We’re No. 1!

**U.S. News lauds Florida State for efficiency**

Florida State University is among the most efficient of the nation’s highest ranked universities, according to a list released in December by *U.S. News & World Report.*

Florida State tops the list of national universities — a significant accolade at a time when many public universities are struggling to provide exceptional educational experiences with fewer resources.

“*U.S. News & World Report*’s list of the most efficient universities validates Florida State University’s continued commitment to resourcefulness and accountability,” said Florida State President Eric J. Barron. “This was one of the governor’s top objectives for higher education. Our resources rank is 212, compared to our quality rank of 97. Imagine what we could do in delivering for the citizens of Florida with even average resources.”

Florida State, which dedicated $17,731 per student in 2011, is ranked 42nd among public national universities and 97th among all national universities in *U.S. News*’ 2013 “Best Colleges.”

The less a college or university is spending relative to its ranking, the more efficient it is in producing a quality education among its peers, according

Two biologists join prestigious ranks of AAAS fellows

By Barry Ray

NEWS AND RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS

Florida State University has long been recognized for producing high-quality research in a variety of scientific disciplines. That stellar reputation was reaffirmed Nov. 30 as two Florida State biology professors — Gregory Erickson and David Houle — received one of the top honors in the scientific world: elevation to the rank of fellow by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).
Classics professor awarded coveted Humboldt fellowship

By Elizabeth Bettendorf
NEWS AND RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS

Medical students at Florida State University love Svetla Slaveva-Griffin’s class.

Not because she’s an easy A.

Rather, listening to her lectures on ancient medicine, philosophy and religion — and how they intersect — offers a rare glimpse into the history and origins of their field.

“It’s fun working with students in the sciences because they don’t typically get exposed to the history and foundation of what they study,” said Slaveva-Griffin, an associate professor of classics who was recently awarded a prestigious 2013-2014 Humboldt Fellowship for Experienced Researchers.

The international award is aimed at young scholars and allows them to spend between six and 18 months in Germany conducting research.

The Humboldt Foundation awards approximately 600 Humboldt Research Fellowships annually for postdoctoral researchers and experienced researchers. The prize is coveted and generally an indicator of great scholarly success.

“It’s easy to see how Slaveva-Griffin earned such honors. The Bulgarian-born professor, who earned her doctorate at the University of Iowa, teaches courses in multiple areas including classics, religion and Florida State’s History and Philosophy of Science program.

Being part of the Humboldt network “is quite advantageous,” said Margaret Wright-Cleveland, the director of Florida State’s Office of Faculty Recognition. Since 1953, 48 Humboldt winners have gone on to win Nobel prizes.

Slaveva-Griffin will travel to Germany for 18 months this spring to continue her study on the interaction between medicine and philosophy in the Late Antiquity period, which stretched from approximately the second century to the eighth century A.D.

She will study at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum’s Institute for Philosophy in Germany, and plans to write a book about the relationship between Neoplatonism and medicine in the period from the third to the sixth century A.D. To date there is no comprehensive study examining the nature of the relationship between the two disciplines.
Nominations sought for Graduate Faculty Mentor Awards

The Graduate School is encouraging Florida State graduate students, graduate-student organizations and graduate alumni, as well as faculty and staff members, to nominate faculty mentors for Graduate Faculty Mentor Awards, which will be presented at the university’s annual Faculty Awards Ceremony later this spring.

The Graduate Faculty Mentor Awards, sponsored by The Graduate School, includes $3,000. The awards are intended to honor faculty mentors whose dedication to graduate students and commitment to excellence in graduate education and mentoring have made a significant contribution to the quality of life and professional development of graduate students at Florida State.

Nominations should be submitted to the appropriate academic dean’s office by Feb. 1. Based on the current graduate faculty status definitions, eligible faculty members must be current Florida State faculty members with graduate faculty status, co-doctoral or co-mast er's directive status, serve as a graduate mentor, and have been employed at the university for at least five years. Tenure- and non-tenure-track faculty are eligible, but faculty members on courtesy appointments are not.

Nomination information can be found at http://gradschool.fsu.edu. Click in sequence on “Funding & Awards,” “Graduate School Awards” and “Faculty Awards.”

Job title: Intercultural Education and Training Specialist, Center for Global Engagement (CGE)

To-do list: Develops educational opportunities and teaches courses to prepare students for their experiences abroad so they can more effectively engage with those of different cultural backgrounds, and helps them reflect on those experiences once they return home. In addition, provides global competence training and workshops across campus for departments, staff and students as part of the initiative to internationalize the campus.

Why she loves her job: It gives her the opportunity to work at a place where people from more than 100 countries come together with the domestic population to engage in a variety of educational, social and cultural programs.

Quotable: “I come from the Balkans in Serbia where cultural and ethnic differences created ongoing conflicts between communities. So I have dedicated my academic and professional efforts to facilitate opportunities that allow diverse people to learn from and meaningfully engage with one another.”

After 5: Is a full-time doctoral student in conflict analysis and resolution. Loves to cook and is an avid jazz lover.
Transforming research into commercial products

GAP Awards granted to four professors

By Tom Butler
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Four innovative research projects have received funding by the Florida State University Research Foundation to help move their discoveries from the laboratory to the marketplace.

Ranging from non-addictive drugs to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder to new fuel cells, the latest round of awards from Florida State’s biannual, $250,000 Grant Assistance Program (GAP) are intended to help each project reach new milestones on their march to real-world implementation. The winners of the GAP awards are researchers or teams of researchers who can most clearly identify the commercial viability of a product, process or license that will come from their efforts.

“As a major research university, we are always looking for ways to support our faculty in bringing their research to the marketplace where it can directly impact people and the economy,” said Vice President for Research Gary K. Ostrander. “Our GAP competition is one of the support mechanisms we use to do this, and it has proven to be a great kick-starter for the commercialization of many promising research projects taking place on our campuses.”

The research projects that received funding for the fall 2012 GAP competition are focused on:

• Creating a non-addictive drug to treat ADHD — $12,000: Professor Pradeep Bhide, the Jim and Betty Ann Rodgers Eminent Scholar Chair of Developmental Neuroscience and director of the Center for Brain Repair in the College of Medicine, is working to produce a new drug for treating attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) that does not have the addictive properties found in current treatment options, such as Ritalin, when it is used in excess.

• Engineering better ways to produce stem cells — $26,000: Teng Ma, a professor of chemical and biomedical engineering at the Florida A&M University-Florida State University College of Engineering, is developing a cost-effective and scalable way to produce large batches of a promising group of stem cells being used in areas such as cardiovascular and neurodegenerative disease research.

• Producing new antibodies for disease research — $18,000: Professor Myra Hurt, senior associate dean for research and graduate programs at the College of Medicine, and Research Associate Raed Rizkallah are developing a way to grow a never-ending supply of an important antibody used in many different forms of disease research.

• Building the fuel cell of the future — $50,000: Jim Zheng, a professor of electrical engineering at the Florida A&M University-Florida State University College of Engineering, is building the next generation of supercapacitor fuel cell technology that can deliver the bursts of increased energy needed for specific applications as well as be able to recharge and recycle in a very short amount of time.

Funded since 2005, the highly competitive GAP is administrated by Florida State’s Office of Intellectual Property Development and Commercialization.

For more information about GAP, visit www.research.fsu.edu/foundation/gap.
James O’Brien, a professor emeritus of meteorology and oceanography at Florida State University and the retired director of the university’s Center for Ocean-Atmospheric Prediction Studies, was selected for inclusion in the 2012 Irish Education 100.

The listing will appear in a special edition issue of the Irish Voice newspaper — a publication that is distributed to Irish communities across the United States as well as to universities in Ireland. In addition, O’Brien will be featured in a replica digital edition of the newspaper.

“I only wish my dear mother, who came from Ireland at age 18, was here to learn about this honor,” O’Brien said of the accolade.

O’Brien, a respected Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor at Florida State, has been a physical scientist in oceanography and meteorology for 40 years, modeling time-dependent ocean motions, increasing understanding of El Niño, and applying El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) forecasts to the United States.

“Jim O’Brien has been one of Florida State’s shining stars for years, an international leader in research and teaching who has consistently served as a local leader in Tallahassee,” said Margaret Wright-Cleveland, director of the Office of Faculty Recognition.

“Always proud of his Irish heritage, recognition as a distinguished Irish educator is a fitting honor for Dr. O’Brien,” she said.

To read the entire article, visit news.fsu.edu.
CRC awards Fall Planning Grants to 12 researchers

The Council on Research and Creativity awarded 12 Planning Grants for the fall round of 2012-2013. Grants of up to $13,000 are awarded each fall and spring.

The fall 2012-2013 awardees, receiving a total of $155,600 toward research planning, are:

- **Michael Blaber** (Biomedical Sciences), “Development of ‘Third-Generation’ FGF-1 Mutants for Therapeutic Application”;
- **Chad Eby** (Art), “The FAR Future”;
- **Joel Hastings** (Music), “Recording Project: Carter Pann’s ‘The Piano’s 12 Sides’”;
- **Markus Huettel** (Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science), “Generating Preliminary Data for CDOM Eddy Instrument NSF Proposal”;
- **Rajan Kumar** (Mechanical Engineering), “High Lift Aerodynamics and Viscous Drag Reduction Technologies”;
- **Lisa Lyons** (Biological Science), “Circadian Modulation of Long-Term Memory”;
- **Olivia Mason** (Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Science), “Methane Cycling in the Deep-Chlorophyll Maxima in the Gulf of Mexico”;
- **Michael Roper** (Chemistry and Biochemistry), “Dynamics of Reactive Oxygen Species in Islets of Langerhans”;
- **Norman Schmidt** (Psychology), “Reducing Suicide Risk and Increasing Medication Compliance in Individuals with HIV/AIDS”;
- **Gary Tyson** (Computer Science), “Research and Evaluation of ‘Restoring Vision Through Sound’”;
- **Diana Williams** (Psychology), “Role of Hindbrain A2 Neurons in the Control of Palatable Food Intake”; and
- **Yi Zhou** (Finance), “Measuring Artist Creativity”.

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"I am very pleased and not at all surprised by the recognition given to David Houle and Gregory Erickson," said Professor Don Levitan, chairman of the Department of Biological Science. "David and Greg are both internationally recognized as leaders in their respective fields."

Election as a fellow of the AAAS is an honor bestowed upon association members by their peers. Fellows are recognized for meritorious efforts to advance science or its applications.

Levitan praised the two professors for their innovations as scientists and their talents as educators.

“David has questioned and tested some of the fundamental ideas about the maintenance of genetic variation and the relationship between genetic variation and evolution,” he said. “Greg, meanwhile, has taken an organismic approach to the study of dinosaur biology by testing hypotheses concerning these extinct animals by comparing their fossils with the morphology, performance and demography of living reptiles.

“In addition to their research accomplishments, Greg and David ... are excellent representatives of the fine work done by all of our faculty in the Department of Biological Science.”

Erickson is one of the world’s foremost authorities on vertebrate paleontology and has published nearly 100 scientific articles on the subject. His research specifically focuses on the evolution and biology of archosaurian reptiles — crocodiles, dinosaurs, pterosaurs and birds.

“Genomics is the measurement of whole genomes; phenomics is the measurement of whole organisms in as much detail as possible,” he said. “We need both genomics and phenomics in order to understand how humans and other organisms function and what goes wrong when we are ill.”

To read the entire article, visit [fsu.edu](http://fsu.edu).
>> CAMPUS PARKING ENFORCEMENT
Clarification: Transportation Services offers the following clarification to the recent change in the university’s parking enforcement hours:

Posted permit requirements and enforcement times in all regular designated parking venues have not changed, and the general public remains able to use all non-reserved employee and student parking spaces after 4:30 p.m. The extended enforcement patrol policy was implemented to decrease the abuse of fire lanes, yellow curbs, undesignated parking spaces and disabled parking on campus during evening hours.

More information: http://transportation.fsu.edu/Parking/Parking.html.

>> TEACHING BEYOND TALLAHASSEE:
International Programs is accepting faculty applications to teach or lead programs abroad in 2014 and 2015. Courses of broad, general interest or that meet the liberal-studies credit requirements are of particular interest. Faculty members interested in participating in study-abroad programs are encouraged to submit their applications online at www.international.fsu.edu. Applications will be accepted until Jan. 15, 2013.

>> MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMEMORATION:
Florida State’s 25th Annual MLK Week Commemoration, “Living the Dream, Being the Legacy,” will take place Monday, Jan. 14, to Monday, Jan. 21. Highlights include:

*NAACP Freedom March
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 12:30 p.m., Integration Statue March to Oglesby Union Ballrooms.

*Commemorative Celebration
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2 p.m., Oglesby Union Ballrooms
Renowned poet and civil-rights proponent Nikki Giovanni will headline the celebration, which is co-sponsored by the Golden Tribe Lecture Series and the Student Government Association. The event will include the announcement of this year’s recipients of the MLK Book Stipend Scholarships and the MLK Distinguished Service Award.

*Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service
Monday, Jan. 21, 8 a.m., Integration Statue
Florida State students, faculty and staff will fan out from the Integration Statue on Woodward Avenue to perform community service projects throughout Tallahassee. The volunteer work will continue until noon.

To view the entire schedule of events, visit www.sga.fsu.edu/mlk_week.
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.

More information: (850) 644-8724.

NEW-EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION AVAILABLE ONLINE: Each participant must verify his or her completion of online NEO by submitting the electronic “Certification of Completion and Evaluation of Orientation” form located on the NEO page. The link to online new-employee presentations, materials and the certification form can be found at www.hr.fsu.edu under “New Employee Information.”

More information: (850) 644-8724.

BE FEATURED ON ‘NEO’ WEB PAGE: Employees interested in being featured on the redesigned New Employee Orientation Web page should email a recent headshot, one- or two-sentence statement of why Florida State is a great place to work, their department name and their number of years at the university to Megan Darris at mld08j@admin.fsu.edu. There is no deadline because the information will be solicited throughout the year.

BENEFITS

OPEN ENROLLMENT: Deductions began with the Dec. 14 paycheck for any changes made during Open Enrollment. Employees should monitor their paycheck information online (in OMNI Employee Self Service) and notify the HR Benefits Office of any discrepancies.

More information: (850) 644-4015 or insben@fsu.edu.

DOUBLE DEDUCTIONS FOR BENEFITS: All nine- and 10-month faculty members and seasonal employees enrolled in state health, life and supplemental benefits will have double deductions taken from their paychecks beginning with the Feb. 8 paycheck. The deductions will end with the May 3 check. These additional deductions are taken out.

SICK LEAVE POOL

2013 OPEN ENROLLMENT

The open enrollment period for University Sick Leave Pool membership is Feb. 1-21. Open enrollment applications must be received in Human Resources no later than Thursday, Feb. 21. Open enrollment applications received in Human Resources prior to Feb. 1 or after Feb. 21 will not be accepted.

Eligibility requirements include, but are not limited to, full- or part-time employment as a Faculty, Executive Service, A&P or USPS employee who has been employed continuously with the university for one year or more, has a sick leave balance of at least 72 hours after leave accruals process for the pay period ending Feb. 28, and has an average sick leave use of less than 9 days for each year of university employment.

Upon acceptance, employees donate eight hours of sick leave to the pool and remain members until they leave the university or request in writing to be removed from the pool. The eight hours donated to the pool are non-refundable. Members might be asked to make additional donations if the pool balance falls below 240 hours. Members who terminate their employment also can donate up to 40 hours of their sick leave to the pool upon their separation from the university.

Complete Sick Leave Pool information, including the application and other related forms, are available on the HR website at www.hr.fsu.edu. (Click in sequence “Benefits for Faculty and Staff,” “Benefits and Perks,” then, under “Leave category,” click “Sick Leave Pool”)

More information: Lisa Rosenthal, Sick Leave Pool administrator, lrosenthal@admin.fsu.edu or (850) 644-7936.
to prepay premiums for the months of June, July, August and September. Regular deductions for these employees will resume on the first paycheck in September. Employees should review their paychecks during the double deduction period to ensure that the deductions are correct.

More information: (850) 644-4015 or insben@fsu.edu.

>>FLORIDA PREPAID COLLEGE PROGRAM OPEN ENROLLMENT: The Florida Prepaid College Plans offer easy and affordable ways to plan and save for the future educational needs of children. Open enrollment for these plans is currently under way and ends on Jan. 31.


>>ELECTIVE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION LIMITS FOR 2013: The Internal Revenue Service has announced cost-of-living adjustments for elective contributions to retirement accounts, including FSU-sponsored tax sheltered annuity plans [403(b)], post-tax Roth 403(b) and state of Florida-sponsored deferred compensation (457) plans. For the 2013 calendar year, the annual contribution limit for 403(b) plans will be set at $17,500. The contribution limit for the 457 Deferred Compensation plan also will be set at $17,500. Employees who are 50 and above, at any point in the 2013 calendar year, are eligible to contribute an additional $5,500 to a 403(b) and/or a 457 retirement plan.

More information: Michael Horgan, (850) 644-4017 or retirement@fsu.edu.

>>RETIREMENT PLANNING SEMINAR: The Benefits Office will present a retirement planning seminar on Wednesday, March 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the College of Medicine Auditorium. Because the seminar is a university-sponsored training program, attendance may be considered time worked with supervisory approval.

More information: Leasa Howard, (850) 644-4016 or retirement@fsu.edu.

>>NEW-HIRE BENEFITS HELP SESSIONS: The Benefits Office will conduct help sessions for new employees Tuesday, Jan. 15, and Tuesday, Jan. 29, from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Human Resources Training Room, A6244 University Center. All new employees are urged to view the online New Employee Orientation before attending the help sessions.

More information: (850) 644-4015 or insben@fsu.edu.

EFFICIENCY

U.S. News measures financial resources by taking into account a two-year average of how much a college or university spends per student on instruction, research, student services and related educational expenditures. A university’s financial resources receive a 10 percent weight in the “Best Colleges” ranking methodology.

The new list is based on operating efficiency, defined as a school’s 2011 fiscal year financial resources per student divided by its overall score in the 2013 Best Colleges rankings, according to U.S. News.
Eunice Cofie (Undergraduate Studies) was lauded in the Forbes magazine listing of “The 20 Youngest Power Women in Africa 2012” (www.forbes.com). Cofie, who works on campus as an administrative support assistant, is the founder and chief cosmetic chemist of Nuekie, an ethnic dermatology company.

Eundeok Kim, Ph.D. (Retail Merchandising and Product Development), received the Best Paper Award in the Social Psychological Aspects Track for a coauthored paper, “Predicting Risky Appearance Management Behaviors in Young Women: A Comparison Between U.S. and South Korea,” at the annual conference of the International Textile and Apparel Association, Honolulu, November.


Charles C. Hinnant, Ph.D., Besiki Stvilia, Ph.D., Shuheng Wu, Gary Burnett, Ph.D., Kathleen Burnett, Ph.D., Michelle M. Kazmer, Ph.D., Paul F. Marty, Ph.D., and doctoral student Adam Worrall (Library and Information Studies) co-wrote an article, “Author-Team Diversity and the Impact of Scientific Publications: Evidence from Physics Research at a National Science Lab,” published in the journal Library & Information Science Research, Vol. 34, No. 4, October 2012.

Myra Hurt, Ph.D. (Biomedical Sciences), co-wrote a paper, “The Transcription Factor YY1 is a Novel Substrate for Aurora B Kinase at G2/M Transition of the Cell Cycle,” with graduate student and principal author Ari Kassardian, postdoctoral associate Sarah Riman, undergraduate student Samuel Renfro, research scientist Raed Rizkallah and research coordinator Karen Alexander (research coordinator), published online by PLoS One.

Yoichi Kato, M.D., Ph.D. (Biomedical Sciences), co-wrote a paper, “Tet3 CXXC Domain and Dioxygenase Activity Cooperatively Regulate Key Genes for Xenopus Eye and Neural Development,” which was researched by three independent labs at Florida State, Harvard Medical School and the University of Toronto. The paper was co-authored for FSU by lab assistant Akiko Kato and was published in the Dec. 7, 2012, issue of Cell.

Stephen J. Tripodi, Ph.D. (Social Work), co-wrote an article, “Histories of Childhood Victimization and Subsequent Mental Health Problems, Substance Use and Sexual Victimization for a Sample of Incarcerated Women in the U.S.,” with Carrie Pettus-Davis of Washington University, which will be published in the International Journal of Law and Psychiatry.

Stephanie Leitch, Ph.D. (Art History), made a presentation, “Vespucci’s Triangle and the Geometry of Difference,” during a symposium, “The Cultural History of Cartography,” at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, October.

Susan Blessing, Ph.D. (Physics), is serving as the chair of the American Physical Society’s Committee on the Status of Women in Physics for 2013. Paul Cottle, Ph.D. (Physics), is serving as the chair of the American Physical Society’s Committee on Education for 2013. Don Latham, Ph.D. (Library and Information Studies), has been elected to serve on the board of directors of the Association for Library and Information Science Education. Latham will serve as director of special interest groups.
UFF dues are 1% of regular 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

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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 payroll deduction of United Faculty of Florida dues (1% of regular salary). 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 [http://www.uff-fsu.org](http://www.uff-fsu.org)  
Today’s date  
FSU Works Because We Do!
Belsazar’s Feast,
The Birth of Venus,
The Water Lilies,
Girl with a Pearl Earring,
The Starry Night, Guernica.
THE PERSISTENCE OF MEMORY...

PENNY and Charlie Graham
Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra

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Music of Kabalevsky, Beethoven, and Mussorgsky
Matthew Kraemer, Conductor and TSO Music Director Candidate

January 19, 2013, 8:00 p.m. • Ruby Diamond Concert Hall
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