

## Extreme Makeover: Getting down to business

In December 2008, the prominent fountain that stood behind Tigert Hall sprung its last drop of water.

The fountain was demolished to make way for the William R. Hough Hall of the Warrington College of Business. Construction is scheduled to be completed during fall 2010.

The building will be equipped with classrooms, meeting space, an open-air atrium, a fast-food center, student lounges and locker rooms with showers, along with other amenities, according to Tracey Johnson, director of publications.

"We are bursting at the seams," Johnson said. The college needs more space to accommodate its numerous events, such as conferences, luncheons and seminars.

The building has been designed to earn a high-level – silver or gold – LEED certification, in support of the University of Florida's promotion of environmental quality and sustainability.

LEED's third-party certification (<http://www.usgbc.org/Default.aspx>) is awarded by a LEED official after construction is complete. UF currently has two gold-certified buildings, Rinker Hall and Library West, as well as eight buildings certified at the basic level.



The iconic UF fountain has been removed.

Kristen Bartlett Grace

complaints about the fountain," said Johnson, "but others have heard remarks."

UF senior Brittny Lambert said she was shocked when she noticed that the fountain was gone.

"When I turned onto Union Drive from 13th Street, I thought I went down the wrong road," she said.

Ed Poppell, vice president of Business Affairs, said although there are no current plans to construct a new fountain, the Art in State Buildings Program soon will announce an opportunity for artists to design the building's art.

The program places remarkable artwork in public spaces, according to UF's Art in State Buildings Web site, <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/asb/?p=2>.

"The building will have art as required by law," Poppell said. "Where and what has not been determined. That will occur closer to when the building is complete."

By Bridget Brennan

## UF Voices

### Greetings Gators!

Our student athletes here at the University of Florida are not only dedicated to their sport(s), but also participate in many events that benefit children in the community each year. There are a handful of large University Athletic Association (UAA) events throughout the year, as well as regular weekly events.

One of the larger annual events includes a Field Day in April when elementary students have the opportunity to come to campus to play games with the athletes.

Another large event is "Climb for Cancer," which occurs each October. Children and adolescents who either suffer from or have survived cancer come with their families to campus and literally play sports with our student athletes for "Climb for Cancer." This past October, we had more than 100 athletes interacting with approximately 75 young people for a few hours in the morning, and the event was capped off with a pizza lunch.

Just before the December holiday break each year, student athletes and coaches participate in the "Gator Tracks" program. We gather monetary and/or shoe donations to provide a new pair of athletic shoes to needy elementary school children. This past fall, we brightened the holidays for 550 kids.

Our weekly events range from playing games and chatting with seriously ill patients in the Shands pediatric unit to visiting local elementary schools to read or play sports with the children. UAA and the individual student athletes are proud to interact with and help brighten the lives of many children in our community each year.



Rew Woodruff

Rew Woodruff  
Life Skills Coordinator/Career  
Counselor for UAA student athletes

## Top Stories

### UF commemorates its first African-American graduates

Fifty years after the University of Florida began integration in September 1958, 20 of the first African-American graduates were formally recognized by a university forever imprinted by their legacy.

A special weekend dedicated to "the firsts" commenced on Friday, Feb. 6, with opera singer Denyce Graves' performance at the Phillips Center.

"I am flattered, and it's a tremendous honor for me to be a part of UF's 50th Commemoration of Integration. I'm here because of those that came before me," Graves said.

On Saturday, Feb. 7, more than 250 guests attended "Celebrating the Firsts," a gala at Emerson Alumni Hall honoring the earliest-known African-American graduates from UF's various colleges.

The event, organized by University Relations and a 17-member committee of UF professionals and community members, was the culmination of events held during the past year.

Black silk fabric dressed the tables and chairs in the President's Ballroom, and metallic gold candles and flowers adorned the tables.

The 2009 Black Student Union Leadership Council opened the program with "We Speak Your Names," a song/poem recognizing the honorees.

Joe Glover, UF provost, greeted guests and thanked the firsts for their courage. "We are not celebrating the university's achievement, we are celebrating your achievement," he said.

UF Trustee J. Courtney Cunningham, emcee, presented the honorees with a framed photograph of a personalized, commemorative brick. The bricks will be placed at UF's Commemorative Circle, located across from the Plaza of the Americas and surrounding the alligator statue.

Family members or friends accepted the plaques for two deceased honorees, as well

as two others not in attendance. Three of the firsts could not be located, but their yearbook photos were shown on a slideshow as their names were announced.

Cunningham offered his personal gratitude to the honorees. "These students had to be strong – prospects for future students like myself rested on their shoulders," he said.

UF Historian Carl Van Ness spoke briefly during the program and clarified UF's record of first African-American graduates.

"No list of all initial black students exists," Van Ness said. Racial identity was not entered into UF's official records.

The university's current list was compiled from both official and unofficial sources.

After dinner, Michael Blachly, director of UF Performing Arts, introduced the evening's performers. Singers Elizabeth Graham and Anthonio Canty were accompanied by pianist Kevin Sharpe.

Blachly later said in an interview,

"These pioneers (honorees) make it possible for our community to experience many of the greatest performing artists the world has to offer."

One of several deans who attended the gala was Chris Silver of the College of Design, Construction and Planning. After the program Silver said, "This really hit home for me."

Silver was reminded of his mid-1960s high school experience in Biloxi, Miss. "Black students were bused in, and I witnessed daily the bravery they needed to survive in such a hostile environment."

The first College of Veterinary Medicine graduate, Gerald Johnson, said after the gala that he was thankful to be honored and to meet other honorees.

"UF gave me the ability to live out my dream every day," he said.

Johnson was proud his daughter could attend, he said.

"My daughter will never forget this," Johnson said.

by Bridget Brennan



Ray Carson

**Pictured (left to right) are attending honorees Neil Butler Jr. (representing deceased father, Neil Butler), Dr. Reuben Brigety, W. George Allen, Evelyn M. Mickle, Federal Judge Stephan Mickle, Gwyndolyn Francis, Jeraldine Williams-Shaw, Gerald J. Johnson, Dr. Joseph P. Ramsey, Johncyna Williams McRae, Dr. Henry E. Cotman, Bernard Allen Mackey. Not pictured: Lee Bailey and Marvin Wells.**

## Happenings

Listings in this section are a sampling of events at the University of Florida, compiled from entries listed in the full calendar that appears on the Web at [calendar.ufl.edu](http://calendar.ufl.edu). To submit an event online, visit <http://calendar.ufl.edu/submit/>.

**Feb. 17**  
School of Music presents the Wind Symphony. University Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$8. Open to the public. Call 352-392-0207 or visit <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/music> for more information.

**Feb. 17 - 18**  
UFPA presents "STOMP." Phillips Center, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25-45. Open to the public. Call 352-392ARTS (2787) or visit <http://www.performingarts.ufl.edu> for more information.



**Feb. 18**  
School of Music presents the Symphonic Band. University Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$8. Open to the public. Call 352-392-0207 or visit <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/music> for more information.

**Feb. 20**  
FPA presents "Classic Albums Live – The Who: Who's Next?" Phillips Center, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$20-30. Call 352-392ARTS (2787) or visit <http://www.performingarts.ufl.edu> for more information.

**Feb. 20 - 21**  
The Levin College of Law presents the Seventh Annual Music Law Conference. Feb. 20, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at a local music venue; Feb. 21 conference, 9 a.m. at Chesterfield Smith Ceremonial Classroom. Visit <http://www.law.ufl.edu/musiclawconf/registration.shtml> for more information.

**Feb. 22**  
Gator Women's Basketball vs. South Carolina. O'Connell Center, 1 p.m. Free and open to the public. Call 352-375-4683 or visit <http://www.gatorzone.com> for more information.

**Feb. 24**  
CRC presents CALS Career Expo. Reitz Union Grand Ballroom, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Free and closed to the public. Call 352-392-1963 or visit [www.cals.ufl.edu](http://www.cals.ufl.edu) for more information.

School of Music presents the Jazz Band. University Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$8. Open to the public. Call 352-392-0207 or visit <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/music> for more information.

**Repeating Event**  
School of Theatre and Dance presents "Glengarry Glen Ross," showing from Feb. 28 – March 8 (not presented everyday). Constans Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. Call 352-392-1653 or visit <http://www.arts.ufl.edu/theatreanddance/> for more information.

## Seen & Heard

### Nobles chosen as Civilian of the Year

Janet Nobles, office manager for University of Florida Air Force ROTC Detachment 150, recently was announced as the national 2008 Civilian of the Year. Nobles was chosen from a pool of civilians from more than 144 detachments throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. The award is presented to a non-military employee who goes above and beyond the call of duty every day.

### Su donates \$250,000 for endowment

Nan-Yao Su, professor of entomology at the University of Florida, has donated \$250,000 to the Entomological Society of America (ESA) for the establishment of an endowment to award creative entomologists who have demonstrated the ability to find alternative solutions to problems that significantly impact entomology.

Each year, interest from the \$250,000 will be presented to the winner of ESA's newest award, the Nan-Yao Su Award for Innovation and Creativity in Entomology.

Su's own creativity led to the invention of an innovative solution to termite

problems, the Sentricon System. Sentricon has been marketed in 18 countries since 1995 and protects more than two million homes and famous structures, including The White House and Statue of Liberty. Su's invention has reduced pesticide use by more than 6,000 metric tons. His goal is to encourage similar innovations and thought processes in future generations.

### UF experts serve on FDA task force

Three of 12 experts appointed to a national task force on America's food safety hail from The Gator Nation.

Task force members include the University of Florida's Douglas Archer, IFAS associate dean for research, Martha Rhodes Roberts, IFAS special assistant to the director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and dean for research, and Glenn Morris, direc-



Douglas Archer



Martha Roberts

tor of UF's Emerging Pathogens Institute.

The committee recently met on Jan. 29, with a one-year goal of creating recommendations for improving the Food and Drug Administration's approach to food safety.

### DiMatteo wins Best Paper Award

Larry A. DiMatteo, Huber Hurst Professor of Contract Law & Legal Studies, recently was granted the "2008 Best Paper Award" by the Southeastern Academy of Legal Studies in Business (SEALS). DiMatteo is a professor and former Department of Management chair in the Warrington College of Business Administration.

The winning paper, co-authored with Harvard Law School's Samuel Flaks, is titled "Conservative Legal Realism: Nathan Isaacs, Jewish Law, and Modern Legal Theory."



Glenn Morris

## Note This

### myUF Market coming soon

This spring, UF Purchasing will introduce myUF Market, a new purchasing/procurement system for the University of Florida. The new system is expected to provide a user-friendly online marketplace that is designed to streamline the way UF departments purchase goods and services. The adoption of myUF Market represents UF's ongoing commitment to initiatives that strategically reduce costs without sacrificing service. For more details, visit [www.purchasing.ufl.edu/myufmarket](http://www.purchasing.ufl.edu/myufmarket).

### Council on Diversity created

The establishment of the President's Council on Diversity recently has been announced. The council has been charged with identifying ways to increase the diversity of University of Florida faculty, staff and students, including gathering and analyzing diversity data at the college and departmental levels. The committee's goal is to help accomplish academic excellence within the community – reflective of the rich culture and diversity of the state and nation. For more information, visit the Diversity Web site at <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/eo/diversity.htm>.

### Tell your Gator story

Visit <http://insidethegatornation.com/> to browse hundreds of video and written Gator stories.

One of the many written stories is included below:

*"I came to UF as vice president for Student Affairs in 1973, after having worked at Miami University (Ohio), Michigan State University and Iowa State University... I was only 34 years old and never dreamed that I would stay in this same job at UF until 1999... then I became a full-time professor until I retired in 2004.*

*"I became a Gator" because of my respect and affection for thousands of students who gave their hard work, time and talents to improve the quality of campus life over all these years. UF has an incredible spirit among its students, and they have always been very active in doing countless numbers of positive things for others - this is the true Gator Spirit. It's unmistakable and it's the thing that impresses me most about this university. I will forever be thankful to the thousands of UF students who made it easy for me to become a Gator!"*

Upcoming opportunities to tell your own story at the "When Did You Become a Gator?" mobile recording studio include the following:

- Feb. 20 at the O'Connell Center prior to the gymnastics meet at 7 p.m.
- Feb. 27 at the McKethan Stadium prior to the baseball game at 6:30 p.m.