

FSHN Alumni: Making a Real Difference

FSHN alumni are so successful, we can barely fit their stories into our newsletters! In this issue of FSHN News & Views, we highlight just a few of their accomplishments. Our alumni are...

Educators



Erica Beard completed her BS in Nutritional Sciences here in FSHN in 2000, and then went on to earn her MED from UF and her MBA from St. Leo University. After spending some time in corporate finance, Erica wanted a change. Because she enjoys working with children and feels very strongly about helping others, she decided a career in teaching was a better fit. So she researched the Georgia Teacher Academy for Preparation and Pedagogy (GATAPP) and applied to the program.

GATAPP provides various pathways to classroom teaching certification based on assessment of candidates' prior experiences, education, and skills. Currently, Erica is teaching 8th grade math and science at a middle school in Georgia. She says she very much enjoys watching children learn, and that the most challenging thing about her job is the fact that many children are not at the

learning levels they should be. When asked about her teaching philosophy, Erica said, "I believe all students can learn. Teachers must identify where their children are in the learning process and develop a plan to reach their goals. In addition, teachers must take an active interest in their students. As educators, we must have accountability for..."

Continued on page 6

Innovators

Dr. Michael Eisenmenger (PhD, 2009) is working in the Research Quality and Innovations Group at ConAgra's global head-quarters in Omaha, Nebraska where he says their corporate slogan is "making the food you love." He leads technical applications for product development, which means he "finds a home" for some unusual technologies by applying them to existing products and/or products in development. He is also a technical advisor and a rapid



"prototyper" for those projects and products that may pose a particularly challenging technical hurdle.

During his time in FSHN, Dr. Eisenmenger served as the UF student representative to the Florida Section of the Institute of Food Technologists and as Captain of the 2008 FSHN College

Bowl Team (which earned a 3rd place finish in regional competition). He was also a faithful volunteer each year...

Continued on page 6

Healers



L-R: Erik, Walter, Luke, Karl, and Kara Kelley – note the stylish Gator hats!

Dr. Walter Kelley (BS, 2002) graduated from the Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine of Midwestern University, and recently completed his residency training in pathology as well as a sub-specialty fellowship in clinical chemistry at the University of Maryland in Baltimore. This summer, he began a two-year fellowship in transfusion medicine at the Clinical Center of the National Institutes of Health...

Continued on page 6

In this issue:

Alumni Updates	2
Undergraduate Wins NCAA Title	3
Experimental Biology	3
New Student Organization.....	3
Caught in the Act.....	4
FSHN in Mourning.....	5
Alumni Highlights, cont.	6
Talented Women of Food Science.....	7
Achievements.....	8

FSHN Alumni Newsletter produced bi-annually

Food Science & Human Nutrition Dept.
College of Agricultural & Life Sciences
Institute of Food & Agricultural Sciences
University of Florida
<http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu>

Editor: Janna L. Underhill
Coord., Academic Support Services
352/392-1991, ext. 220
janna@ufl.edu

We Welcome Your Input!

Send all correspondence, articles,
pictures, updates and comments to:
Alumni Newsletter
PO Box 110370, 359 FSHN
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-0370

Change of Address

Moving, but still want to receive this
newsletter and other UF publications?
Please notify the UF Alumni Assoc.:
<http://www.ufalumni.ufl.edu>
(choose "update your information")

Alumni Updates

Jessica Alabata (BS, 2010) is a Surface Warfare Officer with the US Navy in San Diego. And **Timothy Hines II** (BS, 2010) is now a Commissioned Officer in the US Air Force.



Andre Reodica (BS, 2003) is now a Product Applications Specialist with Brown Forman R&D Product Development.

BS 2010 grads accepted to Physician Assistant programs: **Julie Posada** (UF) and **Megan Holtsinger** (Nova SE Univ.)

Allison Vansickle will attend UF's College of Veterinary Medicine.

More successful BS 2010 grads: **Morvarid Fallahzadeh** and **Kim-Oanh Ton** were accepted to optometry school at Nova SE Univ; **Michelle Allen** will attend podiatry school at Barry Univ; **Kaycie Hamel** was accepted to Palmer Chiropractic.



Caroline Ingoglia (BS, 2009) is pursuing a master's degree in food science at Wageningen Univ., the Netherlands.

Renee Campbell (BS, 2009) will attend medical school at Howard Univ. 2010 BS graduates accepted to medical school include: **Ryan Carver** (UF); **Chelsea Chapkin** (Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Med.); **Quynh-An "Annie" Chau** (FSU); **Roy Ferraiuolo** (UF); **Lauren Foster** (UF); **Tara Gonzalez** (FSU); **Robert "David" Graham** (USF); **Caitlin Grimes** (Univ. Maryland); **Alejandra Hernandez** (UF); **Jessica Hughes** (Nova SE Univ.); **Liesl Jenkins** (FSU); **Christina Nguyen** (USF); **Danielle Olson** (Univ. Miami); **Amanda Posgai** (UF); **Danielle Rosner** (W. Virginia School of Osteopathic Med.); **Edmire Souffrant** (UF); **Kendra Sylvester** (UF); **Grace Tidwell** (USF); **Kelly Williamson** (USF).



Ashlee Armfield (BS, 2002) is a Registered Dietitian who earned her MS in food science from the Univ. of Colorado. Currently, she's a R&D Food Scientist with Nature's Path Foods. She works with their marketing team to create great tasting and healthy breakfast items such as organic cereals, granola bars, toaster pastries, and waffles. Ashlee says she loves their company philosophy of "Eating Well & Doing Good."

2010 BS graduates accepted to graduate programs at UF include: **Brittney Courchene**, Nutritional Sciences PhD; **Thao Nguyen**, Food Science MS; **Catherine Odrobina**, Business Management MS. Other 2010 BS graduates accepted to graduate programs include: **Kathleen Ellerie**, Health Science MS (So. Cal Univ.); **Kavi Patel**, Biomedical Sciences MS (Rosalind Franklin Univ.); **Marc Schureck**, Biochemistry MS (Emory Univ.).



Yael Spektor (BS, 2007; MS, 2009) is now a Food Scientist with The Father's Table, a dessert company located in Sanford, FL.

Stephanie Cupples (MS-DI, 2009) is in Baylor Univ.'s Exercise, Nutrition & Preventive Health doctoral program.

The following 2010 BS graduates were accepted to dental school: **Jose Roque, Jr.** (Creighton Univ.); **Amjad Heidami** (Nova SE Univ.); **Tristan Hensley** (UF); **Whitney Howard** (Nova SE Univ.); **Rajiv Kalra** (UF); **Deborah Lowry** (UF); **Eddy Sedeno III** (UF); **Karina Vergara** (Boston Univ.); **Reginald Wilson II** (New York Univ.); **Matthew Woeber** (UF).



Raina Bhindi (BS, 2008) is now a Clinical Registered Dietitian working in Ocala, Florida.

2010 BS grads accepted to UF pharmacy include: **Meghan Arwood**, **Noha Abdelghany**, **Joseph Branton**, **Michael Brito**, **Octavio Casanova**, **James Doolin**, **Brian Eng**, **Andrew Isler**, **Marcilyn Mills**, **Hojin Oh**, **Nicholas Piccicacco**, **Alexis Rangel**, **Julia Roblyer**, **Thomas Viderman**, **Saveez Zoghi**. Other students accepted to pharmacy programs include: **Tara Longergan** (Nova SE Univ.); **Mayrim Torres** (Loma Linda Univ.); **Katrina Tuazon** (Mercer Univ.).

Swapna Srinivasan (BS, 2008) has been accepted to the College of Public Health at the Univ. of South Florida.



Nicholas Newell (BS, 2010) just started a professional internship with Coca Cola in Atlanta, working in product development and quality control.

2010 BS graduates accepted into dietetic internships include: **Hannah Allen** (UF); **Akeelah Ammons** (FSU); **Lauren Baldwin** (Andrews Univ.); **Kimberly Dooies** (Andrews Univ.); **Jamila Frazier** (Univ. Delaware); **Cassie Gaisser** (UF); **Abigail Ginther** (Univ. Virginia); **Megan Griffin** (Yale Univ.); **Lauren Hill** (Bay Pines VA); **Lauren Marchand** (UNF); **Heather Marees** (Penrose-St. Francis Health Services); **Albert Matheny IV** (Oakwood Univ.); **Alyssa Wade** (Andrews Univ.). **Katie Grace** (BS, 2009) has been accepted into the FSHN MS-DI program.

Did we leave you out, or is our information outdated? Please drop us a line (see box, top left).

FSHN Student Wins NCAA Title in Women's Javelin

Evelien Dekkers, a graduating senior in Food Science with a minor in Business Administration, just won UF's first-ever NCAA title in women's javelin at the 2010 Outdoor Championships. She not only broke her personal best record, but also the school record and her country's "under 23" record, taking first place with a throw of 58.99 meters.

Earlier this summer, Evelien was named "Academic All-District First Team" for the second season in a row in recognition of her academic and athletic accomplishments. She has been on the SEC Academic Honor Roll three times.

We asked Evelien, who is from Etten-Leur, Netherlands, how she ended up in the US. She said that in 2005 she competed in the European Youth Olympic Festival and won in her age class. That led to another tournament, Europeans under 20, where she met her future coach. Although she originally had no intention of moving to the US, when she started to receive recruiting letters she began to consider it. Nine months later,

Evelien decided she would come to Florida and "try it out," and the rest is history.

After graduation this summer, Evelien will begin her graduate studies in food technology at Wageningen University in the Netherlands. She has a long-term interest in helping to develop more sustainable systems of agriculture and food production, and would also like to study both Spanish and International Development so that she can someday work in Latin America. She is also interested in research and in gaining experience in industry.

In addition to continuing her education, Evelien intends to stick with her training and hopefully continue to improve so that she can compete in the 2012 Olympics. Please help us congratulate Evelien on all of her successes, and keep an eye out for her during the 2012 Olympic games!

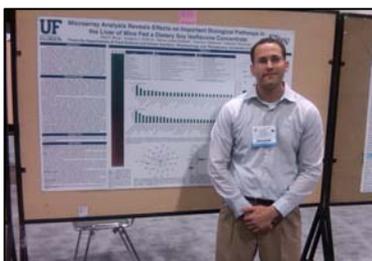


Experimental Biology 2010

FSHN was well-represented at the Experimental Biology meeting in Anaheim this April.



Catching up at the University Mixer, L-R, front row: **Dr. Sue Percival** (Professor), **Dr. Robin Minor** (PhD, 2007), **Dr. Susanne Talcott** (PhD, 2004), **Dr. Cheryl Rowe** (Sr. Laboratory Technician), **Dr. Ruifen Zhang** (Visiting Research Scholar); L-R, back row: **Katelyn Russell** (MS Student), **Cindy Montero** (BS, 2008; MS Student).



Greg Guthrie (PhD Student)



InvestiGators participants, L-R: **Erika Manion** (Health Science), **Hannah Allen** (BS, 2010), **Katherine Lee** (BS, 2010), and **Kristin Smith** (Microbiology).



L-R: **Catherine Muller** (BS, 2007; MS, 2010) and **Cindy Montero** (BS, 2008; MS Student).

New FSHN Student Organization

FSHN graduate students created the new "Graduate Student Association" to promote professional development and social interaction in the department, and this spring they hosted their first-ever cookout at Lake Wauburg.



L-R: **Greg Guthrie** (PhD Student), **Changae "April" Kim** (MS Student), and **Rebecca Clinton** (BS, 2009; MS-DI Student).



Jamie Stolarz (BS, 2009; MS-DI Student) likes salad!



Top left, L-R: **Maria Plaza** (PhD Candidate) and her daughter **Amalia Maria**, sharing some quality time. Top middle: **Lorenzo Puentes** (BS, 2002; MS Student; Biological Scientist) enjoying a hamburger. Top right, L-R: **Liwei Xie** (MS Student) hanging out with **Lemane Delva** (PhD Candidate) and his daughter **Manisha Sofie**.

Caught in the Act

Send us your photos of FSHN alumni and friends at work or at play! Contact information is located on page 2.



While in Ecuador this spring, **David Mantilla** (BS, 2002; MS, 2005) demonstrated super-human strength as he attempted to build a raft using native techniques.



At the Florida Section Institute of Food Technologists holiday meeting at Sleuths Mystery Dinner Show, **Russell Preston** (Senior) made a new friend.



Dave Guderian (BS, 2008; MS Student) claims he was inducted as Grand Poobah in the Order of Magnificent Grill Sergeants Hall of Fame (hold the mustard).



At the 2010 College Bowl Competition in Huntsville, Alabama, **Jackie Nguyen** (BS, 2010) was genuinely thrilled to find cheesecake on the dessert menu.



L-R: **Josh Vandamm** (MS Student), **Sonia Hudson** (BS, 2009; MS Student), **Sandi Shriver** (MS Student), and **Rebecca Creasy** (PhD Student), sneaking out for pizza.



At the Kraft product development facility in New Jersey, **Jaelyn Kalva** (BS, 2007; MS, 2009) used her mad scientist skills to create a giant cookie topped with a Florida Gator.



L-R: **Kyle Edwards** (MS Student), **Anjani Vyas** (Senior), **Ivy Cho** (Senior), **Brittany Martin** (Senior), and **Josh Vandamm** (MS Student) at Sleuths Mystery Dinner Show.



Janelle (McGuinness) Peele (BS, 1999; MS, 2002) caught an impressive Gator-orange fish while vacationing with her family in Panama this past spring.



After a long, tiring weekend of College Bowl 2010 activities and competition, **Cheryl Rock** (PhD Student) fell asleep in the rental van on the way back from Alabama.



It appears that while he was on vacation in Minnesota, **Dr. Ron Schmidt** (Professor Emeritus) considered the layaway option for some interesting garden statues.



L-R: **Antonio Miller** (BS, 2005), grad student at Alabama A&M, and **Janna Underhill** (FSHN Staff; News & Views Editor), caught up at the 2010 College Bowl competition.



FSHN wins all the FL Section IFT door prizes. L-R: **Dr. Bob Bates** (Professor Emeritus), **Eric Dreyer**, **Dave Guderian**, and **Blaine Holmberg** (all BS, 2008; MS Students).

FSHN Mourns the Loss of Two of Its Own

FSHN is very sad to announce that **Dr. Neal Thompson**, retired FSHN Professor, passed away on March 8; he was 73.

Born in Brooklyn, Dr. Thompson completed his BS in General Science from Wheaton College in 1957. He served his Country in the United States Navy for over 22 years including active duty and the reserves, earning the title of Captain Thompson. In 1962 he received his MA in Botany from Miami College, and in 1965 his PhD in Biology from Princeton University.

Dr. Thompson was a faculty member in FSHN for 38 years, from 1965 until his retirement in 2003. He also served as the Assistant Dean for Research (1980-1986), Associate Dean (1986-1992), and Acting Dean (1992-1993) for the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS).



Dr. Thompson was a member of numerous professional societies including Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Xi, and the

American Chemical Society; authored more than 50 research publications; and was the principal investigator on many large contracts and grants. He also taught graduate courses, including Research Planning and Pesticide Analysis.

Dr. Marty Marshall (Professor) remembers Dr. Thompson as the type of leader who always made the time to sit down and discuss the decisions he made for IFAS, and as an excellent mentor for the Pesticide Information Office.

Dr. Thompson is survived by his wife of 51 years, **Beverly**, his five children and twelve grandchildren, and his brother **Thomas** and sister **Muriel**. He will be greatly missed by everyone here in FSHN and IFAS.

This spring FSHN lost another friend: **Alyssa Logeman** (BS, 2007) passed away unexpectedly on May 13 at only 27.

Born and raised in Saline, Michigan, Alyssa graduated from Saline High School and was accepted to the University of Michigan. But she never enjoyed cold winters, so she made the decision to transfer to the University of Florida to complete her education in a warmer climate. Most recently Alyssa attended



medical school at Nova Southeastern University. As a medical student she particularly enjoyed clinical work, including helping people who had undergone gastric lapband surgery.

Alyssa's sister **Adrienne Logeman-Cox** told us that she also donated her time to a local clinic, providing services to people who could not otherwise afford them, and that she found the experience extremely rewarding. Adrienne said, "I sensed she would have gone on to do some

further community assistance programs, too."

Jeff Cox, Alyssa's brother-in-law, said that the number of friends Alyssa made all over Florida was amazing, and noted that they received over 200 condolence cards and letters. He said, "I am happy that she touched so many people during her short life. Alyssa was a friend to many, a sister to one, and an aunt to four. All will miss her and no one will ever forget her."

Christina Vargas (BS, 2007) said, "Alyssa was the type of person I aspired to be more like. She was articulate, intelligent, comical, sensible, generous, and mature beyond her years. She showed me what it was to be a friend. Even after we graduated, she never failed to reach out. She was always available to lend an ear when I needed to vent, never forgetting to call me and my mother just to catch up on what was going on in our lives, giving us updates about her progress in school and about her nephew and nieces, who she adored beyond what words can describe. She was passionate about her studies, and ever so encouraging to others. Her kindness and generosity extended not only to me, but to everyone she considered a friend. Alyssa will always be remembered for her greater-than-life personality, and for never letting any obstacle get in her way of pursuing her dreams."

Christina's mother, **Luz Vargas**, spent a memorable afternoon with Alyssa this past April. Luz added, "We ate, laughed, and cried because she was heading back home to Michigan to be with her family, and because I informed her that I had breast cancer and would soon be having surgery. Before I departed, we embraced and shouted, "See you this July!" However, a week after my surgery she passed away. Her death blew me away. How can such a beautiful and kind hearted young lady die? Each day I thank God for placing Alyssa in my path. Although I miss her every day, I hold on to her memories. She would have been one incredible physician because she loved people and wanted to find ways to make others feel better."

Juliann Giese (BS, 2007) told us, "Alyssa was a bright and compassionate colleague with a profound passion for medicine. Her vivacious smile had a way of lifting up the spirits of anyone near her. Her enthusiasm for education while attending UF and Nova was a source of positive energy for everyone. She will be greatly missed." Another friend of Alyssa's, **Dianne Hill Anderson**, told us that Alyssa was an inspiration to her because she was positive and encouraging and truly understood other people's struggles to stay healthy. She said, "Alyssa was always a friend to me and I miss her terribly." FSHN Professor **Dr. Gail Kauwell** said, "Alyssa was a smart, determined young woman who was committed to her goal of becoming a physician. She loved to talk about medical procedures, and you could count on her to know what she was talking about down to the smallest details. I enjoyed knowing her and having her as a student in my courses, and I am saddened by her untimely death."

Alyssa's family has created a Facebook page (search for "Remembering Alyssa Logeman") where family and friends can share memories and photos. Also, a scholarship has been founded in her name; contributions may be sent to Attn: **Lynne Cawley**, Director of Alumni Affairs, College of Osteopathic Medicine, Nova SE University, 3200 S. University Street, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, 33328.

With the untimely passing of Alyssa Logeman, we have lost a bright and dedicated future doctor as well as an amazing young woman. She will be missed by everyone here in FSHN.



Alumni Highlights, cont. from page 1

Walter Kelley

...cont. from page 1

in Bethesda. Dr. Kelley has published four peer-reviewed journal articles, including a lead article in *Clinical Chemistry*; has four book chapters in press; and has presented numerous posters at research symposia both here in the US and abroad.

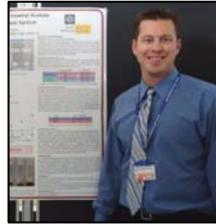
Recently, Dr. Kelley spent several months in Rwanda, seeing patients, teaching, and conducting research. He traveled there as part of a team working under a PEPFAR (President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief) grant. There are a lot of HIV-positive people in Rwanda, and consequently a lot of tuberculosis. Tuberculosis can spread from the lungs to other sites in the body, including the lymph nodes, and so Dr. Kelley spent time teaching local physicians how to biopsy suspicious lymph nodes with a syringe (which is called a fine needle aspiration biopsy). He also trained medical technologists and other laboratory staff how to stain and identify organisms. He says his time in Rwanda was very rewarding.

Dr. Kelley and his wife **Kara**, who is also a UF grad (BA, 2001 and MA, 2002, both in elementary education), have three sons: **Karl**, 5 ½; **Erik**, 3; and **Luke**, 1. Dr. Kelley says, "In all sincerity, none of my success would have happened without UF CALS/FSHN. Both the scientific and practical aspects of my undergraduate education have been invaluable to my professional progression."

Michael Eisenmenger

...cont. from page 1

for numerous Florida Section IFT and FSHN Departmental events. Dr. Eisenmenger's doctoral research focused



on high pressure modification of enzymes important to the food industry. He has authored eight peer-reviewed journal

publications, has one more under review, and has conducted twelve technical presentations at professional meetings and symposia. As a graduate student, he was awarded travel grants from both the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences and the Graduate Student Council to support those presentations.

At the IFT Annual Meeting in 2008, Dr. Eisenmenger earned first place in the Biotechnology Division poster competition. And in 2009, he was invited to present his research at the International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering International Technical Symposium in Potsdam, Germany, where he earned the 3rd Place Poster Award for Young Scientists.

Dr. Eisenmenger said about his new position with ConAgra, "I really enjoy my job; whether it's making a new type of sauce on the stove top or taking the corporate jet to review the application potential of a new antimicrobial, it's as challenging as it is fun."

Erica Beard

...cont. from page 1

helping students acquire the necessary knowledge to function in society, since the purpose of education is to produce globally competitive students. Further, teachers must provide a safe and caring environment that allows for maximum instruction and is conducive to learning. Students must know that teachers care about them and their learning process."

Erica shared with us an inspirational story about her experiences teaching a student who was homeless. The student lived in a van with one parent and four siblings, and, understandably, expressed difficulty getting homework done due to that living situation. So Erica began staying after school with the student,



helping him complete homework assignments and study for tests. Happily, the student started earning good

grades that semester. After hearing that story, it was no surprise to learn that Erica was named as an Outstanding GATAPP Candidate!

We asked Erica what made her choose to major in FSHN in the first place. She said, "What I liked best about the major was how helpful the faculty and staff were, especially my academic advisor. She was very helpful in every way: from helping me with my class schedule to letting me know the best places to eat on campus."

We also asked Erica if there was anything about her time in FSHN that helped prepare her to teach. She said that taking the rigorous courses required by the FSHN major required her to be very disciplined and dedicated, and that those qualities now allow her to run a well-managed classroom. She also gave some advice to pass along to current students, as follows: enjoy your college years, because they are truly the best years of your life; get involved with different organizations within the school and in the community; and know that it doesn't matter what career you choose as long as you get to do something you enjoy.

A dedicated Gator fan, Erica added: "I love UF Football! I am a GATOR for Life (even if I do reside in Georgia Bulldog Country!)."

FSHN Alumnus is One Smart Cookie

Luis Martinez (BS, 2005; MS, 2007) now owns the Mrs. Fields store in the Oaks Mall here in Gainesville. The previous owner was a friend of his, and as an undergrad Luis managed the store for him on weekends and learned the ropes. After Luis finished his master's degree, it took him two years to finally convince



his friend to sell the business to him. Although the store was already profitable when he bought it, Luis also did some remodeling.

Luis says that one of their biggest challenges is simply accommodating the ever-changing schedules of college student employees, but that it's a real pleasure to be able to provide jobs to his fellow Gators and also to serve over 2,000 customers per week with products that make people, especially children, so happy. He added that whereas their cookie cakes are definitely the best sellers, their smoothies, Coca Cola products, and 15 different varieties of individual cookies are also quite popular.

The Talented Women of Food Science

Lilibeth Dagulo (BS, 2007; MS, 2009), shown below with Quaker Larry,



is a Scientist-Chemist in the Volatiles Group of Analytical Sciences for PepsiCo R&D in Barrington, Illinois. Her group provides

chemical insight to the food (Quaker Oats) and beverage (Tropicana and Gatorade) business units. Currently, she is primarily supporting the Tropicana group, including R&D, process engineering, agricultural sciences, and quality. Lilibeth is involved in the analysis of volatile flavor compounds of orange juice samples (from sample preparation to instrumental operation, and from data acquisition to data processing and reporting), and also develops and maintains methods and databases.

Dr. Melissa Kolsch Jones (BS, 2000; PhD, 2006) is a Research



Assistant Scientist here in FSHN. Her husband, **Herbert “Herb” Jones, Jr.** (BS, 1999) is also a graduate of the FSHN

Food Science program. Their mutual friend **Elizabeth “Liz” Percy** (BS, 2000), also a Food Science graduate, introduced them in spring 2000 at the FSHN end-of-year banquet. The following June they traveled to Europe and got engaged at the top of the Eiffel Tower. They were married in October 2002, and now have two children: two year old **Hannah** and five month old **Natalie**. Herb owns his own marketing company, providing services to local businesses.

Dr. Jones’ research has primarily focused on seafood safety. When she was a post-doc here in FSHN, she

received a two-year USDA Postdoctoral Fellowship grant to study the effects of antimicrobial peptides, both for use against vibrio spp. and as potential applications for post-harvest treatment of oysters. Out of 120 grant applications submitted in this area, Dr. Jones’ grant proposal was ranked 7th overall by the USDA. She is now working under another grant to continue her studies on using antimicrobial peptides to eliminate Vibrio from oysters.

Dr. Jones says her ultimate goal is to continue conducting seafood safety research, hopefully as a faculty member here at UF.

This past March, **Sonal Singh** (BS, 2006) joined Ken’s Foods, Inc., as a Team Leader in the Quality Control



Department. At Ken’s, an FDA regulated, SQF certified facility in Marlborough, Massachusetts, Sonal works closely with R&D scientists in experiment scale-up, and

also with production personnel to ensure that product quality specifications are being met. So far, Sonal’s favorite formulas include cocktail sauce and buttermilk ranch.

Ken’s Foods is the manufacturer of award winning Sweet Baby Ray’s BBQ Sauce. It was rated the #1 BBQ sauce by Yahoo in the “great American BBQ

sauce taste test,” which was held in May of this year.

Taraja Williams (BS, 2002) is a Product Development Scientist for PepsiCo. She earned her MS degree in Food Science from Rutgers University in 2005, and also worked in product



development for both Kraft General Foods and Campbell’s Soup before coming to PepsiCo in 2007. Since then she has focused primarily on

the Pepsi Lipton Partnership. She has provided her expertise to their premium fresh brewed line, Lipton PureLeaf (launching two new SKUs); to their mainstream Lipton Iced Tea brand in PET bottles (launching one new SKU); and to various innovative brand maintenance projects.

Taraja said that as a global company, PepsiCo offers many travel opportunities to its employees. Recently, she traveled to Japan for a week-long training session on tea technology by the experts at Unilever. She also actively participates on her site’s Safety Committee, New Employee On-boarding Network (NEON) team, and the Women’s Initiative Network. Those are just a few of the programs PepsiCo offers to their employees to help them become more involved.

Give a gift to the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition!

Your donation to FSHN can be used to support student travel to conferences, scholarships, and assistantships; to support the purchase of new equipment to keep us up-to-date; and to provide important resources to support other facilities within the FSHN building, including our Pilot Plant and clinical nutrition facilities.

You can give online at: <https://www.ufl.edu/OnlineGiving/Campaign/FundDetail.asp?FundCode=001075>

Or if you prefer, you can send a check (made out to “U of FL-SHARE”) to:

Attn: Chair
Food Science and Human Nutrition
PO Box 110370
Gainesville, FL 32611-0370

FSHN Achievements



Dr. Bob Cousins (Boston Family Professor of Nutrition; Director, Center for Nutritional Sciences) was chosen as the winner of the 2010 Dannon Institute Mentorship Award. The award of \$2,500 and an engraved plaque, sponsored by the Dannon Institute, was presented at the 2010 meeting of ASN in Anaheim. Dr. Cousins is also a member of the National Academy of Sciences.



Dr. Gail Kauwell (MAg, 1979; PhD, 1993; Professor; Director of the MS-DI Program) was named 2009-2010 CALS Graduate Teacher/Advisor of the Year. In recognition of her outstanding teaching, Dr. Kauwell has won many other teaching awards including CALS Undergraduate Teacher of the Year, UF Teacher of the Year, USDA's National Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the American Dietetic Association Excellence in Dietetic Education Award.



Janna Underhill (Academic Advisor) won both the CALS and the UF-wide Undergraduate Advisor of the Year Awards for 2009-2010. In addition to academic advising, she works with the FSHN Club and coordinates alumni relations for the department. Janna also won both of these awards in 2003-2004 and is the only

UF advisor to have won the UF-wide advising award twice.



Dr. Anne Kendall (Senior Lecturer) was awarded the Florida Dietetic Association's 2010 Outstanding Dietetics Educator for DPD Programs. Dr. Kendall teaches Nutrition and Disease I, Medical Nutrition Therapy Applications I, and Nutrition Counseling and Communication. She also serves as the department's Undergraduate Coordinator.

Dr. Kendall will be recognized at the Florida Dietetic Association's 75th Symposium in Orlando this July.



The following MS-DI students were selected for membership into Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture: L-R, **Colleen Davis**, **Lakshmi Mahan**, **Jennifer Marquez**, and **Lindsey Pipkin**. Lindsey also received the 2010 Javad Yazdi Scholarship and Fellowship in recognition of her outstanding academic achievements.



Liwei Xie (MS Student) received a National Science Foundation I-Cubed Interdisciplinary Research Award designed to foster collaborative scientific research. He also received both CALS and Graduate Student Council travel grants to attend the Experimental Biology meeting in Anaheim this past spring.



Victor Garrido (MS, 1992; Research Programs Coordinator) won one of the six highest UF Superior Accomplishment Awards, recognizing outstanding service to FSHN and UF. He received \$2,000 in cash, a plaque, and an invitation to sit in the president's box at a home game this fall. Victor conducts oyster research, serves as technical editor for the Seafood HACCP Alliance training manual, and organizes UF's Shellfish School.



Dr. Ron Schmidt (Professor Emeritus) received an Honorary Life Membership in the International Association for Food Protection this spring. The award was given in recognition of the numerous contributions he has made to IAFP and its affiliates over the years. He will receive the award at the August IAFP meeting in Anaheim.



Stephanie Stopka (BS, 2010), top photo, was selected by CALS to receive the 2010 J. Wayne Reitz Medal of Excellence. **Lauren Foster** (BS, 2010), bottom photo, received the 2010 CALS Alumni and Friends Leadership Award. Runners up for this year's CALS awards include: **Heather**



Marees for the Alumni and Friends Leadership Award, **Christina Nguyen** for the Larry J. Connor Medal of Excellence, and **Robert David Graham** for the J. Wayne Reitz Medal of Excellence (all 2010 BS graduates).



Dr. Doug Archer, Associate Dean and Professor, serves on the National Academies Committee on Review of the Food and Drug Administration's Role in Ensuring Safe Food, which just published *Enhancing Food Safety: The Role of the Food and Drug Administration*. The report was requested by Congress and sponsored by the US Food and Drug Administration.

At the FSHN Spring 2010 Staff Appreciation Luncheon, several staff members were recognized for their years of service at UF. 25 years: **Marianne Mangone** (Program Asst), **Jau Yoh** (IR-4 Research Programs Coord); 20 years: **Shelia Parker Hall** (Personnel); 15 years: **Amanda Hogle** (IR-4 Asst), **Janna Underhill** (Academic Advisor); 10 years: **Susan Brown** (Academic Programs Coord), **Meri Nantz** (Biol Scientist), **Nicole Young** (Academic Advisor); 5 years: **Charlene Burke** (Biol Scientist), **C.J. Nieves** (Sr Biol Scientist).



Wei Han (PhD Student) received the first-ever Burdock Group Travel Grant this spring at Student Recognition Night, and was also awarded a 2010 Grinter Fellowship.



Lydia Snyder (BS, 2008; MS-DI Student) was named ADA/FDA Outstanding Dietetics Student; she was chosen from among all the Dietetic Internship students in the entire state of Florida.



Jamie Stolarz (BS, 2009; MS-DI Student) received a 2010 Agricultural Women's Club Scholarship. She also received the 2010 CALS Vam C. York Scholarship.