

*Dietetics
 Grads '15*



*Marjanie
 Kinney*



*Dr. Sarnoski and
 Dr. Mathews*



*Jurate Lukosaityte and
 Dr. Brendemuhl*

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END OF AN ERA:

A FOND FAREWELL TO JANNA UNDERHILL



In December 2014, an era ended for the FSHN Department. After earning her PhD in Research & Evaluation Methodology, Adviser **Dr. Janna Underhill** transitioned to Director of Advising Services in the College of Engineering after almost two decades. **Janna** said, “*FSHN was like a second home to me. I learned a great deal from the amazing faculty, got to interact with gracious alumni and industry partners and was privileged to advise thousands of outstanding students. Some of my fondest memories include working closely with the FSHN club, representing FSHN at IFT and EB events, driving college bowl teams to competitions, celebrating my student’s accomplishments and on occasion, seeing an RD eat a donut. But overall the best part is that I met some truly fantastic people, many of whom will be lifelong friends.*” Program Assistant **Mindy Edwards** said, “*Janna was a treasure for FSHN. By her side, I learned a lot and laughed a lot too. Her devotion and hard work, on behalf of our students, will always be remembered.*”

SENTIMENTS OF DR. SUSAN PERCIVAL, DEPT CHAIR

I worked with **Janna** in many capacities over her 18 years with the FSHN department; I was faculty adviser, the Undergraduate Coordinator and about three years ago, I became Chair. “That’s it,” **Janna** said, “I can’t take this any longer. She’s not going to be the boss of me!” And she left us for the engineers. I hope those engineers are ready—because, look out, here comes **Janna**! Seriously, **Janna** was arguably the best advisor in CALS during her time here with FSHN. She had the best interest of the students at heart. If they were supposed to be responsible, she helped them see where their responsibility was. When they cried, she sent them to maternal **Mindy**. Students transferring to FSHN from other majors always commented on the high quality of advising we had in FSHN. She was the driving force behind establishing a relationship with a local company and was an outstanding liaison with the Florida Section IFT. **Janna**, we are so pleased that you got a new and exciting position with COE, but we miss you here at FSHN. *(continued on page 8)*

START OF AN ERA:

WELCOME, HERSCHEL JOHNSON & JENNA GROGAN

With the recent departure of long time Student Services Adviser **Dr. Janna Underhill** and her advising partner, two FSHN Student Services positions were in limbo for the better part of the Spring 2015 semester. New advisers **Herschel Johnson** and **Jenna Grogan** joined the department to carry the torch. **Jenna**, a UF graduate (BA, Education—2008) recently returned to her home state and Gator Nation. After earning her Master’s Degree (MEd, Higher Education—2010) from the University of South Carolina, **Jenna** worked in advising services for the past five years in the Northeast.



Two years ago, **Herschel Johnson** joined the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at UF to advise students in the CALS Biology program before moving over to support the FSHN department. **Herschel** came to UF with more than a decade of advising experience in the state of Florida having started his career at Santa Fe College in 2000. Most recently moving from the State College of Florida in Bradenton, **Herschel** is happy to return to Gainesville where he grew up attending P.K. Yonge School. **Jenna** and **Herschel** join **Mindy Edwards** to develop the new face of Advising Services for FSHN at UF.

ALUMNI PROFILES

DR. CHRISTINE M. PFEIFFER (POST DOC '95-97)

Christine Pfeiffer, PhD is the Chief of the Nutritional Biomarkers Branch in the Division of Lab Sciences at the CDC's National Center for Environmental Health. She directs their nutritional biochemistry lab that is responsible for all analytical work in the NHANES program. She is the leading expert on folate and B-Vitamin methodologies and on the assessment/interpretation of nutritional status through biomarkers. She also authored over 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts and led the production of two major agency reports on nutritional biomarkers in NHANES.



YVON ETIENNE (BS '08 FOOD SCIENCE)

Yvon Etienne, MBA earned a BS in Food Science from UF and decided to give back to his community through a non-profit endeavor. With the completion of his MBA (FIU '12), **Yvon** co-founded [E&Y Educational Services Inc.](#), in July 2014. Located in Coral Springs, FL, E&Y strives to close the achievement gap in underserved communities while reducing foodborne illnesses in the public school system through safety training and proper food inspection. As a non-profit organization, E&Y welcomes contributions that claim tax credits for supporting 501 (C) (3).



DR. LISA MARIE ROGERS (MS '96 NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES)



Lisa Rogers, PhD is a technical officer for the Department of Nutrition for Health and Development, World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. She has been working in WHO since 2006. She is primarily responsible for coordinating mechanistic studies on neonatal vitamin A supplementation, maintaining the WHO Vitamin and Mineral Nutrition Information System, and coordinating the completion of evidence reviews and guideline groups to inform vitamin and mineral intervention guidelines. Previously, she worked in the Department of Pediatrics, Mattel Children's Hospital, University of California, Los Angeles as a Research Assistant. She holds a PhD in Nutrition with a designated emphasis in International Nutrition from the University of California, Davis. Her work included research in Guatemala investigating the causes of vitamin B12 deficiency

in children, and laboratory research involving the optimization of an immunological assay for holotranscobalamin II and the analysis of methylmalonic acid, homocysteine, vitamin B12 and folate. She received a MS in Nutritional Sciences from UF, where she conducted research involving the bioavailability of stable isotopically labelled folic acid added to cereal-grain products, and conducted several human subject studies. She is a member of the American Society for Nutrition and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

FACULTY MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR ALUMNI

Dr. Bobbi Langkamp-Henken received a beautiful letter from **Dr. Bobby Howarth**, a graduate of the Dietetics program in 1997. In the letter, **Dr. Howarth** acknowledges **Dr. Henken's** influence on his personal journey and emphasizes her importance in the lives of all students. A section of the letter is below.



"I wanted to reach out to you to thank you for a letter of recommendation you did for me 10 years ago or so...I still remember talking to you that day in 2003 and you calling me an "average student at UF". I suppose I was an average student back then, and your comments were certainly warranted. Nonetheless, I always favored you when I was a student, I appreciated your teaching style and even your eventual candid comments to me back in 2003. I'm not sure when my academic drive started, but I can't help & think back to that moment when we had our conversation. As I try to create drive in my own kids these days, I realize that having professors like you in their life will help them succeed. I want to thank for the LOR, but more importantly want to thank you for awakening my potential. I presume that you haven't given me a thought in the past 10 years but I hope you realize that your success as a teacher is reflected in my life as I am sure in many others..."

WILLIAM (BOBBY) R. HOWARTH, MD, MAJ, USAF

Dr. Howarth graduated from UF in 1997—although he admits to poor academic performance and several major changes before finally appreciating the value of education, mentorship, and professorship. He entered the military in April 1998 and in the same year, entered flight training. He graduated #1 in his class. He was deployed several months after 9/11, flying more than 200 combat hours. After returning from Afghanistan, his first daughter was born, and his life changed. He met an orthopedic surgeon that flew on one of his combat missions and ultimately, introduced him to the operating room. At this time, he finally found his life's purpose. He stopped his MBA classes and decided to attend medical school, which was difficult due to his early performance at UF. He attended the Uniformed Services University of Medical Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland in 2004. With driven focus, he completed medical school with all A grades and one B grade, along with every possible academic award that could be earned. After medical school, he was selected into the orthopedic program at Wilford Hall Medical Center, and he graduated in 2013 with more logged surgical cases than any other resident in a decade. He was hand-selected to fill a position at the Air Force Academy as a team physician after a year as the preparatory school team physician. Deployed to Afghanistan for another six months, he returned to the US several months ago, and currently works at the US Air Force Academy. He is the proud dad of four daughters.



IN THE NEWS...

Sonia Hudson (BS '09 Food Science & MS '11 Nutritional Sciences) supported **Peter Ter** on his journey from the challenges of Sudan to the successes associated with the completion of a UF degree. The inspirational story was featured in the May '14 edition of [Reader's Digest](#). In the article's photo, **Sonia** is the second person from the right.

THE GATOR NATION (& OUR FSHN GRADS) ARE EVERYWHERE...

Dr. Masi Rajabi (PhD '05, FSHN) works at Nanotherapeutics, Inc. **Dr. April Elston** (PhD '05, FSHN) works at Beam Suntory. **Mark Walsh** (MS '95, FSHN) is VP of Global Citrus Platform at Takasago.

Mike Hubbard (BS '08, Biological Engineering; MS '12, Food Science) was recently recognized by the American Society for Quality as an ASQ Certified Six Sigma Black Belt.

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Several FSHN faculty members were recognized at the 8th Annual UF/IFAS Florida Agricultural Experiment Station Awards Ceremony on May 19th, 2015 at the Samuel P. Harn Museum. A complete list of winners is available at this [website](#). *Center: Dr. Susan Percival with new UF President, Dr. Ken Fuchs; Top Left: Dr. Liwei Gu (2014 Early Career Scientists Poster Session Presenter); Top Right: Dr. Michelle Danyluk (UF Research Foundation Professor) & Dr. Michael Rogers (Interim Center Director of CREC)*

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. KARLA SHELNUTT!

(BS '97, DIETETICS; MS '00;
PHD '03, NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES)

**Winner of the
NACTA Educator Award
& the Jack Everly Journal Award!**

Karla Shelnutt, PhD a Gator alumna from the FSHN Department, is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Family Youth & Community Sciences. **Dr. Shelnutt** works closely with the first-year students in the MS-DI program as part of their Nutrition Education & Wellness concentration.



CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. WENDY DAHL!

She was granted tenure
and promoted to
Associate Professor!

CONGRATULATIONS, TO DR. MITCH KNUTSON!

He was promoted to
Full Professor!



FSHN STUDENT RECOGNITION NIGHT

with FLORIDA SECTION INSTITUTE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGISTS



Daniel Clark, Food Science (R)
with **Sandy Sanders** (L):
*Albert J. "Sandy" Sanders
Scholarship*



Kelly Brown, Food Science (R)
with **Dr. Bob Bates** (L):
*Robert P. Bates
Graduate Scholarship*



Staci Belcher, Dietetics (L)
with **Dr. Kristina
von Castel-Roberts** (R)
Outstanding Senior



Michelle Russin, Food Science
*Howard Appledorf
Memorial Scholarship*



Abigail Gruspe, Food Science
*Eugene E. Woodward
Memorial Scholarship*



Alexa Podolsky, Food Science (R)
with **Dr. Ron Schmidt** (L)
*Florida Dairy Products
Association Scholarship*



Samantha Cekic, (L) and **Kristina
Underthun**, (R), Food Science
*William L. and Agnes F. Brown
Graduate Scholarship*



Yaozhou Zhu, Food Science (L)
with **Dr. Gillian Folkes Dagan** (R)
Innovation Award



Marvin Aboutiolas,
USF Master's student
Florida IFT Travel Grant



Lu Zhao, Food Science (L)
with **Dr. Gillian Folkes Dagan** (R)
Innovation Award



Reema Kola, **Jordan Wallace**, **Steven Che**, **Sharen
Jean-Baptiste**, **Noah Adone** & **Marjanie Kinney** (L to R)
Earl Wilmot Hartt Scholarship



Haiyan Liu (L), **Dr. Kristina von Castel-Roberts** (C), &
Dr. Michelle Danyluk (R) (for **Pardeppinder Brar**)
Bob Olson Graduate Scholarship

FSHN STUDENT TALENT RECOGNIZED

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Scholarship & Leadership Awards Banquet



Jimmy G. Cheek Graduate Student
Medal of Excellence Winner
Amanda Ford (Nutritional Sciences)
with **Dr. Sue Percival**

With 23 majors and over 4000 students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, there are many talented students who deserve recognition for their academics and activities. However, at this year's CALS Scholarship and Leadership Awards Banquet, one department—Food Science & Human Nutrition—stole the show. As the Department Chair and representative, **Dr. Susan Percival** got her exercise with multiple trips to the stage for each FSHN student who won an award. She reflected on their success with great pride, stating, *“Our students are indeed some of the most talented in the College. We also appreciate the FSHN faculty who support these motivated students with research opportunities, letters of recommendation and nominations for awards.”*



J. Wayne Reitz Medal of Excellence
Outstanding Senior Award Winner
Noah Andone (Nutritional Sciences)
with CALS Dean **Dr. Elaine Turner**



Left: Emelie L. Matthews Award of Excellence Outstanding Graduating Transfer Student Finalist - **Staci Belcher** (Dietetics)
Center: E.T. York Medal of Excellence Outstanding Junior Award Winner - **Steven Che** (Dietetics) with CALS Dean **Dr. Elaine Turner**
Right: Larry J. Connor Medal of Excellence Award Winner - **Alan Chan** (Nutritional Sciences)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
BARBARA DERATT AND CAGLAR DOGUER!**
Winners of the Graduate Student Research Awards presented by the
Nutritional Sciences Council (NSC) on March 29, 2015!
Barbara works with Dr. Gregory & Caglar works with Dr. Collins.

HOW CAN I GIVE BACK?



Credit: Tyler L. Jones, UF/IFAS photography

FOOD PANTRY

On May 5, 2015, the University of Florida held a groundbreaking ceremony for the **Field and Fork Food Pantry**. A cross-campus initiative, the food pantry will offer members of the UF community healthy, nutritious food—free of charge. A recent survey indicated that 10 percent of UF students report going hungry at times. Currently, there are plans to offer fresh produce, non-perishable foods, canned goods, and toiletries. Contact [Anna Prizzia](#), the campus food systems coordinator, for more information. It is scheduled to open during the Fall semester.

DONATION TO THE DEPARTMENT

Donations can be used to support students (i.e., travel to conferences, assistantships, & 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: 572 Newell Drive, PO Box 110370, Gainesville, FL 32611.

CONTACT US!

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Human Nutrition Department](#)
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[Dr. Susan Percival](#), Department Chair
[Herschel Johnson](#), Academic Advisor
[Jenna Grogan](#), Academic Advisor

**DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE
THE LATEST FSHN
UPDATES?**
Contact [Herschel Johnson](#) to be added to
the Alumni List Serv!

SAVE THE DATES!
September 11 - Open House
September 12 - FSHN TailGator
September 26 - CALS TailGator
Come Visit and Join the Fun!

Ode to Janna

J is for the jokes, like the one about the stapler
A is for arguably the best adviser in CALS at the time
N is for not letting students get away with anything
N is for her notable sense of humor
A is for accepting faculty shortcomings, as if we had any
U is for understanding all rules for the benefit of our students
N is for “kNowing” FSHN academics like the back of her hand
D is for devotion to her students
E is for exciting, excellent, “encredible” eighteen years!
R is for renting from Dr. Bates for a while
H is for heartbroken when she left
I is for insisting that students are accountable
L is for listening courteously while thinking snarky thoughts
L is for lifelong learner

*Dedicated to Dr. Janna Underhill
Composed by Dr. Susan Percival*