country.

The Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professorship was named for the late Robert O. Lawton (1924-1980), who served with distinction on the FSU faculty and administration for 31 years.

"On the scholarly side, I think that anybody who produces a substantial body of work in any discipline will tell you that the singular, indispensable personal characteristic is dogged persistence," Gontarski said. "Teaching, on the other hand, is driven by the desire to share the results of those labors. If you're not excited about your teaching and research, if you don't get up each morning eager to tackle the issues at hand, find something else to do with your life. To my mind there is no teaching without research, and much of the fun of research is making it public, on paper and in the classroom."



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