

Under Par on the Course; Above Par in Support of FSHN

FSHN is now involved with two golf tournaments every year, both created to raise money to support Food Science students.



The FDPA/UF Golf Outing First Place Team. L-R: Gene Bennett, Danisco; Ed Coryn, Dairy-Mix, Inc.; Gillian Folkes, ABC Research; Frank Johns, Dairy Farmers of America. Gillian, a PhD candidate in FSHN, is also helping to organize the ABC/UF Scramble for Scholarships in spring 2004.



FDPA/UF Golf Outing Participants. L-R: Gary Carlin, Ecolab; Herb Dunlap, Limpert Ingredients; Ed Cangi, M.G. Novell; Johnny Melvin, Southeast Milk.



FDPA/UF Golf Outing Participants. L-R: Gene Smith, Southeast Marketing; Barbara Gross, Mastertaste; Professor Ron Schmidt, UF (of Minnesota fame); Brian Boynton, FSHN PhD student.

Florida Dairy Products/University of Florida Benefit Golf Outing

First played in 2002, the FDPA/UF Golf Outing takes place in October each year on the UF Golf Course and proceeds are used to provide scholarships for Food Science undergrads. Proceeds will be used to establish a fellowship to support those students emphasizing food science in their studies.

This fall, the FDPA tournament took place on October 7th and 8th. There was a reception Friday night, and students, faculty, and academic and industry professionals mingled in the Guy Bostick Clubhouse. Then at 9:00 AM the next morning the golfers began play on UF's newly renovated par 70 18-hole golf course. After the tournament, an awards luncheon was held at the Clubhouse.

Previous winners of scholarship money raised by this event include: **Sonia Cherian** (BS, 2002) and **Morgan Phares** (current undergraduate). Morgan is this year's Food Product Development Team leader and was a member of last year's highly successful Team (which made the IFT national finals and traveled to

Chicago this past summer to compete). Currently, the Team is creating a new and innovative dairy product to enter into national competition in 2004.

Dr. Ron Schmidt (Food Science Professor) helped found this annual event and says, "We've always valued our alumni and industry support, and we're grateful to everyone who participated."

ABC Research Corporation/University of Florida Scramble for Scholarships

New this year, a "Scramble for Scholarships" sponsored by ABC Research Corporation will take place February 16th, 2004, also at the UF Golf Course. ABC employee and UF alumnus **Dr. George Baker** (BS, 1997; PhD, 2002) is helping to organize the event, which will raise money to support graduate student research. It is hoped that substantial funds can be raised this spring, and that funds will continue to increase each year.

Participants in the Scramble will receive a commemorative shirt and are eligible for hole and door prizes. Sponsors who donate over \$1000 may also receive special gifts including recognition plaques, personalized golf bags with their company logo, and even a set of Nike

forged iron golf clubs. Registration fees include golf, cart, balls, and buffet lunch. The top three teams will also win prizes.

If your company or organization would like to help sponsor either of these events or if you would like to play as an individual, here's who to contact:

FDPA Outing - Dr. Ron Schmidt
 rschmidt@mail.ifas.ufl.edu
 352-392-1991, ext. 206

ABC Scramble - Dr. George Baker
 georgeb@abcr.com
 352-372-0436



We're looking forward to alumni participation in both these golf events in support of the UF Food Science program.

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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
Coordinator of 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 Foundation
<http://www.ufalumni.ufl.edu/interact/>
(choose "Bio Update")

Alumni Updates

Lauren O'Kelley (BS, 2003), former leader of the very successful FSHN Food Product Development Team, has accepted a position in quality assurance with Slim-Fast in West Palm Beach, Florida (*see page 3 for more about FSHN alumni at Slim-Fast*).

Meghan Meller (BS, 2003), who was also a member of last year's Food Product Development Team, is now doing quality control for Crystals International in Plant City, Florida.

Three 2003 BS graduates have become educators: **Matthew O'Brien** is teaching high school in south Florida, **Joshua Robertson** is teaching high school in Atlanta while he applies to medical school, and **Jason Williams** is teaching at-risk students in north Florida and plans to eventually pursue a career in civil service.

Erin Defries (BS, 2003) is working for AmeriCorps, an organization dedicated to community service in health, education, public safety, and environment.

Many 2003 FSHN BS graduates were accepted to medical school this fall. They include: **Allyson Bagenholm** (American Univ. of the Caribbean), **Russ Balmer** (unknown), **Wendelyn Bosch** (UF), **Dawn Bradly** (Univ. of South Carolina), **Jennifer Carrasquillo** (Univ. of Puerto Rico), **Karolina Dembinski** (NE College of Osteopathic Med.), **Clifford Denney** (UF), **Jonathan Divine** (West Virginia School of Osteopathic Med.), **Anitha Jain** (UF), **George Lee** (Univ. of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Med.), **Toni Muzzonigro** (Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Med.), **Higgins Sainvil** (St. Matthews Univ.), **Summer Sawyer** (Mayo Medical School), **Shani Smith** (NY College of Osteopathic Med.), **Justin Townsend** (UF), **Peter Van** (Ross Univ.), **Lauren Weber** (USUHS Navy Med. School), **Leah Weiss** (Nova Southeastern College of Osteopathic Med.), and **Dorothy White** (American Univ. of the Caribbean).

Jason Nesmith (BS, 2003) is attending Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. Jason wrote **Dr. Susan Percival** (FSHN Professor) back in August to tell her how his major in nutrition is helping him in medical school: "Biochem has been going well, I'm so glad to be a nutrition major. Everything we do in biochem is a review for me."

Michelle Weiner (BS, 2003), in medical school at Nova Southeastern's College of Osteopathic Medicine, is also pursuing a dual Master of Public Health (MPH) degree.

Katherine McCown (BS, 2002) and **Tiffany Lacross** (BS, 2002) also started medical school at UF this fall. **Cindy DeNeira** (MS, 2003) is currently in Osteopathic Medical School at Des Moines University, and **Faithlore Gardner** (BS, 2002) is in medical school at the Univ. of South Florida.

2003 BS graduates in FSHN accepted to the UF College of Dentistry include: **Jennifer Cameron**, **Karly Fabres**, **Michaela Fenimore**, **Jonathan Gooch**, **Thao Mai**, **Sasha Minor**, **Sung Nam**, **Murad Rashid**, **Daniel Stewart**, and **Victor Yeung**. **Aisha Cuadras** (BS, 2002), **Fred Harper** (BS, 2002), **Baokhuyen Vu** (BS, 2002) and **Jay Webster** (BS, 2001) also started dental school here at UF this fall. **Donnie Joe Richardson** (BS, 2003) was accepted to dental school at the Univ. of Alabama, Birmingham.

Angelique Almeida (BS, 2003) was accepted to Nova Southeastern School of Law in Ft. Lauderdale.

Marc Decastro (BS, 1999) and **Jarrod Rappaport** (BS, 2001) are enrolled in the UF College of Law.

Several 2003 BS graduates have been accepted to graduate school: **Jennifer Cremeens** (MPH, Univ. South Carolina), **Arthur Hurst** (MS Food Science, UF), **Amy Fanning** (MS, Florida International Univ.), **Kerry Korth** (Master of Medical Science in Physician Assistant Studies, Midwestern Univ.), **Alexia Lundberg** (PhD in Nutritional Biochemistry, Univ. of North Carolina), **Swapna Mony** (MS in Food Science, UF), **Ann Theodore** (MS in Food Science, UF), **Jaime Uhazie** (Master of Physician Assistant Studies, UF), and **Cheryl Zonkowski** (MS in Exercise and Sports Sciences, UF).

The following FSHN alumni started pharmacy school at UF this fall: **Shannon Corning** (BS, 2003), **Joanna Doyle** (BS, 2002), **Kimberly Farrin** (BS, 2003), **James Higbee** (BS, 2002), **Todd Rosen** (BS, 2003). **Megan Alderman** (BS, 2003) was accepted to pharmacy school at Nova Southeastern.

Jennifer Campa (BS, 2003) was accepted into optometry school at Nova Southeastern and **Sharon Choi** (BS, 2003) was accepted to the Southern California College of Optometry.

Kelly Felkey (MS, 2002) recently completed an advanced lab training fellowship focusing on emerging infectious diseases, co-sponsored by the Association of Public Health Laboratories and the Centers for Disease Control.

Rena Schonbrun (BS, 1995; MS, 2002) has accepted a position in sensory and quality control with the Dial Corporation in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Two FSHN graduates are working for Anheuser-Busch in Merrimack, New Hampshire. **Devon Reesman** (BS, 2002) is a group manager for quality assurance, and **Stephanie Diggs** (BS, 2001) is a group manager for brewing.

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

Neal Thompson Retires



Congratulations go out to **Dr. Neal Thompson**, who retired this year after 38 years of dedicated service to FSHN and UF. Dr. Thompson received his BS in General Science from Wheaton College in 1957, and was an active duty naval officer from 1957-1960. In 1962 he received his MA in Botany from Miami College, and in 1965 his PhD in Biology from Princeton University. A member of numerous professional societies including

Gamma Sigma Delta, Sigma Xi, and the American Chemical Society, Dr. Thompson is the author of more than 50 research publications and was the principal investigator on many large contracts and grants. He taught graduate courses, including Research Planning and Pesticide Analysis. From 1980-1988, Dr. Thompson served on the UF Committee on the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals. And from 1980-1993, Dr. Thompson handled many administrative duties in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, including: serving as Assistant Dean, coordinating Florida Agricultural Experiment Station programs (including overseeing research, publications, tenure, and budgeting), coordinating the Tropical/Subtropical Agriculture Program, and serving as outside liaison with many clientele groups such as the Cattleman's Association, the Soybean Growers Association, and the Peanut Growers Association. Please join us in wishing Dr. Thompson, his wife **Beverly**, and their five children all the best. He will be missed by everyone in FSHN!

FSHN Success Stories



After completing her BS in Dietetics here at UF, **Brigid Foley** (2000) went on to complete her dietetic internship at Fairview University Medical Center. She is now a Registered Dietitian with Slim-Fast Foods in West Palm Beach, working as a Consumer Service Specialist. Brigid helps consumers with weight loss by providing advice and answering questions via e-mail and the call center, and by hosting live chats on the Slim-Fast website. This fall Brigid is on special assignment for three months in the Netherlands with their parent company, Unilever, at the Unilever Health Institute, working with scientists and global experts on food technology, nutrition, and health. In an e-mail to **Dr. Peggy Borum** and **Dr. Gail Kauwell**, Brigid said, "I can't believe how far I've come since my days as a student, and I thank you for your guidance and the opportunities you gave me that led me to where I am now."



Andrea Fredricks (BS, 2003 in Nutritional Sciences) was chosen for a fellowship at the National Institutes of Health in Washington DC and is currently the sole research coordinator for a clinical trial testing the safety of a new drug called Orlistat on over 200 obese adolescents. She is currently working on her own research abstract for submission to a national conference in San Francisco next spring. Andrea told us: "My time in Washington DC and at the NIH has so much more than exceeded my

expectations culturally, socially, and definitely intellectually. My decision to take this experience is by far one of the best decisions I have made for myself and I feel as though every single day I am continuing to grow, find myself, and become just a little bit more of the person that I want to be."



Dr. J. Bernadette Moore (PhD 2002) is also working at NIH in a post-doc research fellowship. She tells us: "I am working in the laboratory of Dr. Stephen Marx, the chief of the metabolic diseases branch of the National Institutes of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Disorders. We are part of a large, collaborative, multi-institutional research group that is studying the gene that causes a cancer syndrome multiple endocrine neoplasia type 1 (MEN1). This type of cancer causes multiple tumors in multiple endocrine tissues such as pancreas islet, pituitary and parathyroid cells. In 1997 this group used positional cloning to find the gene and have been characterizing its protein product, *menin*, ever since. My goal is to study protein expression in these animals over time. This will provide information about what signaling pathways are altered specifically in endocrine tissues when there is insufficient *menin*. Such data should provide a better understanding of the biological function of *menin* and the processes that lead to tumorigenesis."

Dietetics Graduates Shine

The FSHN Dietetics program not only has a great reputation, it has the numbers to back it up. 93% of all FSHN graduates who applied for internships in 2003 matched, and 100% of them eventually obtained an internship!

The following 2003 BS graduates matched to the UF combined MS/DI program: **Bonnie Baxter**, **Claire Edgemon**, **Crystal Jackson**, and **Chanelle Thibault**. UF is also well-represented at the Southern Regional Medical Center this fall, with five alumni accepted: **Wendy Winkleman** (2001); **Becky Russell** (2002); and 2003 graduates **Shannon "Arienne" Matson**, **Courtney McDermott**, and **Sarah Pennell**. Sarah also received a \$1000 scholarship from the Georgia Dietetic Association. Other acceptances include (2003 graduates unless otherwise indicated): Andrews University – **Sarah Bailey** (2000) and **Christina Walker**, Augusta Area – **Kristen Herbes** (2001), Bronx VA – **Melissa Pflugh**, Florida Department of Education – **Erin Costello**, Florida State University – **Lourdes West**, Lipscomb University – **Demetria Marcinko**, Medical University of South Carolina – **Megan Killey**, Oakwood College – **Stephanie Bell**, Oregon Health & Science University – **Ashlee Armfield** (2002), Sodexo Mid-Atlantic – **Ivone Castaneda**, University of Delaware – **Asha Hadley**, University of North Florida – **Inge Lopez** and **Rheba Summerlin** (2002), and Yale New Haven – **Julie Kalnins**.

Many of our former students have completed their DIs and continue to excel. They include: **Virginia Braddock** (BS, 2001), PhD student at Mississippi State University; **Mindy Coker** (BS, 2001), a sports nutritionist for the UF Athletic Association; **Marisa Pulaski** (BS, 2000), an RD for a long-term care facility; and **Shirley Tejada** (BS, 2002) an RD at a dialysis center in Georgia.

The Didactic Program in Dietetics at UF continues to graduate top-notch students, so please join us in congratulating **Dr. Pam McMahon**, Program Director, on their success!

FSHN Achievements

Thanks largely to the dedicated efforts of FSHN faculty like **Dr. Susan Percival** (Professor), **Dr. Elaine Turner** (Associate Professor) and **Dr. Rachel Shireman** (retired), the FSHN Nutritional Sciences track has become one of the most popular pre-professional majors on the UF campus. Current Nutritional Sciences students (including those students in the Early Admission Dental Program, the Junior Honors Medical Program, and the 3+4 Pharmacy Program) are very active members of the campus community, demonstrating leadership in nearly all of UF's pre-professional student organizations:

Pre-professional Service Organization (PSO)

Ehsan Sharaf-Eldeen – President
Vincent Yeung – Vice President of Membership
John Iskander – Director
Josh Cahoon – Dental-1 Representative
Nicole Sammons – Medical-1 Representative
Darshan Naidu – Website Administrator



Pre-Medical American Medical Student Association

Kevin Perry – Secretary

Pre-Dental American Student Dental Assoc (pre-dental ASDA)

Zameera Fida – President
Maureen Libby – Treasurer
Deanna Fernandes – Membership Committee Chair
Mari Takeda – Membership Committee Co-Chair
Lauren Chalal – Historian
Monica Bontrager – Service Committee Chair
Rachel McNulty – Service Committee Co-Chair
Natalie Campbell – Fundraising Committee Co-Chair

The Pre-Dental Society

Jenny Liang – President
Alfredo Arauz – Vice President
Richard Ballentine – Public Relations
Sean Altenbach – Webmaster



Minority Association for Pre-Health Students (MAPS)

Dafina Wise – Vice President
Romina Hennig – Treasurer
Marina Spewak – Secretary
Anthony Carter – Academic Affairs Committee Chair
Tashara Martin – Internal Affairs Committee Chair
Marie Tabuteau – Health Fair Director
John Green – Research Forum Director
Rochelle Grant – Webmaster

The Pre-Pharmacy Society at UF

Zubila Shafiq – President
Mala Desai – Treasurer



Each year the Florida Dietetic Association (FDA) chooses one student to receive an Outstanding Dietetics Student Award in a didactic program in dietetics (DPD), and another in a dietetic internship (DI). This year, **Claire Edgemon** (BS, 2003) was chosen as most outstanding dietetics DPD student and is now in the combined MS/DI program here at UF, and **Elizabeth Beasley** was chosen as the most outstanding DI student. Elizabeth will graduate this December, and is already working at Nemour's Children's Clinic in Jacksonville. Both were recognized this past summer at the FDA Annual Meeting and Symposium, and were also recognized by the American Dietetic Association in the September issue of the Journal of the American Dietetic Association. Previous FSHN winners include: DPD Awardees **Virginia Braddock** (BS, 2001), **Yolanda Fahrney** (BS, 1999), and **Judy Wolfe** (BS, 1999; MS, 2001) and DI Awardee **Chad Wilsky** (BS, 1997; MS, 1999).

Suzanne Mertens-Talcott, a PhD student working under **Dr. Susan Percival** (Professor) won the Fruit and Vegetable Product Division Graduate Poster Competition at the Institute of Food Technologists Annual Meeting this summer in Chicago. She received a check for \$400.

Kelli Notestine, Dietetics senior, received a \$1000 scholarship from the Florida Dietetic Association.

FSHN is well represented in Gamma Sigma Delta (The Honor Society of Agriculture): **Dr. Elaine Turner** (Associate Professor) is the 2003-2004 President-Elect and **Dr. Susan Percival** (Professor) was chosen as the 2003-2004 Faculty Awards Committee Chair.

Dr. Elaine Turner also takes over this fall from **Dr. Susan Percival** as FSHN's new Undergraduate Coordinator. Thanks to Dr. Percival for her many years of dedicated service, and welcome Dr. Turner!

Shahryar Chowdhury entered medical school at UF this fall in the Junior Honors Medical Program (JHMP); he will receive his BS degree from FSHN in spring 2004. Shahryar is the first FSHN student to enter medical school in the JHMP program since FSHN became an official participant in it. Currently, two other FSHN students have been admitted into the program (which only accepts 12 students per year from all UF majors) for fall 2004: **Elizabeth Braddock** and **Nicole Sammons**. Both Elizabeth and Nicole will start med school in fall 2004.

Joanna McClain and **Meenal Patel** entered UF dental school this fall in the FSHN Early Admissions Dental Program; they will receive BS degrees in 2004.

The following FSHN students entered UF Pharmacy this fall as part of the FSHN 3+4 Pharmacy Program and will receive their BS degrees from FSHN in spring 2004: **Casie Guettler**, **Zena Lehmann**, **Felix Mitchell**, **Abzal Mohammed**, **Mirta Soto**, **Judy Wu**.

Christopher Duncan, Food Science sophomore, received a \$1000 national Institute of Food Technologists scholarship this year.

Dr. Robert Cousins, FSHN Professor and Eminent Scholar, won the 23rd annual Bristol-Myers Squibb/Mead Johnson Award for Distinguished Achievement in Nutrition Research. This award recognizes Dr. Cousins' many years of outstanding research on micronutrients, including his broad and ongoing focus on the metabolism and function of zinc in the immune system. Dr. Cousins received a silver commemorative medallion and \$50,000 at an October 16 awards dinner in NYC.

Dr. Douglas Archer and **Dr. Lynn Bailey**, FSHN professors, were elected to the 2003-2004 Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Faculty Advisory Committee.

Current Food Science PhD student **David del Pozo-Insfran** (working with **Dr. Steve Talcott**) was a finalist in the 2003 Institute of Food Technologists Student Association Graduate Research Paper Competition with: "Antioxidant and antimicrobial properties of *Hibiscus sabdariffa L.* as affected by the presence of naturally occurring cofactors." He presented in Chicago at the Annual Meeting in July.