

STATE

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Merger creates new college 'Communication & Information' debuts in July

By **Audrey Post**
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION
AND
Bob Branciforte
COLLEGE OF INFORMATION

Seizing an opportunity to strengthen their traditional programs and explore new interdisciplinary offerings, the College of Communication and the College of Information at The Florida State University will merge their programs, effective July 1.

Faculties of both colleges voted to approve the merger in early April, and Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Lawrence G. Abele approved the creation of the new College of Communication & Information.

"Pooling the resources and combining the

strengths of both colleges will put the new college in a leadership position to address emerging communication and information challenges of the 21st century," Abele said.

The merged college includes the School of Communication, the School of Communication Science and Disorders, and the School of Library and Information Studies. Students in existing programs will transition seamlessly into the new college.

"The recent climate of cuts in educational funding makes resources at the university very scarce," said Larry Dennis, dean of the College of Information, who will serve as dean of the new combined college. "The merger gives us the opportunity to rethink how we can provide quality education for more students with less money."

"The beauty of this merger is that it brings together the traditions of innovation and success of three Florida State programs," said Gary Heald, who became interim dean of the College of Communication after the February retirement of longtime dean John Mayo. "Communication has cutting-edge programs in communication, advertising, new media, digital video and project management; *U.S. News and World Report* ranks the programs in Communication Science and Disorders and those in the College of Information among the very best in the nation. We are building our future on a foundation of excellence."

"The faculty saw this as an outstanding opportunity to create academic and research programs that reflect the information, communication and technology needs of the residents of Florida," Dennis said. "This merger creates a faculty with the intellectual leadership needed to build programs that teach the skills everyone needs to thrive in the 21st century."

Stephen McDowell, chair of the Department of Communication, and Juliann Woods, chair of the Department of Communication Science and Disorders, will become directors of their respective schools. Corinne Jorgensen, associate dean of the College of Information, will take on a dual role as director of the School of Library and Information Studies and associate dean for research. Heald will be associate dean for academic affairs. Barbara Robinson will be assistant dean for student affairs and Ebrahim Randeree assistant dean for internships and outreach.



Lawrence G. Abele



Larry Dennis

SPREAD
the **WORD**

This year, the Florida State University Alumni Association is celebrating its 100th anniversary. To learn more about the association's exciting centennial, visit www.alumni.fsu.edu.

Dean elected to committee on education policy

By Nash McCutchen
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Marcy P. Driscoll, dean of the Florida State University College of Education, has been elected to serve on the executive committee of the American Educational Research Association's Organization of Institutional Affiliates. Driscoll joins seven colleagues on the committee who are nominated and elected by the group's membership base. The committee serves in an advisory role to the association and helps drive its policy agenda for the field of education.

The Organization of Institutional Affiliates, a collegial network of organizations engaged in educational research and development, seeks to provide information and context about federal education research issues and to facilitate members' opportunities to be engaged



Marcy P. Driscoll

in shaping policy. It advocates for a balanced, well-supported and well-administered set of federal programs directed toward basic and applied educational research and helps the American Educational Research Association to be effectively heard in Congress. Through an annual policy meeting in Washington D.C., a policy session at the association's annual meeting, a monthly publication highlighting emerging policy issues, and timely action alerts on core research policy issues, the Organization of Institutional Affiliates plays an integral role in keeping education professionals across the nation informed and equipped to act.

"I am greatly honored to have the opportunity to serve my fellow colleagues in education," Driscoll said. "It is particularly exciting to be involved at this critical point in the history of our nation when the qual-

ity of education hangs in the balance. I am eager to play my part in effecting positive change."

Members of the Organization of Institutional Affiliates' executive committee are elected to two-year terms and are tasked with coordinating all organization activities and representing its message to other organizations within and outside of the American Educational Research Association. The two open positions for the 2009-2011 term were filled by Driscoll and Richard De Lisi of Rutgers University.

The American Educational Research Association is the most prominent professional organization working to improve the educational process by encouraging scholarly inquiry related to education and evaluation and by promoting the dissemination and practical application of research results. The broad range of disciplines represented by the membership includes education, psychology, statistics, sociology, history, economics, philosophy, anthropology and political science.

New ways to pay will replace blanket purchase orders

The Florida State University will be significantly reducing the number of blanket purchase orders that it issues to cover routine operating expenses. This will allow the university to monitor the prices charged by contract vendors and enable it to capture accurate data regarding goods and services that have been purchased. Effective July 1, blanket purchase orders will be replaced by a combination of ordering through the OMNI E-Market and use of the FSU Visa Purchasing Card (P-Card).

Purchasing through the OMNI E-Market brings accuracy, efficiency and speed to the ordering process. Many of the catalogs in E-Market "punch out" to the vendor's Web site, which ensures that the stock numbers are still in the vendor's current product listing. Model numbers and stock-keeping units (SKUs) are

subject to change throughout the year; the vendors in the E-Market are required to keep their catalogs up to date and to honor the pricing shown in their online E-Market catalog. In the past, the inadvertent transposition of the stock numbers or pricing, the omission of crucial ordering information, or outdated pricing frequently led to delays in shipping. Quite often, duplicate orders were received when more than one departmental representative was contacted by a vendor who couldn't process the purchase order. The E-Market significantly reduces these problems.

The E-Market also streamlines the ordering process. Orders placed through the E-Market are eligible for "auto-sourcing," which bypasses additional review by Purchasing Services and dispatches purchase orders directly

to the vendor once all internal approvals have been secured. Using the E-Market can shorten the ordering process from a day to minutes!

Use of the FSU P-Card gives departments a more flexible option than using blanket orders because so many vendors accept it. Like the E-Market, P-Card orders are placed directly with vendors in a matter of minutes. What's more, there is no need to set up and monitor a purchase order for each vendor that departments *might* use during the year. If one vendor can't supply the items when they are needed, the P-Card lets employees shop until they find a vendor who can.

To schedule an on-site demonstration of the E-Market or to learn more about the P-Card, contact Nancy Milburn at 644-9725 or nmilburn@admin.fsu.edu.

(<http://campus.fsu.edu>). For immediate assistance, call 644-8004 or send e-mail to help@campus.fsu.edu.

btw by the way

>>**Blackboard Workshop Enrollment:** The Center for Teaching and Learning is offering several workshops covering the new features of Blackboard 8. Seating is still available for the following sessions:

- Blackboard 8: New Features;
- Blackboard 8: Utilizing the New Grade Center;
- Blackboard: Using SafeAssign to Deter Plagiarism;
- Blackboard: Getting Started;
- Social Bookmarking: Bb Scholar, Delicious & More; and
- Blackboard 8: Using the Self- and Peer-Assessment Tool.

To register for workshops and to check for newly added sessions, visit <http://ctl.fsu.edu/catalog>. For online tutorials, FAQs and technical support, visit Blackboard User Support via the "Support" tab in Blackboard

>>**Make updates to telephone directory listings:** The deadline to make changes to departmental listings that will appear in the printed 2009-2010 Seminole Guide and Embarq City Directory is Friday, June 19. To make updates for departmental listings or for guidance on updating HR "personal" listings for Faculty & Staff through OMNI, visit <http://www.otc.fsu.edu/directory.html>.

Remember to include a "Main Department Number" for the Automated Directory Assistance system. This system and other online FSU directories use electronic versions of the same database to provide searchable information. Updated information ensures that everyone can access accurate and timely information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

To be contacted for assistance from the Office of Telecommunications, send an e-mail to help@fsu.edu to generate a request or call Telecommunications at 644-HELP (4357).

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The deadline for the
June 29 - Aug. 2, 2009, issue is
4:30 p.m. on TUESDAY, JUNE 17.



State is the faculty-staff bulletin of The Florida State University. It is the university's document of record, published 16 times annually by the Florida State University Communications Group — every three weeks during the fall and spring semesters, and monthly during the summer.

Submissions should be e-mailed to jseay@fsu.edu.

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. To receive State in an alternative format, call the FSU Student Disability Resource Center at (850) 644-9566.

For adolescent crime victims, genetic factors play lead role

By **Libby Fairhurst**
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Genes trump environment as the primary reason that some adolescents are more likely than others to be victimized by crime, according to groundbreaking research led by distinguished criminologist Kevin M. Beaver of The Florida State University.

The study is believed to be the first to probe the genetic basis of victimization.

"Victimization can appear to be a purely environmental phenomenon, in which people are randomly victimized for reasons that have nothing to do with their genes," said Beaver, an assistant professor in FSU's nationally top 10-ranked College of Criminology and Criminal Justice. "However, because we know that genetically influenced traits such as low self control affect delinquent behavior, and delinquents, particularly violent ones, tend to associate with antisocial peers, I had reasons to suspect that genetic factors could influence the odds of someone becoming a victim of crime, and these formed the basis of our study."

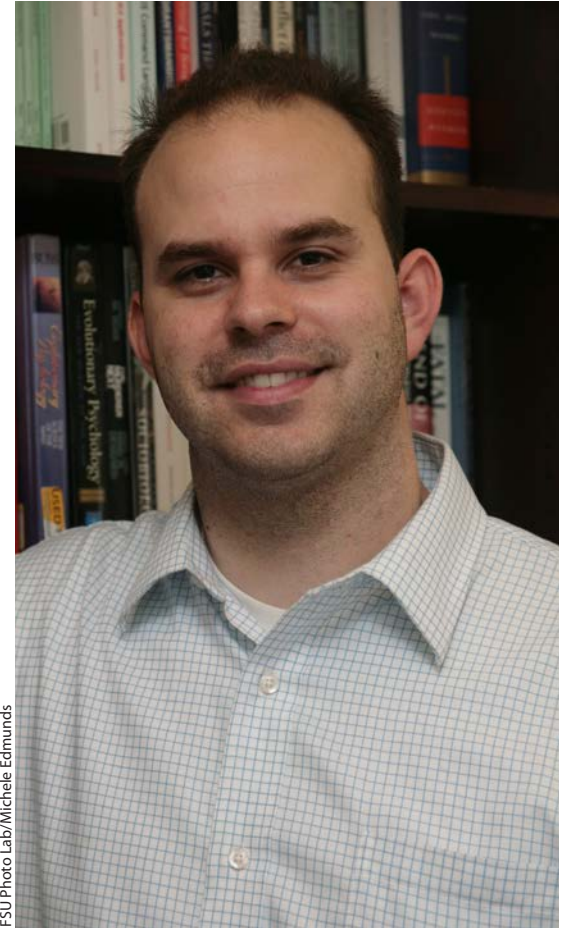
Beaver analyzed a sample of identical and same-sex fraternal twins drawn from a large, nationally representative sample of male and female adolescents interviewed in 1994 and 1995 for the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health. The interviewers had gathered data on participants that included details on family life, social life, romantic relationships, extracurricular activities, drug and alcohol use, and personal victimization.

The data convinced Beaver that genetic factors explained a surprisingly significant 40 to 45 percent of the variance in adolescent victimization among the twins, while non-shared environments (those environments that are not the same between siblings) explained the remaining variance. But among adolescents who were victimized repeatedly, the effect of genetic factors accounted for a whopping 64 percent of the variance.

"It stands to reason that, if genetics are part of the reason why some young people are victimized in the first place, and genetics don't change, there's a good chance these individuals will experience repeat victimization," Beaver said.

Findings from the study are described in a paper to be published in a July 2009 special issue of the journal *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice* dealing with biosocial criminology. Beaver served as lead author of the paper, "The Biosocial Underpinnings to Adolescent Victimization." His co-authors are criminology graduate students Brian Boutwell and J.C. Barnes of Florida State and Jonathon A. Cooper of Arizona State University.

"It is possible that we detected this genetic ef-



FSU Photo Lab/Michele Edmunds

Kevin M. Beaver

fect on victimization because it is operating indirectly through behaviors," Beaver said. "The same genetic factors that promote antisocial behavior may also promote victimization, because adolescents who engage in acts of delinquency tend to have delinquent peers who are more likely to victimize them. In turn, these victims are more likely to be repeatedly victimized, and to victimize others."

Thus, write Beaver and his colleagues, victims of crime are not always innocent bystanders targeted at random, but instead, sometimes actively participate in the construction of their victimization experiences.

"However, we're not suggesting that victimization occurs because a gene is saying 'Okay, go get victimized,' or solely because of genetic factors," Beaver said. "All traits and behaviors result from a combination of genes and both shared and non-shared environmental factors."

And environmental factors can make a difference, he noted. The social and family environment in an adolescent's life may either exacerbate or blunt genetic effects — a phenomenon known in the field of behavioral genetics as a "gene X environment interaction."

The Source

News from Human Resources

>>**IMPORTANT BENEFITS REMINDER:** All employees are reminded to check their paycheck information in OMNI Employee Self-Service to ensure the accuracy of their benefit deductions. If employees notice discrepancies, they should contact the Benefits office at 644-4015.

>>**ADDRESSES IN OMNI EMPLOYEE SELF-SERVICE:** Employees should verify their current home mailing addresses in the OMNI system. Incorrect addresses will result in delays with any information sent out by vendors concerning health, life, supplemental and retirement programs.

RECOGNITIONS

Jim Zheng, Ph.D. (Electrical and Computer Engineering), co-wrote the article "Hydrous Ruthenium Oxide as an Electrode Material for Electrochemical Capacitors," with P.J. Cygan and T.R. Jow. The article was ranked in the top 15 most-cited papers published by the *Journal of the Electrochemical Society*, credited with more than 530 citations since it was originally published in 1995.

BYLINES

Jack Fiorito, Ph.D. (J. Frank Dame Professor of Management), co-wrote the article "General Feelings Toward Unions and Employers as Predictors of Union Voting Intent," with Arthur D. Martinez, published in the *Journal of Labor Research*, Vol. 30, No. 2.

Steven I. Pfeiffer, Ph.D. (Educational Psychology and Learning Systems, Clinical Training), was invited to write the article "The Gifted: Clinical Challenges for Child Psychiatry," scheduled to be published in the *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adoles-*

CAMPUS IN ACTION

cent Psychiatry, August.

James Sampson, Ph.D. (Mode L. Stone Distinguished Professor of Counseling and Career Development), John Shy, Sarah Lucas Hartley, **Robert Reardon**, Ph.D. (Professor Emeritus, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems), and **Gary Peterson**, Ph.D. (Professor Emeritus, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems), co-wrote the article "The Influence of Item Response Indecision on the Self-Directed Search," published in the *Journal of Career Development*, Vol. 35.

PRESENTATIONS

Perry Crowell, Ed.D., M.B.A. (Finance and Administration), and

Paul Harlacher, M.B.A. (Business Administration), co-presented the session "Mentoring Promising Staff" at the 2009 annual meeting of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers, Hot Springs, Va., April.

Juan R. Guardia, Ph.D. (Student Affairs), presented "Nuestra Historia y Futuro (Our History and Future): Latino/a Fraternities and Sororities" at the University of Idaho; Guardia was the keynote speaker for the 2009 Latino Youth Summit, part of the President's Lecture Series on Diversity, held at the University of Toledo.

Per Arne Rikvold, Ph.D. (Physics/MARTECH), presented "Statistical Mechanics in Evolution and Ecology" at the International Sym-

posium on Applications of Statistical Physics at the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, Oslo, Norway, January.

Wayne A. Wiegand, Ph.D. (F. William Summers Professor of Library and Information Studies, American Studies), was invited by the U.S. Embassy in Madrid and the U.S. Consulate General's office in Barcelona, Spain, to present three lectures on the history of the American public library. Wiegand delivered the first keynote address to a conference focusing on the library in a multicultural society, sponsored by the International Institute in Madrid; Wiegand delivered the second keynote lecture to a conference of the Association for Professional Information Specialists in Gijon, Spain; Wiegand delivered the third keynote address to the 3rd seminar of the Aula Jordi Rubio i Balaguer. The title theme of the conference was "Catalonia Turns 100: Libraries in the Construction of a Country," held at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Barcelona, Spain, May; and Wiegand was interviewed by the Spanish library journal *Educación Y Biblioteca*, May.

Professor named president-elect of national association

By **Bob Branciforte**
COLLEGE OF INFORMATION

Nancy Everhart, an associate professor in Florida State University's College of Information, has been elected president-elect of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), a division of the American Library Association. Established in 1951, AASL is the nation's only association for school library media professionals and has nearly 10,000 members.

Her term as president-elect begins in July and she will assume the presidency in July 2010.

"My objective as AASL president will be to get the nation focused on what 21st century school libraries staffed with certified school library media specialists leaders look like, and what they can do for students," Everhart said.

"I hope to accomplish this by visiting an outstanding public or private school library media program in each of our 50 states during my presidency and sharing my visits through online social networking both within the AASL community and with the world — hopefully with a major media outlet. I will appoint an AASL task force to assist me in identifying amazing sites and leaders."

As an AASL member since 1981, Everhart has served the organization in many capacities, including as a member of the board of directors, as research editor of the association's journal, *Knowledge Quest*, and as chair of numerous committees.

Everhart's teaching and research have focused on school library leadership. At Florida State, she co-developed an online leadership

program, Project LEAD, for aspiring school library media specialists based on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards tenets. A new grant will follow these 30 potential leaders into their first year on the job to determine the impact of their leadership education. Everhart also directs the PALM Center at Florida State, an interdisciplinary school library research center, in collaboration with College of Education faculty.

Everhart obtained her Ph.D. in 1990 from Florida State. She was on the faculty of St. John's University in New York for 10 years and served as a media specialist in Pennsylvania for 14 years. She is the recipient of the numerous awards in the field as well as the author of several books and more than 50 journal publications.