Physicist tapped to lead Electron Magnetic Resonance program

Longtime National High Magnetic Field Laboratory collaborator Stephen Hill has been named director of its Electron Magnetic Resonance (EMR) user program and a professor of physics at Florida State University. Hill most recently served as an associate professor of physics and a magnet lab affiliate at the University of Florida.

After earning his doctorate from the University of Oxford nearly 14 years ago, Hill’s first stop in the United States was to conduct post-doctoral work at the magnet lab.

“I’ve been coming back ever since,” Hill said. “I hope to be able to strengthen the connection between my own international base of collaborators and the magnet lab’s established user community.”

“Steve’s got a great vision for the future of EMR, and we see his knowledge of the UF physics and chemistry departments as an opportunity to further cement the collaborative relationship that’s been growing for some time,” said Gregory Boebinger, director of the magnet lab.

A search committee led by former EMR Interim Director Peter Fajer chose Hill as director.

Choking under pressure
Researchers seek to explain, manage phenomenon

By Nash McCutchen
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

David Eccles, assistant professor in The Florida State University College of Education’s Department of Educational Psychology and Learning Systems and lead research scientist with the Center for Expert Performance Research at the Learning Systems Institute, has been awarded a planning grant from Florida State’s Center for Research and Creativity to study how stress affects the performance of experts.

Traditional theory suggests that learners’ actions are at first attention demanding but become automatic as they reach expert skill level and that “choking under pressure” occurs when — under stress — experts attempt to consciously correct actions that have become involuntary. Recent research suggests, however, that while some degree of behavior automation may occur, superior

SPREAD the WORD

The Florida State University College of Business’ accounting programs have been ranked among the best in the nation by the 27th Annual Public Accounting Report Professor’s Survey. Most notably, the graduate program moved up four places to No. 19. For the full story, see page 3.
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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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Accounting programs among nation’s best

The Florida State University College of Business’ graduate accounting programs are ranked the best in the state, and its undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs in accounting all are among the nation’s best, according to the recently released 27th Annual Public Accounting Report Professor’s Survey.

After the largest voter turnout in the newsletter’s history, Florida State’s accounting programs climbed in every category nationally. The undergraduate program moved up one spot to No. 24. The graduate program — defined by Public Accounting Report as a program offering master’s degrees in accounting or taxation — jumped 4 spots to No. 19, and the doctoral program debuted at No. 23.

“To have such tremendous growth in the rankings in one year is a testament to the strength of the Florida State University accounting programs,” said Bud Fennema, Florida State’s Ernst & Young Professor of Accounting and chairman of the Department of Accounting. “Our students, faculty and staff are what make our programs the best in the state, and some of the best in the country.”

Public Accounting Report compiles its national rankings by surveying accounting professors and department heads, who were asked to name the undergraduate and graduate programs that most consistently turn out students capable of someday attaining “partner” status. Public Accounting Report, one of the leading trade publications covering the public accounting profession in the United States, publishes the Top 25 ranking in each category: undergraduate, graduate and doctoral.

Publication makes magnet science understandable

The National High Magnetic Field Laboratory is an institution unlike any other, capable of producing the world’s strongest and most powerful magnetic fields and attracting researchers from all over the world. As exciting as a lot of this research is, it can be difficult to understand. That’s where Flux, a biannual publication targeting non-scientists, comes in.

Inside each issue, readers will find stories that go behind the science to discover the people and tools that drive the lab’s curiosity-based research. Flux strives to pique its readers’ interest in science, try an experiment at home, or learn the facts behind common magnet myths.

NewsMakers

“A major cause of the current economic crisis was the simple failure of financial institutions to adequately price risk,” Florida State University Law Professor Gregg D. Polsky, an expert at hedge funds and venture capital who recently served as professor in residence at the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, D.C., from an opinion piece, “The Problem with Performance-Based Compensation,” that he wrote for FinancialWeek.com in December. Polsky addresses whether a provision of the tax code that encourages companies to use significant amounts of performance-based compensation may have contributed to the nation’s dire financial situation.

Florida State makes headlines around the world: www.fsu.edu/~unicomm/news
Academic organizations smile upon outstanding Florida State faculty members

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Engineering professors honored as fellows in professional institutes

One is a former astronaut who champions the teaching of science to young people. The other is a pioneering researcher looking for ways to improve the safety and reliability of the nation’s power systems. Both are members of the faculty at the Florida A&M University-Florida State University College of Engineering — and now both have received major recognition for their work.

• **Norman Thagard**, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the associate dean for college relations in the College of Engineering, has been named a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) for 2009. The honor is given to “those who have made notable and valuable contributions to the arts, sciences, or technology of aeronautics or astronautics.”

  - **Thomas L. Baldwin**, an associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and a researcher at Florida State’s Center for Advanced Power Systems, has been elevated to the rank of fellow by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the world’s leading professional association for the advancement of technology. The IEEE cited Baldwin’s “contributions to grounding and protection in industrial power distribution systems.”

Thagard is perhaps best known for his days with NASA when, as a Mission Specialist Astronaut, he flew on four space shuttle flights. His fifth mission in 1995 was as a Cosmonaut Researcher for the 18th expedition to Russia’s MIR Space Station.

  “I am deeply honored by election to fellow status in the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics,” Thagard said. “Its members are aerospace professionals, many of them engineers in various disciplines. Having spent almost 25 years of my own professional life as a Marine Corps fighter pilot, NASA astronaut, space researcher and engineer, it is a career highlight to be recognized in this manner.”

Baldwin’s research is in the area of electric power systems, with particular application to industrial and commercial facilities. His most notable work involves grounding and earthing systems; specifically, he investigates how electrical currents flow into the ground from lightning strikes and electrical short-circuits.

  “Receiving this award demonstrates the quality of scholarly activity that is conducted across the Florida State University campus today,” Baldwin said of the IEEE honor. “Such an award is never earned in isolation, but comes from the joint collaborations with colleagues across campus and the students’ participation in research activities. Many of my colleagues could equally have received the award. It was more a matter of chance that I received it at this time.”
Three researchers named American Physical Society fellows

Their scientific research takes them in different directions, but three faculty members at The Florida State University now have one important thing in common: Each has just been elected a fellow of the American Physical Society (APS).

With 46,000 members, the APS (www.aps.org) is the nation’s largest and most prestigious professional society dedicated to the advancement of physics research and knowledge. Election to fellowship in the APS is limited to no more than one-half of 1 percent of the society’s membership and is a significant recognition by a scientist’s peers of his or her outstanding contributions to physics.

The Florida State faculty members selected as APS fellows for 2008, and the language provided on their APS citations, are as follows:

• Rafael P. Brüschweiler, Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Associate Director for Biophysics, National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, “for fundamental contributions to methodology and applications of nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy in combination with novel computational approaches for the dynamic characterization of proteins in solution.”

• Alexander V. Gurevich, Scholar/Scientist and Principal Investigator, Applied Superconductivity Center at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, “for significant contributions to the theory of superconductivity, particularly the effect of crystalline defects on critical currents, vortex dynamics, and upper critical fields of high-temperature superconductors and MgB2.”

• Samuel L. Tabor, Norman P. Heydenburg Professor of Physics and Director, John D. Fox Superconducting Accelerator Laboratory, “for pioneering and sustained contributions to the understanding of the structure of f-p-g shell nuclei and pioneering measurements elucidating the effects of neutron excess on nuclear shell structure near N=16.”

Tabor joined the Florida State faculty in 1979. During his tenure, he has conducted research that has helped to unravel some of the mysteries of the way protons and neutrons combine to form nuclei, the hearts of atoms. In particular, Tabor has focused on the changes caused by large imbalances in the numbers of protons and neutrons, which play a crucial role in the way elements are formed in astrophysical processes.

“My election as a fellow of the American Physical Society is an honor for me and for The Florida State University,” he said. “It provides national recognition both of my work and that of our nuclear physics group at FSU, which has been ranked eighth in the nation among public institutions.”

In his research, Brüschweiler works to increase scientists’ understanding of protein dynamics behavior, and how it is affected by interactions with other proteins, peptides and small ligands. Such an understanding is important for researchers as they attempt to develop new treatments for a variety of diseases.

“This is a tremendous honor,” Brüschweiler, a member of the Florida State faculty since 2004, said of being named an APS fellow. “It recognizes our research on biomolecular dynamics, which lies at the interface of physics, chemistry and biology. Protein molecules are intrinsically flexible, and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy (NMR) greatly contributes to their experimental characterization. Due to the complexity of proteins, computational and analytical physical models play an important role in the interpretation of the experiment. In our research, we bring new experimental and computational approaches together to enhance the understanding of proteins and their function.”

Gurevich, a condensed matter/materials theorist, came to Florida State along with the Applied Superconductivity Center, which moved here from the University of Wisconsin in 2006. His research focuses on the theoretical understanding of superconductors under extreme conditions of strong electric currents, high magnetic fields and strong radio-frequency electromagnetic fields. The results of these theoretical works are important for the development of new superconducting materials for power applications, particularly powerful high-field magnets and new generations of particle accelerators.

“It is indeed a great honor for every physicist to be elected an APS fellow,” Gurevich said. “It also recognizes the invaluable contributions of my colleagues from the Applied Superconductivity Center and collaborators from other groups all over the world who have made my work possible.”
Two to study abroad with Fulbright Grants

By Jill Elish
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Florida State University professors are doing their part to promote leadership, learning and understanding between cultures, thanks to Fulbright Scholar grants that are allowing them to study abroad this year.

The Fulbright Scholars are Joseph Hellweg, assistant professor of religion, and Marcia Rosal, professor and director of the art therapy program in the art education department.

“Fulbrights are among the most prestigious academic awards given to scholars, and I am very pleased that these faculty members were selected,” said Dean of the Faculties Anne Rowe. “Their contributions will have a global impact, and their students also will benefit significantly from this experience upon their return to FSU.”

Hellweg is teaching a two-semester course in anthropological field methods at the University of Kankan in Guinea, West Africa. As part of the course, Hellweg and his students will interview Kankan residents in the local Malinke language about their thoughts on the causes, symptoms and treatment of various diseases including HIV/AIDS, with an eye toward improving understanding and communication between Kankan residents and public officials.

“Too often, public health personnel see widely held ideas about disease as ‘cultural obstacles’ to good public health education,” Hellweg said. “My purpose in learning more about these ideas will be to think of them as bridges to dialogue about how best to approach public health education.”

Rosal is spending three months at the Taipei Municipal University of Education (TMUE) in Taiwan where she will conduct an ethnographic study on the career decisions of art therapists in Taiwan. As part of her study, she will travel across the country interviewing art therapists and observing their work. She also will deliver lectures at TMUE and other venues about her areas of expertise, which include group art therapy; art therapy research; the use of art museums as a tool in art therapy; and the use of art therapy in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

“I am interested in art therapy as a career choice here in Taiwan,” Rosal said. “This is a collectivist culture and art therapy is a singular, individualistic profession. In addition, the work I do in Taiwan will assist me when I return to Florida State. I will be more informed about multicultural issues in art therapy and will bring new ideas back to the FSU art therapy program.”

Hellweg and Rosal are among approximately 800 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad during the 2008-09 academic year through the Fulbright Scholar Program. Fulbright Scholars are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and because they have demonstrated extraordinary leadership potential in their fields.
Nominations sought for Lawton Professorship

Individual Florida State University faculty members are encouraged to nominate their colleagues who are tenured professors for the 2009 Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professorship. The deadline is Feb. 13. Only individuals — not departments, colleges or administrative units — can make a nomination.

The nominations should be sent directly to the Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor Committee, Office of the President, 211 Westcott Building, Mail Code 1470. The committee will consider the nominations on the basis of faculty members’ research or creative endeavors, teaching and service during their careers at Florida State. Although scholarly distinction is the primary qualification, a strong record in teaching, including the directing of graduate research, and service to the university and the academic community at large also should be clearly documented. The committee then will make a recommendation to President T.K. Wetherell, who selects the recipient.

To be eligible, professors must be tenured, have served on the faculty for at least 12 years and, above all, have achieved true distinction in his/her discipline or profession. All members of the faculty who meet these criteria are eligible for this honor.

The title of Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor is conferred for a given year, and is permanently retained along with the date of the award, which will be indicated in the catalog listing of the faculty.

A folder, prepared by the nominator, should contain a comprehensive curriculum vita for the nominee, along with evidence of outstanding scholarship, teaching and service to Florida State and to his/her profession. The nomination should include 2 to 4 letters of recommendation from individuals within Florida State and 3 to 5 letters from colleagues outside of Florida State. A brief professional identification should be provided for each author of an outside letter.

Questions about eligibility for the Lawton Award and preparation of the folders should be addressed to Genevieve Scott 644-0799. An advisory committee of Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professors will work with Scott to help answer questions about the process and the preparation of folders.

By the way

>> Teaching beyond Tallahassee: Florida State faculty members who are interested in teaching abroad in summer 2010, fall 2010 or spring 2011 must turn in their applications by Friday, Jan. 30, to the Office of International Programs, A5500 University Center. The application is available online at www.international.fsu.edu. The courses should 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.

>> Conference to examine origins of life: This spring, renowned scholars from around the world — including famed evolutionary biologist E.O. Wilson of Harvard University — will descend upon the Florida State University campus from March 16 to March 28 for “Origins ’09: Celebrating the Birth and Life of Beginnings,” a conference to discuss how religion, philosophy, history, the arts and fundamental discoveries in science have shaped humanity’s understanding of life and civilization.

Other notable scholars expected to attend are Oxford University Professor of Science and Religion Peter Harrison and Harvard University Professor of Physics Lisa Randall.

The conference, inspired by the global celebration of the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin’s birth, is designed for lay audiences. It is sponsored by the Florida State Office of Research and co-sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council and the Tallahassee Scientific Society. Its individual forums and events are free.

For the latest conference schedule, visit www.origins.fsu.edu.

CRC Small Grants

The following Florida State University faculty members have been awarded Council on Research & Creativity (CRC) Fall Small Grant Proposals for the fall 2008-2009 round. The award provides up to $3,000 in research planning support, which is not typically available at the departmental level. Of the five proposals received, three were funded for a total of $9,000 in support. Alphabetically, they are:

• Stephan Green (Oceanography), “Development of a Novel Nucleic Acid-Based Molecular Technique for Improved Quantitative Analysis of Genes from Complex Microbial Communities”;

• Jasminka Ilich-Ernt (Nutrition, Food and Exercise Science), “Effect of n-3 Polyunsaturated Fatty Acids on Osteoblastogenesis, Adipogenesis & Bone Marrow Stem Cell Lineage Commitment”;

• Irma Mayorga (Theatre), “Art into Action: DVD/Film Creation of the Stage Play The Panza Monologues.”

To learn more, visit www.research.fsu.edu/crc/crc.html.
The following instructor-led and online training opportunities are available to FSU faculty and staff members. To view the spring schedule of classes, and to register, click on the “Register Online” link at the Web site: www.hr.fsu.edu/train. Information: (850) 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, and click the “New Employee Information” link. Beginning Jan. 6, the New Employee Orientation classroom sessions will be held at the Training Center, 493 Stadium Place. Information: 644-8724.

• Online New Employee Orientation: Satisfies the mandatory New Employee Orientation requirement. Introduces new FSU employees to the university, providing important information on policies, procedures, benefits and important university contacts. Registration: www.hr.fsu.edu. Employees are required to submit certification of completion. Information: 644-8724.

• Toastmasters: For FSU employees who wish to improve on their public speaking skills. Meets on Tuesdays, 11 a.m. – noon. Information: 644-9610; Training Center at Stadium Place.

• Asset Management Overview (4726): Basic overview of inventory processes and asset management for the property custodian; departmental responsibilities and resources; and introduction to OMNI procedures and capabilities. Jan. 6 – T, 9 a.m. – noon; A6201 University Center.

• Intermediate Asset Management Overview and Inventory Training (4731): Trains users in the operation and handling of Intermec scanners. Topics include asset management module overview and navigation; asset search; asset cost history; reporting tools; and inventory policies and procedures. Jan. 6 – T, 1:30 – 3 p.m.; A6201 University Center.

• eProcurement (4753): This class is designed to provide a clear understanding of exactly what is required for requisitions and how to “best” manage them. OMNI system updates also will be addressed. Jan. 13 – T, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.; Training Center at Stadium Place.

• Accounting and Budgeting Concepts (4739): For users who need to view/track budget and financial transactions. Topics include understanding OMNI business units, set I.D.s, ledgers, trees, calendars, commitment control and chart fields. Course is required for all budget/financial transaction inquirers, general ledger journal specialists and budget specialists. This is required for all faculty and staff members who will take GL-2000. Jan. 14 – W, 9 a.m. – noon; Training Center at Stadium Place.


• General Ledger Journal Processing and Reporting (4742): Teaches users to successfully monitor their day-to-day financials. Participants will review concepts from GL-1000, and learn how to edit and post a journal entry (for CD 90’s/ET 51’s), view exception items and perform ledger inquiries. Required for all general ledger journal specialists. Jan. 14 – W, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.; Training Center at Stadium Place.

• OMNI Proposal Entry and Workflow (4663): This session will provide highlights of data entry into OMNI grants proposals and an overview of proposal approval workflow. Jan. 14 – W, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; 301 Student Services Building.

• Advanced General Ledger - Reporting and Using Optional Chartfields (4849): Ledger research using the general ledger trial balance and other GL reports; setting up optional chart fields and using general ledger reports to report data. Prerequisites are GL-1000 and GL-2000. Jan. 15 – R, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.; A6201 University Center.

• Family Medical Leave Act of 1993 (4782): Gives an overview of the FMLA of 1993, including strategies on how to manage employees who are on FMLA leave. Course counts toward Basic Supervisory Practical (BSP) Certificate. Jan. 20 – T, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.; Training Center at Stadium Place.

• Online Core Curriculum for Supervisors: Online training of legal and compliance issues. Program is comprised of 10 subject-based modules. Participants may choose to complete only those modules of interest, or may choose to complete all 10, and receive a certificate. Registration/information: 644-4579.


• Online Interview Techniques: Learn effective interviewing skills and techniques to be able to select the best candidate for the position to be filled. Course counts towards the Basic Supervisory Practical (BSP) Certificate and HR Department Representative Certificate. Registration/information: 644-4579.

• Online Internal Controls: Addresses checks and balances systems in order to prevent fraud and other forms of unethical behavior. Course counts towards the Basic Supervisory Practical (BSP) Certificate. Registration/information: 644-4579.

• Online Performance Evaluation Training: Reviews how supervisors should conduct annual reviews of their employees’ work performance. Course counts towards the Basic Supervisory Practical (BSP) Certificate. Registration/information: 644-4579.

• Online Sexual Harassment Policy: Addresses sexual harassment issues in the workplace and reviews FSU’s policy regarding these subjects. Registration/information: 644-4579.

• Online Sexual Harassment — What You Need to Know: Addresses the responsibilities and duties of FSU supervisors regarding sus-
The study will examine attentional focus and performance for reducing performance failure in demanding situations can be explored, and implications for other possible causes for stress-induced performance failure.

“If experts do not automate their performance, it is highly unlikely that the traditional explanation of ‘choking under pressure’ is plausible.”

— David Eccles
Lead Research Scientist, Center for Expert Performance Research Learning Systems Institute

“Steve was recognized by a committee of international experts as a leader in the physics of ultra-high field EMR,” said Peter Fajer, who had served as the interim director of the EMR program during the search for a permanent director. “His expertise will allow us to perform experiments at the highest available magnetic fields of 45 tesla, and to develop the free electron laser, an ultra-bright light source that represents the future of microwave and infrared spectroscopy.”

Boebinger expressed his gratitude for Fajer’s leadership over the past two years.

“I give my heartfelt thanks to Peter for his service as interim director when we needed him most, during which time he and his colleagues returned the magnet lab’s EMR program to prominence and great promise,” he said.
RECOGNITIONS

Sgt. Marie Clark (University Police) has been nominated for the Big Bend Law Enforcement Association Officer of the Year Award. Clark earned this recognition for her quality of work, tenacity and proactive approach to law enforcement. Clark’s nomination was announced before representatives of multiple law enforcement agencies at the annual Christmas breakfast of the Big Bend Law Enforcement Association, Tallahassee, Fla., December 2008.

BYLINES


Wayne Logan, J.D., M.A. (Gary and Sallyn Pajic Professor, Law), wrote the article “Criminal Justice Federalism and National Sex Offender Policy,” published in the Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law, Vol. 6, 2008; and Logan presented “Federalism Implications of Congressional Efforts to Nationalize Sex Offender Policy” at the National Conference of State Legislatures, Atlanta.


David Markell, J.D. (Steven M. Goldstein Professor, Law), co-wrote the article “Using Empirical Research to Design Government Citizen Participation Processes: A Case Study of Citizens’ Roles in Environmental Compliance and Enforcement,” with Tom Tyler, published in the Kansas Law Review, Vol. 57, 2008; Markell wrote “The

Jim Rossi, LL.M., J.D. (Harry M. Walskorsky Professor, Law), wrote the article “Why the Filed Rate Doctrine Should Not Im- ply Blanket Judicial Deference to Regulatory Agencies,” published in the American Bar Association’s journal, Administrative and Regulatory Law News, fall 2008; and Rossi wrote “Nonde- legation Doctrine” which was included in the Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court of the United States, published by Gale, 2008.


PRESENTATIONS


Tamara Blenkhorn, J.D. (Law), presented “Legal Re- search and Citation” at the As- sociation of Bankruptcy Judicial Assistants Seminar and Exam, San Antonio, Texas, September 2008.


Talbot “Sandy” D’Alemberte, J.D. (President Emeritus, Law), presented “Creating a Global Rule of Law Culture” at a panel presentation at the Fall Sympo- sium of the Minnesota Journal of International Law, November 2008; D’Alemberte presented a panel presentation at a sympos- ium celebrating the 30th anni- versary of cameras in the court- room, held by the First Amend- ment Foundation and The Poynter Institute, St. Petersburg, Fla., September 2008; D’Alemberte presented the keynote speech at the 2008 statewide meet- ing of Florida Legal Services, Tampa, Fla., October 2008; and D’Alemberte received the Flori- da State University Alumni As- sociation’s 2008 Bernard Sliger Award, November 2008.


Tahirih Lee, Ph.D., J.D., M.Phil. (Law), presented “Procedure as Strategy for Foreign Control Over Land in Extraterritorial Shanghai” at the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong, December 2008; Lee presented “Imperialism and Customary Land Law in Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Shang- hai” at the annual American So- ciety for Legal History, Ottawa, Canada, November 2008; Lee presented “New Challenges for U.S.-China Trade at the Shang- hai Institute of Foreign Trade, Shanghai, China, September 2008; and Lee presented “French Administration of Law in China, 1840 to 1930” at the 3rd World Forum on China Studies, orga- nized by the Shanghai Acad- emy of Social Sciences and the Shanghai Municipal Informa- tion Office, in cooperation with the State Council Information Office of the People’s Republic of China, Shanghai, China, Sep- tember 2008.

Gregg Polsky, LL.M., J.D. (Sheila M. McDevitt Professor, Law), presented “Recent Partners- hip Tax Developments” at a panel presentation and pre- sented the session program “This Treas. Reg. is Wrong! Sub- stantive and Procedural Chal- lenges and Standards of Review for Attacking Department of Treasury Tax Regulations,” both at the fall meeting of the Ameri- can Bar Association Tax Section, San Francisco, September 2008.


Top choreographer awarded $50,000 fellowship

By Libby Fairhurst
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Internationally known choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, an esteemed dance professor at The Florida State University and the founder and artistic director of the Brooklyn-based troupe Urban Bush Women, has been named a 2008 USA Wynn Fellow in dance by the philanthropic nonprofit organization United States Artists (USA).

The prestigious honor carries with it a $50,000 unrestricted grant in recognition of the exceptional contributions to the field of dance by Zollar, a Florida State alumna and the Nancy Smith Fichter Professor of Dance in the university’s College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance.

USA (www.unitedstatesartists.org) is an independent grant-making organization that invests in the work of America’s finest artists and aims to illuminate their value to society. It announced its 2008 fellowships — awarded across a broad array of disciplines to a total of 50 artists working throughout the nation — during a Nov. 10 ceremony in Chicago.

“I am thrilled, humbled and grateful to receive this award, and feel indebted to my Florida State University colleagues and students for all the support and sheer joy I have received from being in their presence,” Zollar said.

USA Fellows are chosen through a highly competitive nomination and peer-review process. Zollar is one of only five choreographers to receive the award. She shares her 2008 recognition with fellow American dance artists Ann Carlson, Joe Goode, Pat Graney and Diane Walker.

“Jawole Zollar is a true American treasure who is most deserving of this important recognition,” said Sally McRorie, dean of Florida State University’s College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance.

Florida State researchers to develop sustainable-energy research

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Florida State University has announced that it has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Birchwood Acres Limited Partnership, doing business as Harmony Development Company, and Starwood Energy Group Global LLC to locate Florida State’s Energy and Sustainability Center at the recently created Florida Energy Research Park located in the green certified development of Harmony, Florida. Harmony is located about 30 miles south of Orlando in Southeast Osceola County.

“We look forward to the development of a nationally recognized alternative energy center in the I-4 Corridor area,” said Florida State President T.K. Wetherell. “Centers of this nature require partnership with the local community and bring great benefits, both economically and socially, to the area.”

When complete, Harmony is intended to be a showcase for pioneering and innovative design in sustainable, green development philosophies. Plans call for the construction of 7,200 homes, 1 million gross square feet of light industrial space, and another 850,000 gross square feet of commercial/retail space. Florida State researchers, working through the university’s Sustainable Energy Science and Engineering Center (www.ses.ec.fsu.edu), will contribute to the community’s success by developing a research facility where sustainable-energy technologies can be tested in varying combinations.

“What this demonstration park is going to do is provide a testing ground for any kind of sustainable energy technology that people dream up,” said Kirby Kemper, Florida State’s vice president for Research. “Not only will the developers of Harmony be able to mix and match technologies such as solar, wind, hydrogen and biomass to find combinations that work best for their needs, but the state of Florida as a whole will benefit from any innovations that come out of the park.”

Another benefit will be the rare opportunity that Florida State students will have to receive hands-on training in the types of sustainable energy technologies that will transform our world over the coming decades.

“Based on the level of excitement of our students, I would envision about 30 to 40 Florida State students a year spending some time at the Harmony demonstration park, working on their undergraduate or graduate thesis research,” said Yulu Krothapalli, Florida State’s Don Fuqua Eminent Scholar Professor of Mechanical Engineering and director of the Harmony project for the university.

“Florida State University looks forward to a long and productive relationship with Harmony in the Orlando area,” Wetherell said.

To learn more about Harmony, visit the community’s Web site at www.harmony-fl.com.