FSU Advising Center wins top national award

By Jill Elish
INTERIM DIRECTOR, NEWS AND RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS

A unique Florida State University advising program that uses innovative techniques to help undecided students choose a major has won a top national award.

Florida State’s Advising First Center for Exploratory Students will receive an Outstanding Institutional Advising Program Award from the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) at its annual meeting, to be held in Denver this fall. The Outstanding Advising Program Awards annually recognize programs that document innovative and/or exemplary practices resulting in improvement of academic advising service.

“I am thrilled that a program we know to be outstanding has earned this well-deserved recognition,” said Karen Laughlin, dean of Undergraduate Studies. “Center director Kathleen Smith and her team are both dedicated and highly creative in their approach to working with exploratory students, and the program has been a great help to many.”

The Advising First Center for Exploratory Students fosters an environment in which students place passion and purpose at the center of their educational decision making, according to Smith. The center is part of Advising First, a division of Undergraduate Studies, which serves the

FSU Foundation appoints executive vice president

The Florida State University Foundation has announced the appointment of Andy A. Jhanji as executive vice president. Jhanji, who most recently served as vice chancellor for advancement and chief of staff at the University of Colorado Denver, will assume his new position at Florida State on Aug. 15.

“We are pleased to welcome to the Foundation someone with Andy’s exceptional skills and experience,” said Vice President for University Advancement and FSU Foundation President Tom Jennings. “A well-respected executive who has managed key advancement functions throughout his career, Andy will make an immediate impact on our leadership team. With his passion, breadth of experience and knowledge of fundraising, Andy represents the dynamic and visionary leader the Foundation needs at this critical time in our history.”

At Florida State, Jhanji will oversee the Foundation's day-to-day operations and continue to expand its advancement operations, in concert with Seminole Boosters and the FSU Alumni Association. In addition, he will play a key role in the planning and execution of a projected $1 billion capital campaign.

“I am honored to have been selected as the executive vice president for the Florida State University Foundation,” Jhanji said. “The opportunities under the leadership team of the university and Foundation are extraordinary. I look forward to joining the Seminole family and continuing its rich tradition while building upon its success.”

Jhanji has worked in public higher education for more than two decades. Prior to the seven years in his current position, he served as special assistant to the chancellor and director, research and technology transfer at the University of Colorado Denver. Jhanji also

Spread THE Word
The National Science Foundation has awarded a five-year, $10 million grant to Florida State University and the University of Florida to coordinate 92 institutions in 45 states working to digitize the nation's biological collections. To read the full story, see page 6.
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Ringling Museum names new deputy director

Grady Enlow, associate director of Florida State University’s Office of University Business Administrators, has been named deputy director of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art. Enlow will lead the day-to-day administration, finance and strategic planning for all service areas of The Ringling Museum, a division of Florida State and the State Art Museum of Florida. He started on July 5.

“Grady Enlow is a versatile and proven leader with a history of achieving organizational growth both in the hospitality and higher education fields,” said Steven High, executive director of the museum. “He has the perfect blend of experience managing operations, university finance and administration, projects, training and development, and event planning among other areas of expertise.”

Enlow responsibilities will involve recommending financial and budgeting strategies, as well as reviewing and assisting with prioritizing funding and grant proposals, among other duties. He oversees several departments, including Accounting and Budgeting, Human Resources, Volunteer Services, Technology, Safety and Security, Physical Plant, Events and Rentals, Museum Store, Visitor Center, Membership, and Food Service operations.

“I am excited about the opportunity to serve Florida State University at our facilities in Sarasota, and about working with the wonderful employees and volunteers at Ringling,” Enlow said. “It’s a beautiful place that more of our faculty and staff from the main campus should come and see when they can.”

Enlow earned a Master of Business Administration degree from Florida State in 1994 and a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Columbia International University.

Guardia to lead national fraternal association

Juan R. Guardia, director of Florida State’s Center for Multicultural Affairs and an adjunct faculty member in the College of Education’s Higher Education Program, has been elected to serve as the 2011-2013 chairman of the National Association of Latino Fraternal Organizations (NALFO).

National representatives from the 19 fraternities and sororities that comprise NALFO elected Guardia as chairman.

“I am humbled to be elected as NALFO’s chairman for the 2011-2013 term,” Guardia said. “I look forward to working with and serving all our member organizations.”

Prior to his election as chairman, Guardia served as NALFO’s vice chairman.

NALFO was established in 1998 to promote the advancement of Latino/Latina fraternities and sororities, and foster positive interfraternal relations, communication and development through mutual respect, leadership, honesty, professionalism and education. Each of NALFO’s fraternities and sororities is bound by a shared commitment to fraternal unity and the values that Latino/Latina fraternal life entails.

Governor names MacNamara as chief of staff

Florida Gov. Rick Scott has selected Florida State University communication Associate Professor Stephen R. MacNamara as chief of staff. The appointment took effect July 5.

MacNamara, whose experience bridges the worlds of academia and politics, has been on unpaid leave of absence from Florida State since August 2010, serving as general counsel to the Florida Senate and chief of staff for Senate President Mike Haridopolos. MacNamara’s leave extends through August 2012.

“My goal is to make Florida the number one state in the country for job creation, and I believe Steve MacNamara is the best choice to direct my team in that endeavor,” Scott said. “His experience and political skill will be an asset to all Floridians as we continue to position Florida as an economic leader.”
History professor participates in 2011 Aspen Ideas Festival

Darrin M. McMahon, the Ben Weider Professor of History at Florida State University, and philosopher Sissela Bok, a senior visiting fellow at the Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, co-presented a talk on “The History of Happiness” at the prestigious Aspen Ideas Festival, held June 27-July 3 in Aspen, Colo.

McMahon’s and Bok’s talk focused on what the history of happiness reveals about the present of happiness. It was part of the festival’s “happiness track,” which was organized by Harvard University psychiatry Professor Daniel Gilbert.

“The ‘happiness track’ gathered leading economists, psychologists, social scientists and humanities scholars to talk about an idea that has taken on increased importance in public discussions of late: ‘What can we do to make human beings happier?’” McMahon said.

“ Aspen was such a beautiful place and the quality of the discussion so high, that I was happy just being here and able to represent FSU,” McMahon said.


The festival, co-sponsored by the Aspen Institute and The Atlantic, is billed as an international gathering of inspired and provocative thinkers, writers, artists, business people, teachers and other leaders drawn from myriad fields to delve deeply into a world of ideas, thought and discussion.

New FSU Communicators* Network launches campuswide

As a way to enhance collaborative efforts across the university related to marketing and communications, an institutionwide network, the Communicators* Network, was launched July 12.

More than 80 communications and marketing professionals from across Florida State met that day at the Turnbull Conference Center to establish the foundation for future strategies.

The Office of University Communications established the network, said Jeanette DeDiemar, the university’s assistant vice president for University Relations and director of integrated marketing and communications. The group, which is open to all campus communicators and others who are interested, was envisioned to bring together marketing and communications professionals from across campus for an opportunity to share ideas and best practices, as well as discuss effective strategies to raise the profile of the university while advancing its reputation.

“What is unique about this network is that it is managed by a group of volunteers from across campus and provides an opportunity to highlight campus expertise and partnerships related to marketing and communications,” DeDiemar said.

The inaugural meeting featured College of Communication and Information Professor William “Bill” Smith, known as one of the “original Mad Men,” who discussed the history of integrated marketing communications and the groundbreaking work he conducted with corporate giants, such as Xerox and Coca-Cola. Smith discussed the merits of an integrated communications strategy. DeDiemar followed Smith with an update on the development of an integrated marketing communications strategy at FSU and updates within the Office of University Communications.

“I was honored to speak with the Communicators* Network about the history of integrated marketing communications, and how it can help communicators across campus deliver a common message that feels, thinks, smells, touches and tastes like the true FSU,” Smith said.

A website, developed by FSU’s Florida Center for Interactive Media, will provide the campus with updates as well as marketing and communications resources and best practices, including creative services, university brand management and guidelines, and professional development resources.

The network was created following a campuswide survey last winter of staff who serve in marketing and communications roles. Feedback included the desire for professional development related to best practices and innovations, more networking opportunities among communicators and opportunities to collaborate with marketing and communications, and online resources. Topics discussed during the monthly meetings are developed from suggestions related to best practices, industry trends and faculty expertise.

DeDiemar expressed appreciation to the many volunteers and high level of staff support that led to the establishment of the network.

“Simply put, this is about each of us working together in new ways to make things happen that enhance the way we share Florida State’s story,” she said.

The next meeting, scheduled for Aug. 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m, will feature social media trends and innovations as well as an update on the university’s social media strategy. If you work in the communications field at Florida State and would like to join this group, please contact Mary Elizabeth Fox at mefox@fsu.edu.

For more information about the FSU Communicators* Network, contact:

Jeanette DeDiemar, jdediemar@fsu.edu
Kristen Coyne, kcoyne@fsu.edu
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Mary Elizabeth Fox, mefox@fsu.edu
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Kim Shively, kshively@fsu.edu
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Four FSU research projects win 2011 ‘GAP’ awards

By Elizabeth Bettendorf
NEWS AND RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS

Researchers at Florida State University seeking to shepherd their research out of the laboratory and into the crowded commercial marketplace have a friend in the FSU Research Foundation. Since 2005, the foundation has funded a highly energetic — and competitive — grant program that supports those researchers and their extraordinary efforts.

The Grant Assistance Program, or GAP, awards those who can most clearly identify the commercial feasibility of a process, product, license or start-up company that they believe will grow from their endeavors with a commercial partner.

The GAP awards are given out twice yearly. The four projects that earned GAP funding during the most recent awards cycle (Spring 2011) are:

• Nanobelt Biosensors: A $50,000 award goes to P. Bryant Chase, professor and chairman of the FSU Department of Biological Science, and Professor Peng Xiong of the Department of Physics, for the development and testing of a device that can be used to sense the presence of hepatitis C viral proteins. If the researchers are successful, their technology potentially has many other commercial applications.

• Light-Activated Agents for Anticancer Drugs: A $25,000 award goes to Professor Igor Alabugin of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry to further develop a novel cancer-fighting approach that uses exposure to light to activate a powerful class of anticancer molecules. When exposed to light, these molecules can target and destroy cancer cells while leaving healthy cells unharmed. If successful, Alabugin will be much closer to developing a therapy regime that will be of great commercial interest to the cancer research industry.

• A Novel Approach to Treating Stroke Victims: A $25,000 award goes to Ewa Bienkiewicz, an assistant scholar/scientist in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, for development of a therapeutic agent that can go into the body and naturalize the effect of toxic hemin release following a stroke. Hemin is a byproduct of the breakdown of hemoglobin, which occurs after a stroke. Currently there is only one approved option for stroke patients, a “clot-buster” class of drugs that must be given within three hours of a stroke. This new therapy could begin up to 24 hours following a stroke’s onset. The GAP funding will help Bienkiewicz take her current work much closer to a point where it will have commercial opportunity.

• High Performance Flexible Batteries: A $12,000 award goes to Professor Richard Liang of FSU’s High Performance Materials Institute, and Jesse Smithyman, a doctoral student working under Liang, for a technology that uses carbon nanotubes as the basis for smaller, more flexible batteries that will be part of the devices they power. Liang and his fellow researchers will take the flexible battery technology through more rigid testing and evaluation and bring it closer to where it can be built into “real” products.

All GAP award recipients will be assigned a team of mentors composed of local business leaders. The groups will meet four times a year to provide expertise and assistance with product development.

“One of the most important contributions that large research universities can make is to nurture the scientific and technological expertise that our society depends on to generate commercially viable breakthroughs in medicine, computer technology, energy generation and so many other areas,” said Kirby Kemper, Florida State’s vice president for Research. “With this new round of GAP awards, we are able to support researchers who may be on the brink of bringing research break-throughs to market."

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**Advertorial**
The National Science Foundation has awarded a five-year, $10 million grant to Florida State University and the University of Florida to coordinate 92 institutions in 45 states working to digitize the nation’s biological collections.

FSU’s Center for Information Management and Scientific Communication, in the College of Communication & Information, will work with UF’s Florida Museum of Natural History and its College of Engineering Advanced Computing Information Systems Laboratory to create software and databases the nationwide participants will use to transfer and store the data. FSU will receive $2.8 million of the grant.

“We will be a facilitating hub,” said FSU’s Greg Riccardi, director of the Center for Information Management and Scientific Communication and a co-principal investigator on the grant. “This project puts us in the center of U.S. efforts to digitize collections for biodiversity research.”

Called Integrated Digitized Biocollections, or iDigBio, the information in the digitized collections will include field notes, photographs, 3-D images and information on associated organisms, geographic distribution, environmental habitat and specimen DNA samples.

Available to anyone online, the natural history data and its increased accessibility will help researchers identify gaps in scientific knowledge and could assist government agencies and others making decisions related to climate change, conservation, invasive species, biodiversity and other biological issues.

“There are probably a billion specimens in the United States, but information isn’t easily accessible,” said principal investigator Larry Page, research scientist at the Florida Museum of Natural History on the UF campus. “This program is about making that information available to researchers, educators, policymakers and the general public — anyone who wants it.”

The value to policymakers, in particular, will be both immediate and long term. “We are seeing the impact of biodiversity on policies related to climate change, conservation and customs issues today,” said Riccardi, a professor in FSU’s School of Library & Information Studies. “When a bug crawls out of a crate in a shipping warehouse, customs officials need to determine if that species will create environmental problems and what to do about it.”

FSU and UF also plan to share their work with the public through the use of social media and an exhibit at the Florida Museum of Natural History.

“This project is a great opportunity for the faculty and the graduate students at FSU,” said Larry Dennis, dean of the College of Communication & Information. “It provides funding as well as an opportunity to lead a project of great national importance.”

The grant is part of the NSF Advancing Digitization of Biological Collections program. The other institutions selected by the NSF will receive two- to four-year grants to fund the digitization process.

Other co-principal investigators on the iDigBio grant are José Fortes, director of UF’s Advanced Computing and Information Systems Laboratory, and Pamela Soltis, curator of botany at the Florida Museum.

majority of Florida State’s undergraduate students. Smith also serves as associate director of Advising First along with John Carter. Nikki Raimondi is director.

“When I share our approach to working with exploratory students, inevitably the response is ‘I wish this program was around when I was in college!’” Smith said. “We have been able to transform educational theory and the latest research into a working program that assists students with one of the most important decisions they will make in their college careers.

“We are developmental and holistic in our approach, and it is our hope that each student who comes to our center is able to declare his or her major with confidence,” Smith said.

The center offers specialized services to effectively guide and monitor student progress until a departmental major is selected. Academic advisers use a set of comprehensive and tangible tools to assist students with the major selection process. The STEPS (Students Taking Exploratory Paths to Success) Program encompasses a developmental academic advising approach involving specific steps to move students forward.

To proceed through the STEPS program, students must participate in five intentional advising meetings scheduled throughout their first year with their assigned academic adviser. Between meetings, they complete several action items identified by both the student and the adviser to progress in the exploration journey.

In addition to one-on-one academic advising, the center offers numerous creative outreach activities including workshops, panel discussions, conferences, retreats and other special events that are open to any student on campus who may be experiencing indecision about their major.

Since 1983, NACADA has honored individuals and institutions making significant contributions to the improvement of academic advising. The goal of NACADA is to promote quality academic advising and professional growth of its membership to enhance the educational development of students. NACADA’s membership consists of nearly 10,000 faculty, professional advisers, administrators, counselors and others in academic and student affairs concerned with the intellectual, personal and vocational needs of students.
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A&P PERFORMANCE EVALUATIONS REMINDER:
Each year, A&P employees must have their performance evaluated by their supervisors. It is important that these performance evaluations be completed in a timely manner. Performance evaluations ensure that employees receive feedback on their performance and are a constructive tool for continued improvement and development.

Please note that for 2011 A&P Performance Evaluations, all A&P employees must be evaluated using the new ePerformance module in OMNI. Evaluations for the 2010-2011 academic year (rating period Aug. 8, 2010, through Aug. 7, 2011) will be available to supervisors beginning Aug. 8, 2011, and should be completed by Sept. 9, 2011. It will not be necessary to submit hard copies to Human Resources, as the Evaluation Documents will be available through OMNI. Performance evaluations are not required for A&P employees who have been employed for fewer than three months.

In addition, online training guides and tutorials are available at www.hr.fsu.edu/eperformance training.

Questions? Refer to Section OP-C-7-G1 of the Division of Finance and Administration, Human Resources, Policies and Procedures, or call the Employee and Labor Relations Section at (850) 644-6475.

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.

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE:
Participants must certify their completion of online NEO by faxing a completed copy of the “Certification of Completion and Evaluation of Orientation” form to the Office of Training and Organizational Development, as indicated on the form. The link to online new-employee presentations, materials and the certification form can be found at www.hr.fsu.edu/Content/NEOnline/index.html. Assistance: (850) 644-8724.

>>MAY/JUNE 2011 RETIREES: Steven Adamick, program coordinator, Facilities Administrative Services; Leslie Aspinwall, associate professor, School of Teacher Education; Jimmie Byers, student union activities specialist, Oglesby Union Administration; Joanne Clark, assistant director, Student Financial Aid; Thomas Cornille, associate professor, Family and Child Sciences; James Daniels, custodial worker, Business Services; Jodee Dorsey, associate professor, College of Human Sciences-Dean’s office; Daryl Ellison, associate director, Facilities Planning; Barbara Ford-Kronholz, associate professor, College of Music-Dean’s office; Emmett Foster, professional engineer, Beaches and Shores Resource Center; Philip Froelich, professor, Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences; Frank Fuller, research associate, Learning Systems Institute; Janet Kahn, associate in communication disorders, Communication Disorders; David Knoll, custodial worker, Building Services; Koytcho Koev, skilled trades worker, Facilities Maintenance; Katherine Mason, professor, College of Nursing-Dean’s office; Leonard Mastrogiacomo, professor, College of Music-Dean’s office; Joseph McElrath, professor of English, Office of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Ronald Meyer, IT support specialist, Information Technology Services; Anne Rowe, professor of English and dean of the Faculties, Office of the Dean of the Faculties; Karen Sautler, mental health specialist, Psychology; Susan Stetson, administrative specialist, Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences; Wilbur Stiles, associate professor, Mathematics; Linda Stoutamire, audit administrator, Office of Audit Services; and Jolen Wolf, associate in, College of Law.
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297-0780
Sarah C. Bertoch, Jill A. Lumsden, Robert C. Reardon, Christine Richer and Elizabeth A. Ruff (Career Center) co-wrote an article, “Career Information-Seeking Behavior: Rediscovering an Effective Career Intervention,” published in the monograph “Students in Transition: Research and Practice in Career Development” (No. 55, pp. 89-95, 2011) by the University of South Carolina National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition.


Alexander Jiménez, D.M. (Music), recently conducted the Florida State University Symphonic Orchestra as it recorded “Millennium Fantasy,” a CD of compositions by FSU Francis Eppe Distinguished Professor of Composition Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. The CD was published on the internationally recognized Naxos label. A CD was published on the internationally recognized Naxos label.


Alan Marshall, Ph.D., (National High Magnetic Field Laboratory; Chemistry and Biochemistry), and Hui-Min Zhang (National High Magnetic Field Laboratory), co-wrote a paper, “Dispersed Disease-Causing Neomorphic Mutations on a Single Protein Promote the Same Localized Conformational Opening,” with Weiwei He, Yeeting E. Chong, Min Guo and Xiang-Lei Yang, published in the July 4-8 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.


Karen M. McGinnis, Ph.D. (Biological Science), wrote a paper, “Identification of Epigenetic Regulators of a Transcriptionally Silenced Transgene in Maize,” published in the inaugural issue of G3: Genes, Genomes, Geneticians, which is a journal of the Genetics Society of America.


Melissa Gross, Ph.D., and Don Latham, Ph.D. (School of Library and Information Studies), made a presentation, “What’s Skill Got to Do With It? A Comparison of Information Literacy Skills and Self-Views of Ability in First-Year College Students,” during the Library Research Round Table Forums at the annual meeting of the American Library Association, New Orleans, June 20-23.


Bob Wickham (Enterprise Resource Planning) presented “Who’s on First and What’s on Second? When All Projects are Number One, How Do You Decide Which to Do?” at the Higher Education User Group (HEUG) Alliance Conference, Denver, March 28-30.

James M. Olocese, Ph.D. (Medicine), has been elected to serve as the next co-chairman for the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) Summer Research Conference on Melatonin Receptors. The group will next meet in 2013.
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Visit the UFF-FSU Chapter Web site at www.uff-fsu.org

Today’s date: 

FSU Works Because We Do!

*Illustration reprinted from “He Looks Too Happy to Be An Assistant Professor: A Collection of Cartoons by Vivian Scott Hixson,” by permission of the University of Missouri Press. ©1996
The Office of University Communications was recently recognized for several top awards for excellence in media relations and digital content.

Florida State’s “It’s Our Time-Your Time,” a 60-second institutional message that was aired during the 2010-2011 athletic season, received a Bronze Telly award. More than 11,000 entries from across the country participated in this year’s awards program. The spot was produced in partnership with Seminole Productions and University Communications with Dennis Schnittker serving as producer.

The University Communications team also received a Special Merit Award from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE District III) in the Specific Projects/Media Relations Projects category for “FSU Takes Action In The Gulf,” a chronicle of the leadership that was provided by campus administrators and faculty researchers in the aftermath of the Gulf oil spill. The award recognized the comprehensive media package that included news releases, stories in university publications, video and radio segments, and a blog.

Jill Elish, interim director of News and Research Communications, received CASE’s District III Award of Excellence in the Feature Writing/General News or Feature Story category for her news release “Florida State To Help Military Wage War on Suicide,” which promoted the $17 million Department of Defense grant to Florida State and the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center. The grant established the Military Suicide Research Consortium.

The American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA) has selected the Center for Real Estate Education and Research in the College of Business at Florida State University to serve as its administrative home.

Established in 1964, AREUEA is recognized for its global leadership in promoting scholarly research in real estate and urban economics. Real Estate Economics, the association’s journal, is widely regarded as one of the premier scholarly journals in the field of real estate and urban economics.

“It is an honor to house this leading global organization at Florida State,” said Caryn Beck-Dudley, dean of the College of Business. “Our selection serves to confirm the top-tier status of our real estate program.”

Florida State’s real estate program consistently is ranked among the top 10 programs at public institutions by U.S. News & World Report.

Elizabeth “Liz” Laffitte has joined the center as special projects coordinator and executive director AREUEA.