

State

The Florida State University Faculty-Staff Bulletin

Volume 44 • Number 15

May 3 - 30, 2010

MERGER

Three departments become one on Earth Day, **3**

GUGGENHEIM FELLOWS

Poet-author and composer receive sought-after prizes, **4**

CHEM & BIOCHEM

Professor to be lauded for contributions to chemistry, **8**

Joiner named 2010 Lawton Distinguished Professor

By Jeffery Seay
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A psychology professor who is perhaps the nation's leading expert on the causes and prevention of suicide and who has been ranked as the second most productive academic clinical psychologist in the world has been chosen to receive The Florida State University's highest faculty honor.

Thomas E. Joiner, 44, Florida State's Bright-Burton Professor of Psychology and a Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology, now adds the title of 2010-2011 Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of Psychology.

"It is hard to exaggerate the reverence with which I have always held the Lawton professorship, and I know that this sentiment is widely shared across the campus and beyond," Joiner said. "Now that I have it myself, my feelings about it have grown of course, and are hard to summarize succinctly, but suffice it to say that I will devote myself to living up to it."

The citation reads in part: "As reflected by a prodigious output of scholarly work, invited presentations at national and international research conferences, prestigious awards and honors, and stellar outside opinion letters, it is apparent that you have exhibited a truly extraordinary rise to international acclaim for your research. Equally impressive are your contributions to teaching and service. In all aspects of the role of

university professor, you are outstanding."

Joiner researches the interpersonal, cognitive and neurobiological causes, correlates and consequences of depression and related disorders such as anxiety or bulimia nervosa. In addition, he researches the nature and treatment of suicidal behavior.

In fact, Joiner's critically acclaimed book, "Why People Die By Suicide" (Harvard University Press, 2005), has been hailed by author Pauline Boss ("Ambiguous Loss") as providing the deepest understanding of suicide that has yet been written, and was chosen by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution as one of 12 "nonfiction books that mattered" in 2006. What's more, University of Pennsylvania psychiatry Professor Aaron T. Beck called it an "elegant description" of what professionals, families and friends can do to prevent the crisis that suicide creates for everyone involved.

Joiner has written or edited 14 other books, and has written 346 peer-reviewed papers that were published in scientific journals.

Still squarely in the prime of his career, Joiner already has accumulated a



Thomas E. Joiner

"Mt. Everest of acclaim," according to colleague Jon Maner, director of Florida State's social psychology program. Joiner has received both the David Shakow Early Career Award for Distinguished Scientific Contribution (1997) and the Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution (2000) from the American Psychological Association. In 2003, he won a Guggenheim Fellowship and, in 2006, he won a Bellagio Residential Fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation.

Joseph Travis, dean of Florida State's College of Arts and Sciences, called Joiner the strongest candidate he has ever known for the Lawton Professorship.

"Thomas has changed how both academic and practicing clinical psychologists think about suicide and suicidal inclinations," Travis said. "To change how one's colleagues think about a subject is the ultimate accolade for a scholar. His research trajectory shows an evolutionary pathway that characterizes the very best scholars."

"He has been not only an extraordinary scholar, but at the same time, an accomplished teacher and mentor," Travis said.

Please see **JOINER, 2**

SPREAD the WORD

WFSU-TV has received a My Source Education Innovation Award from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. The award recognizes public broadcasting stations for their use of pioneering approaches and emerging digital technologies to serve the educational needs of their communities.

Lifelong learning institute receives grant

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at The Florida State University has received a \$100,000 grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation to support its continuing education programs, which include courses, field trips and guest speakers, as well as social and cultural activities, for people over 50.

"This grant helps fund the second year of Osher Lifelong Learning Institute activities and reaffirms the Bernard Osher Foundation's belief that OLLI is making a significant contribution to the Tallahassee community through its wide ranging activities for people who want to continue to learn throughout their lifetimes," said Cory Livingston, director of OLLI at FSU. "We are most appreciative of the Bernard Osher Foundation's support, which will allow us to broaden our programs as our membership continues to grow."

OLLI, which is associated with Florida State's Claude Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy, has now received \$225,000 from the Bernard Osher Foun-

dation. Currently, OLLI has 350 members. If its membership reaches 500, the foundation will consider it for a \$1 million endowment.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) primarily consists of six-week academic sessions during the fall and spring semesters and a three-week term in May. Classes meet once a week, last two hours and are taught by current and retired faculty members and graduate students from Florida State, Florida A&M University and Tallahassee Community College. Classes meet at the Claude Pepper Center and several off-campus locations. In addition, OLLI offers life-review workshops, writers' circles and a book discussion group.

During OLLI's "Fall Showcase" on Sept. 7 at the FSU Alumni Center, interested people can find out more about program offerings and activities, and sign up for courses and other activities.

To learn more, call (850) 644-7947 or visit www.pepperinstitute.org/olliatfsu.

JOINER

from
page 1

"His students and protégés occupy highly desirable positions in their own right and he has shared the authorship and credit for some of his best work with his students. This generosity of spirit — not to mention the time and effort it requires to guide so many students and teach so many classes — embodies everything I have ever heard about the generosity that characterized Bob Lawton himself."

Joiner earned his doctorate from the University of Texas-Austin in 1993.

The Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor award is the highest honor that Florida State University faculty can bestow on a colleague. It is named in honor of the late Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert O. Lawton. A longtime and highly esteemed member of the Florida State faculty, he died in 1980. For more information on Lawton and a list of previous recipients of the award that bears his name, visit www.provost.fsu.edu/faculty/awards/lawton.

DROP Rollovers Made Easy



AVANT
Financial Group

George D. Avant, Jr., CLU, ChFC, CLTC
Financial Advisor
Registered Representative, New England Securities
259 John Knox Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
gavant@jacksonville.nef.com
avantfinancialgroup.net

Call George today at 850.385.0259

Dave Ramsey's Endorsed Local Provider

Avant Financial Group is Dave Ramsey's Endorsed Local Provider. Securities products offered through New England Securities Corporation, a Broker-Dealer (Member FINRA/SIPC). Avant Financial Group and Dave Ramsey are separate entities and not affiliated with New England Securities. Branch office: 4190 Belfort Rd. Jacksonville FL Tel: 904.281.9020



limited time only

50%
enrollment fee

*must be 18 years or older • first time member

State

Vol. 44 • No. 15
unicomm.fsu.edu/pages/State.html

Editor in Chief
Jeffery Seay

Writers
Jill Elish
Libby Fairhurst
Barry Ray
Bayard Stern

Director of
News and Public Affairs
Browning Brooks

Assistant V.P. and Director of
University Communications
Franklin D. Murphy

Vice President for
University Relations and Advancement
Lee Hinkle

President of
The Florida State University
Eric J. Barron

Board of Trustees
Derrick Brooks
Susie Busch-Transou
Dustin Daniels
Emily Fleming Duda
David Ford
Manny Garcia
William "Andy" Haggard
Mark Hillis
James E. Kinsey Jr.
Leslie Pantin Jr.
Margaret "Peggy" Rolando
Brent W. Sembler
Eric C. Walker

The deadline for the
May 31 - June 27, 2010, issue is
4:30 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, MAY 19.



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.

Underwriting is handled by the Florida State University Communications Group. For rates, call Crystal Cumbo at (850) 487-3170, ext. 352.

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.

Departmental merger 'Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science' debuts

By Jill Elish

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Earth Day 2010 marked the official creation of Florida State University's new Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science (EOAS), which combines the former departments of meteorology, oceanography, and geological sciences into one unit in the College of Arts and Sciences.

"It was the graduate students who came up with the idea of tying the official creation date of the department to the celebration of Earth Day," said Lynn Dudley, professor and chair of the new EOAS department. Earth Day, which was established 40 years ago to inspire awareness and appreciation for the environment, was April 22.

"We felt it would be very appropriate to have the whole world come together in one department on Earth Day," said meteorology graduate student Alec Bogdanoff.

The departmental merger, which reflects a national trend toward interdisciplinary environmental science programs, creates high-value degrees for students and increased opportunities for collaborative research among faculty members in emerging research areas.

"Combining departments is a definite trend in the geosciences," Dudley said. "Universities that have a breadth of geosciences in one department or college include the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Chicago, Purdue, the University of California-Irvine, Cornell, Georgia Tech, Penn State, and Arizona State."

Jeff Chanton, the John W. Winchester Professor of Oceanography, agreed.

"I think the new department will attract more undergraduates to the sciences," he said. "Young people are very concerned about the environment because of issues that range from climate change to water pollution. And for graduate students, the new department will offer opportunities for cross-fertilization of ideas."

In Fall 2010, the EOAS department will officially begin offering two new bachelor's degrees, a B.S. in environmental science and a B.A. in environmental science and policy. In addition, the department will offer a B.S. degree in meteorology, as well as M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in geology, meteorology, and oceanography.

Dudley said the new bachelor's degrees are

www.eoas.fsu.edu

already generating a good deal of interest among students, and he noted that a college salary report issued by PayScale, Inc. shows environmental science as the 24th best-paying bachelor's degree, with a median starting salary of \$43,300 and a mid-career median salary of \$78,700.

Besides preparing students for critical jobs, the merger of the three departments also creates one of the largest departments in the College of Arts and Sciences. This formidable lineup of scientists enables a greater amount of interdisciplinary research to solve increasingly complex environmental problems in Florida and worldwide.

"Water will be the oil of the coming decades," said Dudley, "and the new department has the resources to address many of the key interdisciplinary issues, which include tropical meteorology and ocean temperature feedbacks; extreme weather events and risk assessment and mitigation; effects of climate change on storm intensity and drought; and the effects of drought on forest and agriculture soil moisture."

Next year, the National Science Foundation alone will spend almost 11 percent of its annual budget on environmental research and education. Increasingly, funding agencies such as the NSF and the Department of Energy (DOE) recognize that these complex environmental challenges are best solved when experts from several disciplines work together and use the best computational and research tools available.

Dudley said the new EOAS department at Florida State has the expertise to address the three critical needs identified in 2009 by NSF for the geosciences: understanding and forecasting the behavior of a complex and evolving Earth system; reducing human vulnerability to intense and catastrophic events such as earthquakes, storms, volcanic eruptions, and floods; and training the next generation of geoscientists.

"There will be a chain reaction of success," said Dean Joseph Travis of the College of Arts and Sciences. "The new undergraduate degrees will be very popular, which will promote growth in faculty numbers, which in turn will produce more opportunities for students, giving us a robust, multifaceted geoscience unit that will be a defining feature of Florida State University."

Two faculty members receive 2010 Guggenheim Fellowships

Barbara Hamby

By Libby Fairhurst
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Florida State University Writer-in-Residence Barbara Hamby is no stranger to high praise and prizes for her poetry and short stories, but so far, 2010 has been a banner year.

Hamby has won a Guggenheim Fellowship, an honor reserved for a fraction of the nation's most distinguished artists, scientists and scholars performing at the pinnacle of their careers.

It is the latest chapter in her literary success story.

In January, one of Hamby's poems was chosen for inclusion in the 2010 edition of "Best American Poetry." That's twice in a row — another Hamby poem made it into the 2009 edition.

"Then in February, I learned that my first book of fiction, a collection of stories set in Hawaii, called "Lester Higata's 20th Century," had won a 2010 Iowa Short Fiction Award," said Hamby, a faculty mem-



ber in the English department's renowned Creative Writing Program.

"I was pretty happy with those first two prizes," she said, "then along came the Guggenheim. Such unexpected honors in the course of three months have surprised and delighted me."

With the 2010 fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Hamby will spend the next year creating a group of new poems and assembling a selection of existing ones from her first four books for a new compilation of verse. While her love of Shakespeare and theatre and especially travel have provided strong stimuli for her work — to inspire a future book, she hopes to ride the Trans-Siberian Railroad from St. Petersburg to Moscow and across Russia to Beijing — as a Guggenheim Fellow, she'll stay closer to home.

"The hard work of writing takes place mostly when I'm alone at my desk," Hamby said.

Hamby credits her Guggenheim Fellowship to persistence and luck.

"This was not the first time I'd applied for a Guggenheim," Hamby said. "In fact, I already had plans for my next application. I have a book of stories coming out in October and just received copies of 'Seriously Funny,' an anthology of both serious and funny contemporary poetry that I co-edited with my husband, David Kirby. That was to be my creative ammo for next year, just in case."

Her 2010 application was clearly formidable enough. In it she included her fourth, most recent book of poetry, "All-Night Lingo Tango," and her third book, "Babel," which won the 2003 Associated Writing Program's Donald Hall Prize.

"Barbara deservedly won the Guggenheim for her work as a poet, but she is as good a fiction writer as anyone who's won for their prose," said Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Olen Butler, a 1993 Guggenheim Fellow and FSU's Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of English. "Her book of stories is downright stunning."

Born in New Orleans and raised in Hawaii, Hamby is the author of four published books of poetry.

Ladislav Kubik

By Jeffery Seay
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Eminent Czechoslovakian composer Ladislav Kubik, a professor of composition in the Florida State University College of Music, has been named a 2010 Guggenheim Fellow for music composition.

"It's a joy and I am very happy that it happened," said Kubik, who is now an American citizen. "If you go to any competition, you have to be ready to lose, but you also have to be ready to win. I wasn't shocked. It was just a pleasant feeling of appreciation."

Kubik, who describes his work as contemporary, submitted three of his recent compositions for consideration: "Sinfonietta No. 3, Gong" (for mezzo-soprano,



orchestra and electronics, based on the poems of Rainer Maria Rilke, 2008); "Metamorphoses" (trio for clarinet, cello and piano, 2004); and "Sinfonietta No. 2, Jacob's Well" (for orchestra, 1999).

"I think my 'Sinfonietta No. 3, Gong' was the decisive component of my application," Kubik said. "In music today, it's a time of synthesis. It's a time of looking back to try to summarize the achievements of previous generations, and then, moving on to explore new sounds."

"Professor Kubik's music, while complex in structure, speaks directly to the listener with great passion and wonderful sonority," said Don Gibson, dean of the College of Music. "In addition, he has distinguished himself as a teacher at FSU, mentoring many graduate students who collectively have achieved considerable

distinction in the profession."

Among Kubik's numerous national and international honors, he was recognized by the International Rostrum of Composers UNESCO for "Lament of a Warrior's Wife" in 1974 and "Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra" in 1978. He won First Prize in the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors Composition Contest for "Two Episodes for Bass Clarinet, Piano and Percussion" in 1995, and First Prize in the International Franz Kafka Composition Competition for "Der Weg" in 1993. What's more, he won the Intervision Prize for the television ballet "Song of Man" in 1986. He was a finalist in the Prix Italia in 1977.

A native of Prague, Kubik studied composition and music theory at the Prague Academy of Music, where he earned a master's degree in 1970 and the equivalent of a doctorate in 1980. He joined the Florida State music faculty during the 1990-1991 year.

Join now and pay no dues 'til August!



The United Faculty of Florida gives effective voice, backed by the law, to faculty members' demands for equitable employment conditions. For me, being committed to FSU and my colleagues means working to ensure that faculty concerns have a place at the table.

— Dr. Irene Padavic, Pepper Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology



Everyone, sooner or later, no matter what rank, needs the support of the union. The American constitution depends on a system of checks and balances, and those same checks and balances are needed in every university.

— Dr. Gary Taylor, George Matthew Edgar Professor, Department of English



It is disconcerting that the same people who refuse membership in UFF happily receive the raises that the UFF negotiates for them. This is a divisive situation when one learns of fellow faculty who do not participate. I think everyone should join the UFF.

— Dr. David M. Gilbert, J. Herbert Taylor Distinguished Professor of Molecular Biology



We have never been in more need of a clear and strong voice for faculty. The UFF-FSU Chapter has been contesting the loss of tenured and untenured faculty from layoffs and "brain drain," and has been pushing for much-needed domestic partner benefits.

— Dr. Donna Marie Nudd, Professor, School of Communication

UFF membership entitles you to:

- \$1,000,000 in professional liability insurance
- \$10,000 in life insurance
- \$50,000 in accidental death insurance
- Two free half-hour non-employment-related legal consultations
- Discounts on home & auto insurance, and on publications
- A voice in defining UFF negotiating priorities
- UFF representation should you need to file a grievance

Join the UFF-FSU Chapter

UFF dues are 1% of bi-weekly salary. Please fill out the form below and return it to:
Jack Fiorito, President, UFF-FSU Chapter, RBB 244, P.O. Box 3061110, Tallahassee 32306-1110

Membership Form, United Faculty of Florida FSU Chapter

Please print complete information

Last Name First Name MI Department or Unit

Home Street Address Campus Address & Mail Code

City State Zip Code Office Phone Home Phone

E-mail Address (Personal/Home) E-mail Address (Office)

Please enroll me immediately as a member of the United Faculty of Florida (FEA, NEA-AFT, AFL-CIO). I hereby authorize my employer to begin bi-weekly payroll deduction of United Faculty of Florida dues (1% of bi-weekly salary) **after August 1, 2010**. This deduction authorization shall continue until revoked by me at any time upon 30 days written notice to FSU's payroll office and to the United Faculty of Florida.

Signature (for payroll deduction authorization)
Visit the UFF-FSU Chapter Web site at www.uff-fsu.org

Today's date
FSU Works Because We Do!

Two researchers selected for Air Force Young Investigator Awards

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Two rising young stars on the Florida State University faculty are recipients of highly competitive and prestigious research awards offered by the U.S. Air Force.

Kenneth L. Knappenberger Jr., an assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Piyush Kumar, an assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science, have been selected to receive 2010 Air Force Office of Research Young Investigator Program awards. Both will re-



Kenneth L. Knappenberger

ceive funding of approximately \$120,000 per year for a period of three years to help build upon accomplishments in their respective areas of research.

Just 38 junior faculty members from universities throughout the United States were selected for the Air Force awards. Knappenberger and Kumar were the only two in Florida.

With his Young Investigator Program award, Knappenberger will conduct basic research in the area of "Magnetoplasmonic Nanomaterials: A Route to Predictive Photocatalytic, Light-Harvesting and Ferrofluidic Properties."

"Nanostructured materials offer great potential for novel ways to generate, utilize, store and transport energy over a large range of the solar spectrum," he said. "These unique opportunities arise because nanoparticles

often display strikingly different chemical and physical properties from their bulk counterparts. Perhaps more intriguingly, these properties vary widely with particle size and shape, and are therefore critically dependent on the arrangement of individual atoms within the particle. Our goal is to understand how nanostructures can be tailored to improve devices, especially in the area of energy conversion."

Kumar's award, meanwhile, will enable him to conduct basic research in the area of "Geometric Clustering and Its Applications."

"Geometric clustering is a sub-area of geometric optimization and has various applications that span many diverse fields," Kumar said. He said he plans to build on earlier research involving geometric optimization, which has ap-



Piyush Kumar

plications in areas including geographic information systems, surface reconstruction, and learning and point-cloud data processing problems.

'Smart' materials investigator named Rising Research Star

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Florida State University faculty member who is working to develop new "smart" materials with a variety of potential applications has been recognized as one of the nation's top young researchers by the U.S. Department of Defense.

William S. Oates, an assistant professor of mechanical engineering, was selected by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA, www.darpa.mil) as one of 33 rising stars at 24 U.S. universities to participate in the agency's Young Faculty Award program for 2009. The 33 participants will receive grants of approximately \$300,000 each to develop and validate their research ideas over the next two years.



William S. Oates

btw

by the way

>>Summer workshops: The Florida State University Libraries will be the co-host of two workshops this summer.

•Academic Learning Spaces: Invention, (Re)Invention and Innovation (June 7 to 8, FSU Alumni Center): Academic library professionals from throughout the Southeast will explore the latest ideas in the development of learning commons. The conference will feature discussions about designing learning spaces to engage specific user populations, creating partnerships and services in learning spaces, and library staffing innovations. There will be a half-day, hands-on workshop to explore ethnographic assessment

techniques and an Innovations Showcase. **Registration:** Visit www.lib.fsu.edu/events/academic-learning-spaces. **Information:** Rebecca Bichel, 644-0471, rbichel@fsu.edu.

•Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics (July 9, Strozier Library): The Association of College & Research Libraries-sponsored conference will be one of five national sites to discuss copyright and intellectual property; the economics of publishing; open access and openness as a principle; and scholarly communication activities in Florida. The two presenters will be Kevin Smith, scholarly communications officer at Duke University, and Lee Van Orsdel, dean of university libraries at Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich. Registration is free and opens May 15. **Information:** Gloria Colvin, 645-1680, gcolvin@fsu.edu.

Satisfy your app-etite.

Instant access to exciting applications including games, VZ NavigatorSM and V CAST Music with Rhapsody.[®]

Plus, get a 15% faculty and staff discount.

On calling plans \$39.99 or higher with a 1- or 2-yr. agreement.



Nokia TwistTM

- Unique square design that twists open to reveal a QWERTY keyboard
- V CAST Music with Rhapsody[®] and Visual Voice MailSM capable

**NOW \$99⁹⁹
ONLY**

\$149.99 2-yr. price – \$50
mail-in rebate debit card.

LG VersaTM

- Large 3" touch screen with tactile feedback
- Optional snap on attachments like a full QWERTY keyboard or optional game controller

**NOW \$49⁹⁹
ONLY**

\$149.99 2-yr. price – \$100 mail-in
rebate debit card. Requires a
Nationwide Calling Plan.

Switch to America's Largest and Most Reliable Wireless Network.

Call 1.888.VZW.4BIZ (899.4249)

Click verizonwireless.com/getdiscount

Visit any Communications Store

VERIZON WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS STORES Open 7 days a week. Technicians available at select locations.

TALLAHASSEE 2014 Apalachee Pkwy. 850-325-6689
6721 Thomasville Rd. Suite 3 850-668-8459
1889-1 N. Martin Luther King Blvd. 850-847-4171
1216 W. Jefferson St. 850-627-4448

In Collaboration with

Alcatel-Lucent

MEDICO
Aceptamos La
Matrícula Consular

**BUSINESS CUSTOMERS
1-800-899-4249**

Activation fee/line: \$35.

IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Subject to Customer Agmt and Calling Plan. Device capabilities: Add'l charges & conditions apply. Offers & coverage, varying by service, not available everywhere. Network details & coverage maps at verizonwireless.com. Rhapsody and the Rhapsody logo are trademarks and registered trademarks of RealNetworks, Inc. Tetris[®] & ©1985~2009 Tetris Holding, LLC. Game Technology ©2009 Electronic Arts Inc. EA and the EA logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Electronic Arts Inc. in the U.S. and/or other countries. Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader?TM and ©2009 JMBP, Inc. All Rights Reserved. All company names, trademarks, logos and copyrights not the property of Verizon Wireless are the property of their respective owners. All Rights Reserved. ©2009 Verizon Wireless

OCTU

Cross to receive award for contributions in chemistry

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Florida State University biochemist whose work mapping the surfaces of bacteria and viruses could one day lead to the development of drugs capable of controlling such potentially deadly diseases as tuberculosis and the flu has been honored as one of the top scholars in his field in the southeastern United States.

Timothy A. Cross, the Earl Frieden Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Florida State and director of the Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Program at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, has been selected to receive the 2010 Florida Award by the Florida Local Section of the American Chemical Society. The award recognizes leadership and contributions toward the advancement of the profession of chemistry.

"I am honored to have been selected for this award," Cross said. "I have many deserving colleagues here at FSU as well as at the other institutions throughout Florida, but the honor really goes to my students and postdocs who have done all of the work — not only the challenging physical activities of preparing samples, conducting sophisticated experiments and analyzing data, but in many cases designing the experiments and challenging assumptions and hypotheses in the literature. I have been fortunate to have many bright people in my group who make me look good."

The Florida Award was established in 1952 and is given each year at the annual scientific meeting of the Florida Local Section of the American Chemical Society. To be considered for the award, a nominee must live in the Southeast and must have made outstanding contributions to teaching, research, publications or service in advancing the chemistry profession.

"None of this work is done in a vacuum," Cross said of his research. "I have many colleagues whom I turn to for advice

and help in the departments of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Mathematics and Physics at Florida State, as well as colleagues at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory. Without this stimulating environment and the excellent instrumentation resources we have here, the achievements my group have made would not have been possible."

For winning the award, Cross will receive a plaque and \$500, as well as travel expenses for the purpose of attending the Florida Local Section's Annual Meeting and Exposition on May 13-16 at Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club near Tampa. Cross will also be the conference's plenary speaker.

"Professor Cross has had a sustained and distinguished track record in researching the structure and properties of membrane proteins," said Joseph Schlenoff, Florida State's Mandelkern Professor of Polymer Science and chairman of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. "His most notable recent ac-

complishments are in the area of flu and tuberculosis proteins. These studies will help us find ways to combat these pervasive diseases."

A member of the Florida State University chemistry faculty since 1984, Cross is a pioneer in the development of nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) techniques that allow for extraordinarily precise imaging of the proteins that coat bacterial cells and viruses. By contributing to an increased understanding of the chemistry, structure and function of these proteins, he and his research team are building up a body of knowledge that one day could lead to the creation of more-effective drugs for treating diseases such as influenza type A and tuberculosis that kill millions of people around the world each year.

"Finding molecules that can effectively bind to the surface of these proteins and deactivate them is an essential step in developing new drugs to combat them," Cross said.

In addition to serving on the Florida State faculty, Cross has led the magnet lab's NMR user program for all but a few years since its inception 20 years ago.



Timothy A. Cross

Professor honored with early career award

By Nash McCutchen
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Stephanie Al Otaiba, an associate professor in the Florida State University School of Teacher Education and researcher with the university's Florida Center for Reading Research, is the 2010 recipient of the Distinguished Early Career Research Award from the Council for Exceptional Children Division for Research.

The annual award, which is co-sponsored by the Hammill Institute on Disabilities, recognizes individuals who have earned their doctorate within the past 10 years and have made outstanding scientific contributions to the field of special education in basic

and/or applied research.

Al Otaiba cited the supportive environment provided at Florida State as an integral factor in her success.

"It means a lot to me to be recognized as having made important contributions to my field by my peers," she said. "Importantly, this award is a tribute to the research support and mentoring from the Florida Center for Reading Research, the College of Education, the Learning Systems Institute, and to the team of graduate students and research staff who have worked on our projects."

Al Otaiba's research relates to the prevention of early reading difficulties through early literacy intervention.



Stephanie Al Otaiba



Where you save is just as important as why you save.

SunTrust makes your financial future easy to manage. Our reliable savings solutions — such as Get Started SavingsSM, CDs, money market accounts and IRAs — can help you plan for tomorrow, while still making the most of today. So start building a solid savings foundation now. Visit suntrust.com, call 800.SUNTRUST, or stop by a branch near you.



The Source

News from Human Resources

HUMAN RESOURCES

>>VERIFY HOME ADDRESSES: Employees should verify their current home mailing addresses in the OMNI system through Employee Self Service. Incorrect addresses will result in delays of any information sent out by vendors concerning health, life, supplemental and retirement programs.

>>TAKING A LEAVE OF ABSENCE? If employees take a leave of absence for any reason, their benefits might be affected. Faculty and staff members only have 31 days from going on leave to make necessary adjustments to their benefits. If employees know they are going on leave, they can contact the Benefits Office for assistance to ensure there is no lapse in coverage. **Information:** 644-4015 or insben@admin.fsu.edu.

>>REEMPLOYMENT AFTER RETIREMENT: Departments and academic units should be especially careful to ensure that former retirees of the Florida Retirement System (FRS) are not rehired in violation of Florida's reemployment laws. These laws apply to all individuals who have received or rolled-over any type of benefit under the FRS (including pension, investment and State University Optional Retirement Program), and are therefore considered to be "retirees" of the Florida Retirement System. New regulations, which take effect on July 1, increase the amount of time an employee must be off all FRS-covered payrolls before being rehired in any position at the university. Failure to comply with the reemployment restrictions can result in severe financial implications for both the university and the rehired retiree. Employees with any concerns about reemployment restrictions can contact the Human Resources Benefits office at (850) 644-4015, or send an e-mail to retirement@admin.fsu.edu. Updated information about Florida Retirement System reemployment policies can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/frs-reemployment>.

>>TIAA-CREF ONE-ON-ONE COUNSELING: A representative from TIAA-CREF will be on campus conducting one-on-one financial advising sessions on June 7, 8 and 9 in the seventh floor skyboxes of University Center (Building A). To schedule an appointment, call TIAA-CREF at 1-877-267-4510, or use the online scheduling website <http://tiaa-cref.org/moc>.

>>JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2010 RETIREES: **Chuck Amato**, athletics coach, Athletics Administration; **Bob Anderson**, facilities supervisor, Building Services; **Mickey Andrews**, athletic coach, Athletics Administration; **Bobby Bowden**, head athletic coach, Athletics Administration; **Karen Graffius-Ashcraft**, research assistant, Biological Science; **Sherri Green**, physicians assistant, Thagard Student Health Center; **Philip Grise**, associate scholar/scientist, Communication; **Willie Hammett**, skilled trades worker, Facilities Maintenance; **Eugene Jeffery**, facilities supervisor, Building Services; **Eddie Johnson**, maintenance support worker, Residence Halls; **Arnold Larsen**, senior security guard, Ringling Center for the Arts; **David Murphy**, application developer/designer, Information Technology Services; **James President**, custodial worker, Oglesby Union Administration; **Betty Smith**, executive support assistant, College of Business – Dean; **Charmaine Steiner**, administrative specialist, College of Education – Dean; **T.K. Wetherell**, university president, President's Office; **Myra Williams**, library associate, Strozier Library.

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

>>MAY IS ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH: Established to commemorate the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent living in the United States, May was chosen because two important anniversaries occurred: the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to America on May 7, 1843; and the completion on May 10, 1869, of the transcontinental railroad. Many Chinese laborers worked on this project.

RELEVANT STATISTICS:

- 2.5 million U.S. residents speak Chinese, the second most widely spoken non-English language after Spanish.
- It is projected that by 2050, 33.4 million U.S. residents will self-identify as Asian. This represents 8 percent of the total population.
- 86 percent of Asians, age 25 and older, have a high school diploma.
- 49 percent of Asians, age 25 and older, have a bachelor's degree. This is the highest proportion of any race or ethnic group, compared to 27 percent on average for all Americans.
- 20 percent of Asians, age 25 and older, have an advanced degree. This compared to 10 percent on average for all Americans.

TRAINING AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

>>Instructor-led and online training opportunities are available to Florida State faculty and staff members. To view a schedule of classes and registration information, visit www.hr.fsu.edu/train. To register for classes, log in to omni.fsu.edu and click in sequence: "Human Resources 9.0," "Self Service," "Learning and Development," "Request Training Enrollment" and "Search by Date, Course Code or Course Name." From there, click on "View Available Sessions" and choose a session number. Follow the prompts to submit a request.

To view a course description, click on the icon. **Information:** (850) 644-8724.

RECOGNITIONS

James Call (WFSU-FM) won the first place Florida Associated Press Broadcaster Award for the radio segment "The Crist Method," in the category Best Continuing Coverage, Division 1, large market and statewide networks, Florida Public Radio, at the annual banquet of the Florida Associated Press, Orlando, Fla., April.

Gina Jordan (WFSU-FM) won the first place Florida Associated Press Broadcaster Award for the radio segment "Debt Collectors," in the category Best Investigative, Division 1, large market and statewide networks; Jordan won first place for the segment "Nightclub Celebrates Milestone" in the category Best Light Feature, Division 2, small market; and Jordan won the Best in Show award for "Debt Collectors" in the All Markets category, at the annual banquet of the Florida Associated Press, Orlando, Fla., April. This is the second consecutive year

CAMPUS IN ACTION

that WFSU-FM has won this award.

Margie Menzel (WFSU-FM) won the second place Florida Associated Press Broadcaster Award for the feature "The Death of Gabriel Myers," in the category Best Continuing Coverage, Division 1, large market and statewide networks, Florida Public Radio, at the annual banquet of the Florida Associated Press, Orlando, Fla., April.

BYLINES

Roger Kaufman, Ph.D. (Professor Emeritus, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems), wrote the article "It's Not the Money Spent, It's the Value Received," published

in the journal *Florida Thinks*, April.

Gary Knight, Ph.D. (Marketing), co-wrote the article "Terrorism and International Business: A Research Agenda," with M. Czinkota, P. Liesch and J. Steen, to be published in the *Journal of International Business Studies*. This is Knight's fourth published article in *JIBS*, placing him in the top five percent of scholars who have published in the journal since 1995; Knight was named one of 10 track chairs for the 2010 annual conference of the Academy of International Business, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June; and Knight was named to the editorial review boards of the *Journal of the*

Academy of Marketing Science and the *Journal of International Management*.

Robert C. Reardon, Ph.D. (Professor Emeritus, Career Center), wrote the article "Reflections on Training Career Counselors: A Forty-Year Perspective" published in the *Career Planning and Adult Development Journal*, Vol. 25, No. 1.

SERVICE

Julianna Baggott, M.F.A. (English), narrated the inaugural audio program of the Florida Department of Education's Literacy League Book Club, now available for free download on the "iTunes U" section of iTunes. On the program, Baggott answered questions from Florida middle-school students about her book "The Anybodies," written under the pen name N.E. Bode, as well as detailing her background as a writer, April. The Literacy League provides free educational audio and video content to students and educators.



850-385-6047
1700-14 N. Monroe St | Tallahassee

SPECIAL OFFER FOR FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES

**Purchase your next vehicle from
Tallahassee Dodge Chrysler Jeep &
finance with Florida State University Credit Union
and save big with this exclusive offer.**



5 Star Dealer Pricing



1% Below Invoice Pricing
Excludes SRT and RT products.



Five convenient locations in the Tallahassee area.
Proudly serving the FSU Community for 55+ years.

1% APR Reduction on Financing

Discount is taken from FSU Credit Union's standard auto
loan rates and can not be combined with any other
special or promotional rate. Credit standards apply.

(888) 225-7841 | www.tallahasseedodgechryslerjeep.com

(850) 224-4960 | www.fsucu.org

Present ad to receive discounts.
Offer expires August 1, 2010.

Lovely New Homes!

Meandering Lane



at

WESTMINSTER OAKS

Exceptional Active Living Choices!

Call Sheri or Sandra at 850-878-1136.

Come for the Lifestyle. Stay for a Lifetime.™



WESTMINSTER COMMUNITIES OF FLORIDA
www.WestminsterRetirement.com

State

The Florida State University
1600 Red Barber Plaza
Tallahassee, FL 32306-2890

CAMPUS
MAIL
DELIVERY