Travis named president-elect of American Institute of Biological Sciences

By Libby Fairhurst
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Joseph Travis, dean of Florida State University’s College of Arts and Sciences and a distinguished researcher in the field of ecological genetics, has been named president-elect of the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). The institute has a combined membership of more than 250,000 scientists nationwide.

Travis will serve as the president-elect in 2009, president in 2010, and past-president in 2011. The American Institute of Biological Sciences is comprised of about 5,000 individual biologists and the members of 200 professional societies and scientific organizations.

“One of the most important themes for the American Institute of Biological Sciences is the unity of biological science as a discipline, even as biology research and teaching are done at many levels from the molecular to the ecosystem,” Travis said. “We are in an exciting time when insights into ecosystem processes are coming from new findings in chemistry and when advances in developmental biology are helping to answer questions in evolutionary biology, and the AIBS promotes this kind of integration within the life sciences.”

Among its many current initiatives, Travis said the institute would work with the National Academies and the Nation-

Business professor receives 2008 Ross Oglesby Award

By Libby Fairhurst
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Associate Professor Timothy A. Matherly, a respected colleague and dedicated teacher in the Florida State University College of Business for more than 28 years, was named the 2008 Ross Oglesby Award winner during FSU Homecoming celebration on Nov. 15.

Each year during Homecoming since 1973, FSU’s student-run leadership honor society “Garnet and Gold Key” bestows the Ross Oglesby Award, its most prestigious prize, on a nominated member of the faculty or staff who has served students and the university with exemplary commitment and integrity for a decade or more.

“During his 28-year career at Florida State, Dr. Matherly has tirelessly dedicated his time, energy and talents to his students,” said senior political science major Andrew Gonzalez, of Miami, the 2008-2009 president of Garnet and Gold Key. “He serves as a perfect example of leadership, scholastics, and service to the FSU student body. Our honor society is

Fourteen members of the first class to graduate from The Florida State University College of Medicine have completed the journey to becoming full-time practicing physicians. The 27-member class graduated in May 2005. Because the length of residency program training varies depending on specialty, 13 members continue in residency training.
Confusion and chaos are rampant in the financial marketplace. Just look at the headlines regarding the government bailout, the subprime mess, real estate values, the stock market now plummeting, interest rates, and worries about inflation. Add to this all the rhetoric being presented by both political parties, no wonder people are paralyzed and afraid to make financial decisions. Can you blame them?

I think it's important to understand what got us where we are. Most people are simply out of balance, financially speaking. We've become a nation of spenders. We have too much debt, both mortgage and credit card debt. We've forgotten how to save money.

When working with my clients, I use a program called The Living Balance Sheet®. We focus on four financial domains: Protection, Assets, Liabilities, and Cash Flow.

**Protection:** We focus on protection first, full replacement and lifetime protection. I want my clients to be fully protected in the event of an unplanned and untimely event such as a car accident, a hurricane, a fire or unexpected medical problems, disability and death.

**Assets:** in this domain, the focus is on increasing rate of return, with minimal risk. We look for tax advantages, and liquidity. Many people focus just on the rate of return and are taking undue risk.

**Liabilities:** here we work on eliminating debt, reducing taxes, and mortgage selection. Many people are in trouble today because they chose the wrong type of mortgage.

**Cash Flow:** our planning process encourages clients to increase their income, protect themselves first, build cost of living savings, look for debt and tax efficiency, and live a budgeted lifestyle.

I find it interesting that all of a sudden the financial press is telling us to be more conservative, save money and spend less. By using The Living Balance Sheet®, we always suggest that our clients do these things and to be prepared for Life’s Unplanned and Untimely Events.

To schedule a FREE initial consultation call: 850-562-3000

To download your FREE Report: Understanding the Real Cost of Living, visit: www.JohnHCurry.com/lbs
Teaching with Technology Showcase coming this spring

The faculty of The Florida State University are invited to attend an event to see how their colleagues, university librarians and teaching assistants use instructional technology and multimedia to engage students and promote active learning.

The second annual Teaching with Technology Showcase — a partnership between the Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Computer Store’s Technology Fair — will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Oglesby Union Ballroom.

Faculty members who are interested in making a presentation at the showcase can apply through the Center for Teaching and Learning until Dec. 17. Topics should focus on the use of social networking and collaboration tools, integration of technology to promote higher order thinking in large enrollment courses, student use and the creation of media-rich learning materials or the use of virtual learning environments.

To apply, visit the Teaching with Technology Showcase Web site at http://learningforlife.fsu.edu/ctl/collaborate/techPresentations09.cfm.

Important Foundation year-end, gift-processing dates

University employees who are responsible for processing or receiving gifts for their colleges or departments, take note: the Florida State University Foundation will have abbreviated business hours during the winter break.

To ensure donors’ year-end gifts reach the Foundation in a timely manner and are processed according to their wishes, the Foundation encourages employees to adhere to the following revised schedule.

The Foundation office will close at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 24, and will remain closed through Monday, Dec. 29. The Foundation will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 30, and Wednesday, Dec. 31, to assist with year-end contributions and to process gifts.

Documents and donor instructions either can be mailed using campus mail code 2739 or hand-delivered to the Foundation office at 2010 Levy Ave., Building B, Suite 300.

After the holidays, employees should take a few moments to sort through their mail in order to identify charitable items and then deliver them, along with their respective envelopes, to the Foundation office by Friday, Jan. 9, 2009.

“We want to make all Florida State employees who receive year-end gifts aware of the urgency of transmitting those gifts and any donor instructions to us,” said Brianne Adachi of the Foundation’s Gift Processing Services.

For more information, send an e-mail to Adachi at badachi@foundation.fsu.edu, or call (850) 644-0770.

NewsMakers

“Like an actor, a writer has to put himself at his character's center of consciousness. He has to make internal sense of the story.”

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Olen Butler, a Francis Eppes Professor of English who holds the Michael Shaara Chair of Creative Writing, quoted on WashingtonPost.com discussing the creative process of writing. The feature article describes his education as a drama student at Northwestern University, his Army service in Vietnam and the thoughtful way he crafts characters and plots.

Butler's most recent book, “Intercourse,” is a provocative collection of 50 short monologues that depict what famous people are thinking during sex.
As a boy living on a small farm with his grandparents in the Amazon region of Colombia, Juan Carlos Galeano was entranced with the lush, naturalistic and often-violent folktales that had been passed down from tribal Amazonians and had evolved through generations of natives and multiethnic newcomers like his relatives.

Over the past decade, Galeano, a poet and professor of Spanish at The Florida State University, returned to the seven countries of the entire Amazon River basin during his summer and winter breaks to immerse himself in the storytelling world of Amazonians and gather and recast many folktales comparable to those he heard in his childhood.

In his new book “Folktales of the Amazon,” just released by Greenwood Publishing Group, Galeano presents 41 tales gathered and recast from Amazonian fishermen, hunters, lodgers, small plot-farm gardeners and villagers in Venezuela, Guyana, Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia and Ecuador. This version, translated from Spanish into English by Rebecca Morgan and Kenneth Watson, was previously published in Spanish in Mexico and Peru.

Galeano explained that as the world becomes more technologically driven, the practice of storytelling is decreasing: “Today, we in the so-called first world use the wonders of digital technology to express ourselves, forgetting the importance and function of storytelling. Humankind has been telling stories since thousands of years before the existence of the written word.”

According to Galeano, traditional societies — and Amazonians in this case — use storytelling to recount daily experiences in forests and rivers and to articulate their regard for animals and plants as living, feeling beings.

“Theyir conception, deeply rooted in Amazonian indigenous cosmologies, is that humans are kin to the non-human world,” he said. “Storytelling is, for them, a way to maintain the memory of costumes and express ethical attitudes toward their land. Unfortunately, the relationship of modernity with these places is one of objectification and demythification.
as we regard their animals, plants and places as ‘natural resources’ to be used and spent for our comfort.

“What triggered my interest in this project,” said Galeano, “is that with deforestation, the Amazonian population becoming more urban, and the presence of electric lamps and vehicles even in the most remote areas, traditional lore is losing ground. It is important to gather and document those tales before this living library of storytellers dies.”

Organized thematically and reflecting the spiritual and holistic view of the Amazonian indigenous societies, the folktales in Galeano’s book convey messages of kinship bonds and reciprocity, capturing the socialized relationship between animals and people, as well as a variety of shape-shifting supernatural entities. Other stories veer into more shocking or forbidden territory, including acts of cannibalism and the ingestion of psychotropic or visionary plants used by shamans. The book includes stories of pink dolphins, boas and anacondas seducing maidens from riverine settlements, spirit protectors of the forest, and rivers and lakes that are perceived as sentient entities.

In the story “Renacal: A Grove of Magical Trees,” for example, Galeano recounts the experiences of fishermen on the Samiria River and their belief that the ghostly landscape of the Renaco grove hosts spirits who protect animals by punishing greedy fishermen. According to Galeano, stories like this may have served the function of easing the human presence and pressure on areas where animals give birth or lay eggs.

Galeano notes that the shaman plays an important role in Amazonian stories.

“In Amazonia, the presence of the shaman is pervasive and necessary,” he said. “In the forest, where people depend on hunting, fishing and cutting trees for protein and shelter, and where, according to the myths of indigenous peoples, trees, animals and places are considered living beings, interactions between human dwellers and ‘mothers’ or ‘masters’ of trees and animals have the potential for conflict. When this occurs, the mediation of a shaman is needed. Through a shaman’s interpretation of the daily experiences and events, they feed the tradition of oral folklore.”

“Folktales of the Amazon” will be presented at Florida State during the Folklore Festival in the spring of 2009 at the Scholars Commons Room in Strozier Library.

Galeano’s venture into the Amazon is part of a research and creative journey that he says is still unfolding. “Amazonia,” a collection of his poems first published in 2003, was recently translated into a book-length edition in French and has been published in English in several American journals, including The Atlantic Monthly, TriQuarterly and Ploughshares. In 2007, he co-produced and co-directed the film “The Trees Have a Mother: Stories of the Amazon” with faculty and students from the FSU Film School. Galeano also is finishing another collection of poems, “Natural History,” in which he re-mythologizes animals and plants of the Amazon, and he plans to continue the recasting of more tales from areas of the Amazon basin he hasn’t visited yet.
Florida State Dean of the Faculties Anne Rowe has approved the following 58 faculty and staff members for either sabbaticals or professional development leave for the 2009-2010 academic year.

ONE-SEMESTER SABBATICALS

Anne E. Barrett (Sociology), Elwood D. Carlson (Sociology), Jeffrey P. Chanton (Oceanography), Yingmei Cheng (Finance), Eric K. Chicken (Statistics), Barry J. Faulk (English), Robin J. Goodman (English), Timothy L. Hoekman (Music), Vickie E. Lake (School of Teacher Education), Feng “Aaron” Lan (Modern Languages and Linguistics), Efstratios Manousakis (Physics), Gregory A. Riccardi (Information), Kenneth H. Roux (Biological Science), James P. Sickinger (Classics), Jon A. “Tony” Stallings (Geography), Samuel L. Tabor (Physics), Jeanette E. Taylor (Psychology), Kaifeng Yang (Askew School of Public Administration and Policy) and Xiaojun Yang (Geography).

ONE-SEMESTER SABBATICAL ALTERNATES

John O. Sobanjo (Civil and Environmental Engineering), Carol Ann Clayson (Meteorology), Mark L. Messersmith (Art), Gavin J. Naylor (Scientific Computing) and Ian W. Douglas (Information).

TWO-SEMESTER SABBATICALS

Todd Adams (Physics), Roy F. Baumeister (Psychology), Ming Cai (Meteorology), Carol Ann Clayson* (Meteorology), Frederick R. Davis (History), Andrew D. Epstein (English), Karl Anders Ericsson (Psychology), Robert J. Gellately (History), Elizabeth B. Goldsmith (Textiles and Consumer Sciences), Alec N. Kercheval (Mathematics), Eundeok Kim (Textiles and Consumer Sciences), Felipe Korzenny (Communications), Matthew L. Lata (Music), Timothy M. Logan (Chemistry and Biochemistry), Susan C. Losh (Educational Psychology and Learning Systems), John M. Marincola (Classics), Sande D. Milton (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies), Donna M. Nudd (Communication), Gail Rubini (Art), John O. Sobanjo* (Civil and Environmental Engineering), John R. Taylor (Sociology), Dianne M. Tice (Psychology), Gary S. Tyson (Computer Science), Michael A. Uzendedski (Modern Languages and Linguistics), Susan N. Wood (School of Teacher Education) and Xin Yuan (Computer Science).

*Alternates for one-semester sabbaticals

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAVE

Maryann I. Abandroth (Nursing), Burton H. Altman (Strozier Library), Jennifer S.B. Calienes (Dance), Joseph S. Clark (Center for Teaching and Learning), Brian P. Fairhurst (National High Magnetic Field Laboratory), Joyceann B. Fausone (Dance), Timothy R. Long (Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts), Natalie J. Sachs-Ericsson (Psychology), Joyce M. Simmons (Management) and Johan van Tol (National High Magnetic Field Laboratory).

Faculty members can apply to teach abroad in 2010, 2011

Florida State University International Programs will be accepting applications from Friday, Dec. 26 to Friday, Jan. 30, from faculty members who would like to teach abroad for summer 2010, fall 2010, and spring 2011.

International Programs is soliciting applications for courses that lend themselves to the effective use of the academic and cultural resources available at a certain international location. Courses of broad general interest or that meet the liberal studies credit requirement or the multicultural requirement are of particular interest. Faculty members may apply to teach in one or more of any combination of locations and semesters.

Faculty members who wish to teach upper-level or major-specific courses should consider submitting a proposal for a curriculum-focused program. Such programs can be located in any country (or countries) and should be geared toward majors or professionals in a specific field. Faculty members are expected to lead in designing the program and recruiting participants. Faculty members selected to direct curriculum-focused programs at locations where there is no year-round study center are responsible for all aspects of the day-to-day program operation overseas, which can include academic advising, student disciplinary processes and emergency response.

Faculty members will teach courses listed in the current FSU General Bulletin and are expected to guide and oversee any directed individualized studies (DIS) students majoring in their academic disciplines. In addition, all faculty members teaching at year-round study center locations are expected to assist the director of the study center with other duties associated with the program.

“We send students and faculty to live in the midst of incomparable academic resources such as art works, architecture, museums and libraries, institutions of government and commerce,” said Jim Pitts, director of International Programs. “Resources and meeting places far beyond the classroom are available, and we encourage faculty to take full advantage of the program’s location.”

The undergraduate programs are non-funded programs that do not generate FTEs, or full-time equivalences. During the fall and spring, faculty members will continue to be paid by their home departments while teaching at an international study center and are encouraged to seek additional support from their home departments.

During the summer, faculty are paid a stipend and provided with accommodation by the Office of International Programs. In addition, they must offer a minimum of two courses.

The Council for International Education and Programs (CIEP) and the academic director of the particular study center will review the applications. The nominations then are submitted to the director of International Programs for approval.

International entry clearance, work permit and visa requirements change frequently. If selected, faculty members must be prepared to work closely with International Programs staff members to meet these requirements for themselves and their families, including providing copies of their university degrees. In some cases, family members may not be permitted to accompany a faculty member for the entire length of the program due to immigration regulations.

Interested faculty members should complete the online application, which is available at www.international.fsu.edu.
New entry procedures at Strozier Library:
Florida State students, faculty and staff members now are required to show their FSUCards to enter Strozier Library. Those not carrying IDs can have their status confirmed through the Blackboard computer system. Students from other colleges and universities will be admitted with ID cards from their institutions. Non-affiliated visitors must sign in and show a government-issued ID. These changes have been made in response to concerns about personal safety in Strozier Library and the surrounding area. The decision to require IDs was made in consultation with the university administration, the FSU Police Department and the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

TRAVIS
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National Science Foundation to shape the next generation of research directions in biological science.

Many important problems in biological science require interdisciplinary approaches from areas such as mathematics and engineering, so the AIBS will aim to rally the scientific community to help foster such approaches and train the next generation of students to think about biology in an integrative manner,” he said.

The election of Joe Travis as president-elect of the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Biological Sciences reflects the high regard the U.S. science community has for his scientific abilities and judgment,” said Lawrence G. Abele, Florida State’s provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs and, like Travis, a faculty member in the Department of Biological Science. “He is simply a great colleague both as a scientist and an administrator.”

Abele noted that with Travis now in such a high-profile position, Florida State’s name would garner added positive exposure nationwide.

Because FSU programs, faculty and students are so strong, that exposure should enhance the university’s reputation and help us to continue to attract the best new faculty members and most promising new students,” Abele said.

In addition to heading the College of Arts and Sciences, Florida State’s largest academic unit, Travis holds the title of Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, the highest honor bestowed by the FSU faculty on one of its own.

His own research has been focused on population biology (i.e. which factors create fluctuations in numbers of individuals and how crowding affects the growth, development, mating and reproduction of individuals).

MATHERLY
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privileged to bestow this award upon such a distinguished and respected professor.”

Matherly’s College of Business colleagues also sing his praises.

Pamela L. Perrewé, the Haywood and Betty Taylor Eminent Scholar of Business Administration and Distinguished Research Professor, called Matherly “a dedicated and talented teacher” who gives unselfishly of his time to advise or simply listen to his students.

“Known as a challenging teacher who expects much from his students, he has demonstrated his teaching effectiveness in undergraduate lecture settings as well as advanced MBA graduate classes,” said Perrewé in nominating her colleague of 20 years for the 2008 Oglesby Award.

She noted that Matherly always earned excellent teaching evaluations, which she deemed particularly commendable given his rigorous teaching style. “He is one of the top instructors in the College of Business at Florida State based not only on student evaluations but also on course relevance. He has a passion for the courses he teaches and patience when helping others to learn.

“Further, for years Dr. Matherly has served as the faculty advisor for the College of Business honor society, Beta Gamma Sigma,” Perrewé said. “He has been very active in both his own scholarship and his service to FSU as well. He has published and presented more than a dozen research articles and has been an active member of the university’s Faculty Senate for numerous years.”

Matherly joined the FSU faculty in 1980 as an assistant professor. He received his doctorate in business administration in 1983 from Indiana University, where he was a lecturer from 1976 to 1980. His professional memberships include The Academy of Management, The Southern Management Association, Beta Gamma Sigma and Sigma Iota Epsilon.

He also has a long history of service to the Tallahassee community. Matherly has donated countless hours to the Suwannee River Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and served on its executive board since 1990. Camp Tom Matherly is named for his late son.

“A kinder, gentler soul more concerned for the greater good of FSU students would be hard to find,” said William “Bill” Woodyard, a College of Business associate in business law and real estate, Garnet and Gold Key’s faculty advisor, and a former (2006) Oglesby Award winner.

“I have known and worked with Tim for 25 years in the Department of Management, which I chaired for 12 years, and he was a blessing to have on the faculty,” wrote William P. Anthony, a professor of management and the Emeritus DeSantis Professor of Business Administration, in his nomination letter. “I could always count on Tim to do more than his share of the work in helping both our department and college reach their goals.”
History professor named 2008 Florida Professor of the Year

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Jonathan A. Grant, a professor in The Florida State University Department of History, can lay claim to an academic honor that truly distinguishes him from his peers: He has been named the 2008 Florida Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

Grant, whose teaching areas include the histories of Russia, Central Asia, the Ottoman Empire, the Balkans and World War I, was officially recognized on Nov. 20 during the U.S. Professors of the Year award program hosted by the Carnegie Foundation in Washington, D.C.

“I was very surprised to learn that I had been named as the Florida Profes-

sor of the Year,” Grant said. “There are so many of my colleagues in the history department and across this campus who are excellent teachers. I hope this award helps call attention to Florida State’s commitment to high-quality undergraduate education.”

The U.S. Professors of the Year program salutes the most outstanding undergraduate instructors in the country — those who excel in teaching and positively influence the lives and careers of students. Sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, it is the only national program to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring.

Grant’s involvement in undergraduate education includes having served as director of Florida State’s Bryan Hall Learning Community from 2004 to 2008 and serving as associate chair for undergraduate studies in the history department since 2007.

RECOGNITIONS

Karen Harvey (Women’s Cross Country) was named the 2008 Women’s Cross Country South Region Coach Of The Year by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. This is the second consecutive year Harvey has been honored as both the Atlantic Coast Conference and South Region coach of the year, November.

BYLINES


PRESENTATIONS

Joseph S. Clark, M.A. (Center for Teaching and Learning), presented “Web 2.0 Technologies” at the Florida Government Technology Conference, Tallahassee, Fla., September; Clark served as a panelist on the topic of science in virtual worlds at the annual conference of the Association of Internet Researchers, Copenhagen, Denmark, October; Clark presented the paper “Second Chances: Depictions of the Natural World in the Multi-User Virtual Environment ‘Second Life’” at the international conference Creating Second Lives: Reading and Writing Virtual Communities, held at the National Institute for Excellence in the Creative Industries, Bangor, Wales, October; and Clark presented the poster session “Environmental Education in Second Life” at the annual conference of the National Communication Association, San Diego, November.

Janet Lenz, Ph.D. (Center for the Study of Technology in Counseling and Career Development), and Robert Reardon, Ph.D. (Career Center), co-presented the pre-conference workshop “Using Career Theories to Design Career Services for Universities and Students,” and Lenz presented “Cost Efficient College Career Services,” and Reardon presented “Career Courses in U.S. Universities,” all at the 2nd China International Forum of Career Planning, Shanghai, China.

Lisa Sprague (Public Safety), as the president of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, has been invited to give the keynote address during the Campus Risk Assessment and Security Conference, Sydney, Australia, April 2009. Sprague will discuss the lessons learned by campus law enforcement professionals from the April 16, 2007, shooting tragedy at Virginia Tech and subsequent IACLEA recommendations for institutions of higher education through the lens of public safety.

SERVICE

Nancy Everhart, Ph.D. (Information, Interdisciplinary Center for Leadership, Technology Integration and Critical Literacies), served as an onsite consultant to Portugal’s Ministry of Education, Department of School Libraries, Lisbon, Portugal; Everhart presented “Evaluation of School Libraries in the United States” to a meeting of approximately 300 of the nation’s school library media specialists, November.