Applying for an external award? Faculty can find help here

By Jeffery Seay
EDITOR IN CHIEF

With rare exception, external faculty awards hardly ever fall out of the sky. Fulbrights, Guggenheims and the like are the product of careful planning and deliberate effort — from targeting career-appropriate awards over a period of years to compiling application materials. Fortunately for faculty members at The Florida State University, there is an office on campus geared to assist them in the award process, “from beginning to win.”

At only two years old, the Office of Faculty Recognition (www.ofr.fsu.edu) has already become quite effective in helping faculty members gain national prominence by winning external awards.

Two of the office’s recent clients were history Professor Jonathan Grant and English Associate Professor Amit Rai.

Grant was named the 2008 Florida Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, and Rai won a Fulbright Fellowship for 2009-2010 to conduct research in India.

Another professor of English, Paul Outka, won the biannual prize for ecocriticism from the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment for his book “Race and Nature.”

“It was wonderful to have the support of the Office of Faculty Recognition,” Outka said. “Peggy helped every step of the way — from identifying prizes my book would be competitive for, to negotiating nomination details and readers’ copies with the publisher, to warm congratulations on winning the ASLE prize — not only making the whole process easier, but my application more competitive.”

Last year, the office worked with 21 faculty members and completed 28 different nominations.

“We’re still something of a secret on campus, but during this school year, we hope to do much more,” said Margaret “Peggy” Wright-Cleveland, the office’s director. “Depending on whether we’re talking people or awards, our numbers vary. For instance, we might put up a single book for four or five different book awards. As we were providing assistance with an individual nomination, we also were sending e-mail reminders concerning more than 300 awards to faculty members, department chairs and deans.”

Throughout the process of applying for a given award, the office does the legwork on behalf of faculty members, including editing faculty biographies, assembling packets of information, contacting people to write letters of recommendation and ensuring that the application materials arrive on time.

“We can put faculty members in contact with their campus peers who have previously won the award, to talk with the applicant about what works best,” Wright-
Life Insurance Awareness Month is an industry-wide campaign coordinated by the nonprofit Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education, (LIFE). The LIFE Foundation helps educate the public about the importance of life insurance and is observed in September each year.

Life insurance is the foundation of any financial, retirement, business, or estate plan. Members of Congress recognize the social value of encouraging individuals, families, and businesses to protect themselves against financial risk, rather than depending upon the government. Since its passage in 1913, the income tax code has provided that the death benefits of life insurance policies are not generally subject to income tax.

Life insurance is the key to providing for the financial futures of families and businesses. It is unique in helping to guarantee delivery of financial security at the precise moment it is needed. Permanent Life insurance can be used to: supplement retirement; help pay education expenses for children and grandchildren; preserve your estate; safeguard your mortgage and other debt; and insure key people in a business.

Two key questions you should ask:

How much? What kind?

How much life insurance should I own? There are two methods to determine the amount of life-insurance to own. The needs approach and the human economic value method. Some people buy what they feel like they “need” to cover debt and other expenses such as college costs and provide an income for some period of time, to the family.

Others prefer to use a method that attempts to calculate the true economic loss to the family or business. This is similar to the approach used in wrongful death cases and was used by the federal government in the World Trade Center victims fund. This method, more accurately calculates the value of the insured’s economic value to the family or the business and therefore the potential loss to that family or business upon the insured’s death.

What kind of life-insurance should I buy? Generally speaking, there are two kinds of life-insurance: term and permanent. Term makes sense when you want to cover a specific need for a specific period of time, for example, 15 or 20 years. Term insurance is less expensive initially and provides a benefit only if you die during the term insurance period.

Permanent insurance provides lifetime protection. There are different kinds of permanent policies: Universal Life; Variable Universal Life; Variable Life, and Whole Life. Each is designed for different situations. A Whole Life insurance policy provides a guaranteed level premium, guaranteed cash value, and a guaranteed death benefit. The cash values can be used for living needs during the insured’s lifetime. An in-depth discussion of these products is beyond the scope of this article.

Many financial plans will have a combination of term and permanent insurance. The mixture of the two will be determined by your financial objectives and dreams. Life insurance is important in any financial plan and deserves serious consideration and evaluation. I use a planning process that addresses the Four Financial Domains of Protection, Assets, Liabilities, and Cash Flow. For information on The Living Balance Sheet®, visit www.JohnHCurry.com and watch the 6 minute video.

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Search for new president under way

At the Sept. 17 meeting of the Florida State University Board of Trustees, a 19-member Presidential Search Advisory Committee was approved, and Jayne Standley, vice chairwoman of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, discussed the characteristics of an ideal candidate.

“The faculty cited the attributes of someone with a new perspective from outside the university, someone with a national reputation in the academic arena, someone with presidential experience at a university similar to FSU, and someone who would be excited to lead despite the current economic downturn,” said Standley, who also is the university’s Ella Scoble Opperman Professor of Music.

For the most up-to-date information about the presidential search, visit www.president.fsu.edu/search.

Apply now for professional leave, sabbaticals

Professional Development

The Florida State University Committee for the Professional Development Program reminds eligible in-unit, non-tenure track faculty members and in-unit A&P employees to apply for professional development leave for the 2010-2011 academic year. Applications are due in the Office of the Dean of the Faculties by Friday, Oct. 9, 2009. An Informational memorandum and the application form are available on the Dean of the Faculties Web site under “Professional Development Leave Information” at http://dof.fsu.edu/facdevelopment.htm.

Sabbaticals

The Florida State University Committee on Faculty Sabbaticals reminds eligible in-unit, tenured faculty members to apply for 2010-2011 academic year sabbaticals. Applications are due in the Office of the Dean of the Faculties by Friday, Oct. 9, 2009. Information on sabbatical policies and procedures, as well as application forms are located on the Dean of the Faculties Web site under “Sabbatical Information” at http://dof.fsu.edu/facdevelopment.htm.

For more information, call the Office of the Dean of the Faculties at 644-6876.

FACULTY RECOGNITION from page 1

Cleveland said, “We try to be helpful.

“We hear from faculty members about how time consuming it is to research awards and complete the application or nomination process, in addition to the demands of their teaching and research,” she said. “So the Office of Faculty Recognition works to make it less time-consuming for them.”

The Office of Faculty Recognition is thought to be the only one of its kind in the nation, according to Wright-Cleveland.

“Some universities might have someone on campus who is the Fulbright sponsor, for instance, but we don’t know of any other university that has an entire office dedicated to facilitating its faculty in all kinds of local, state and national award nominations,” Wright-Cleveland said. “In this regard, Florida State is a trendsetter.”

With an online, searchable database of more than 1,200 faculty awards, professors from every college can be served. They can search the office’s database through Blackboard (www.campus.fsu.edu). However, the growing database does not contain every possible award.

“Any one in my position will be working out of field about 95 percent of the time,” Wright-Cleveland said. “I may not know what awards would be most helpful in, say, biochemistry. But if a faculty member tells me he wants to apply for a certain award, I’ll do the research to find out what is required and then add the award to our catalog so others may apply.”
A researcher at The Florida State University has been awarded a $5 million, five-year federal grant to train doctoral students to conduct advanced research on the best ways of teaching reading, math and science to the nation’s schoolchildren.

Psychology Professor Christopher J. Lonigan received the grant renewal from the U.S. Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences to continue FSU’s Predoctoral Interdisciplinary Research Training (PIRT) program. Lonigan and Christopher Schatschneider, both associate directors of the Florida Center for Reading Research, established the PIRT program in 2004 with a primary focus on reading research. Lonigan is the director of PIRT and Schatschneider serves as co-director.

“Reading skills make up the cornerstone of children’s academic success and, unfortunately, there are still a large number of children who fail to acquire adequate reading skills,” Lonigan said. “The renewal of our grant will allow us to continue to help fill the need for well-trained researchers who can identify, develop and evaluate better ways for teachers and schools to increase the number of students who become skilled readers.”

While significant progress has been made in recent years, 33 percent of fourth-grade students and 26 percent of eighth-grade students scored below basic levels of reading, according to the 2007 National Assessment of Educational Progress report.

The overarching goal of the PIRT program is to produce doctoral graduates from psychology, education, communication disorders and other disciplines who will pursue careers in educational research in order to expand our knowledge about how children learn and the best ways to teach them. PIRT will continue to focus on reading research but has expanded to include math and science.

PIRT is housed in the Florida Center for Reading Research, a multidisciplinary organizational unit of FSU, but brings together faculty, students and resources from multiple university departments, colleges and institutes. In addition to specialized coursework, the doctoral students will work on ongoing research with program faculty members, who have about $20 million in ongoing, federally funded research and $10 million in state-supported projects.

The Department of Education grant is expected to support 28 fellows over the next five years. The students will receive a certificate in education science upon completion of the program. They will be trained in methodology and statistics and will gain expertise in educational sciences research related to reading, math and science.

Along the way, the students are expected to gain knowledge of politics and pragmatics of research in educational settings and have plenty of opportunities to demonstrate their productivity to potential employers in the nation’s top-tier research agencies and academic departments, according to Lonigan.
A Florida State University researcher has received a $1 million, five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Energy for a study that could lead to the design of better nuclear fuels and safer and more efficient reactors to generate nuclear power.

Anter El-Azab, an associate professor in the Department of Scientific Computing, and his Computational Materials Science Group at Florida State will conduct research as part of a new $10 million EFRC Center for Materials Science of Nuclear Fuels. The Department of Energy established the EFRC, or Energy Frontiers Research Centers, program in an effort to spur breakthroughs in fundamental energy science.

The mission of this particular center, led by the Idaho National Laboratory, is to use better computational models to learn more about nuclear reactor fuels. Florida State is a member of the center's team along with the University of Florida, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Colorado School of Mines and the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

"The Computational Materials Science Group at Florida State routinely conducts research on the microstructure of a wide range of materials," El-Azab said. "Thus, we have the experience, tools and manpower to do first-rate research on fuel materials microstructure with this new $1 million grant. This funding complements other major research grants we already have in related areas of materials research."

With the grant, El-Azab and the Computational Materials Science Group will develop new theoretical and computational models to study the microstructure changes in fuel in the extreme nuclear reactor environment. Nuclear reactors generate energy through the fission process that takes place in the reactor fuel. That energy is then converted into electricity.

Changes in the reactor fuel microstructure alter the fuel properties and can result in mechanical failure of the fuel, with the consequence of releasing harmful radioactive elements to the environment, El-Azab explained.

"Therefore, if we understand how the microstructure changes during reactor operation, the materials scientists and engineers can then design and fabricate fuels with higher reliability and performance," he said.

El-Azab is one of four executive committee members of the EFRC Center for Materials Science of Nuclear Fuels. In this capacity, he will lead and coordinate the theory, modeling and simulation part of the center.
Fore!
Annual tournament tees up

The Florida State University Alumni Association will be the host of the 2009 FSU Alumni Cup — its newly renamed, annual golf tournament — on Oct. 9 at the Donald Veller Seminole Golf Course. It will have an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start.

The tournament will feature “hole-in-one,” “beat the pro” and “closest to the pin” contests. What’s more, this year’s winning team will have their individual names inscribed on a commemorative cup that will remain at the Alumni Association.

The FSU Alumni Association’s golf tournament is a highly anticipated event for loyal alumni and fans, and it never disappoints, according to Mandi Capeletti, senior programs director of the Alumni Association.

“The FSU Alumni Cup is the only tournament that offers the public the chance to play with Florida State students who are majoring in professional golf management,” Capeletti said.

The tournament’s entry fee includes breakfast, lunch, drink tickets and grilled bratwursts that will be available on the course. In addition, each player will receive a team photo.

To learn more, visit www.alumni.fsu.edu.

Bernd Berg elected to APS office

Bernd Berg, the Paul A.M. Dirac Professor of Physics at The Florida State University, has been elected to a three-year term as secretary-treasurer of the American Physical Society’s Division of Computational Physics. The division advances knowledge of the use of computers in physics research and education.

“This is a very special recognition of Dr. Berg’s standing in the field because the division has more than 2,000 members,” said Florida State physics Professor and Chairman Mark Riley.

As secretary-treasurer, Berg hopes to boost the division’s financial situation by approaching suitable sponsors, and work toward the creation of a new online journal dedicated to papers about numerical results and techniques, along with a sufficient documentation of their codes.

Book focuses on global access to medicines

By Christie N. Morgan
College of Law

Frederick M. Abbott, the Edward Ball Eminent Scholar at the Florida State University College of Law, has co-written a new book on worldwide pharmaceutical policy.

“Global Pharmaceutical Policy: Ensuring Medicines for Tomorrow’s World” (Edward Elgar Publishing, 2009), co-written with Graham Dukes of the University of Oslo, Norway, examines the global system for the development, production, distribution and use of medicines. The book considers the pressure being placed on health-care budgets by the global economic crisis and policies to ensure access to medicines.

“Some of the greatest challenges to health care around the world involve deciding how best to develop vitally needed new medicines, and how best to make them safely and effectively available to patients at affordable prices,” Abbott said. “These are core questions in the health care debate now taking place in the United States. They represent life and death issues throughout much of the developing world.”

Abbott is highly regarded for his scholarship and professional activities in international intellectual property and global economic issues. He serves as Rapporteur for the Committee on International Trade Law of the International Law Association and is a consultant to the World Health Organization and the World Bank.

Book traces history of sex-offender registration

By Christie N. Morgan
College of Law

As news of crimes allegedly committed by sex offenders continue to grab national headlines, a Florida State University College of Law professor has written a new book on the history of the registration of sex offenders.

Wayne A. Logan, the college’s Gary & Sallyn Pajic Professor, traces the evolution of criminal registration laws in the book, “Knowledge as Power: Criminal Registration and Community Notification Laws in America” (Stanford University Press, 2009). The book provides an in-depth analysis of criminal registration and community notification laws, exploring the forces driving their rapid nationwide proliferation in the 1990s through today.

“The book provides the first extended examination of registration and community notification laws, examining their content, history and effects, as well as their impact on American law, society and governance,” Logan said.
**>>Alumni Association open houses:** During this football season, The Florida State University Alumni Association is rolling out the welcome mat for a standing open house on the Fridays before home football games, from 5 to 7 p.m. The remaining open houses are: Friday, Oct. 9 (Georgia Tech); Friday, Oct. 30 (N.C. State); Nov. 20 (Maryland).

Whether the night takes you to the Downtown Getdown or your favorite spot in Tallahassee, why not start at the Alumni Center? With refreshments, music, entertainment and plenty of Seminole Spirit, the open houses are the perfect way to kick off a football weekend. The open houses are free for Alumni Association members and $5 for non-members.

**>>Nikola and Elisabeth Pribic Lecture:** Florida State University alumnus Rado Pribic (B.A. ’68, German and Russian), who is the Oliver E. Williams Professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., will discuss “The Eastern Europe of My Parents: Hope and Turmoil,” on Monday, Oct. 12, at 5 p.m. in 009 Diffenbaugh Building. Rado Pribic is the son of Nikola and Elisabeth, both of whom began teaching at Florida State in 1965.

**>>Noles Leadership Book Club:** This semester, faculty, staff and students will read “Choosing Civility” by P.M. Forni. The book club will meet Oct. 14 and Nov. 4, from 8 to 9 a.m., in 2201/2202 Dunlap Student Success Center. To register, visit [www.thecenter.fsu.edu](http://www.thecenter.fsu.edu).

**>>Flying Circus of Physics:** For hourly planetarium shows, way cool physics-related demonstrations and fun, outdoor activities — along with explosions — the public is invited to attend the Department of Physics’ biannual Flying Circus of Physics. The free open house will be Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Keen Building.

**>>Visiting Artist Lecture Series:** The Department of Art has announced the 2009-2010 schedule for its Visiting Artist Lecture Series. Each lecture will begin at 7 p.m. in 249 Fine Arts Building.

- Thursday, Oct. 22: Ryan Berg;
- Thursday, Nov. 5: Willie Cole;
- Thursday, Nov. 12: Anne Drew Potter;
- Thursday, Nov. 19: Jack Stenner;
- Thursday, Feb. 25: Sean Miller;
- Wednesday, March 3: Michael Rakowitz; and
- Date TBA: Wendy Babcox.
RECOGNITIONS

William G. Doerner, Ph.D. (Criminology and Criminal Justice), received the 2009 John P. J. Dussich Award from the American Society of Victimology. The award is given in recognition of significant and long-term contributions to the field of victimology and victim services; and Doerner co-wrote the book “Victimology,” now in its fifth edition.

Janet G. Lenz, Ph.D. (Career Center), received the Merit Award from the National Career Development Association, the oldest and largest career development association in the nation. The award is given in recognition of significant contributions to the career development field; and Lenz co-wrote the article “Training Career Practitioners,” with Spencer Niles and Dennis Engels, published in The Career Development Quarterly, June.

BYLINES


Peter Beerli, Ph.D. (Computational Science), co-wrote the article “Evolution of Serum Albumin Intron-1 is Shaped by a 5’ Truncated Non-Long Terminal Repeat Retrotransposon in Western Palearctic Water Frogs (Neobatrachia),” with Jörg Pliotner, Frank Köhler, Thomas Uzzell, Robert Schreiber, Gaston-Denis Guex and Hansjürg Hotz; published in the journal Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution, September; and Beerli wrote the chapter “How to Use Migrate or Why are Markov Chain Monte Carlo Programs Difficult to Use?” published in the book “Population Genetics for Animal Conservation,” Vol. 17, in the series Conservation Biology, published by Cambridge University Press, 2009.


Elizabeth Chambliss Burch, J.D. (Law), wrote the article “A New Way Forward: A Response to Judge Weinstein” published in the Cardozo Law Review de novo.

Roger Kaufman (Professor Emeritus, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems), wrote the article “Mega Thinking and Planning: An Introduction to Defining and Delivering Individual and Organizational Success” published in the journal Performance Improvement Quarterly, Vol. 22, No. 2.

Ming Cui, Ph.D. (Human Sciences), co-wrote “Trajectories of Conflict Over Raising Adolescent Children and Marital Satisfaction,” with M.B. Donnellan; published in the Journal of Marriage and Family, Vol. 71; Cui co-presented “Adolescent Health and Well-Being: The Role of Overindulgent Parenting,” with Carol Darling, Ph.D. (Margaret Rector Sandels Professor, Human Sciences), Marsha Rehm, C. Coccia and Shridhar Sathe, Ph.D. (D.K. Salunkhe Professor of Food Science); and Cui co-presented “Predicting Marital Quality,” with J.A. Durtschi, H. Hatton, R.D. Conger and F.O. Lorenz; both at the annual conference of the National Council on Family Relations, San Francisco, November; Cui co-presented “Predictors of First-Time Parents Attending Therapy,” with J.A. Durtschi and H. Hatton; at the annual conference of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Sacramento, Calif., October; Cui co-presented “Depressive Symptoms and Bodily Pain: Reciprocity and the Role of Physical Disability and Social Stress,” with M.D. Gayman and R. Lewis, at the annual conference of the Society for the Study of Social Problems, San Francisco, August; and Cui co-presented the paper “Transition to Parenthood: An Examination of Emotional Insecurity, Psychological Distress and Interpersonal Negative Behaviors,” with H.N. Hatton, J.A. Durtschi and R.D. Conger, at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Denver, April.


Lauren Mandel (Information Use and Policy Institute) will present “Attributing and Defining Meaning to the Built Environment: The Semiotics of Wayfinding,” at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, B.C., November.

Paul F. Marty, Ph.D., Michelle M. Kazmer, Ph.D. and Corinne Jørgensen, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), will be co-editing “Involving Users in the Co-Construction of Digital Knowledge in Libraries, Archives, and Museums,” a special issue of the journal Library Trends, with Katherine Burton Jones of the Harvard Divinity School and Richard J. Urban of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, scheduled to be published in 2011 by Johns Hopkins University Press.

Lenore McWey, Ph.D. (Human Sciences), co-wrote “Distinguishing Mal-treating Versus Non-Maltreating At-Risk Families: A Discriminant Function.” Please see CIA, 10.

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH: In 1945, Congress began an effort to educate the American public about issues related to disability and employment by declaring October as a time to recognize the need to employ disabled people. Today, more than 18 million people with disabilities are employed, according to the U.S. Department of Labor. The theme of this year’s National Disability Awareness Month is “Expectation + Opportunity = Full Participation.” As the Department of Labor’s Web site explains, “With both the expectation and the opportunity, people with disabilities will become full participants in our economy.” Information: www.dol.gov/odep.
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MORE THAN RAINY DAYS

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PRESENTATIONS

John Brobst, M.S. (Communication and Information), will present “Patient, Heal Thyself! Advocating for Accessible Healthcare Web Sites,” at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, B.C., November; also at the conference, Brobst and Lauren Mandel (Information Use and Policy Institute) will co-present “Challenge for Librarians as Information Managers: Hurricane Preparedness and Response.”

Gary Burnett, M.L.S., Ph.D., and Mia Liza Lustria, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), will co-present “Patients Like Me: Social Norms and Information Values in an Online Health Support Group,” with Juliann Cortese, Michelle Kazmer, Ji-Hyun Kim, Jinxuan Ma and Jeana Frost, at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, B.C., November.


Jack Fiorito, Ph.D. (J. Frank Dame Professor of Management), co-presented the paper “Who Are the Activists?” with Gregor Gall of the University of Hertfordshire and Arthur D. Martinez, at the annual meeting of the British Universities Industrial Relations Association, July; Fiorito co-presented “Union Organizing and Membership Growth: Why Don’t They Organize?” with Paul Jarley of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, at the annual meeting of the Academy of Management, Chicago, August; and Fiorito co-edited “The Handbook of Industrial Relations,” with Paul Blyton and Edmund Heery of Cardiff University and Nicolas Bacon of Nottingham University, published by Sage, 2008. The book was named the February book of the month by the Catherwood Library at Cornell University’s I.R. School.


Corinne Jörgensen, Ph.D., and Beatrix Loeser, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), will present “Image Indexing and Retrieval: Current Projects and a Comprehensive Research Agenda for the Future,” scheduled for the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, B.C., November.

Kyunghee Kim, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), will present “The American Information Source Selection and Competence of Ethnic Minority Cancer Patients on the Web: Analysis of the National Cancer Institute’s Health Information National Trends Survey 2007,” with Nahyun Kwon of the University of South Florida, at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, B.C., November.

Mia Liza Lustria, Ph.D., Gary Burnett, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), and Juliann Cortese, Ph.D. (Communication), will co-present “Patients Like Me: ALS Patients Sharing Experiences and Personal Health Information Online,” with Michelle Kazmer, Karen Pan and Jeana Frost, at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, B.C., November; also at the conference, Lustria, Cortese and Casey McLoughlin, M.S. (Network Services), and Sarah Redmond, Rachel Davis and Ieee Rosario, will co-present “Ready4Changes.com: Preliminary Results of a Randomized Controlled Trial of a Web-based Tailored Approach for Educating Teens about Human Sexuality.”


Jim Rossi, L.L.M., J.D. (Harry M. Walsborsky Professor, Law), presented “The Trojan Horse of Transmission Line Siting Authority” at the environmental law symposium held at the Lewis and Clark Law School, Portland, Ore., April; and Rossi presented “The Political Economy of Energy in Climate Change Legislation” at a conference on energy, technology and institutions at the Searle Institute, Northwestern Law School, May.

Besiki Stvilia, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), will co-present “Discerning Quality Health Information on the Web from the Perspective of Consumers: Insights from Korean Consumers in the U.S.,” with Yong-Jeong Yi and Lorri Mon, at the annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science and Technology and Vancouver, B.C., November.

SERVICE

Juriste Koontz, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), chaired a pre-conference for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions held in Athens, Greece, August.

GRANTS

David Gilbert, Ph.D. (Biological Science), was awarded a $110,250 Research Grant supplement for his research “Genome Plasticity During ES Cell Differentiation to Neural Lineages” by the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of General Medical Sciences.
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Florida State shines brightly as ‘energy efficiency hero’

By Bayard Stern
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Trends come and go, but one thing that will never go out of style at The Florida State University is the effort to conserve resources. With rising utility costs, aging buildings and increasing energy demands all over campus, the university has made dramatic, concerted efforts to use water and electricity wisely.

On Sept. 24, Johnson Controls recognized Florida State as a local “Energy Efficient Hero” for its sustained commitment to energy efficiency.

“Practicing conservation efforts is something Florida State is going to be about forever,” said John Carnaghi, senior vice president for Finance and Administration. “Fortunately for us, we started these efforts in the mid ’90s and, with the help of Johnson Controls, we have saved millions of dollars in energy costs.”

According to Davis Gandees, the Florida higher education manager for Johnson Controls, the company has either installed or upgraded HVAC and mechanical equipment, facility management and controls systems, lighting retrofits and water and sewer upgrades across campus, saving the university a total of $25,823,105 since 1997.

But Carnaghi stressed that no matter how efficient a building is, it is the users who have the real power to save.

“Florida State employees and students have helped us a great deal with saving energy,” Carnaghi said. “Because ultimately, turning on and off the equipment determines how much we’re going to burn.”

Efficiency now. It’s never been more important! Johnson Controls officials Kristy Elmore (far left) and Davis Gandees (middle left) present the company’s “2009 Energy Efficiency Hero” plaque to Florida State University Associate Vice President for Facilities Dennis Bailey (middle right) and Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration John Carnaghi (far right).