

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A newsletter for faculty, staff and students of The University of Findlay

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Dec. 2, 2005

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION LAUDED IN CONTINUING ACCREDITATION REPORT

The College of Education (COE) received the maximum seven-year continuous accreditation in a favorable report. The report was prepared by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), the organization responsible for professional accreditation of teacher education.

NCATE currently accredits 614 institutions which produce two-thirds of the nation's new teacher graduates each year. The NCATE Endorsement is the profession's highest and most rigorous accreditation.

"This distinction is a testament to the quality of the University's teacher education program," Dr. Melissa Cain, dean of COE, explained. "The continued accreditation affirms what our students already know - that our program is well equipped to prepare teachers who are effective in the classroom."

Professional accreditation is one way to ensure that teacher education programs are graduating well-qualified teachers ready for today's classrooms. NCATE-accredited schools must meet rigorous standards set by the profession and members of the public.



The NCATE Endorsement is the teacher education profession's highest and most rigorous accreditation.

"I would like to thank everyone who helped with the NCATE accreditation visit. Gathering and presenting our assessment data, building our NCATE website, and preparing for the interviews and logistics of the visit was a true team effort," Cain added. "I would especially like to thank Dr. Buzz Dyer, the NCATE coordinator; Dr. Linda Murphy, our NCATE consultant, who built the website and arranged the exhibits room; and Sheri Leatherman, our administrative assistant, for data management. Finally, I would like to recognize the faculty, who contributed in countless important ways, and the UF administration for its support throughout the process. I am truly blessed to work with such a fine team of professionals."

FALL 2005 COMMENCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Rehearsal, Friday, Dec. 9 at 3 p.m., Koehler Complex.

President's Reception for Graduating Students, Friday, Dec. 9, from 4-5:30 p.m. and 6-7:30 p.m. at the President's Home.

Baccalaureate Service, Saturday, at 10:30 a.m., Ritz Auditorium, Old Main.

Commencement Lunch, Saturday, Dec 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Alumni Memorial Union.

Commencement Ceremony, Saturday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m., Koehler Complex.

Arch Ceremony, Saturday, Dec. 10 at approximately 3:30 p.m. immediately following commencement, Griffith Memorial Arch.

HONORS STUDENT SHARES EXPERIENCES WITH GIANT PANDAS

Rebecca Wilson, a senior honors scholar in the field of wildlife biology, gave a presentation on her experiences working with giant pandas in China on Monday, Nov. 28. A photography exhibit of her experiences in China also was on display.

Wilson spent last summer in Chengdu, China, as an animal behaviorist intern at a breeding center for the endangered giant panda. The internship was sponsored by the Smithsonian National Zoo.

According to Wilson, the internship was originally offered as a graduate student position, but she was chosen for it based on her extensive experience in international wildlife conservation. Prior to traveling to China, she spent a summer studying rhinoceros in Bornea and a summer working with crocodiles in Africa.

Her responsibilities at the facility in China included collecting data on seven male giant pandas, working with the center's endocrine department and serving as a guide for English-speaking

tourists.

"Giant pandas are truly amazing animals, and there is so much we do not know about them. It is my hope that by gaining a better understanding of how they learn and function, we can save them before time runs out," Wilson explained.

She used the research from her internship as her senior honor thesis project. As an honors scholar at UF, students are required to complete and present a thesis research project.

Wilson, who is scheduled to graduate in the spring, plans to pursue a master's degree in conservation and wild animal biology at the Royal Veterinary College of London in the United Kingdom.



Rebecca Wilson poses with a young giant panda during her internship in Chengdu, China.

She says her long-term goal is to spend her life working on international wildlife conservation. Eventually, she hopes to work with the Chinese Zoological Association to do more research on giant pandas.

STULMAN RECOGNIZED BY OHIO MAGAZINE

Dr. Louis Stulman, UF professor of religious studies, has been honored as an "Excellence in Education" award winner by Ohio Magazine.

Stulman will be recognized in the magazine's December issue for his contribution and dedication to achieving excellence in education. The annual award celebrates higher learning and recognizes distinguished professors across the state for making a difference in students' lives in and out of the classroom.

"I have tried to create an environment of hospitality where students learn and even risk failure, without the fear of rejection and abject criticism," Stulman reflected. "As such, my students realize that I care about them,

that I expect their best, and that I will support them in their triumphs and failures."

Stulman has taught in the Religious Studies Program since 1997. He is an expert on the Hebrew Bible, the Old Testament, prophets, ancient Near Eastern studies and Jeremiah. He has authored six books and numerous articles including "Jeremiah: Abingdon Old Testament Commentaries," "Troubling Jeremiah" and "Order Amid Chaos: Jeremiah As Symbolic Tapestry." He has received a number of awards, including the Founder's Academic Excellence Award for Faculty, Who's Who in the Midwest and Drew University's Hebrew Bible Award.



Dr. Louis Stulman, professor of religious studies

CAMPUS SMILES ADD TO HOLIDAY SPIRIT



More than 200 students, faculty, staff and family from UF attended the the Office of International Admissions and Services third annual Thanksgiving luncheon on Nov. 23. The event is held to introduce international students to the Thanksgiving holiday and to give the UF community the opportunity to celebrate Thanksgiving together.



The Concert-Chorale performed "King Island Christmas" to a capacity crowd on Nov. 20. Dr. Micheal F. Anders was the conductor for the grand performance, which included a 70-voice choir, the 20-voice Washington Intermediate School Ensemble and a 30-piece orchestra.



Marathon Oil Company Foundation recently presented the University with \$4,000 to support the College of Business. Pictured above: (Left) Dennis Mathern, professor of business, and Dave Ferguson, vice president of development, accept a \$2,000 check from Robert Dickman of Marathon to support a marketing scholarship. (Right) Doug Asbury, assistant professor of accounting, and Ferguson accept a \$2,000 check from Gene Fernandez of Marathon to support the Accounting Club.

HOLIDAY CONCERT, DEC. 4

The Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble will join for a special holiday concert on Sunday, Dec. 4, at 3 p.m. in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary TLB Foundation Convocation Center.

Under the direction of Jack Taylor, UF director of bands, the theme for the concert will be "Christmas Around the World."

Dr. Marie Loudon-Hanes, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, will narrate the program. Casey Knoth, a senior education major from Celina, Ohio, will be featured soloist on the marimba.

Tickets for the concert will be sold at the door, at \$5.00 for adults, and \$3.00 for seniors and students.

For more information, or to reserve



tickets, contact the UF Box Office at ext. 5335.

HENDERSON-DEAN DISCUSSES MAD COW DISEASE

Dr. Bethany Henderson-Dean, assistant professor of biology, gave a lecture on "The Impact of Chronic Wasting Disease and Mad Cow Disease in the United States" on Nov. 18 as part of the College of Sciences' Lecture Series.

Diseases, such as Chronic Wasting Disease and Mad Cow Disease, are neurodegenerative diseases that are caused by prions, which are normal proteins found in the body that have taken on an altered form and thus an altered function.

According to Henderson-Dean, there have been two cases of mad cow disease in the United States to date. "There has been a case in West Virginia and in New York reported in September of this year," Henderson-Dean explained. "Because of this, there have been many countries that will not accept meat or cow products from us. Chronic Wasting Disease is found in



Henderson-Dean's talk was part of the College of Sciences' Lecture Series.

elk and deer populations. This is a disease that spreads in wild populations, and it's really hard, or impossible to contain."

She has presented her research at Heidelberg College and at the National American Society of Mammalogists conference.

STUDENT MUSIC RECITALS HELD

More than 30 students involved with the University's music program showcased their talents during a number of music recitals held at UF during the week of Nov. 28-Dec. 2.

Eight students performed during the Student Voice Recital on Nov. 29. The performers were students of University instructors Lance Ashmore, Leslie Heffner and Ellen Scholl.

This fall marked the first year the music program put on a Seniors' Instrumental Music Recital, which was held on Nov. 30. The 14 seniors who performed during the recital, are the students of instructors Colleen Abrams, Lori Bitz, Norm Damschroder and Richard Reamsnyder.

The week's performances concluded with the Student Piano Recital on Dec. 1. The performers are students of University instructors Marge White and Eleanor McCoy.

The final recitals of the fall will be the Instrumental Recitals on Dec. 7 and Dec. 8 in the Ritz Auditorium. More than 60 students will perform music selections ranging from Handel's "Aria con Variazioni" to Beethoven's "Duet No. 3."

All of the performances are accompanied by UF accompanist Kelly Lewis.

Photo by Danielle Weiss

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Contact Rebecca Shell at x4345 or at shell@findlay.edu to submit information.

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