

UF researchers now studying impacts of Hurricane Dean

Many Gators go to the Mexican state of Quintana Roo for a relaxing Spring Break vacation. Assistant professors Eric Keys and Corene Matyas went there for a different reason on Sept. 10.

Keys and Matyas, both from the University of Florida's department of geography, were part of a team which received a grant from the National Science Foundation to study the effects of Hurricane Dean. The team, representing a number of universities and Mexico, spent six days studying the resiliency of both people and ecosystems in the wake of the natural disaster in southern Mexico.

Some of the greatest damage affected the tourist areas near the ocean, Keys said. "The tourist areas were devastated," Keys said. "The beach is gone, and the 100-yard cruise ship pier was destroyed. It shows just how powerful this storm really was."

In more interior areas such as the Calakmul Municipality, money is scarce, buildings are not storm resistant and people rely on their crops for survival, Keys said. Although the locals have lost their crops,

the government has stepped in to distribute rations and repair housing, while the farmers attempt to grow more maize - despite drought conditions.

Although the situation has been less than ideal for the residents of the area, in terms of study value, the storm has been a great resource in learning about disaster response.

"What's compelling about this event happening in this place is that a number of researchers have been working on social and ecological questions in the region, so we have good baseline data to work from," said Keys.

As our environment changes in coming years, this research could have a great impact on future generations, Keys said.

"With the possibility of increased climate change, events like this could happen more and more. We have to figure out how to make community and social structures that can withstand events like this."

by Alex Stern



NASA

"People are waiting for seed to grow a new crop in the next three months or so, but the drought has to end," Keys said.

UF Voices

Florida Tomorrow

"Florida Tomorrow: The Campaign for the University of Florida" - more than just a set of words, this theme for the effort to raise more than \$1 billion is a rallying call to everyone associated with this university. The results of this capital campaign over the next five years are critical to what the future holds for this institution and everything that takes place here.

Just to be clear, the private funds generated by this campaign benefit every aspect of this university - students, faculty, staff, research, programs, facilities - everything. We are asking our alumni and friends to support UF so that all citizens of Florida and beyond will benefit from our efforts as faculty and staff at this great institution.

Each and every one of us should be able to complete these three statements: Florida Tomorrow is a place where ... Florida Tomorrow is a day when ... and Florida Tomorrow is a belief that ...

These statements look into the future and will help you envision and articulate what you believe the University of Florida will be - tomorrow.

And "Florida Tomorrow" starts this week. You may have noticed the "Florida Tomorrow" banners hanging throughout the campus. This is to help bring attention to the official kickoff of the capital campaign. Many of you have helped develop more than 80 campus-wide "Showcasing the Possibilities" events and symposia planned for Friday. Thank you for your efforts that will give our alumni and friends a first-hand look at what we do. Details about the day can be found at www.floridatomorrow.ufl.edu/showcasingthepossibilities.

Thousands of alumni and friends will be visiting campus throughout the weekend, taking part in the campaign kickoff activities, as well as attending the Florida/Auburn football game. Let's communicate to them that "Florida Tomorrow" is everyone's campaign. Around this campus and around the state, nation and world, UF is making a difference for everyone's tomorrow.

J. Bernard Machen



J. Bernard Machen

Top Stories

Digital Library Center offers online dissertations

More than 9,500 dissertations from University of Florida graduate students of years gone by now languish on UF library shelves. The dissertations have been cast aside in the digital age which demands instant information.

But, if a new project at the George A. Smathers Libraries Digital Library Center is successful, decades of writings will soon be available around the world, with just the click of a mouse.

"What I'd like people to see is that the University of Florida is doing good work, and that we have in the past as well," said Cathy Martyniak, head of the Library Preservation department.

Dissertations were first submitted electronically in 1998 at UF, and since 2001, the university required electronic submission for all dissertations, Martyniak said. Copyright restrictions require any doctoral candidate who completed work before 2001 to sign a release granting permission for scanning and Internet distribution.

Martyniak is overseeing the daunting task of collecting thousands of release forms from prior doctoral candidates that span the course of the university's history.

"If I can find an author from 1922 who is still alive and willing to sign the paper, we will post their work online," she said, adding that she hopes to receive as many as she can.

Once a release form is submitted, the dissertation is scanned at the Digital Library Center and information called "metadata" provides information about the work, such as title, author, subject, year of publication and length. The work is then uploaded to the Digital Collections' Web site, where the metadata allows for easy and accurate retrieval.

"People spend years and years of their life getting their dissertations together, and then for them to see it on the Web is exciting," Martyniak said.

Although the center has been accepting signatures since January, only 12 release



Kristen Bartlett Grace

Natasha Aiguesvives, public relations major and Digital Library Center employee, scans dissertations with a high-speed rotary scanner.

forms have been received. Martyniak believes this may be due to a lack of publicity about the project, as well as the sheer number of eligible alumni who have not yet been contacted.

Oliver G. Wood Jr. was one of the first alumni to respond to the request. His 1965 dissertation about the Federal Reserve System is now the oldest dissertation available online within Digital Collections.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity to make my dissertation available without cost to people," said Wood, who is the economist-in-residence at the Charleston School of Law, and has been a distinguished professor emeritus at the University of South Carolina since 1994.

"I am a person who truly is grateful for my University of Florida education, and I strongly encourage anybody who has written a dissertation at Florida to make it available," Wood said. "This is a part of the

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-Cathy Martyniak, Library Preservation department head

ongoing process of telling the world that the University of Florida is a great university."

To participate in this project, UF dissertation authors are encouraged to visit: http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/digital/procedures/copyright/retro_diss_scan/DDDCA.htm.

By Panagioti Papakos

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. To submit an event online, send an e-mail to calndar@nersp.osg.ufl.edu with the following information in this order: event date; event name, brief description and sponsor; time; location; costs; and contact information to include name, phone number and e-mail. Events, dates, times and programs are subject to change.

Sept. 25 "Brazil's Padre Cicero: Views from the Ralph della Cava Gift to the UF Libraries," Smathers Library, second floor, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. On display through Oct. 7. Free and open to the public.

Mock Interviews by Employers, CRC interview module B, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sept. 25-28. Free and open to the public.

Sept. 27 Harn Eminent Scholar Lecture by Ute Meta Bauer, associate professor and director of the Visual Arts Program at the Massachusetts

Institute of Technology, Harn Museum of Art, 6 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Sept. 28 Florida Tomorrow: The Campaign for the University of Florida presents "Showcasing the Possibilities," campus-wide events, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more detail: <http://www.floridatomorrow.ufl.edu/showcasingthepossibilities/>.

Department of Astronomy presents Public Night, observatory open for public viewing, Astronomy Teaching Observatory, 8:30-10 p.m.

Seen & Heard

Harn receives highest national recognition

The America Association of Museums (AAM) recently announced that the Harn Museum of Art is among 14 museums to earn the highest national recognition a museum can achieve.

AAM accreditation recognizes high standards in individual museums and ensures the best possible service to the public. AAM's museum accreditation program has been the field's primary vehicle for quality assurance, self-regulation and public accountability for more than 35 years.

This is the second time the Harn has gone through the accreditation process, after first receiving accreditation in 1997. Reviews for AAM accreditation occur every 10 years.

UF's Dance program judged to be one of the nation's best

With its first application, the Dance Program in the School of Theatre and Dance at the University of Florida was approved for accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD) at the organization's annual meeting on Sept. 13-15.

The UF Dance Program in the College of Fine Arts joins the ranks of approximately

60 NASD-accredited dance institutions nationwide. The young dance program, founded as a special track of the bachelor of fine arts degree in theatre performance in the mid-1980s, inaugurated its own BFA degree just 10 years ago in 1997.

"The College of Fine Arts is proud of its dance program and the faculty who have worked so hard to achieve this recognition," said Lucinda Lavelli, dean of the College of Fine Arts. "Accreditation means we now participate with those national institutions considered to be the best."

College announces senior administrative team

The College of Design, Construction and Planning at the University of Florida has announced the appointment of associate and assistant deans Margaret Carr, Paul Zwick and William Tilson.

Carr, professor of landscape architecture, has been appointed as the associate dean for undergraduate student and academic affairs, while Tilson, professor of architecture, will serve in the newly created position of assistant dean for international studies and service learning. Zwick, professor of urban and regional planning, will continue in the position of associate dean for research and graduate affairs.

Oct. 1 Homecoming Pageant, Phillips Center, 7-9 p.m.

Oct. 4 "Fall Convocation Honors" of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, with keynote speaker J. Bernard Machen, University Auditorium, 3:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.

National Depression Screening Day, Student Health Care Center front lawn, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Free to UF students, and refreshments provided.

Oct. 5 Florida Players presents "The Shape of Things," Phillips Center Black Box Theatre, Oct. 5-6, 8 p.m.; Oct. 7, 2 p.m. Free and open to the public.

Oct. 6 Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, University Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. Reserved seating \$20-\$30.



Recurring Events "Megalodon: Largest Shark that Ever Lived," Florida Museum of Natural History. On display through Jan. 6. Free and open to the public.

"Up in Smoke - A Dying Breed," Photographs by Randy Batista, College of Fine Arts, Focus Gallery. On display through Oct. 19. Free and open to the public.

"Refined Radiance: Chinese Glass Of The Qing Dynasty (1644-1911)," Harn Museum of Art. On display through Oct. 1. Free and open to the public.

Note This

Machen addresses student arrest issues

For current information on the Sept. 17 town forum incident, visit <http://www.president.ufl.edu>.

Student leadership nominations sought

Nominations are now being accepted for the Fall 2007 Outstanding Leadership Award for male and female graduating seniors, sponsored by the University of Florida Alumni Association. Applications may be downloaded at <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/schoarships/ola.php> and must be submitted by Oct. 1.

Tuition assistance offered

The University of Florida's Higher Education Opportunity (HEO) provides children of full-time TEAMS employees with the opportunity of tuition assistance for an undergraduate education at the University of Florida.

In March 2008, Human Resource Services will randomly select 50 TEAMS employees from a pool of eligible applicants. Each eligible employee may submit one child's name into the drawing, and must apply by Nov. 1.

An HEO informational session will be held on Thursday, Sept. 27, from 9 to 11 a.m. in Room 120 of the HRS building, 903 W. University Ave.

Open enrollment runs Oct. 1 - 26

This year's benefits open enrollment period for University of Florida employees will kick off on Oct. 1, and end on Oct. 26. Any changes made to elections during open enrollment will be effective Jan. 1.

A Benefits Fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 1, and from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 2 in the Reitz Student Union grand ballroom. Plan brochures will be available online at <https://peoplefirst.myflorida.com>.

Deadline nears for employee nominations

The Davis Productivity Awards honor state government employees who have created added value in delivering state services and products. The nomination deadline is Sept. 28. For more detail: <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/davis/default.htm>.

The Superior Accomplishment Awards program honors faculty and staff members who contribute meritorious service to the university. The deadline for nominations is Oct. 31. For more detail: <http://www.hr.ufl.edu/saa/default.htm>.