

FSHN Club Members at the CALS TailGATOR  
*L to R: Blake Atlas, Samantha Toffoli, Grace Sullivan,  
 & Nicole Rodriguez*



*L to R: Jenna Grogan, Mindy Edwards & Herschel Johnson*



**FSHN Department Staff  
 Water Challenge Team**



**Transfer Students during  
 final Fall Preview session**

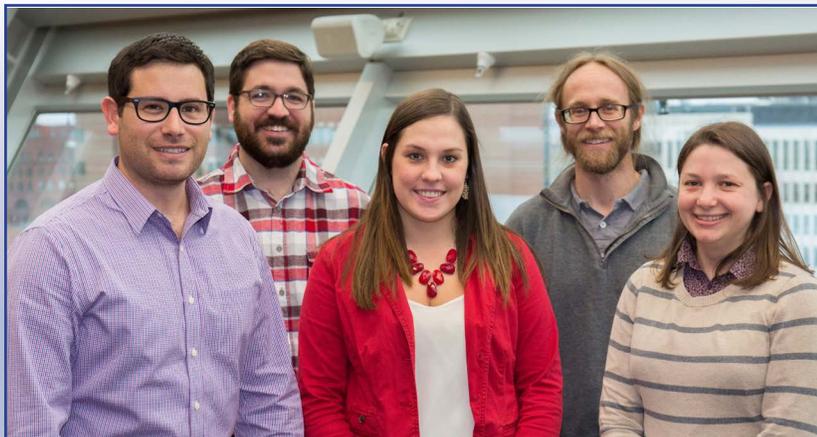
**INSIDE THIS ISSUE...** Alumni Profiles (p. 2-3); IFT 2015 (p. 4) Department Events (p. 5) Student Activities & Achievement (p. 6-7); Faculty Spotlight (p. 8); Giving Back, Contact Info, & Important Dates (p. 9)

# ALUMNI PROFILES

## DR. SCOTT ROTHBART (BS 2005, PHD 2010)

**Dr. Scott Rothbart**, a student at the University of Florida from 2001-2005, earned his B.S. in Food Science and Human Nutrition and did undergraduate research at that time with **Dr. Robert Cousins**. He performed his dissertation research in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at Virginia Commonwealth University with Dr. Rick Moran, studying the mechanism of action of an FDA-approved antifolate cancer therapeutic. He received his Ph.D.

in 2010. His postdoctoral studies were performed under the mentorship of Dr. Brian Strahl at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. There, **Dr. Rothbart** was awarded fellowships through the NIH and the American Cancer Society to study the role of histone post-translational modifications in chromatin function. He joined the Van Andel Research Institute in April 2015 as an Assistant Professor in their emerging Center for Epigenetics. His lab applies *in vitro* and cellular biochemistry, computational and molecular biophysics, and functional proteomics to uncover basic molecular and cellular mechanisms of chromatin and epigenetic regulation. Dr. Rothbart hopes their studies will lead to a better understanding of the etiology of disease and will contribute to the discovery of effective therapeutic approaches targeting the epigenetic machinery. For additional information about his research and findings, visit the following [website](#).



*"I was fortunate during this time to perform undergraduate research with Dr. Bob Cousins. Exposure to bench science as an undergrad was my biggest motivation to pursue a career in biomedical research. I am grateful to Dr. Cousins for giving me the opportunity to fumble around on the bench and for exposing me to the exciting, challenging, and creative world of laboratory science." (See photo to left)*

## DR. EHSAN SHARAF-ELDEEN (BS 2005, DMD 2008, MD 2013)

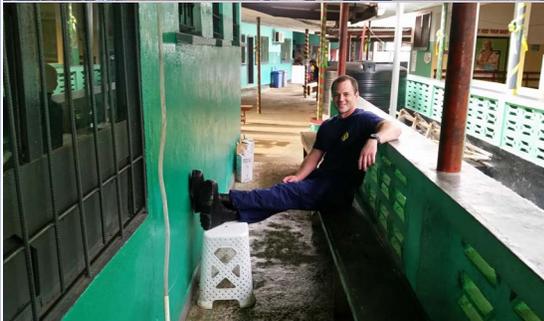


**Dr. Sharaf-Eldeen** participated in the 7-year accelerated BS/DMD program through the UF College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the UF College of Dentistry. He graduated summa cum laude in 2005 with a BS in Nutritional Sciences and recalls the exceptional mentorship by **Dr. Elaine Turner** throughout his undergraduate years in Food Science and Human Nutrition. He completed his DMD from 2004-2008 and then went on to complete an internship in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA. In the spirit of achieving his lifelong dream, he matched into a combined 6-year program in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI. He obtained his MD from the University of Michigan, 2-year general surgery training, and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training within that time. In 2014-2015, he served as Chief Resident of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the University of Michigan, Department of Surgery. Of most importance, he

met his wife Dr. Sara Elhusein in Michigan, and they now have a young baby boy named Laith. **Dr. Sharaf-Eldeen** and his wife who is a practicing OB/GYN recently took positions at The Guthrie Clinic. They are both extremely excited to start their family and live life to the fullest! Between the Gators, the Wolverines, and the Michigan State Spartans (where his wife went to medical school), every Saturday in Fall is a great time!

## MATTHEW KIRCHOFF (BS 2005, PHARMD 2009, MS 2011), CPH

Matthew Kirchoff is a Lieutenant Commander in the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, with a duty station at the NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID) in the Washington, DC metro area. As the Clinical Research Operations Manager for International Pharmacy Research, Matt is responsible for pharmacy operations in intramural international clinical investigations of vaccines and treatments for emerging threats. He spent much of 2015 in Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea performing diverse activities including oversight of local pharmacists, development of clinical trial materials, preparation of investigational drugs for infusion, medical supply logistics, cold-chain operations, training local study staff, working with US and international partners, and briefing up to the Ambassador-level on NIAID operations.



*The Gator Nation is truly everywhere.*



Matt's previous position was as a Regulatory Program Manager within the Food and Drug Administration's Office of Medical Policy, where he developed policies and programs aimed at facilitating the use of mobile technologies to conduct clinical trials which are more convenient for participants, have less missing data, and allow for new types of data collection. When first joining the FDA at the Office of Compliance, Matt developed a tool to identify marketed unapproved prescription drugs, which can also provide immediate information used to prevent drug shortages.

Matt attended the University of Florida for his BS in Nutritional Sciences, Doctor of Pharmacy, and MS in Pharmacoepidemiology. His undergraduate adviser, Dr. Elaine Turner (now the CALS Dean) helped him graduate in three years and still find time to study abroad in New Zealand. Matt recently became Certified in Public Health, and will finish his MBA from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill in July 2016.

## RECENT GRAD, MICHAEL TORTI, ALREADY BREWING UP SUCCESS

In May 2015, Michael Torti graduated with an M.S. degree in Food Science. He accepted a position with The Boston Beer Company in Product Development. Since then, Michael has worked (mostly) with Angry Orchard, Twisted Tea, Traveler, and Coney Island brands. He also collaborates with market research and brand teams on consumer focus groups to determine what the target audience enjoys! Congratulations, Michael, on a successful start to your professional career!

# IFT 2015



In July 2015, the annual IFT meeting provided a wonderful opportunity to interact with alumni and industry partners. Celebrating 75 years, vendors filled McCormick Place Convention Center. We connected with graduates and supporters of the UF Food Science program, such as **Jorge Stern** and **Rob Bent** from Virginia Dare (*top left photo*). Several graduate students, including **Abeer Alhendi**, **Daniel Clark**, **Taylor Dole**, **Lu Zhao**, and **Michael Torti**, presented their research. Our undergraduate students participated in the event as well. **MarJanie Kinney** (*top right photo*) interned at World Food Processing and worked at their IFT booth. She recently accepted a position with the company as Product Manager of Ingredient Innovations and Applications in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In conjunction with Florida Section IFT, we hosted the Florida Party at Mother Hubbards Sports Pub. Many thanks to our donors who contributed to the event, and we greatly appreciate **Gillian Dagan**, who helped plan the party! Former adviser, **Janna Underhill**, even made a guest appearance. Check out the photos below from the exciting evening. We look forward to next year's event! See you in July!

**ALREADY THINKING ABOUT IFT 16? WE WILL BE THERE! FIND US AT BOOTH # 1787!**

Left to right:  
Luis  
Martinez,  
Patrick  
Duggan &  
Danielle  
Raley



Left to right:  
Janna  
Underhill



Paul  
Winniczuk



Left to right:  
John Siddle  
& Gillian  
Dagan



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FLORIDA PARTY ON JULY 18, 2016! SEE YOU THERE!**

# DEPARTMENT EVENTS

## FSHN TAILGATOR

The FSHN Department hosted its 8th annual Tailgate for alumni and industry friends on September 12th. For the first time, the event was held in the FSHN Pilot Plant to avoid the rain. Attendees played cornhole in the hallway. **David Gudieran**, the Department's esteemed "Grill Master," cooked burgers, hot dogs, and quesadillas. He also fried shrimp, eggplant, and potato dippers donated from the FSHN Taste Panel. The FSHN Club members assisted as well. To cap it off, the day ended with a Gator victory over the East Carolina Pirates.



*Top left to bottom: Dept. Chair Sue Percival & CALS Dean Elaine Turner; David Gudieran, Janna Underhill & Mindy Edwards; MS-DI student Carley Rusch dancing with Dr. Percival*

## FSHN HOLIDAY PARTY



The annual FSHN Holiday party was held on December 6th at the Hippodrome State Theatre. Thanks to **Julie Barber** & her team! *Bottom left to bottom right: Dr. Beth Gankofskie, DPD Director, and Ken Gankofskie, IT Czar; Dr. Bob Bates, Professor Emeritus, & wife Carolyn; Dr. Sue Percival's grandsons, Jayson & Orion; Dr. Gloria Cagampang (Food Science) & Dr. Harry Sitren (Nutritional Sciences); Graduate Students Asa Eliasson, Samantha Amos, Jaimie Kleben, & Mailys Fredericq*



INTERESTED IN THE UPCOMING DEPARTMENT EVENTS? CONNECT WITH US!

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# STUDENT ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS

*From their academic success to their active involvement, the FSHN students - both graduate and undergraduate - continue to earn the respect of faculty and staff. The past few months were no exception!*



Over the summer, FSHN students traveled abroad to both France and Italy. **Dr. Gail Kauwell** and **Dr. Karla Shelnett** led a group of 10 students on a culinary adventure in the southern French region known as Languedoc Roussillon. (See photos on top row, above) Students enjoyed the beautiful sights of France, including the Pyrenees Mountains and Toulouse. They also participated in culinary sessions under the tutelage of two expert French chefs. **Dr. Charlie Sims** led a group of 20 students to Italy, exploring the cities of Catania and Palermo in Sicily, Venice, Bologna, Tuscany, Florence, Siena, and Rome. (See photos on bottom row, above) During the trip, students learned about Italian food from production to consumption. Both trips were filled with delicious cuisine and memories!



Grace Sullivan and Dr. Sue Percival - FSHN Club Halloween Social



L to R: Grace Sullivan, Pooja Tolani, Matthew Beke, Diana Giraldo, and Jessica Sexton - Mexican fiesta for DIE4125



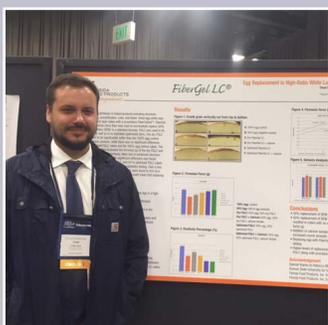
Pete Chicarelli - CALS TailGATOR

**Amanda Ford** graduated with her B.S. degree in Nutritional Sciences, along with a Masters in Management through the Warrington College of Business. In Fall 2012, she started her PhD under the mentorship of **Dr. Wendy Dahl**. Over the past year, **Amanda** has received several awards, including a \$25,000 *Dannon Yogurt & Probiotics Fellowship Grant*, the *William C. and Bertha M. Cornett Fellowship*, and the *Jimmy G. Cheek Graduate Student Medal of Excellence*. The focus of her dissertation research includes evaluating the role of diet (specifically high protein) on microbiota, bacterial degradation products, and the potential role of probiotics and prebiotics. To investigate the research further, she conducted a study at the FSHN Department and the Marion County UF/IFAS Extension Service over the summer. **Amanda** is currently working on the lab work and analyzing the findings.



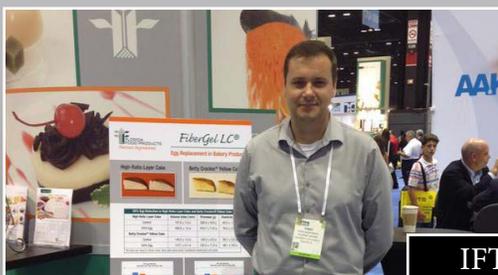
**Richard Coffey** grew up in Orlando, FL. He attended the University of Florida from 2007 until 2011, earning his B.S. degree in Nutritional Sciences. Receiving an Alumni Fellowship in 2011, **Richard** entered the Ph.D. program under the guidance of **Dr. Mitchell Knutson**. His research focuses on the molecular mechanism of iron transport in the pancreas, specifically elucidating the routes by which pancreatic beta cells accumulate iron overload and the role of iron in diabetic pathology. Recently, **Richard** won the Best Poster Award at the East to West Iron Club Meeting during October 29-30 in New York, New York.

## CHAD UZDEVENES



**Chad Uzdevenes** brings a diverse background and keen experience to the FSHN department. **Chad** graduated from the Culinary program at Le Cordon Bleu in Portland, Oregon in 2003. He worked as a professional chef in the Greater Destin, FL area for approximately 10 years before returning to the University of Florida to complete his Bachelor's degree in Food Science (2014). Currently, **Chad** is pursuing a Master's Degree in Food Science, and he continues to gain valuable experience in the industry. He worked an internship at Florida Food Products, Inc. of Eustis, Florida in Summer 2015. He completed the research project entitled *Egg Replacement in High-Ration Layer Cakes with FiberGel LC®*, and received the opportunity to present his research at IFT in Chicago.

He also presented his finished research at the AACCI conference in Minneapolis (*see photo to Left*). Not surprisingly, his work ethic and research earned him praise from his superiors at FFP. *“Chad was able to work with relatively little direction..His ability to listen carefully and communicate effectively at an executive level and with plant personnel was only part of the reason for his successful tenure here. The ability to quickly learn the operation of lab instruments, pilot plant equipment and the attention to food safety in a factory environment was much appreciated.”*



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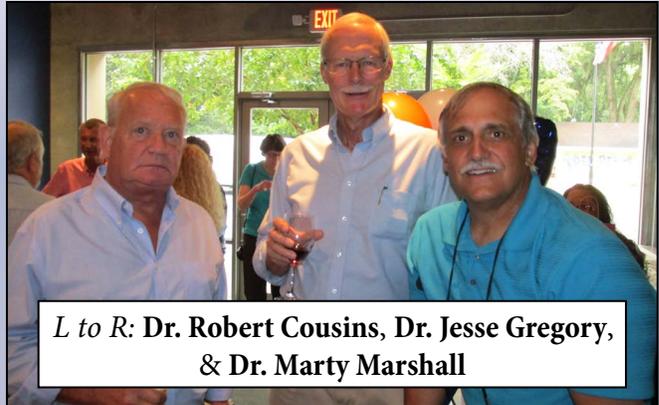
Chad in Pensacola News Journal

# Congratulations & Best of Luck!

HAPPY RETIREMENT, DR. MARTY MARSHALL!



L to R: Dr. Marshall, wife Julie, daughters Sara and Melissa, & granddaughter Aurora (Not pictured: daughters Kelly and Kristin)



L to R: Dr. Robert Cousins, Dr. Jesse Gregory, & Dr. Marty Marshall



L to R: Dr. Susan Percival & Dr. Marty Marshall

After 35 years at UF, Dr. Marty Marshall retired this summer. For 32 years, he taught the beloved FOS2001 (Man's Food), influencing an estimated 800,000 students through his instruction. The FSHN department thanks him for his many years of great service!



L to R: Julie Barber, June Sims, Sara Marshall & Dr. Charlie Sims

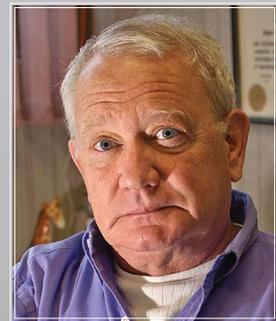
## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

### DR. KRISTINA VON CASTEL-ROBERTS



Our Undergraduate Coordinator, Dr. Kristina von Castel-Roberts, PhD, RDN, LDN, was recently nominated for the 2015 Suncoast Emmy Awards, which are hosted by The Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. In conjunction with Distance & Continuing Education, Kristina created a video entitled, "Talking Nutrition," which earned her a nomination in the Interactivity category. Kristina values an interactive classroom environment, so she was honored to be nominated. Congrats!

### DR. ROBERT COUSINS



The Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR) Foundation announced the formation of its Scientific Advisory Committee, which consists of an 8-member panel. The mission of the Committee is to strengthen agricultural research and raise its profile within the broader science community. We are honored that our own Dr. Robert Cousins, PhD, will serve on the Committee. He is an eminent scholar and Boston Family Professor of Nutrition, along with the Director of the Center for Nutritional Sciences at UF.

# HOW CAN I GIVE BACK?

## FOOD PANTRY

The Field and Fork Food Pantry held its grand opening ceremony on September 1, 2015. A cross-campus initiative, the food pantry offers members of the UF community healthy, nutritious food—free of charge. A recent survey indicated that 10 percent of UF students report being food insufficient. The Pantry provides non-perishable foods, canned goods, and toiletries. At times, there is fresh produce from the UF Community Garden. Contact [Anna Prizzia](#), the campus food systems coordinator, for more information on how to support the initiative.



Grand Opening with President Fuchs



FSHN Club table at the Grand Opening

## DONATION TO DEPARTMENT

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

# CONTACT US!

## FOOD SCIENCE AND HUMAN NUTRITION DEPARTMENT

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(352) 392-1991

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[Dr. Susan Percival](#), Department Chair

[Herschel Johnson](#), Academic Adviser

[Jenna Grogan](#), Academic Adviser

## DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THE LATEST FSHN UPDATES?

Contact [Herschel Johnson](#) to be  
added to the Alumni List Serv!



## SAVE THE DATES!

February 11th - Supplier's Night (organized by Florida Section IFT) - Orlando, FL

April 7th - Student Recognition Night - Gainesville, FL

July 18th - Florida Party at IFT - Chicago, Illinois