

News and Views

Volume XVII, Issue 1, Spring 2017

*For Alumni, Students, Associates and Friends of FSHN
IFAS, College of Agricultural & Life Sciences, University of Florida*



**Sean Dorsey (BS' 17 Nutritional Sciences)
with Dean Elaine Turner**



Above: Dietetics 2017 Graduating Class; Below: Food Science College Bowl Team in Clemson, SC



Herschel Johnson & Jenna Grogan at IFT17

Inside This Issue... Alumni & Friends (p. 2-3); Department Activities (p. 4-5) Student Recognition (p. 5); Faculty Recognition (p.6-7), Giving Back, Contact Info, & Important Dates (p. 7)

Alumni & Friends



In June, the FSHN Department packed their bags and headed to Las Vegas for the IFT Expo. At Booth #2535, we connected with industry partners, alumni, and prospective graduate students. The Las Vegas Gator Club welcomed us with open arms to Miller's Ale House, and we co-hosted the annual Florida Party with FL Section IFT. During the party, we had a great time watching the Gator Baseball team win the first game of the national championship series. As always, thanks to everyone who stopped by and supported the department. Overall, the trip was productive for faculty & students. We look forward to #IFT18 in Chicago.

L to R: Samantha Amos and Jamie Klaben (BS '15, MS '17, Food Science) celebrate their new jobs at Griffith Foods & Kelloggs respectively



Food science graduates enjoy the FL Party! *Top Left: T. Winniczuk (BS '09), L. Martinez (BS '05, MS '07) and C. Soriano (BS '13, MS '16); Top Right: T. Pham (BS '02) and A. Matheus (BS '11, MS '14)*

#IFT17



The FSHN Department supported Florida Section IFT's annual Supplier's Night in February, along with the annual Golf Outing (see photos above). Twenty students traveled to Orlando to assist with the events and network with the industry. The 2017 Supplier's Night was the most successful yet - largely due to **Luis Martinez (BS '05, MS '07)**, who organizes the event. Congrats on his success and congrats on the recent addition to his family (**Mia Valentina Martinez**, born on July 17, 2017). See photos right.



Congratulations, Yael Spektor!

BS '07 Food Science, MS '09 Food Science & Human Nutrition
 UF/IFAS CALS Alumni & Friends Horizon Award
 2017 Award Recipient at the UF/IFAS Dinner of Distinction





Dr. Thabile Precious Nkambule

MS '08, Food Science & Human Nutrition

Top Left: **Thabile Precious Nkambule** recently graduated with a Ph.D. in Food Science from The University of Nottingham, United Kingdom. Dr. Nkambule earned her MS in FSHN with **Dr. Simonne** as her major professor in 2008. After her graduation from UF, she briefly worked in a food industry, and subsequently, became a lecturer at the [University of Swaziland Faculty of Agriculture](#). In 2012, she received a fellowship to continue her Ph.D. study at the University of Nottingham. She plans to return to her teaching position at the University of Swaziland after her graduation. More details about **Dr. Nkambule's** background are available on this [website](#).



Jenna Seckar has accepted an offer as a Clinical Dietitian at UF Health/Shands.

Congratulations, DPD Class of 2017!

All UF students who applied for a Dietetics Internship were matched successfully! **100 percent match rate!** Students will attend institutions including UF, Appalachian State, Meredith College, University of Georgia and Virginia Tech (to name a few). We are so proud of our students and our faculty.

Congratulations, Jenna Seckar!

(BS '15 Dietetics, MS-DI '17)

2017 FAND/AND Outstanding Dietetics Student Award

Grad News

We are so proud of the Spring 2017 graduating class. Here are just a few examples of their great success: Several students have been accepted into the UF College of Dentistry, including **Garrett Crawford, Jonathan Lucas, and Brooke Denton** (BS'17 Nutritional Sciences). **Dorie Josma** (BS '17 Nutritional Sciences) will attend Emory University for an MPH (specializing in Global Health - Community Health and Education). Many students will stay in the department to pursue graduate coursework. **Bruna Bertoldi, Grayson Clark, Amy Jones, Jessica Lee, Sara Nishku, Jessica Rossi, and Dalton Townsend** will pursue graduate degrees in Food Science. **Lacey Mead** will pursue a Master's degree in Nutritional Sciences. **Christina Bracey, Abigail Cartledge, Kelsey Gemmill, and Michelle Yavelow** were accepted into the MS-DI program. Furthermore, we continue to hear exciting news from former students as well. **Divya Reddy** (BS '16 Nutritional Sciences) will attend Berkeley Optometry School in the Fall. **Jennifer Loso** (BS '16 Nutritional Sciences) will begin her studies in the UF College of Medicine. Please share your news by emailing [Herschel](#) or [Jenna](#).

Department Activities



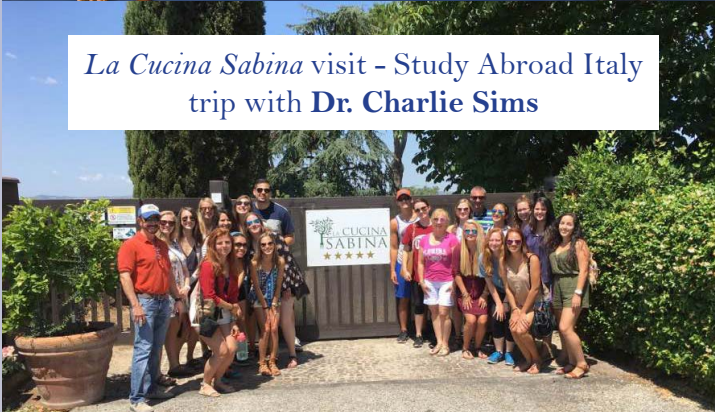
Spring '17 Graduates



Dietetics Seniors at Golf Outing



L to R: Dr. Amanda Ford & Dr. Brittany Xu



La Cucina Sabina visit - Study Abroad Italy trip with Dr. Charlie Sims



FSHN Outstanding Senior Award winners from L to R: Dr. von Castel, Jessica Lee (Food Science), Becky Gould (Dietetics), Steven Svoboda (Nutritional Sciences) and Dr. Percival



Michelin Star Restaurant - Study Abroad France trip with Dr. Gail Kauwell



L to R: Esther Olosoji, winner of the Larry J. Connor Medal of Excellence, with Dee Ann S. Connor and Dean Turner



L to R: Victor Chan & Becky Gould as nominees for the J. Wayne Reitz Medal of Excellence - Outstanding Senior Award



Pete Chiarelli at Supplier's Night



L to R: Clayton Ford and Dean Turner as a nominee for the CALS Alumni & Friends Leadership Award



#SomethingsBrewing



Construction has begun on the south end of the Food Science and Human Nutrition's Pilot Plant. During the demolition phase, the cage and outdated equipment were removed and utilities reconfigured. Other equipment has been taken out to the newly renovated warehouse (Thanks, **Chris Nieves!**) See photo *above left*. Plans include leveling the floor, replacing the retort and kettles, and putting all equipment on wheels (Thanks, again, **Chris!**). The space will allow us to build a brewery with a gorgeous stainless steel fermenter and a mash tun. See photo *above right*. Construction is expected to be completed by mid-September, but don't look for any beer for a few months. It needs to ferment, get bottled and be allowed to finish. Must be 21 or older. Follow the renovations on our [Twitter](#) account with hashtag #SomethingsBrewing. Cheers!

Student Recognition



L to R: Michelle Yavelow (BS '16, Nutritional Sciences, post-bac Dietetics '17) and **Gabriella Alvarez** (BS '17, Nutritional Sciences) were awarded the *Champions for Change Awards* by the Office of Sustainability and Healthy Gators. They were the only students recognized for this distinction. These awards honor individuals or groups in the UF community who have made significant contributions in the areas of sustainability and health during their time at UF. Both **Michelle** and **Gabriella** were recognized for their contributions in Health & Well-Being. **Michelle's** active involvement with STRIVE, Streetlight, and Bread of the Mighty Food Bank earned her the award. Gabriella participated in several initiatives and research projects that promoted healthy living, stress management, and positive body image. Congratulations to them!

Faculty & Staff Recognition



L to R: Dr. Percival, Dr. Mathews, and Dean Turner



Dr. Anne Mathews, RDN

CALS Undergraduate Teacher of the Year

Dr. Anne Mathews has been an Assistant Professor since 2011 (although she started as a Research Scientist in 2008). She teaches, advises, and mentors both undergraduate and graduate Nutritional Sciences and Dietetics students and manages an active research program. Both her courses and research focus on nutrition therapy and other lifestyle strategies for preventing and managing chronic diseases. **Dr. Mathews** believes teaching nutrition must be individualized since a person's diet is closely tied to their health, personal tastes, family, culture, and core values. She maintains a similar philosophy in the classroom, and she incorporates new methods to make course content relevant. With her positive student reputation, FSHN is lucky to have her! Congratulations!



Laura with son, Jarod, at award ceremony

Laura Acosta, RDN, CSSD, LDN

FL Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year

Laura Acosta (BS '05 Dietetics, MS-DI '07), a Lecturer in FSHN since 2014, received the *FL Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year* award, which recognizes the competence and activities of younger dietitians in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. **Laura's** interests include fitness/wellness, sports nutrition, medical nutrition therapy, and nutrition counseling. In conjunction with her outside professional experiences, Laura is a vital asset to the department and her students. She recently served as President of the Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (GAND), a local district of the Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Clinical Nutrition (DCN) at Rutgers University. Congrats!

Julie Barber

UF Superior Accomplishment Award

Julie Barber, Administrative Assistant to the Department Chair, has worked in FSHN since 1987. She recently won the *Jeffrey A. Gabor Employee Recognition Award*, which is included in the *Superior Accomplishment Awards* program. These awards recognize staff members who contribute to the quality of life of students and employees - in addition to providing outstanding and meritorious service. With her friendly nature and helpful attitude, Julie is a valuable resource for everyone's questions in the department. Congrats!



L to R: Julie and Dr. Gail Kauwell (nominator)
Photo Credit: UF/IFAS

Welcome, Dr. da Silva & Dr. MacIntosh!

In July, **Dr. Andrew MacIntosh** (*Bottom Right*) joined the Food Science faculty with a background in food engineering. Known as the “beer whisperer” in Nova Scotia, **Dr. MacIntosh** is a leading expert on fermentation. At Dalhousie University, he was a member of the Canadian Institute of Fermentation Technology, which supports the brewing, distilling, and wine industries. The Institute provides scientific analysis of products and recommends methods to improve production. Much of his research is focused within the brewing and fermentation industries. He even tested beer from a 125-year old bottle, which was found at the bottom of Halifax Harbour, from one of Canada’s oldest breweries! **Dr. MacIntosh** will conduct similar research in our department (*see Pilot Plant article on p.5*), and he is excited to start teaching in the Fall!



Top Left: **Dr. Robin da Silva** joined the Nutritional Sciences faculty in January from University of Alberta in Edmonton. His research interests include macronutrient metabolism, Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD), Diabetes, Metabolic syndrome, inflammation, and immune function. In his new role, he will teach both undergraduate and graduate students. Welcome!

How Can I Give Back?

Donations can be used to support students (i.e., updates to Pilot Plant facilities, travel to conferences, assistantships, and scholarships), purchase updated equipment, and provide important resources. You can give online or send a check that is made out to U of FL-SHARE. The check should be mailed with attention to **Dr. Susan Percival** at the following address: PO Box 110370, Gainesville, FL 32611. *Right:* **Dr. Huy Huynh**, a graduate of the FSHN department, recently lost his life to a two year battle with brain cancer. His family created the *Huy D. Huynh Endowment Scholarship Fund* in his memory. The scholarship will support students with the same dream: to earn a degree from the UF College of Dentistry. **Huy** will be missed by all.

In Memoriam of Dr. Huy Huynh

(BS '07 Nutritional Sciences, MS '09 Food Science & Human Nutrition, DMD '13)



Photo Credit: Independent Florida Alligator

SAVE THE DATES!

Sept 16: FSHN Alumni Tailgate
Feb 22: Supplier's Night
July 15-18: IFT in Chicago

CONTACT US!

Dr. Susan Percival, Department Chair
Herschel Johnson, Academic Adviser
Jenna Grogan, Academic Adviser



Interested In The Upcoming Department Events? Connect with us!



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