

# PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FOCUS



News from the Department of Public Administration at the University of Central Florida

2007-2008, Volume 3



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**TEACHING**

**RESEARCH**

**SERVICE**

## Message from the Chair



Mary Ann Feldheim, Ph.D.  
Chair and Associate Professor

### Public Administration at UCF Moves into the International Scene

This is our third issue of *Public Administration Focus* from the Department of Public Administration at the University of Central Florida. In this issue, we emphasize our international outreach efforts in addition to our teaching, research and service.

#### International Outreach

First, two new programs in public service and leadership, developed by Associate Professor Naim Kapucu, are bringing both experienced and emerging public service leaders from Turkey to study at UCF. Second, the department sponsored two professors in public administration from China to come to UCF to present their research at our monthly Research Colloquiums. Third, Associate Dean Melvin Rogers represented our

department when he traveled to Russia to investigate the potential of an exchange program in our field. Fourth, Professor Kuotsai Liou served as a member of the Program Review Committee on public administration to examine the academic program at the National Cheng-Chi University in Taiwan. Lastly, two American Humanics students, Ana Defillo and Patricia Holloway, traveled to Sierra Leone in West Africa last summer to volunteer with Children of the Nations. Ana Defillo headed the video team, which created informational videos on nutrition and teen pregnancy in the local language.

#### National Ranking

In April, our M.P.A. program was ranked 90th in the country by *U.S. News and World Report*. This is the second time in a row that our department has been recognized as one of the top 100 public administration/public affairs programs in the country. Over 1,500 programs and schools were reviewed, and to be in the top 100 in the country is an honor.

#### Program Accomplishments

Three programs deserve special recognition this year. First, our American Humanics Program, led by Director Stephanie Krick, received the national award for "Excellence in Certifications" at the American Humanics Management Institute. Second, Professor Peter Colby coordinated our innovative pilot Executive M.P.A. Program utilizing creative course delivery. Lastly, Associate Professor Naim Kapucu spearheaded the development of a new 18-hour Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management and Homeland Security to complement the undergraduate minor in the same area.

These initiatives and awards deserve special recognition. However, our continued efforts in the areas of teaching, research and service should also be acknowledged.

#### Teaching

For our department, teaching is a top priority, and we continually seek to enhance the quality of our teaching in innovative and creative ways, such as service-learning. The spotlight on exemplary teaching in this issue is on Associate Professor Ronnie Korosec, who currently serves as undergraduate coordinator and M.P.A. coordinator.

#### Research

Our department has a very productive research faculty that makes contributions in the top journals and at the major conferences in our field. For the second year in a row, our faculty members produced 20 publications in refereed journals, with articles being accepted in public administration's most prestigious journals — *Disaster Prevention and Management, Journal of Emergency Management, Journal of International Network for Social Network Analysis, Performance and Management Review, Public Administration Review, and Public Budgeting and Finance*. In addition, faculty members published one book, five book chapters and four monographs and made presentations at 18 international, national, regional and state conferences. In this issue, Associate Professor Wendell Lawther's research in the area of public-private partnerships is highlighted.

This spring, our department coordinated two professional conferences. The

### On the Cover

Megan Miller, a full-time student in the Master of Nonprofit Management program, studies in front of UCF's new arena. She maintains a 4.0 grade-point average while interning at the Valencia Foundation and working as a graduate assistant for the department. As part of her duties as a graduate assistant, she helped plan and coordinate the Sixth Annual Community Partners Nonprofit Conference, which was the largest and most professional conference to date.



Seventh Annual Community Partners Nonprofit Management Conference with Susan Egan from the Mandel Center was held in February. This was followed by our Second Annual Public Administration Conference, featuring Stephen Goldsmith from Harvard as the keynote speaker, in March.

### Service

Through our Capacity Building Institute we assisted over 100 small nonprofit organizations, and through service-learning assignments students delivered over 150 products to public and nonprofit organizations. One service-learning project for the Orlando Police Department secured a grant for \$156,808, demonstrating the value these projects bring to the organizations. This year, the Student Organization for Public Administration coordinated the Sixth Annual Public Service Showcase with over 175 students participating and learning about careers in public and nonprofit organizations.

Our partnerships continue to grow, and the new Public Administration Alumni Chapter is our newest partner. The chapter was formed in August 2007, and its members have developed a new Web site with information about the chapter and its activities.

In conclusion, it has been another outstanding year for the Department of Public Administration. Our faculty members and students are excelling internationally, nationally and regionally in the areas of research and service. Please take the time to read about the accomplishments of this amazing group of individuals in our third issue of *Public Administration Focus*. I hope you will share our many successes with others and continue your support of the UCF Department of Public Administration through your actions and your words.

## Become a Service-Learning Community Partner

One way the Department of Public Administration supports the local community is to require students to complete “service-learning” projects. Service-learning projects address community needs and require students to reflect on their activities in order to gain an appreciation for the relationship between civics and academics.

Service-learning within the Department of Public Administration provides an opportunity for students to work with community partners by collecting and compiling data and producing quality products that will be beneficial to local public and nonprofit organizations. Students have been involved in the following projects:



- Volunteer program evaluation
- Strategic planning
- Grant proposals
- Nonprofit administration case study
- Resource development guidebook

If your organization would like to become a community partner and work with service-learning students, please submit your request to the Department of Public Administration through *The Nexus* Web site at [http://reach.ucf.edu/~nonprofit\\_nexus](http://reach.ucf.edu/~nonprofit_nexus) or contact the department at 407-823-2604.

*The Nexus* Web site uses online technologies to provide linkages to local and national resources in nonprofit management. For more information about *The Nexus*, please see the next column.

## Department Unveils *The Nexus*

The Web-based Master of Nonprofit Management program is launching a new Web site called *The Nexus*. This Web site will be an online resource center for today’s nonprofit practitioner and student of nonprofit management.

The site will be divided into three parts: a nonprofit resource section with links to professional organizations, publications and other resources; a nonprofit management section with information about the programs offered, faculty and opportunities for the community to request student interns; and a networking section where students, alumni and community partners may mentor each other and discuss experiences from the nonprofit field in a password-protected atmosphere.

In this virtual space, students not taking face-to-face courses at UCF may still get involved, at their convenience, without sacrificing the networking tools, volunteering opportunities, expert advice and communication with other students that are such valuable aspects of the graduate school experience.

*The Nexus* is available online at [http://reach.ucf.edu/~nonprofit\\_nexus](http://reach.ucf.edu/~nonprofit_nexus).



# Teaching

*Providing the highest quality education for current and prospective public service officials in public and nonprofit organizations*

## DEPARTMENT FACULTY



**Thomas Bryer, Ph.D.**  
(University of Southern California), Assistant Professor



**Ronnie Korosec, Ph.D.**  
(State University of New York at Binghamton), Associate Professor



**Peter Colby, Ph.D.**  
(Brandeis University), Professor



**Stephanie Loudermilk Krick, Ph.D.** (University of Central Florida), Director of American Humanics



**Matthew Collins, Ph.D.**  
(Virginia Tech), Instructor



**Wendell Lawther, Ph.D.**  
(Indiana University), Associate Professor



**Mary Ann Feldheim, Ph.D.** (Florida Atlantic University), Chair and Associate Professor



**Kuotsai "Tom" Liou, Ph.D.** (University of Oklahoma), Professor



**Jay Jurie, Ph.D.**  
(Arizona State University), Associate Professor



**Melvin Rogers, M.S.**  
(University of Nebraska at Omaha), Instructor and Associate Dean



**Naim Kapucu, Ph.D.**  
(University of Pittsburgh), Associate Professor



**XiaoHu "Shawn" Wang, Ph.D.** (Florida International University), Associate Professor

## FACULTY EXPERTISE

### Budgeting and Finance

- Peter Colby
- Matthew Collins
- XiaoHu "Shawn" Wang

### Emergency Management

- Matthew Collins
- Naim Kapucu
- Wendell Lawther
- Kuotsai "Tom" Liou

### Nonprofit Management

- Matthew Collins
- Mary Ann Feldheim
- Naim Kapucu
- Ronnie Korosec
- Stephanie Krick
- Wendell Lawther
- Larry Martin

### Public Management

- Thomas Bryer
- Mary Ann Feldheim
- Naim Kapucu
- Ronnie Korosec
- Wendell Lawther
- Kuotsai "Tom" Liou
- XiaoHu "Shawn" Wang

### Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement

- Kuotsai "Tom" Liou
- Larry Martin
- XiaoHu "Shawn" Wang

### Urban and Regional Planning

- Jay Jurie
- Ronnie Korosec
- Wendell Lawther
- Kuotsai "Tom" Liou



## AFFILIATED FACULTY

**Rico Brown**, M.P.A. (University of Central Florida), Visiting Instructor

**Lawrence Martin**, Ph.D. (Arizona State University), Professor

## ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS

**Mike Abels**, Ph.D. (Nova Southeastern University), Manager, City of Deland, *Local Government*

**Owen Beitsch**, Ph.D. (University of Central Florida), Executive Vice President and Partner of Real Estate Research Consultants, Inc., *Land Use and Planning Law*

**Wendy Bolyard**, Ph.D. (University of Central Florida), *Administrative Theory*

**Laurie Botts-Wright**, M.P.A. (University of Central Florida), Real Estate Manager, City of Orlando, *Land Use and Planning*

**Blake Drury**, M.S.P. (Planning) (University of Tennessee), Senior Urban Designer, Glatting Jackson, Inc., *Urban Design*

**Thomas Harmer**, M.P.A. (University of Central Florida), Senior Director of Public/Private Projects, Pizzuti Solutions, LLC, *Managing Public Emergencies, Hazard Mitigation*

**Albert Hill**, M.S. (University of Tennessee), *Information Systems for Planners*

**Barbara Howell**, M.A. (University of Central Florida), Instructor and Research Coordinator for the UCF College of Health and Public Affairs, *Grants and Contract Management*

**Fred Kittinger**, M.S. (Florida State University), UCF Assistant Vice President for University Relations and Director of State and Local Government Affairs, *Intergovernmental Administration*

**Richard Maladecki**, M.S. (Eastern College), President of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association, *Volunteer Management*

**David McCallister**, M.P.A. (University of Central Florida), Deputy Chief New Smyrna Beach Fire Department, *Hazardous Mitigation*

**Jack Schluckebier**, Ph.D. (Florida State University), Manager, City of Melbourne, *Public Administration Policy in Process*

## TRANSITIONS

**Thomas Bryer**, Ph.D., joined the faculty as an assistant professor in August 2007.

**Naim Kapucu**, Ph.D., earned promotion from assistant professor to associate professor in April 2008.

**Robert Morin** was named director of community service for the city of Virginia Beach and relocated to Virginia in December 2007.

## DEPARTMENT STAFF



**Donna Mohney**, Office Assistant



**Debbie Phillis**, M.A. (University of Central Florida), Internship Coordinator



**Brenda Posey**, M.A. (University of Central Florida), Coordinator, Administrative Services

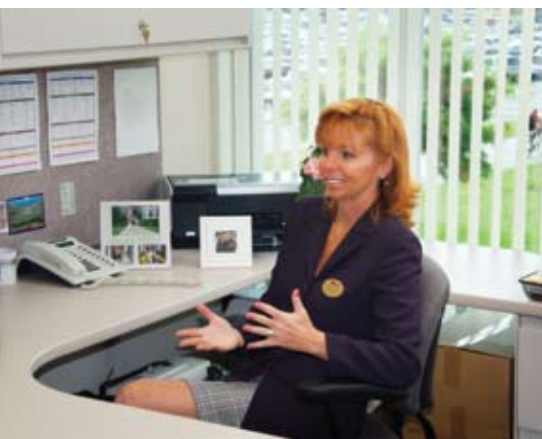


**Jacque Waleski**, M.A. (National University), Coordinator, Academic Services

## Teaching (continued)

### RECOGNIZING TEACHING EXCELLENCE: Ronnie Korosec

If you walked into Associate Professor Ronnie Korosec's classroom at a given moment, you would never find her sitting. You might find whipped cream dripping between students' fingers as she sprinkles nuts on top and makes an analogy about how government is always changing shape. You might find students acting as panelists on game shows or debating how many tests should determine their grades.



Korosec also implements community-focused projects, such as writing professional strategic plans for local organizations to use. One such plan was adopted and implemented by the Orlando Public Works Department.

Making connections between the community and the classroom and between the past and the present is a vital part of Korosec's teaching style — she sees her role as not only to maintain students' attention, but also to keep them connected with the practical applications of the material.

Korosec has been teaching courses in public administration for 10 years and she came to UCF in 2000. She describes her teaching style as

“extremely animated” and her classes as “not status quo.” Students seem to like Korosec's unpredictable nature, though she warns each group of new students at the beginning of the semester that if they're taking the class because a friend recommended it, they should abandon their expectations.

“I always throw something new into the mix,” she said. No two classes are exactly the same; she challenges herself to meet the needs — and hold the attention — of each new group of students in a fresh way.

Korosec is currently on one Honors in the Major thesis committee and six Ph.D. committees. She has been awarded several honors for her teaching, including the UCF award for Undergraduate Teaching Excellence in 2004, a citation for outstanding teaching from the Orlando Young Professionals Association and an award for outstanding teaching from the Society of Information Managers.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAM NEWS

#### Graduate Program Earns Top Ranking

In April 2008, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the graduate program in public administration as 90th in the country. It is an honor to be in the top 100, and this ranking is an improvement from 97th in 2004, said department Chair Mary Ann Feldheim.

#### American Humanics Program Honored

The American Humanics program at UCF was honored with a national award for “Excellence in Certifications” at the American Humanics Management Institute meeting in Kansas City, Mo., on Jan. 6, 2008. The program certified a greater percentage of students than any other college or university in the country.

#### New Program in Emergency Management and Homeland Security

In December 2007, UCF Graduate Studies approved the Department of Public Administration's Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management and Homeland Security program, which will prepare graduate students for careers in the administration of emergency management and homeland security. Admission to the program will officially begin in summer 2008.

#### New Executive M.P.A. Program

The Executive M.P.A. (Master of Public Administration) Program, developed and coordinated by Professor Peter Colby, is a cohort program in which a group of students proceeds as a single unit through the program over 28 months. The program's first cohort of students will be enrolled from fall 2007 through fall 2009.

Students complete seven semesters with two classes per semester, one “live” and one Web course. Schedules are convenient to working adults with “live” classes meeting on six Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The Executive M.P.A. Program follows all admission and graduation standards



Executive M.P.A. students pose at The Villages with Pete Wahl (second from right), former Villages' district manager who led a bus tour of the community and explained the use of Community Development Districts to provide local government services in Florida.



required by UCF's regular, National Association of Schools and Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA)-accredited M.P.A. program. For example, all of the executive M.P.A. students were first admitted to the regular M.P.A. program and only then considered for the Executive M.P.A. Program.

In addition to covering the regular M.P.A. curriculum, the executive M.P.A. students have been engaged in a variety of "field trips" to places such as the Orange County Convention Center; Seminole County Water Treatment Plant; and the world's largest retirement community, the Villages. Guest speakers are being used extensively and have already included Lake County Manager Cindy Hall on growth management; a panel consisting of the Cocoa Beach, Fla., mayor, finance director and city manager on how cities are coping with property tax changes; and Orange County Assistant County Manager Sharon Donoghue on "the inside story" of the \$1 billion community venues projects. The intent is to expose the students to the leaders of local government in Central Florida and the issues facing the region in the 21st century.

The two dozen cohort students are all currently employed in local government, representing Lake, Orange and Seminole counties as well as four municipalities. Many already hold positions of considerable responsibility, while others have been identified as future leaders in their organizations. The group is especially proud that in just the second semester, two of the students have made major steps upwards in their careers, Anthony Watts being promoted to captain at Orange County Corrections and Michelle del Valle becoming the new assistant city manager in Winter Park, Fla.

# International Highlights

## TURKEY

### Two New Programs in Public Service and Leadership Bring Officials to UCF

The Public Service and Leadership Program and the Public Service and Leadership Development Program both provide opportunities for leaders in Turkey to come to UCF for experience. Both programs are funded by grants from Turkey's Ministry of the Interior and overseen by Associate Professor Naim Kapucu.

**Public Service and Leadership Program.** In July 2007, six senior government inspectors from Turkey's Ministry of the Interior became the first participants in the Public Service and Leadership Program. During the first half of their six-month stay at UCF, the officials took intensive English language courses and seminars in public service and leadership. They also traveled to Tallahassee and local city and county offices to see United States' governments at work.

For the second half of the program, the officials undertook directed research projects in areas such as crisis and emergency coordination and performance management in government. A new group of inspectors will arrive in summer 2008.

**Public Service and Leadership Development Program.** Like the Public Service and Leadership Program, the Public Service and Leadership Development Program involves bringing Turkish officials



Left to right: Turkish inspectors Özcan Bademci, Ahmet Görücü, Adnan Özdemir and Ahmet Göçerler; Associate Professor Naim Kapucu; Graduate Assistant Tolga Arslan; Turkish inspectors Ridvan Aydın and Orhan Tavli; and Graduate Assistant Chad Hogan

to UCF. However, these officials are younger in their public administration careers than the inspectors. They are district governor candidates in the process of becoming either leaders of small cities or inspectors, who oversee Turkey's Ministry of the Interior.

Part of the training to hold either of these positions involves travel to another country, and UCF will be the first university to host them in the United States.

The first group of participants in the Public Service and Leadership Development Program will arrive in August 2008 for a stay of one year before they return to Turkey for six months of additional training, after which they will be appointed as district governors.

## Research

Seeking information and data that leads to effective policy-making

### RESEARCH PROFILE: Wendell Lawther



Professor Wendell C. Lawther has at least five research projects on his plate at the moment, all of which complement each other in their relationship to the subject of public-private partnerships. This year, Lawther has been especially interested in the procurement of private funds in such partnerships.

The first project looks into the possibilities of using private sources of funding for the repair and creation of roadways and bridges, projects that have been funded from public sources in the past. The problem he addresses is that many public officials lack the expertise for dealing with this new concept of funding.

In addition, Lawther has been working with graduate student Hope Hicka on a nationwide survey of metropolitan planning organizations regarding the impact of public-private partnerships on transportation planning efforts.

Lawther's third project has to do with civic engagement and, specifically, the role of the average traveler in decision-making when public-private partnerships are used to fund toll roads. In these cases, private companies enter into

50-to-99-year contracts in which they agree to build and maintain toll roads while getting a cut of the toll fares to provide a return on their investment. Because these contracts involve looking ahead to the needs of future generations, Lawther is interested in finding ways for the general public to get involved.

Lawther is also in the final stages of editing a co-authored textbook on acquiring construction services from the public procurement point of view. This advanced textbook is designed for purchasing officials who want to expand their professional roles.

Last, he's been at work on intelligent transportation systems, such as the E-Pass, in an effort to see how the technology can best be used to facilitate the effectiveness of public-private partnerships.

Because Lawther considers his teaching specialty to be human resource management, he is also interested in pursuing research related to this topic in the future.

### SELECTED FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

**Bryer, T. A., & Cooper, T. L.** (2007). Challenges in enhancing responsiveness in neighborhood governance, *Public Performance and Management Review*, 31(2), 190-213.

Cooper, T. L., & **Bryer, T. A.** (2007). William Robertson: Exemplar of politics and public management rightly understood, *Public Administration Review*, 67(5), 816-824.

**Collins, M. L.** (2007). A case study of the law enforcement / emergency medical services (EMS) response to the Virginia Tech mass casualty incident. *Journal of Emergency Management*, 5(5), 17-24.

**Collins, M. L., & Kapucu, N.** (in press). Early warning systems and disaster preparedness and response in local government. *Disaster Prevention and Management*

**Kapucu, N.** (2007). Effective nonprofit governance and social capital: A network analysis perspective, *Connections: Journal of International Network for Social Network Analysis*, 27(3), 24-32.

**Kapucu, N.** (2007). Building community capacity to respond, *The Public Manager*, 36(3), 21-25.

**Kapucu, N.** (2007). Emergency logistics planning and disaster preparedness, *The Journal of Emergency Management*, 4(6), 21-24.

**Kapucu, N.** (2007). Nonprofit response to catastrophic disasters, *Disaster Prevention and Management: An International Journal*, 16(4), 551-561.

**Kapucu, N.** (2008). Ethics of digital government, In Hamid Nemati (ed.) *Information security and ethics: Concepts, methodologies, tools and applications*. New York: Information Science Reference.

**Lawther, W.C.** (2007). Flexible procurement approaches that facilitate relationship change and negotiation: The use of the invitation to negotiate. *Journal of Public Procurement*, 7(2), 173-193.

**Lawther, W.C.** (2007). Intelligent transportation systems: Evolution and impact. In Jeremy Plant (ed). *Handbook of transportation policy and administration* (pp. 79-106). Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.

**Lawther, W.C.** (2007). Privatization of transportation systems. In Jeremy Plant (ed). *Handbook of transportation policy and administration* (pp. 369-392). Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press.





# International Highlights

## CHINA

Professor Tom Liou was instrumental in arranging the visits of two professors to UCF from China. First, Keyong Gong, dean of the School of Public Administration at Renmin University of China in Beijing, gave a research presentation entitled “Progress and Problems in China’s Social Security System: Pension and Medical Care” in November 2007.

From December 2007 to March 2008, Professor Shiuegen Hu, vice chair of the Department of Government Administration in Zhejiang University, was invited to UCF as a visiting scholar in the Department of Public Administration. In February, he gave a research presentation to faculty members and graduate students entitled, “Introduction of Local Government Performance Measurement and Innovation in China.”

## RUSSIA

In April 2008, college Associate Dean Melvin Rogers headed to Russia to investigate the potential for study abroad, student exchange and faculty exchange programs with three universities.

With the assistance of Associate Professor Mike Reynolds, who leads student study abroad to Russia through the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies, Rogers hopes to begin a program abroad within the next two years.

Russia is of interest to Rogers partially because there is a growing population of Russian students at UCF. In addition, public administration training in Russia has been of interest since the Cold War ended. He said it is important to “build relationships now, before the students join the government in professional roles.”

## TAIWAN

Professor Tom Liou is a member of the Program Review Committee for the Department of Public Administration at National Cheng-Chi University in Taipei, Taiwan.

He gave research presentations at two universities in Taiwan in June of 2007. The first, entitled “Public Administration Research – Issue, Theory and Application,” was presented at Tung-Hai University in Taichung. The second, “Publication in Public Administration — Preparation, Presentation, Professionalism and Politics,” was presented at Shih Hsin University in Taipei.

**Liou, K.T.** (2007). Changes and challenges in regulatory reform. *International Journal of Public Administration*, 30(3), 271-288.

**Wang, X., & Liou, K.T.** (in press). Assessing the change in financial condition: An analysis of panel data for U.S. states. *Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting and Financial Management*.

## FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

**Kapucu, N., Augustin, M.E., & Garayev, V.** (in press). Interstate partnerships in emergency management: Emergency management assistance compact (EMAC) in response to catastrophic disasters. *Public Administration Review*.

**Kapucu, N., Lawther, W.C., & Pattison, S.** (2007). Logistics and staging areas in managing disasters and emergencies. *Journal of Homeland Security and Emergency Management*, 4(2), 1-18.

**Kapucu, N., Augustin, M.E., & Krause, M.** (2007). Capacity building for community-based small nonprofit minority health agencies in Central Florida. *The International Journal of Volunteer Administration*, XXIV (3), 10-17.

**Wang, X., Dennis, L., & Tu, Y.** Measuring financial condition: A study of U.S. states. *Public Budgeting & Finance*, 27(2), 1–21.

**Kapucu, N., Garayev, V., & Arslan, T.** (2007, June). *Alliance of civilizations: Global response to intolerance and terrorism*. Paper presented at the Democracy and Global Security Conference, Istanbul, Turkey.

## DISSERTATIONS

### Doctoral Program in Public Affairs — Public Administration Specialization

#### Stephanie Loudermilk Krick

Adviser: Mary Ann Feldheim  
Title: *The Impact of Ethical Practices on Performance Outcome Measures In a Select Group of Nonprofit Organizations in Florida*  
Defended: July 12, 2007

#### Janet Davis

Adviser: Wendell Lawther  
Title: *Determinants of Human Resources Management Performance on County Efficiencies: A Study of Florida Counties*  
Defended: April 3, 2008

## Research (continued)

### RESEARCH-RELATED CONFERENCES

#### Second Annual Public Administration Conference

The Second Annual Public Administration Conference was held on March 28, 2008, in the FAIRWINDS Alumni Center on UCF's Orlando campus. This year, the theme was "The Changing Face of Public Administration: Innovation in Government." More than 100 people attended the daylong event, including alumni, faculty members, students and community leaders.



Professor Stephen Goldsmith delivers the keynote address to a receptive audience.

The keynote address was delivered by Stephen Goldsmith, the Daniel Paul Professor of Government at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and former mayor of Indianapolis, Ind.

In addition, "community leaders and our own faculty members presented fascinating research and led interesting discussions," reported department Chair Mary Ann Feldheim.

Research topics included emergency technology and public management, managing emergencies and crises, and public service for profit.

On display at the event were poster presentations by master's and doctoral students from UCF. The Central Florida chapter of the American Society for Public Administration selected the following



M.P.A. student Cristina Berrios (right) stands by while Assistant Professor Kaifeng Yang (left) of Florida State University judges a poster prepared by her and several other students.

students to receive monetary awards for their exemplary posters:

First Place: Ali Unlu

Second Place: Farhod Yuldoshev

Third Place: Adam Reichbach

#### Seventh Annual Central Florida Community Partners Nonprofit Conference

This year's Central Florida Community Partners Nonprofit Conference, titled "The Changing Face of Nonprofit Management," drew more than 130 attendees to the beautiful event facilities at UCF's Rosen School of Hospitality Management on Feb. 1, 2008.

"Our goal with this year's event was to take it to the next level," said Mary Ann Feldheim, chair of public administration. She recruited alumna Matt Hodge ('06, Ph.D., public affairs–public administration specialization), executive director of the Seminole Community College Foundation, to chair the planning committee.

The result was a more formal conference, complete with a call for proposals and clearly defined "Academic" and

Practitioner" tracks to accommodate the interests of students and practitioners.

The daylong event featured keynote speaker Susan Eagen, executive director of the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organization at Case Western Reserve University, who provided the audience with "A National Perspective on Nonprofit Management."

Heart of Florida United Way was the primary sponsor of the conference.

Top: Associate Professor Ronnie Korosec presents "Strategic Planning and Management: Five Lessons that Nonprofits Must Know" for practitioners.  
Bottom left: Robert Brown, president and CEO of HFUW, welcomes the event participants.  
Bottom right: Keynote speaker Susan Eagen





## CONTRACTS AND GRANTS *Awarded in 2007–2008\**

Investigator	Research Title	Agency Name	Amount Funded	Funding Dates
<b>Thomas Bryer</b>	Building Capacity for Public Participation in Planning	UCF Office of Research and Commercialization	\$7,500	5/08-4/09
	**CBI: Second Harvest Food Bank, Year 2	Second Harvest Food Bank	\$3,000	8/07-4/08
<b>Naim Kapucu</b>	Public Service and Leadership Program	Ministry of the Interior, Republic of Turkey	\$24,914	7/07-12/07
	Public Service and Leadership Development Program	Ministry of the Interior, Republic of Turkey	\$43,688	8/07-8/08
	2008 Public Service and Leadership Development Program	Ministry of the Interior, Republic of Turkey	\$45,000	6/08-12/08
	Collaborative Decision Making Under Stress: Governance in Dynamic and Uncertain Environments of Crises and Disasters	Turkish Institute for Police Studies	\$75,000	9/07-8/08
	**CBI: Second Harvest Food Bank, Year 2	Second Harvest Food Bank	\$3,000	8/07-4/08
<b>Stephanie Krick</b>	CBI: FACTS II Project, Year 3	Orange County Health	\$89,760	9/08-8/09
	American Humanics Service-Learning Scholars Program #2	Murray State University	\$2,000	7/07-11/08

\*July 1, 2007 – May 15, 2008

\*\*Bryer and Kapucu are co-principal investigators; total funding is \$6,000

**TOTAL: \$293,862**

## DEPARTMENT HOSTS RESEARCH COLLOQUIUMS

This year, the department's Research Colloquiums featured researchers from UCF, the local community and around the world who spoke about topics related to their areas of expertise. The following is a list of colloquium presentations in 2007–2008:

**9/20 Naim Kapucu**, UCF Public Administration with public administration graduate students **Tolga Arslan** and **Verer Garayev**, *Social Network Analysis in Public Affairs and Administration*

**10/04 Thomas Bryer**, UCF Public Administration, *Networks in Management: Using Network Analysis as a Diagnostic Tool*

**10/18 Jack Yun-Jie Lee**, Harvard University (visiting from National Open University, Dong-High University and Tsinghua University,

Taiwan), *Still Performance Movement, Not Yet Budget Reforms: A Comparative Study of Performance-Based Budgeting*

**11/1 Lawrence Martin**, UCF Doctoral Program in Public Affairs, *Performance Measurement and Benchmarking*

**11/15 Hamit Palabiyik**, UCF Public Administration (visiting from Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey), *Civil Society in Turkey*

**11/27 Keyong Dong**, Renmin University of China, *Progress and Problems in China's Social Security System: Pension and Medical Care*

**1/10 Bahadır Sahin**, UCF Doctoral Program in Public Affairs, *Crime in Orlando: An Analysis by ArcGIS and its Contribution to Current Policies*

**1/24 Orange County Clerk of Courts representatives**, *Organizational Alignment at the Orange County Clerk of the Courts – From Strategy to Tactics*

**2/7 Shuigen Hu**, Zhejiang University, *Introduction of Local Government Performance Measurement and Innovations in China*

**2/21 Marcel Bursztyn**, Harvard University (visiting from University of Brasilia, Brazil), *Inventing Sustainability, Reinventing the State*

**3/20 Marek Skovajsa**, Georgetown University (visiting from Charles University, Czech Republic), *Czech Non-Profit Sector after the Accession to the European Union*

**4/3 Brent Marshall**, UCF Department of Sociology, *The Long-Term Impact of Technological Disasters on Individuals and Communities: The Case of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill*

## Service

*Developing a model of community partnership and service in an evolving metropolitan environment*

# International Highlights

## SIERRA LEONE

During the hot summer months of June through August 2007, students Ana Defillo and Patricia Holloway lived in the small country of Sierra Leone, in West Africa.

They and 11 other volunteers from across the United States traveled to Africa with Children of the Nations, a

nonprofit organization, with the purpose of developing community, health, nutrition, financial knowledge and spirit.

The volunteers worked in local farms, led sex education workshops, filmed educational videos, played with children and socialized with locals. Defillo especially enjoyed leading the Children

of the Nations video team, which involved creating informational videos on such topics as nutrition and teen pregnancy.

These videos were dubbed into the locals' vernacular and shown to surrounding villages. Defillo (at right in right photo below) also taught basic photography to two African students.



Photos: Ana Defillo

## NONPROFIT CAPACITY BUILDING INSTITUTE *Update*

Since 2003, the Capacity Building Institute has helped nonprofit organizations perform their work more efficiently by offering training and technical assistance from expert faculty members and students in public administration. While graduate and undergraduate students gain hands-on experience in the nonprofit sector, nonprofits benefit from receiving skilled assistance they might not otherwise afford.

This year, the CBI reached a major goal by completing a yearlong initiative with two Polk County, Fla., nonprofit organizations. Help of Ft. Meade in Ft. Meade and the Women's Resource Center in Lakeland benefitted from grant funding from the Department of Health and Human Services.

The CBI provided both organizations with

technical assistance in strategic planning, fiscal management, grant writing, board development, human resources management and program evaluation.

Marsha West, executive director of Help of Ft. Meade, attributes the organization's recent success in writing two fulfilled grants to the CBI's trainings. Those grants brought Help of Ft. Meade over \$63,000.

Cythania Clark, executive director of the Women's Resource Center, which provides assistance and education to women in crisis, also saw improvements in her staff's grant-writing and fund-raising strategies.

At the Central Florida Community Partners Nonprofit Conference in February (see p. 10), Associate Professor Naim

Kapucu, Bridget Healy and Tolga Arslan presented on another initiative of the CBI, partnership with the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida. Through funding from the Wal-Mart Foundation, the CBI was able to work with Second Harvest to ascertain the capacity-building needs of its member agencies, identify trends among member agencies and provide capacity-building workshops based on the data collected.

The workshops covered topics ranging from grant writing to fund raising, and they were facilitated by experts in the Central Florida community.

The CBI operates under the direction of Kapucu. For more information, visit [www.cohpa.ucf.edu/pubadm/capacity\\_building\\_institute.cfm](http://www.cohpa.ucf.edu/pubadm/capacity_building_institute.cfm).



## Advisory Boards

In 2007–2008, the department benefited from the wisdom and experience of the following advisory board members:

### Nonprofit Advisory Board

- Ann Manley (Board Chair)**  
*Executive Director, Dr. Phillips Foundations, Inc.*
- Mark Brewer**  
*President and CEO, Community Foundation of Central Florida*
- Gary Cain**  
*Executive Director, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida*
- Chuck Carmen**  
*Executive Director, Epilepsy Association of Central Florida*
- Nancy Ellis**  
*Director, Center for Community Partnerships, UCF*
- Mary Ann Feldheim**  
*Chair, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Jim Ferber**  
*President and CEO, Central Florida YMCA*
- Geraldine Gallagher**  
*President and CEO, Valencia Foundation*
- Eric Gray**  
*Area Executive Director, American Lung Association*
- Matthew Hodge**  
*Executive Director, Seminole Community College Foundation*
- Barbara Howell**  
*Research Coordinator, UCF College of Health and Public Affairs*
- Naim Kapucu**  
*Associate Professor, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Margot Knight**  
*President and CEO, United Arts of Central Florida*
- Cindi Kopelman**  
*President, Shepherd's Hope*
- David Krepcho**  
*Executive Director, America's Second Harvest*
- Stephanie Krick**  
*Director, American Humanics, UCF*
- Pam Landwirth**  
*President, Give Kids the World Village*
- Margaret Linnane**  
*Executive Director, Rollins College Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership Center*
- Pamela Mann**  
*Senior Vice President of New Business Development, Community Service Center*
- Kelly Morrell**  
*Operating Manager, Florida Philanthropic Network*
- Marina Grant Morrissey**  
*Director, Orlando Museum of Art*
- Joan Nelson**  
*Vice President for Community Impact, Heart of Florida United Way*
- Donna Sines**  
*Executive Director, Osceola County Community Vision*

### Planning Advisory Board

- Patricia Allen**  
*Planner, Manatee County Government*
- Robert E. Ansley, Jr.**  
*President, Orlando Neighborhood Improvement Corp.*
- Harry Barley**  
*Executive Director, Metroplan*
- Owen Beitsch**  
*Executive Vice President, Real Estate Research Consultants, Inc.*
- Bill Burns**  
*Project Manager, Public Works, Orlando*
- Susan Caswell**  
*Manager, Orange County Planning Division*
- Leo Cruz**  
*Planner, Orlando*
- Tina Demostene**  
*Manager, Land Planning and Entitlements*
- Blake Drury**  
*Senior Associate, Glatting Jackson*
- Mary Ann Feldheim**  
*Chair, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Dean J. Grandin, Jr.**  
*Division Manager, Orlando Planning Division*
- Nicole Guillet-Dary**  
*DCAO/Community Development Director, Apopka*
- Cecilia Height**  
*Vice Chairperson; Politics, Population, Lake Jessup; Sierra Club Central Florida*
- Jay Jurie**  
*Professor, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Wendell C. Lawther**  
*Professor, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- K. Tom Liou**  
*Professor, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Bob O'Malley**  
*Operations, Ron Sachs Communications*
- Deborah Schafer**  
*Sustainable Communities Advisory Council Member, Seminole County*
- Jim Sellen**  
*Executive Vice President; Miller, Sellen, Conner and Walsh*
- Paul Sizemore**  
*Director, Community Development, Longwood*
- Carol Stricklin**  
*Community Development Director, Largo*
- Kelley Teague**  
*Director of Public Affairs and Strategic Planning, Metroplan Orlando*
- Alissa Barber Torres**  
*Chief Planner, Orange County*
- Kevin Tyjeski**  
*Chief Planning Manager, Orlando Planning Division*
- Dena Wild**  
*Retired Urban Planner, Orlando*

### Public Administration Advisory Board

- Dean E. Sprague (Board Chair)**  
*City Manager, Maitland*
- Peter Colby**  
*Professor, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Marilyn Crotty**  
*Director, Florida Institute of Government at UCF*
- The Honorable Bill Cowles**  
*Supervisor of Elections, Orange County*
- Janet Davis**  
*Human Resources Director, Seminole County*
- J. Michael Deal**  
*Deputy Chief, Altamonte Springs Police Dept.*
- Sharon Donoghue**  
*Deputy County Administrator, Orange County*
- Mary Ann Feldheim**  
*Chair, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Lee Feldman**  
*City Manager, Palm Bay*
- Nate Groover**  
*Director of Public Policy, Orlando*
- Tom Harmer**  
*Senior Director of Public/Private Projects, Pizzuti Solutions, LLC*
- Al Hill**  
*Instructor, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Linda Jennings**  
*Senior Consultant, R.W. Beck, Inc.*
- Fred Kittinger**  
*Associate Vice President for University Relations and Director of State and Local Governmental Affairs, UCF*
- Ronnie Korosec**  
*Associate Professor, Dept. of Public Administration, UCF*
- Pedro Leon, AICP**  
*Business Manager, Economic Development, Daytona Beach Intl. Airport*
- Shannon Lewis**  
*Assistant City Manager, Port Orange*
- Barbara Lipscomb**  
*City Manager, Casselberry*
- Ken Parker**  
*City Manager, Port Orange*
- Sally Sherman**  
*Assistant City Manager, Deltona*
- Manuel D. Soto**  
*City Emergency Manager, Orlando*
- Dean Stites**  
*Manager of Orange County Growth, Management Dept., Orange County*
- Tad Stone**  
*Public Safety Director, Sanford*
- Christopher R. Testerman**  
*Director of Government Relations, Orlando*
- Howard Tipton**  
*Chief Administrative Officer, Orange County Circuit and County Court*

## Events

### PI ALPHA ALPHA HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION



At the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society induction ceremony, from left: Howard Tipton, Donna Walsh, Maria-Elena Augustin, Tom Harmer and Mary Ann Feldheim

At the Second Annual Public Administration Conference in March 2008 (see p.10), two graduate students and one alumnus honoree were inducted into the Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society. Department Chair Mary Ann Feldheim and Howard Tipton presented them with their certificates of membership. Tipton is a member of the college's Dean's Advisory Council and chief administrative officer of the Clerk of the Court, Orlando, Fla.

Those inducted included students Donna Walsh and Maria-Elena Augustin and alumnus Tom Harmer ('01). Harmer also received an honorary membership.

Others inducted who were not present to receive certificates at the conference included Valerie Kostrzewa, Christy Layton, Amanda Marie Ferek, Douglas David deLeon, Hope Elizabeth Hicka, Jason Lawrence Ricker, Jolene Shaffer and Irma Flores.

### SIXTH ANNUAL PUBLIC SERVICE SHOWCASE

In fall 2007, the student Organization for Public Administration hosted its annual career fair, and for the first time, the event was open to students from all departments in the College of Health and Public Affairs.

More than 175 students attended the event at the Pegasus Ballroom in the Student Union on the Orlando campus, where some 50 representatives from public and nonprofit organizations shared career, internship and job opportunities available to students.

"This was an outstanding event that was beneficial for both students and the community," said Mary Ann Feldheim, chair of the Department of Public Administration. "Many students came in professional attire with resumes, taking advantage of meeting with potential employers and internship partners."



The event was sponsored in large part by the cities of Oviedo and Casselberry. For a list of registered participants, visit [www.cohpa.ucf.edu/documents/PublicServiceCareerShowcase07.pdf](http://www.cohpa.ucf.edu/documents/PublicServiceCareerShowcase07.pdf).

A Seventh Annual Public Service Showcase is planned for Nov. 6, 2008.



## STUDENT TRIP TO TALLAHASSEE

In February 2008, several students from the Organization for Public Administration accompanied Assistant Professor Thomas Bryer and Instructor Matthew Collins to Tallahassee for three days, during which students met several officials and saw the Florida State Legislature in action.



(Left to right) Students Mel Lopez, Amelia Johnson and Tessah Ivey; Instructor Matthew Collins; Assistant Professor Thomas Bryer; student Steven Sukow; Representative Dorothy Hukill; and students Brittany Lane and Jeremy O'Dell

Representative Dorothy Hukill held a press conference and introduced a bill entitled "Vox Populi: The Voice of the People Act." This act requires all local governments to set aside at least 15 minutes at the start of every meeting for public comment on any issue. The students also met Attorney General Bill McCollum, Representative Dean Cannon, Senator Lee Constantine and Florida League of Cities Director Mike Sittig.

While there, Bryer gave a presentation entitled "Public Participation with Government: A Research Agenda" to faculty members and students from Florida State University.

Student Mel Lopez said, "Not too many people get the opportunity to actually sit down with government officials and discuss issues that affect our way of living."

Student Steve Sukow said that the experience "made the things I am studying in class become real." In an e-mail, he went on to note the following: "I just liked getting a glimpse of who my state representatives actually are and what they do. It was really a pleasure to have that opportunity with them. I would recommend the trip to anyone interested in a field of study related to it." Senator Mike Haridopolos answered Sukow's questions about Amendment 1, which passed in Florida in February of 2008.

Students like Lopez and Sukow had opportunities to ask such questions about current and recent legislation and take a glimpse at how the Florida state Legislature operates.

## ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS *Events and Activities*

The Association of Fundraising Professionals' University of Central Florida Collegiate Chapter had an exciting second year as a registered student organization thanks to the chapter's active membership, events and philanthropy.

The AFP chapter at UCF hosted a fund-raising event last fall at the Ten Thousand Villages store in Winter Park, Fla.



The year started off with an extremely successful fund-raising seminar for all student organizations at UCF named "Fundraising: Beyond the Bake Sale." The seminar was presented by fund-raising professionals Lisa Blackwelder from the BETA Center and Karen Revels from the Jewish Community Center. Students were offered tips on how to bring in larger profits by working smarter, not harder.

Student members also benefited from the guidance and networking opportunities provided by the AFP chapter by participating in monthly chapter meetings. Additionally, professionals from the nonprofit sector volunteered their time and expertise at the meetings. Interactions also included conference opportunities

and the nationally recognized National Philanthropy Day.

AFP has seen a reciprocal relationship this year between itself and Central Florida nonprofit organizations, including Winter Park's own Ten Thousand Villages, which is one of the oldest and largest fair-trade organizations in the world. In November 2007, the AFP chapter hosted a private shopping night highlighting "Entrepreneurial Spirit around the World." The event raised money for both the AFP chapter and Third World artisans.

AFP begins its third year at UCF this fall and is expected to grow with further student participation and community outreach.

## Alumni

### NEW PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ALUMNI CHAPTER AND WEB SITE

The new Public Administration Alumni Chapter of the UCF Alumni Association met for the first time in August 2007. Since then, the chapter has grown to include a core of members interested in sharing their interests in public administration with the UCF community and greater Orlando area.

This year's activities have included a kick-off picnic in August 2007 and a "meet-and-greet" at The Clubhouse Bar and Grill in downtown Orlando. The chapter usually meets monthly, and interested alumni are encouraged to join and participate in events, even if they cannot attend all meetings. Please visit the chapter's Web page at [www.ucfalumni.com](http://www.ucfalumni.com) for a list of upcoming meetings and events.

The major initiative for 2008 is to start a speaker's bureau in which public administration alumni will speak to interested classes offered by departments at UCF. Because the degrees offered within public administration are so diverse, speakers can meet the needs of UCF students from various disciplines around campus. For example, an alumnus/a from government finance might speak to a business class, or someone who works in disaster management might speak to an engineering class.

There are more social and networking opportunities to come later this year. The chapter is looking for alumni who are interested in making an impact on UCF and the greater community and who are interested in building an organization to be proud of for years to come.

For information, please visit [www.ucfalumni.com](http://www.ucfalumni.com) or call Katie Korkosz, assistant director of development and alumni relations, at 407-823-1600.



The Public Administration Alumni Chapter celebrated a new year with AlumKnight Out at The Clubhouse Bar and Grill. From left are Katie Korkosz ('04, '06), Todd Korkosz ('04, '06), Kevin Lenhart ('99, '01), Andrea Conklin, Spencer Hawkins ('02), Nate Groover ('06), Christy Groover, Graciela Jacoby ('95), Carrie Miller ('96) and Alex Morales ('95).

#### On the Web

Visit the Public Administration Alumni Chapter online.

**From the Department of Public Administration's Web site:** Go to [www.cohpa.ucf.edu/pubadm](http://www.cohpa.ucf.edu/pubadm) and in the left menu select "Alumni" and then "Public Administration Alumni Chapter"

**From the UCF Alumni Association's Web site:** Go to [www.ucfalumni.com](http://www.ucfalumni.com) and in the left menu select "Chapters/Clubs," then "College Chapters/Clubs" and then "Public Administration Alumni Chapter"

#### Chapter Officers

The current Public Administration Alumni Chapter officers are:

**Chair** - Spencer Hawkins ('02)

**Chair-Elect** - Nate Groover ('06)

**Membership/Marketing** - Graciela Jacoby ('95)

**Communications** - Carrie Miller ('96)



Donna Mohney

Alumni listened to the Honorable Bill Cowles ('76) speak at the Alumni Picnic, held at Blanchard Park in Orlando in August 2007.



## CLASS NOTES

If you would like us to include your information in the next issue of Public Administration Focus, visit [www.cohpa.ucf.edu/alumni](http://www.cohpa.ucf.edu/alumni) and click on "Stay Connected." Below, degrees in **bold** were awarded by UCF.

**1979**

**Laurie Botts-Wright, B.A. degrees in public administration and interpersonal communication, M.P.A. ('98)**, has been the real estate division manager for the city of Orlando for more than eight years. She is a state-certified residential real estate appraiser and a licensed real estate broker with more than 25 years of experience in real estate sales, development, leasing, property management, marketing and analysis. She also assists the Economic Development Department with new development projects.

Laurie is active in the Orlando Regional Realtor Association and Central Florida Commercial Real Estate Society, a board member of Commercial Real Estate Women, and an associate member of the Appraisal Institute. Laurie is a native of Orlando and lives in College Park, Fla., with her two sons.

**Christine Neilson, B.A. in public administration, Florida Teacher Certification through College of Education ('99)**, worked with the Florida State Employment Service for a few years after graduation. She then worked in the private sector with government contractors. After several years with Harris Corporation and Lockheed Corporation at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., she returned to UCF where she earned her Florida Teacher Certification for social science 6-12 from the College of Education. She is now in her 11th year of teaching and currently teaches American history/geography at Holy Name of Jesus Middle School.

**1981**

**Brian Stokes, B.A. degrees in public administration and legal studies**, Juris Doctorate from University of Florida ('84), is a shareholder and partner of Unger Stokes Law Firm in Orlando, Fla. In 2006, he received the "Top Gun Award" from PoAssurance Corporation for trying the most cases of any single lawyer in one year. He has been selected for inclusion in the 2007 issue of *Florida Super Lawyers* by Florida Law and Politics, Inc., which selects only five percent of Florida attorneys for recognition.

**1992**

**Richard Gaylord, M.P.A.**, is a member of the criminal justice faculty at Florida Technical College. He retired from law enforcement at the rank of lieutenant after 20-plus years.

**1993**

**Angelo P. Cianfrocco, B.S. in business management ('85), M.P.A.**, works as a quality assurance technician and internal auditor for Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla. He works in the community as president of the Brevard Indian River Youth Bowling Association and a bronze-level coach for Youth Bowling.

**1995**

**Gina E. Dole, B.A. in political science 1993, M.P.A.**, is senior manager of employee relations for Orange County Public Schools in Orlando, Fla.

**Alex Morales, B.A. in public administration, M.P.A. ('98)**, works for Orange County Government as a financial administrator for the Fire Rescue Department. He married his wife, UCF alumna Adrienne ('96), in 1996, and they have two children: Aaron (6 years old), and Aleyna (4 years old). He is involved with Northland: A Church Distributed, in Oviedo, Fla.

(continued on p. 18)

## ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT: Bill Cowles



Courtesy UCF Alumni Association

The Honorable Bill Cowles accepted the Professional Achievement Award from the College of Health and Public Affairs at the 2007 UCF Black and Gold Gala.

At the UCF Alumni Association's Black and Gold Gala in November 2007, **Bill Cowles (B.A. in public administration, '76)**, Orange County's Supervisor of Elections, was honored with a Professional Achievement Award from the College of Health and Public Affairs. This award was presented that night as one of 15 from other UCF colleges and the UCF Alumni Association.

Cowles supervises the sixth largest county elections office in Florida. He also hosts a monthly show on Orange TV called *Elections and You, The Voter*, and he serves as president-elect of the International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers.

## Alumni (continued)

In April 2008, Alex spoke to UCF students about finance and budgeting in a class taught by public administration Instructor Matthew Collins. Alex described the experience as “truly enjoyable and rewarding.”

### 1996

**Matt Greeson, M.P.A.**, was appointed city manager of Worthington, Ohio, in October 2007. He worked for Volusia County since 1995, moving up the ranks from administrative assistant to deputy county manager in September 2006.

### 1997

**Jorge Figueredo, B.A. in radio-television ('80), M.P.A. ('97), Ph.D. in public affairs ('05)**, spent 16 years in the toll business before being named executive director of the North Texas Tollway Authority. Before this appointment in August 2007, he worked as the senior division manager for Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan, overseeing the company's toll-operations practice in the central United States. Prior to this, he was director of operations, communications and marketing for the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority from 1992–2004. Prior to that, he was director of public information and legislative affairs for Florida's Turnpike from 1991–1992.

### 1998

**Rick Cloutier, B.A. in public administration, M.B.A. ('08)**, is director of operations of the Melbourne Airport Authority. His combined fields of study in public administration and business fit well into the environment of the Melbourne International Airport, where he has been employed since July 1985. Rick has held many positions at the airport. He started as a janitor and progressed to director of operations/COO in 2005. In 1996, Rick earned state of Florida certification in general contracting, when he started a small, family construction company. Rick founded and became president of Moonstone Construction, Inc. Rick and

his wife, Tami, reside in Palm Bay, Fla., with their four children, John, Daphne, Rachael and AJ.

**Theresa Holleran, B.A. in psychology ('95), M.P.A.**, is a manager (pre-award OSP) at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Fla.

### 1999

**Pamela Brady, B.A. in public administration**, works for UCF as the director of student services for the Western/Central Regions in Clermont, Fla.

**Frank Wisner, B.A. in public administration, M.P.A. ('04), Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management ('04)**, is associate director for life sciences at UCF's Orlando campus.

### 2000

**Broc Rosser, M.P.A.**, is a director in the Office of the President of the Heart of Florida United Way in Orlando, Fla. Previously, he worked as a program manager for Orange County's Housing and Community Development Division.

### 2001

**Tom Harmer, M.P.A.**, is senior director of public/private projects for The Pizzuti Companies in Orlando, Fla. He retired as city manager for Titusville, Fla., in 2006, when he was also given the key to the city of Titusville, honored with the International City County Management Association's award for 25 years of service and named finalist for City Manager of the Year by the Florida League of Cities. He was an International City County Management Association Credentialed Manager from 2006–2008.

Since 2002, Tom has taught at UCF as an adjunct instructor in the Department of Public Administration. He was elected vice chair of the Public Administration Advisory Board in 2007. Also in 2007, he was appointed volunteer state coordinator for Disaster Response by the Florida City

## 2006



**Jackie Houck, M.N.M. ('06)** (left), took the position of executive director at the Lake Eustis Museum of Art in Eustis, Fla., in January 2008. Prior to that, she worked as director of education and events for the museum.

In addition, Vanessa Soler, B.A. in art history ('06), took Houck's previous position as director of education and events for the museum.

Both women are thrilled to have reached their “dream positions” so soon after graduation and at such young ages. Houck is now 29 years of age, and Soler is 23. They have ambitions to make the museum cutting-edge and atypical.

County Management Association and elected an honorable lifetime member of the Space Coast Public Management Association.

### 2002

**James Smith, Jr., B.S. in general business ('95), M.P.A.**, is the coordinator of academic support services for the UCF Southern Region Student Services Office in Brevard County, Fla. He is a member of the Space Coast UCF Alumni Chapter. In 2003, he married Pam Bennett, a Florida Technological University (former name of UCF) graduate ('75). He is also a member of the Rockledge Church of the Nazarene Music Ministry and the Promise Keepers. This year, he is starting a DJ business called Righteous Rhythms Entertainment LLC.

### 2003

**Sharonda Burr, B.A. in communicative disorders ('99), M.P.A.**, is a student



## Report of Gifts

development specialist at Brevard Community College in Cocoa, Fla. She was one of 15 chosen, nationwide, to attend the National Council on Student Development in Savannah, Ga., where she earned a certificate for her participation in and completion of the National Council on Student Development Community College Student Services Leadership Institute.

### 2004

**Carrie Miller, B.S. in criminal justice ('96), M.P.A.**, is director of procurement for the Orlando-Orange County Expressway Authority.

**Marlon Villatoro, B.A. in public administration, M.S. in criminal justice ('05)**, is a ship's clerk in the U.S. Navy.

### 2005

**LaToya Dowdell, M.P.A.**, is director of campus and student relations, Alumni Affairs Department, at the University of South Florida.

**Brandy Driggers, B.A. in public administration with a minor in criminal justice, M.P.A. ('07), Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning ('07)**, is senior planner for Orange County Government.

**Rory Foster, B.S. in criminal justice ('01), M.P.A.**, is an executive officer of the 584th Maintenance Company of the U.S. Army. He is stationed in Fort Campbell, Ky., and he recently set up a reading campaign in Iraq as a historical and cultural exchange program for Iraqi/American citizens.

### 2006

**Angela Knowlton, B.A. in English ('04), M.P.A.**, is a grant manager for Orlando Regional Healthcare.

**Lauren Murphy, B.S. in public administration**, works as a senior secretary at UCF's Orlando campus. She

is also a graduate student in the M.P.A program at UCF and expects to graduate in fall 2008.

**Rebecca Reis, B.A. in political science ('02), M.P.A.**, was hired as director of marketing for Global Green Alliance, Inc., in Altamonte Springs, Fla., where she recently prepared for Green Earth Expo 2008, held at the Orange County Convention Center in May.

### 2007

**Leo Cruz, M.P.A.**, has been a planner for the city of Orlando since February 2007. Previously, he worked as a planner for the city of Sanford.

**Katherine McKinney, M.P.A., Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management**, recently began a new job as a management analyst for the state of Washington in the Division of Developmental Disabilities. She and her husband, Rob, moved to Seattle and both found excellent jobs in their respective fields.

**Nicole Momot, B.S. in public administration**, is a real-estate appraiser for Calhoun, Dreggors and Associates in Orlando, Fla.

*Donations to the department from May 1, 2007 – April 30, 2008*

### President's Circle Contributor Annual giving of \$2,500 to \$4,999 ALUMNI

Peter W. and Susan R. Colby ('88)

### President's Circle Associates Annual giving of \$1,000 to \$2,499 FRIENDS

Mary Ann Feldheim  
Naim Kapucu

### Pegasus Circle Partners Annual giving of \$500 to \$999 FRIENDS

Gary H. Gotwalt, Sr. ('80)

### Pegasus Circle Friends Annual giving of \$100 to \$249 ALUMNI

Timothy W. Brown ('80)  
Rico L. Brown ('97)  
Jean C. Correa ('06)  
Von R. Laudermilch ('90)

### FRIENDS

Ronnie Korosec  
Wendell C. and Lucinda P. Lawther  
Kuotsai T. Liou  
XiaoHu Wang

### Other Gifts

#### Up to \$99

#### ALUMNI

April R. Bennett ('88)  
Chad C. Binette ('06)  
John L. Gonyer ('98)  
Brenda A. Posey ('93)  
Lisa L. Springer-Reiswig ('96)  
Craig Varnadore ('89)  
S. Anne-Marie Wolff ('03)

#### FRIENDS

Donna P. Mohney  
Jacque Waleski

*These names were compiled as of April 30, 2008. If you have made a contribution and your name has been inadvertently omitted, we apologize. Please contact us at 407-823-1270 so we can report your gift in our next publication.*

*To learn more about giving to the department, please call Ms. Katie Korkosz at 407-882-1600.*

*The university, college and department appreciate all of your generous financial contributions.*

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

### Degree Programs

- B.A. in Public Administration
- B.S. in Public Administration
- Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.)
- Master of Nonprofit Management (M.N.M.)\*
- Ph.D. in Public Affairs

### Undergraduate Minors

- American Humanics
- Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Public Administration
- Urban and Regional Planning

### Undergraduate Certificates

- Nonprofit Management
- Public Administration

### Graduate Certificates

- Emergency Management and Homeland Security
- Nonprofit Management\*
- Public Administration
- Urban and Regional Planning

\*Offered completely online

## DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Doctoral Program in Public Affairs is an innovative program drawing from four discipline areas: criminal justice, health, public administration and social work.

Department of Public Administration faculty members teach and mentor doctoral students. They also collaborate with doctoral students to write grants and serve as doctoral dissertation committee chairs and members.

## FOR COMMENTS, QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION:

### PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FOCUS

Department of Public Administration  
College of Health and Public Affairs  
University of Central Florida

P.O. Box 161395  
Orlando, FL 32816-1395  
407-823-2604  
[www.cohpa.ucf.edu/pubadm](http://www.cohpa.ucf.edu/pubadm)

### Department of Public Administration

Mary Ann Feldheim, Ph.D.  
*Chair and Associate Professor*

### College of Health and Public Affairs

Joyce Dörner, M.S.  
*Interim Dean*

Carlee Thomas, M.A.  
*Director of Development*

Katie Korkosz, M.S.  
*Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Relations*

### PUBLICATION PRODUCTION

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