

CONNECTIONS

UNIVERSITY-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

VOLUME 1 • Nº 1 • AUGUST 2008

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College and Orange-Osceola State Attorney's Office Form Partnership to Study Juvenile Crime

Troubled by what appears to be an increase in the severity of juvenile crimes, Orange-Osceola State Attorney Lawson Lamar has turned to researchers at the University of Central Florida's College of Health and Public Affairs to better understand the problem.

"What I want is a better definition of what's going wrong so we can do a better job with offenders — and keep people from offending in the first place," Lamar said.

In response to Lamar's call for help, the college formed an interdisciplinary team of researchers

to study juvenile crime in the region, said Joyce Dornier, former interim dean of the college. With joint funding from the State Attorney's Office and college, the team designed and launched a three-phase research project in 2007.

Phase I – Trend Analysis

"Our first goal was to conduct a trend analysis," said research team leader John Ronnau, director of the college's School of Social Work. Lamar's staff provided the team with official records of serious and violent crimes processed through the Orange and Osceola counties'

(continued on page 2)

Members of the research team met this spring with State Attorney Lawson Lamar and former Interim Dean Joyce Dornier (second and third from left, respectively) in Lamar's conference room.



Thomas Alan Smilie

Juvenile Crime *(continued from page 1)*

juvenile justice system over a 12-year period, from 1995 through 2006. All of the crimes were committed by children less than 18 years of age.

Ray Surette, professor of criminal justice, contributed his considerable expertise in working with administrative crime records. He led the team through the exhaustive process of extracting information to create a valid data set for analyzing changes in criminal activity over time. And in keeping with his role as an educator, he engaged students in the study, among them public affairs doctoral student Rebekah Hazlett, social work major Diana Jones and criminal justice graduate student Erick Chalfin.

“I felt honored to be able to work at the State Attorney’s Office,” Jones said. “The case files are confidential and not everyone is granted such a great opportunity.”

The resulting data set includes 23,350 cases in Orange County and 6,160 in Osceola County, for a total of 29,510 cases. Surette used sophisticated statistical techniques to analyze the data, enabling the team to draw conclusions based on statistically significant trends.

Trend Analysis Results

The team’s analysis revealed that in Orange County there has been a slight decrease in the number of juvenile crime cases from 1995 to 2006, but the proportion of cases that are serious or violent crimes, such as homicide, robbery and car jacking, has increased. Moreover, there has been a “dramatic increase” in recent years in the proportion of cases in which a juvenile has been charged with either a first-degree felony or an offense that carries the potential sentence of capital punishment or life imprisonment.

In Osceola County, there has been a wide fluctuation in the number of juvenile crime cases over time, with a general upward trend for all juvenile crimes; serious and violent cases have remained relatively stable.

These findings and others, such as trends in the age and race of offenders and frequencies of specific offenses, are described in 72-page report prepared by the research team and presented to Lamar in February 2008.



(Left to right) Criminal justice Professor Ray Surette, public affairs doctoral student Rebekah Hazlett, Lawson Lamar, Joyce Dorne, social work Director John Ronnau, Center for Community Partnerships Director Nancy Ellis and State Attorney’s Office spokesperson Randy Means

Phases II – Quantitative Study

During the project’s second phase, the team examined the case records for 406 juvenile violent crimes to learn more about the offender, victim and major characteristics of the crime. The cases were randomly selected and in the same proportions from the counties as the Phase I data set: 67 percent from Orange County and 33 percent from Osceola County. They were taken from two years within the 12-year span: 200 from 2000 and 206 from 2006.

“The State Attorney’s Office personnel think there has been a substantive change in the nature of juvenile offending since 2000, so we used 2000 as a benchmark year,” Surette said. The team recently completed phase II of the study.

Phases III – Qualitative Study

During the project’s third phase, the team plans to interview a small sample of the 406 cases studied in phase II to learn more about the life experiences of the juveniles. The team also plans to survey educators, community youth agencies, law enforcement officials, parents and a larger sample of juveniles to learn more specifics about the dynamic of juvenile crime in Orange and Osceola counties. With the results from phases II and III, the team will formulate

recommendations for public policy and programs designed to help the State Attorney’s Office address juvenile crime problems in the region.

An Ongoing Partnership

In helping to facilitate the research project, Center for Community Partnerships Director Nancy Ellis has met with Lamar on several occasions. She said he envisions an ongoing partnership between his office and the college to develop interventions, such as social services and educational programs, geared toward keeping juveniles out of the criminal court system.

“Lawson has a great affinity for UCF and the college,” Ellis said, noting that he has been an adjunct faculty member for the college and is a current member of its Dean’s Advisory Council. “He clearly sees the value of partnering with us.”

The college places a high value on the relationship as well. “This partnership truly exemplifies the college’s commitment to community partnerships that improve the quality of life for the citizens of Central Florida,” said Joyce Dorne, now an associate dean in the college. “We look forward to a long and productive partnership.”

Meet the College's New Dean: Michael Frumkin, Ph.D.

Michael Frumkin, former dean of the School of Social Work and Human Services at Eastern Washington University, is the new dean of the College of Health and Public Affairs, effective July 1, 2008.



“Dr. Frumkin is a national expert in the area of social work and has a wealth of experience that will add to the excellence of the College of Health and Public Affairs,” said Terry Hickey, UCF’s provost and executive vice president, when announcing Frumkin’s appointment. “He is an accomplished scholar

and we look forward to Dr. Frumkin joining our UCF family.”

Frumkin had been a member of the faculty at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Wash., since 1991. He has also held faculty positions at Boston University, the University of Minnesota and Florida State University.

At Eastern Washington University, he was instrumental in expanding the social work program. Under his leadership, the number of faculty positions nearly tripled, the budget grew by more than 500 percent and the program became a stand-alone school with a stature comparable to a college at UCF.

From 1992 to 1995, he was president of the Council on Social Work Education, the sole

accrediting agency for social work education in the nation.

He earned his doctorate in social policy from the Florence Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University.

“It is an honor to be named the dean of the College of Health and Public Affairs and to become part of a college and university that is committed to building community partnerships focused on improving people’s lives,” Frumkin said. “Building on the existing accomplishments of the college, my goal is to work with our faculty, staff, students, alumni and community partners to strengthen our programs and enhance our ability to truly make a difference.”

Director's Message

I would like to introduce you to our new Center for Community Partnerships newsletter, *Connections: University-Community Partnerships*. One of the main purposes of this newsletter is to highlight the research and service-learning efforts of faculty members and students from the College of Health and Public Affairs as they partner with organizations throughout the Central Florida community. In addition, we are eager to let you know more about our wonderful community partners and the kinds of research projects created out of our partnership efforts.

The primary role of the Center for Community Partnerships is to educate public-sector organizations about the outstanding interdisciplinary research and evaluation expertise of the college’s faculty and students and, conversely, to communicate the research, evaluation and assessment needs of the Central Florida community to faculty and students. The goal of the center is to match research needs with faculty and student expertise and to facilitate the development of both short- and long-term partnerships to meet those needs in the community.

The center is all about partnerships. Our lead story in this issue describes the college’s outstanding partnership effort between the Orange-Osceola State Attorney’s Office and researchers from the college’s Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies, School of Social Work, and Doctoral Program in Public Affairs. The information we gain from this partnership could have a significant impact on how we intervene with juvenile offenders in the future.

We also include an article about another outstanding community partner, Heart of Florida United Way. Our partnership with United Way goes back several years and includes a joint funding to support the center. Currently, Robert H. Brown, the organization’s president and CEO, is a member of the college’s Dean’s Advisory Council.

Also described in this issue is the partnership between the center, the John Scott Daily Florida Institute of Government at UCF and the Florida Benchmarking Consortium (of cities and counties). Citizen engagement in the evaluation of services is a key element in that partnership effort.

There are more changes coming, including an update of the center’s Web site. Soon, we will be redesigning the Web site to ensure that you, in the Central Florida community, have much greater access to the community-based research and service activities going on in the college.

As director of the center, I look forward to partnering with each of you as we seek to address the multiple challenges facing our community. I feel certain that together we can make a difference.

— Nancy Ellis, Ph.D.
(*07, Public Affairs)



Thomas Alan Smilie

Focus Groups Reveal What Citizens Want from their Governments



Top: Center Director Nancy Ellis and Institute of Government Director Marilyn Crotty (standing left and right, respectively) led a focus group in Winter Park on March 19.

Center: Focus group participants from Pinellas County

Bottom: Focus group participants from Collier County

Regardless of age, race or social status, citizens of Florida want very similar things from their city and county governments, according to a recent study conducted by the college.

Among the wants of Floridians are transparent and open local governments that keep them informed about how the governments operate, make decisions and provide services.

These and other findings are based on a series of focus groups led this spring by Nancy Ellis, director of the Center for Community Partnerships, and Marilyn Crotty, director of the John Scott Dailey Florida Institute of Government at UCF.

In February and March, Ellis and Crotty made trips to five regions in Florida to hold focus groups with local residents. The following focus-group locations and sponsors were included:

- South Florida - Miami Dade County
- Southeast Florida - Coral Springs
- Southwest Florida - Collier County
- West Central Florida - Pinellas County
- East Central Florida - Winter Park

A total of 104 citizens participated, and they represented diverse social, racial and age demographics, Ellis said.

Each focus group was asked to develop evaluation measures for the following eight categories of government services: fire and rescue, policing, code enforcement, planning and growth management, parks and recreation, road repair, water/waste water, and storm water/drainage.

During discussions on appropriate measures, the citizens emphasized the need to assess how effectively, efficiently and equitably each type of service is delivered. "Equity and impartiality were universal themes across all of the focus groups," Ellis remarked.

Several themes emerged from the discussions, according to Ellis and Crotty. In addition to wanting a transparent and open government, citizens desire the following:

- to be educated about the efficiency and effectiveness of government

services and how they can be better-informed consumers

- to be partners with their government and for there to be interdepartmental partnering and meaningful partnerships with other jurisdictions
- to better understand their community services within the context of their unique community

The focus-group project was funded through a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The overall \$45,000 grant was awarded to the Florida Benchmarking Consortium — a group of local governments that is seeking to improve service delivery, efficiency and effectiveness by collecting and reporting performance-measurement data. The grant is titled "Citizen-Informed Performance Measure for Florida Local Governments."

Ellis and Crotty became involved in the study through a research partnership between the consortium and the Center for Community Partnerships and Florida Institute of Government that was established in 2005. When the consortium received the Sloan Foundation grant, it turned to the center and institute for help in conducting the citizen-input part of the study.

The two researchers shared their findings with members of the Florida Benchmarking Consortium at the consortium's annual meeting, held in May 2008 at UCF's Rosen College of Hospitality Management in Orlando.

The results of the focus groups will also be presented at the 2008 Southeastern Conference for Public Administration (SECOPA), and have been incorporated into a full study report, which has been made available to local governments throughout the state on the Florida Benchmarking Consortium Web site: www.fbenchmark.org/sloan.aspx.

To learn more about this study, contact Ellis at nancy@mail.ucf.edu.

Community-Based Research and Service-Learning

A goal of the Center for Community Partnerships is to share information about community-based research and service-learning activities in the College of Health and Public Affairs with the community. Below are brief descriptions of several recent activities. To learn more about community-based research projects in the college, visit www.cohpa.ucf.edu/ccp.

Teen Abstinence Program. In the School of Social Work, Associate Professor Eileen Abel has partnered with the BETA Center, an Orlando-based organization that offers support for teen moms and at-risk families. She recently evaluated the effectiveness of an abstinence-oriented intervention program, FAME (Family Action Model for Empowerment), presented to an adolescent multicultural population. The program has two primary goals: promoting and strengthening healthy family functioning and increasing the awareness of sexual abstinence as a positive choice for youth. The results of the study suggest that a psychoeducational approach based on a developmental-assets model may be a desirable strategy for those working to help teens reduce high-risk behaviors. Abel published her findings in the journal, *Research of Social Work Practice* (see vol. 18, no. 3, pp. 223-230).

Older Adult Services. Also in the School of Social Work, Assistant Professor Denise

Gammonley has worked with the Central Florida Coalition for Mental Health and Aging. She conducted a community-provider survey designed to identify existing service capabilities and gaps in mental health, substance abuse and compulsive gambling services provided to older adults (60+) in Central Florida. The survey revealed that the three most frequently unmet service needs are income support, a geriatric-assessment clinic and a mobile geriatric outreach team. To learn more, contact Gammonley at dgammonl@mail.ucf.edu.

Elder-Friendly Communities. In an earlier study, Gammonley partnered with the Orange County Commission on Aging to develop an "Elder-Friendly Community Sourcebook." She contributed her knowledge of best practices in creating and sustaining elder-friendly communities to create a sourcebook that provides information about a range of policy initiatives; planning practices; and model service programs, ordinances and business

practices that promote active engagement and "aging in place" among older persons. To view the sourcebook, visit www.cohpa.ucf.edu/communitypartnerships.htm.

Peer Instruction of Children Using Assistive Technology. In the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Assistant Professor Jennifer Kent-Walsh recently collaborated with speech-language pathology students Jamie Rubin, Julia Quevedo and Chaya Start to study the effects of peer instruction on the expressive language of school-age children using augmentative and alternative communication during shared reading activities. An initial analysis of the results indicate that peer partners successfully implemented the strategies they were trained to use when reading with children using AAC, and the children showed remarkable increases in communication during the reading activities.

Assistive Technology Camp. In another project led by Kent-Walsh, undergraduate speech-language pathology interns have helped area young adults with disabilities learn to use assistive technology to substantially improve their ability to communicate and perform academic tasks. Their efforts are part of "Technology in the FFAST Lane," an innovative five-day camp that was first held in June 2006. One mother said the most important thing her daughter, a 2006 camper, gained from the experience was a renewed desire to use her assistive communication device more often. The camp was held again in June 2008 and was sponsored in part with a grant from Disney.

To learn more about assistive technology programs at UCF, contact Kent-Walsh at jkent@mail.ucf.edu.



Graduate student Julia Quevedo (right) works with Demarie Rodriguez (left) and Olivia Miracle Stoute (center), students at Hidden Oaks Elementary School in Orlando, to demonstrate the materials and communication techniques used when the students read with their typically developing peers.

Community Partner Spotlight: *Heart of Florida United Way*

The Center for Community Partnerships' oldest community partnership is with Heart of Florida United Way, the largest nonprofit provider of funding for health and human services in Central Florida.

The partnership began in 2001 as a way to link the health and human service needs of the community with resources offered by the university, according to Larry Martin, professor of public affairs and the center's director from 2003 to 2006.

To facilitate the partnership, the College of Health and Public Affairs and HFUW jointly funded in 2001 a part-time associate director position in the center, filled by Joan Nelson, who had been working as director of resource

management for HFUW since 1997.

Both Martin and Nelson, along with faculty members and graduate students, formed research teams to study topics of keen interest to community organizations, including HFUW. Among the topics they studied were the Orange County Central Receiving Center, children living in out-of-home-care settings and preferred-living systems.

In 2005, Martin led an analysis of data obtained by HFUW in a survey of HIV/AIDS clients receiving services funded under the federal Ryan White program. Under Martin's direction, doctoral student Tracey Trotter and graduate intern Irina Astokhova coded and entered the data, generated output tables and developed a

needs-assessment report to formally present to the HFUW and other stakeholders. Throughout the project, the UCF team worked with staff members at HFUW.

Nelson returned to a full-time position at HFUW in 2006. However, HFUW has remained involved with the college by having its current president and CEO, Robert H. Brown, serve as a member of the college's Dean's Advisory Council. At the council's meetings, Brown has shared his plans for HFUW and expressed an interest in continuing a research partnership with the college through the Center for Community Partnerships.

A CONVERSATION WITH ROBERT H. BROWN

Center for Community Partnerships Director Nancy Ellis recently spoke with Heart of Florida United Way President and CEO Robert "Bob" H. Brown (right). The following is an excerpt from their conversation:

NE: Bob, tell me about the role of Heart of Florida United Way.

BB: First of all, we are the largest funding organization in Central Florida. What people don't know, for instance, is that we draw down federal money and we run the Ryan White Title II program providing support to HIV/AIDS organizations that can help people with their medication, etc. We also operate United Way 2-1-1, which is an emergency telephone help line that receives approximately 110,000 calls a year and provides 24/7 information and referral services. In addition, the United Way Volunteer Resource Center links community volunteers with agencies seeking hands-on assistance, and the United Way Gifts In-Kind Center last year channeled roughly \$800,000 in donated materials and supplies to area nonprofit organizations.

The United Way provides many services and performs many functions, but I feel very strongly about a role we are just moving toward as an organization — the position of community advocate. I really don't think that we are doing [advocacy] as well as we should. We need to be, at times, the conscience of the



nonprofit community. I think we need to help businesses and others to understand that a strong social service system is the very fabric of a healthy community. That is an important role for us.

NE: How are you expanding your role as a community advocate?

BB: [We're looking] at issues holistically. When people call in because they need food, we direct them to food banks and other agencies. The larger question is what's happening in their lives that's prompting the lack of food? [We are currently working toward] what we call

“Community Impact.” We have conducted approximately 700 random telephone surveys, 1,200 online surveys and more than 20 focus groups with another 20 to go. It's all about getting at the question, what do people think are the biggest problems facing the community?”

One of our goals is to match monies and services to real community need, as defined by the communities themselves.

NE: How do you envision addressing community problems in the future?

BB: Going forward, the needs of the community are going to increase dramatically. It's already proven that funding will not increase proportionately. Many of the agencies have been very supportive ... they seem to think that things have to be done differently to make the community healthier. What our changing strategy does is put United Way in a position to draw down money from outside the area. It is our belief that if we help the community understand that we are responding to its needs, it will become more financially supportive, too.

“One of our goals is to match monies and services to real community need, as defined by the communities themselves.”

New Educational Programs Address Community Needs



New Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management and Homeland Security.

The Department of Public Administration launched

this summer a new Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management and Homeland Security that is recognized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The 18-hour program covers foundations in emergency management and homeland security, managing crises, and working across government agencies.

Emergency management-related occupations are among the fastest growing in the nation. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 28 percent increase between 2002 and 2012 in these kinds of occupations.

To learn more about the program, visit www.graduatecatalog.ucf.edu/programs/Program.aspx?ID=1208.



New Aging Focus in Master of Social Work Program.

With support from a \$75,000 grant from the John A. Hartford Foundation, the School of

Social Work will launch this fall the "Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education."

This innovative program is designed to encourage students earning a Master of Social Work to pursue careers in geriatric social work. Students who enroll in the program will receive a stipend while gaining experience working with elderly populations through a series of rotating internships.

To date, about 600 students have graduated from the Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education at other academic institutions nationwide, and 80 percent of them have gone on to pursue careers in the aging field.

The new aging focus in UCF's M.S.W. program should lead to an increased pool of social workers in Central Florida with expertise in aging.

In the News

The college's efforts to address community needs are frequently the subject of articles in the local press. Below are summaries of and excerpts from several articles published this year.

Study Reveals Gap in Social Services for Lake's Poorest Residents *Orlando Sentinel, 1/14/08*

Center for Community Partnerships Director Nancy Ellis presented the results of a UCF study of Lake County's social services to the county's commissioners. "... the study found that some of Lake's neediest and highest-risk residents can't afford or can't reach health-care providers." Contact Ellis at nancy@mail.ucf.edu to learn more.

Stressed Nurses Increase Turnover *Central Florida Future, 2/6/08*

A study by Lynn Unruh, associate professor of health services administration, showed that maintaining the recommended registered nurse-patient ratios can save lives and money. "... Understaffed hospitals have historically reported high employment turnover rates, and replacing qualified medical personnel is costly." Contact Unruh at lunruh@mail.ucf.edu to learn more.

Gangs Substitute for Family Life *East Orlando Sun, 3/13-19/08*

To help educate the public, the School of Social Work hosted a daylong workshop, "Understanding Gang Violence — Prevention and Intervention: A Community Response," on March 7, 2008. "... The key to stopping gang growth is ... offering youth services to families who cannot afford programs for their children." Contact M.S.W. Coordinator Estelli Ramos at esramos@mail.ucf.edu to learn more.

Keeping an Eye on Justice *Orlando Sentinel, 5/12/08*

Students in the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies' Undergraduate Certificate in Victim Advocacy program volunteer with CourtWatch, a watchdog group that monitors the courts to ensure proceedings are fair. "... 'They really get to roll up their sleeves and get involved,' said Eastep." Contact Criminal Justice Undergraduate Coordinator Mary Ann Eastep at meastep@mail.ucf.edu to learn more.

U.S. News and World Report Ranks Graduate Programs in Top 100

U.S. News and World Report's *America's Best Graduate Schools, 2009 Edition*, published this spring, ranked five graduate programs at UCF in the top 100 in the nation — two of which are in College of Health and Public Affairs.

The college's master's degree program in **communication sciences and disorders**, or speech-language pathology, ranked 87.

The master's degree program in **public administration**, which leads to an M.P.A., ranked 90.

Not a Moment to Spare *Orlando Sentinel, 6/26/08*

Maria-Elena Augustin is the program coordinator for the Department of Public Administration's Capacity Building Institute, which allows students to help community-based nonprofits enhance their business capabilities. She is also a recent graduate of the department's Master of Public Administration program. "... She is a role model of the modern woman who is strong, independent, the cornerstone of her family and a major contributor to her community." Contact Augustin at maugusti@mail.ucf.edu to learn more.

Take Control of Stuttering *Orlando Sentinel, 7/8/08*

Martine Vanryckeghem, professor of communication sciences and disorders and the only board-recognized fluency specialist in the Orlando metropolitan area, provides information for parents about stuttering. "... The 'wait and see' attitude is not recommended. Parents should take their child for an assessment by a speech-language pathologist as soon as doubts about fluency arise, even if the child's pediatrician says that the child will outgrow it." Contact Vanryckeghem at martinev@mail.ucf.edu to learn more.

**CONNECTIONS: UNIVERSITY-
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

VOLUME 1 • Nº 1 • AUGUST 2008

Connections: University-Community Partnerships is published periodically and distributed electronically. A limited number of printed copies are available upon request.

To subscribe to the electronic publication, contact nancy@mail.ucf.edu. Contact the editor at kguin@mail.ucf.edu.

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UPCOMING EVENTS***of Interest to the Community***

9/5/08 - 10/3/08

**Case Management Certificate Program
(40-hour program)**

Five consecutive Fridays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
UCF at South Orlando

9/12/08 - 6/6/09

**Licensing Course in Risk Management
(120-hour course; CEU option for RNs)**

Once a month: Fridays 3 to 9 p.m., Saturdays
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; UCF Orlando campus

9/17/08

**Pharmacology: What Every Social Worker
Should Know (CEU option)**

4 to 6 p.m. (reception 6 to 7 p.m.); Winter Park
Memorial Hospital Medical Library

9/24/08 - 9/27/08

**2008 Southeastern Conference for Public
Administration (SECOPA)**

Times vary each day; International Plaza Resort
and Spa, Orlando

10/23/08

**Fifth Annual Health and Public Affairs
Research Conference**

8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; *FAIRWINDS* Alumni
Center, UCF Orlando campus

To learn more, visit:

www.cohpa.ucf.edu/news&events.htm

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Center for Community Partnerships is a resource that provides information about East Central Florida for use in policy planning and decisions that benefit the region. The center was launched in 2001 with support from the Winter Park Health Foundation and the Florida Hospital Community Health Improvement Council.

The center

- provides community-based research, evaluation and data analysis by faculty members and students
- facilitates discussions and development of public policy in a nonpartisan environment
- links faculty and student interests with community needs
- provides easy access to data and research study reports through the center's Web site, www.cohpa.ucf.edu/ccp
- facilitates research partnerships between the College of Health and Public Affairs and community organizations

See the College on UCF TV

Television viewers in Central Florida can learn more about the College of Health and Public Affairs' community-based programs and activities by tuning in to UCF TV's "For Your Health" and "Public Affairs Today" shows.



"For Your Health" draws on the expertise of UCF's faculty, students, alumni and community partners to provide viewers with health information they can use in their daily lives.

Among the show's features are profiles on research activities, interviews with faculty experts in a studio setting and interviews of alumni working in local health-care facilities. The show is hosted by two veteran medical reporters, Ed Heiland and Charna Davis Weise.

"For Your Health" was launched in 2007 with a grant from the College of Health and Public Affairs. Since then, the College of Medicine, including the Burnett School of Biomedical Sciences, and the College of Nursing have joined in to support and participate in the program.



UCF TV began airing its newest show, "Public Affairs Today," this month. Each episode features an interview with one of the college's faculty experts about a current issue in the multi-faceted field of public affairs. The show is hosted by veteran television reporter Alicia Callanan Mandigo.

The first episodes of "Public Affairs Today" will delve into topics such as research possibilities in social work, emergency management and homeland security, gang violence, and the use of tasers.

"Public Affairs Today" was also launched with a grant from the College of Health and Public Affairs.

HOW TO TUNE IN

For information on where and when to watch UCF TV, visit:

www.ucftv.ucf.edu/where_to_see/

To see episodes online, visit:

For Your Health

www.ucftv.ucf.edu/shows/for_your_health/

Public Affairs Today

www.ucftv.ucf.edu/shows/public_affairs_today/



Social work's John Bricout (left) with Alicia Callanan Mandigo on the "Public Affairs Today" set