The National Association of Favors & Food-Ingredient Systems (NAFFS) awarded three $1000 scholarships to our graduate students: Stephanie Hrick, Rachel Gordon & Brandon Halim. Al Roth of Sethness Products (NAFFS Scholarship Committee Co-Chair) visited campus on October 15th to present the awards and discuss future opportunities for engagement with NAFFS. Thank you, NAFFS, for recognizing our students!

Savanna Curtis (MS ’19, Food Science) gave a presentation entitled “Florida Peaches: Is peach the new orange?” at First Magnitude Brewing Company in July. She collaborated with First Magnitude on their launch of Fresh From Florida Beer. Read more about her presentation and research, along with Savanna’s background on the FSHN blog.

Inside This Issue... Alumni & Friends (p. 2); Department Activities - Students (p. 3); Department Activities - Staff (p. 4); Department Activities - Faculty (p. 5)
Alumni & Friends

Dr. Joeva Barrow, PhD, RD

Dr. Joeva Barrow is a 3 time Gator Graduate! She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Food Science & Human Nutrition (emphasis Dietetics) in 2005. She entered the MS-DI program and completed her Master’s Degree in Nutritional Sciences in 2008. Dr. Barrow states, “I completed the MS-DI program in FSHN with an option to complete a research thesis. Through the labs of Dr. Gail Kauwell and then Dr. Mitchell Knuston, I became infatuated with the research method and the world of molecular nutrition and biochemistry and knew this was how I wanted to contribute to nutrition in the future.” From there, she pursued a PhD in Medical Sciences: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, earning her Doctorate degree in 2013. Leaving the warm weather of the South, along with the “brilliant and collaborative minds” at UF, Dr. Barrow knew that “Gainesville will always be a home for me.” She advanced to complete Postdoctoral training at Harvard Medical School/ Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Cell Metabolism and Cancer Biology in 2018. Dr. Barrow currently serves as an Assistant Professor of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell University. Recently, Dr. Barrow’s lab was selected as the Cornell research feature, “Tackling Mitochondria-Based Diseases.” Related to her research on mitochondria, Dr. Barrow also studies metabolic disease in relation to obesity. Dr. Barrow’s research is fascinating, and we would encourage you to check out her amazing contributions to science here.

Advice to Recent Alumni:

“Stay true to your passion, no matter what. The choice to do what you love is never the wrong choice; and if there is no clear path available to get to your goal, then don’t be afraid to forge one. Blaze forward, always!”

Alumni Give Back to Students:

Cultivating a relationship between PepsiCo & FSHN

Dr. Michael Eisenmenger (PhD Food Science, 2009), Chief of Staff, PepsiCo R&D for Convenient Foods, visited campus in September for the second year. He supports our current students with an opportunity for internships & full-time Food Scientist positions, which is only available to six universities across the nation. With Dr. Eisenmenger’s support, FSHN has seen great success evolve from the relationship. Several internships and full time positions have been awarded to FSHN current students and alumni.

Dr. Eisenmenger, along with alumni Caitlyn Soriano (BS ’15), MS ’16 Food Science) also visited campus to present a PepsiCo Product Development seminar and information session. Thank you, Dr. Eisenmenger!

Would you like to support our students in a similar way? Contact us!

Student Activities

Department Activities

During the Fall semester, Undergraduate and Graduate students continued to receive various awards including many of Dr. Jeanette Andrade’s students. Cecelia Andree, a 2nd year MS-DI student, was recognized at the 2019 Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo™ (FNCE) for her Outstanding Abstract (entitled “Effective Nutrition Intervention Strategies Aimed to Improve Health Outcomes among American Indian/Alaska Native Youth: A Systematic Review”). Additionally, Elena Torna, also a 2nd year MS-DI student, received the Florida Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics (FAND) Gail Kauwell Scholarship for 2019.

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Staff Spotlight

Julie Barber worked at the University of Florida for 36 years. In the FSHN Administrative Office, one could always expect a welcoming smile, a friendly conversation, and a willingness to assist with any question or concern. As her supervisor, Dr. Percival stated, “Julie was a force in the department – she kept everything running. We depended on her vast knowledge of the university and department. She will be missed.” We hope that Julie is enjoying every aspect of her well-deserved retirement!

LEFT: Julie & supervisor, Dr. S. Percival
RIGHT: Julie and her immediate family at the August retirement party

Marianne Mangone worked at the University of Florida for 34 years. Most alumni remember Marianne’s friendly face in the FSHN Administrative Office. She served as the Graduate Student guru and the FSHN contact person for all general questions. She always knew the answers, and no Grad Student earned their degree without the help of Marianne. In her final year at UF, Marianne joined the Undergraduate Student Services Office, and she assisted both Graduate & Undergraduate students. Her quiet presence and friendly disposition will be truly missed by the department.

During her July retirement party, Marianne was joined by good friends, Dr. Gloria Cagampang, Mary Spitzer, and Cheri Spitzer.

If you visit the main FSHN Building (in a non COVID-19, environment), there are many new faces to welcome!

LEFT: Kelly Smith, HR Generalist I, has worked at UF since June 2008. She has worked in both fiscal and HR capacities and has a lot of knowledge about UF’s processes. She started in our Department in January 2020 and has already made improvements in our HR Office. CENTER: Rachael Vinyard, Program Assistant, recently joined the Undergraduate Student Services office. She previously worked in the School of Teaching & Learning as an Academic Assistant and the Office of the Registrar as a Registration Coordinator. In her spare time, she likes to make beaded jewelry and hula hoop. RIGHT: Donna Roberts, Administrative Services Manager, has worked at UF for over 20 years, starting as an OPS employee and working her way up to a management position. In previous roles, she created and reorganized administrative infrastructures to improve business processes, fiscal efficiency, and communication. She enjoys these job aspects very much and finds them motivating. Donna currently supports the Department Chair, and she manages the administrative, fiscal, and HR staff.

Faculty Spotlight

Congratulations to Dr. Stacey Mobley! He recently received the Certified Nutrition Support Clinician® (CNSC®) credential from the National Board of Nutrition Support Certification (NBNSC). This credential demonstrates an individual’s competency in providing safe and effective clinical nutrition care, including highly complex tube feeding and parenteral/intravenous feeding. Earners of the CNSC® credential are physicians, dietitians, nurses, pharmacists, and physician assistants, who have attained the skills necessary to provide quality nutrition support care, and have passed a rigorous exam. The CNSC® is an international credential established by the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN), and it is the most visible and widely recognized nutrition support certification. Dr. Mobley joined the faculty in August 2018, and he teaches many of our nutrition courses, including HUN2201, HUN3403, HUN4445, and HUN4446.

Dr. Andrew MacIntosh (pictured with Dean Elaine Turner) joined the FSHN faculty in July 2017, and since the beginning, he has been an unstoppable force in the department. Although he has numerous accomplishments to date, his support of students - both undergraduate students and graduate students - may be the highest accolade. He challenges his students to a higher level of learning, and it is very clear that students enjoy his teaching style. Last year, Dr. MacIntosh was nominated by a student and subsequently selected for the CALS Innovation in Teaching Award. It was a well-deserved and well-earned recognition. Congratulations!

Dr. Anne Mathews has been recognized repeatedly over the past few semesters for various awards. Most recently, she received the 2020 UF/IFAS Superior Accomplishment Award (Academic Personnel). Recognized for her teaching, mentoring, and research, Dr. Mathews also contributes to collaborative partnerships across campus that that seek to enhance the health of students, faculty and staff in the UF community. For further details about her contributions, please visit here. Congratulations again, Dr. Mathews! You continue to make FSHN proud!

During these unprecedented times related to COVID-19, we acknowledge our appreciation of faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Wishing safety and good health to all!