

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Volume 2, Issue 17

May 6, 2005

HIGHLIGHTS FROM TRUSTEES' MEETING

The Board of Trustees met on campus April 28-29. Thirty trustees attended, as well as undergraduate student representative Whitney Haverfield; graduate student representative Jorge Mera; faculty representative Dr. Linda Peck; five staff members; and President Freed.

The University expects to balance its budget and reduce indebtedness by \$3.7 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005.

Approximately \$2.5 million in academic and physical plant projects are planned for the summer and the next fiscal year. Projects include a new heating and air conditioning system for Shafer Library (\$400,000), improvements in residence halls (\$300,000) and a new chemistry laboratory (\$300,000). Academic projects and general maintenance and improvements throughout the campus are expected to cost about \$1.5 million.

The undergraduate admissions office is benefiting from an energetic approach, improved procedures and enthusiasm. The number of applications and deposits are up. Efforts to enroll 100 more new full-time undergraduate students next fall, compared to last fall, are promising. While it is early for good projections, the current estimate of new undergraduate students for next fall is 780, compared to 702 last fall and 708 the year before.

Beginning in academic year 2005-06, UF will have 71 teaching days each semester, up from 69 in recent years. The increase is made by eliminating fall

semester break and starting classes sooner after the New Year.

"Trustees are pleased with the progress and direction of the University," Board Chairman C. Richard

Beckett said. "We are improving finances and systematically strengthening the academic, teaching and student programs of the University."

VISITS FROM ACCREDITATION BODIES ARE FAVORABLE

In March, the Ohio Board of Regents approved provisional authorization of professional doctoral programs in pharmacy and physical therapy. Proposals then were submitted to the Higher Learning Commission, requesting the Commission extend degree programs to the professional doctoral level for physical therapy and pharmacy and to remove the stipulations limiting the University's master's degree offerings. A site review team appointed by the Commission is expected to visit the University in June.

The physical therapy accrediting body has recommended moving the current master's program to the doctoral level. Examiners from that group are expected to visit the University in the spring of 2006 to evaluate the physical therapy program.

A proposal for pre-candidacy status for pharmacy has been submitted to the Accreditation Council for

Pharmacy Education. A site visit by council representatives is expected in early 2006.

The athletic training and environmental, safety and occupational health programs were reviewed by their accrediting bodies during visits to campus in February and March. Exit reports from those groups were positive.

College of Education programs were evaluated in an on-site visit April 9-13 as part of a seven-year continuing accreditation review.

The exit report stated that the six determining standards were all met, which implies continuing accreditation. This was a favorable accreditation review by a Board of Examiners from the National Council for Accreditation of Teachers Education (NCATE), accompanied by observers from the Ohio Department of Education.

GRADUATE FOLLOWS FAMILY TRADITION

Matthew Wilkin was only one of more than 800 students who were awarded their degrees this spring, but he has the singular distinction of being the fourth generation of his family to earn a degree from Findlay.

Graduating with degrees in computer science and technology management, Wilkin followed in the footsteps of his father, James Wilkin '85; his grandfather Richard E. Wilkin '52, who has served as a UF trustee for 20 years; and his great-grandfather Gaylord Wilkin '42, who was a pastor for the Churches of God, General Conference, for many years. Additional family members who are Findlay College graduates include Mathew's grandmother, Barbara (Zehender '51) Wilkin and her twin sister Betty (Zehender '51) Warner and his uncle, Richard E. Wilkin '79.

Born in Findlay, Matt was raised in Houston after his parents, James and

Tamara, were transferred there in 1984 through their jobs with Marathon Oil Company. Matt applied to only one school, The University of Findlay, and his folks joked that it was lucky he was accepted since he had no "back-up" college in mind. Grandparents Richard and Barbara Wilkin noted that although they had tried not to interfere with his college decision, they were greatly pleased by his choice.

While at Findlay, Matt was active in the campus chapter of ACM (Association of Computing Machinery). He developed the software for an online campus store for ACM that sells USB drives for computers. He said he hopes the chapter continues the online store and expands the project. He also tutored students for two years in computer science.

Now that he's graduated, Matthew is looking toward a bright future in



Matthew Wilkin, flanked by his parents James and Tamara Wilkin, left and grandparents Richard and Barbara Wilkin, is the first fourth-generation graduate from UF

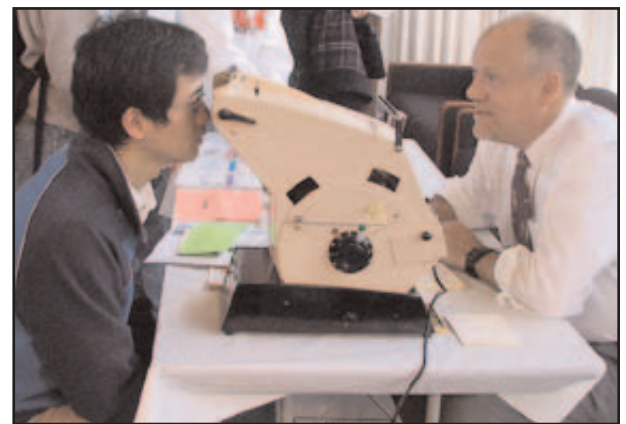
computer programming and will carry on the proud heritage of being a Findlay alumnus.



UF faculty and staff, including Penny Gerdeman, Sara Hingson and Ellen Fish, served treats to students preparing for finals at Midnight Munchies on April 25.



UF Board Chairman C. Richard Beckett, a veterinarian, spoke to one of Dr. Linda Peck's classes about the business side of veterinary practice on April 19.



Students took advantage of free vision and hearing tests and other health presentations during the health fair on April 21.



Students participated in activities related to Earth Day, such as playing the "whale harp" on April 22.

806 GRADUATE AT APRIL 30 CEREMONY



Donald Collins, assistant professor of psychology, served as faculty marshal for commencement.



Among the 806 graduates was Danae Lynn Connolly, the first student to receive a master's degree in athletic training from UF.



Graduates and their guests enjoyed a buffet brunch in the AMU.



Dr. Micheal F. Anders led the celebratory music at the baccalaureate service at Ritz Auditorium on Saturday morning.



Congressman Michael Oxley urged graduates to follow the examples of Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher and Pope John Paul II in his commencement address.



Mother and daughter Sue and Hannah Evans made commencement a family affair by receiving their master's and bachelor's degrees.

Photography by Anne Risser Lee

TOP CHILDREN'S ARTIST/AUTHOR SPEAKS AT MAZZA CELEBRATION

Children's book artist and author Arthur Geisert was the featured speaker at the 23rd Annual Mazza Museum Celebration on May 5 in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary auditorium.

Specializing in etching, Geisert is the author and illustrator of *Oink, Aesop & Company, Pa's Balloon and other Pig Tales* and *Pigs from 1 to 10*. His book, *Pigs from A to Z*, was selected as one of the 10 best illustrated chil-

dren's books of 1986 by the New York Times.

His artwork has been exhibited in a number of shows, including exhibits at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of American Art in Washington, D.C., the Society of Graphic Artists in New York, and at the Boston Printmakers Members' Exhibit. He holds degrees in art from Concordia College in Seward, Neb., and the University of California at Davis.

UF WELCOMES 2006 REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES IN GUBERNATORIAL RACE

The three Republican candidates in the 2006 race for Ohio governor participated in a debate at UF in the Winebrenner Theological Seminary TLB auditorium on Wednesday, May 4.

Current Ohio Secretary of State J. Kenneth Blackwell, Ohio Auditor Betty Montgomery and Ohio Attorney General Jim Petro each gave 20-minute addresses outlining their platforms before participating in a question and

answer session.

UF President DeBow Freed served as moderator for the event. Reporters from the Ohio Farm Bureau, the Findlay *Courier* and the Ohio News Network presented the questions to the candidates.

Blackwell, Montgomery and Petro will face off in next year's May primary, before advancing to the November general election.



In preparation for their April 23 Family Concert, the University Singers entertained audiences during the April 22 Bach's Lunch event. Mandy Blatchly, center, has been a University Singer for three years, while Gregg Wozniak, left, and Jim Conley, right, have been members of the group for two years.

NINE STUDENTS JOIN HISTORY HONOR SOCIETY

Nine students were inducted into UF's Xi Sigma chapter of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society in an April ceremony.

Mitch Aring, Stacy M. Donaldson, Nancy Hiser, Ryan Ludwig, Devin Miles, Jacob W. Pinkava, Bruce D. Schroeder, Renee M. Smith and Timothy A. Umfleet were Phi Alpha Theta's 2004-05 inductees.

Phi Alpha Theta is an honor society dedicated to the promotion of the study of history. Founded in 1921, the organization encourages research, publication and the exchange of ideas among students, teachers and writers. Today, there are more than 820 active chapters.

FYI is published by the Office of University Relations. Contact Summer Douglass at x4731 or sdouglass@findlay.edu to submit information.



Spanish instructor Nancy Munoz took advantage of a warm afternoon in April to teach Spanish sign language on the steps of Croy Gymnasium.