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UCF Report

Volume 22 • No. 6 • Oct. 8, 1999

A publication for faculty and staff

Helping companies get down to business

The university has opened a center in Research Park to help new technology-driven businesses succeed

Anchored by a high-tech Scottish research center, UCF opened a business and technology incubator last week to create new jobs, expand business opportunities and transfer tech-

nology from research laboratories to the marketplace.

Located in the Central Florida Research Park, UCF's 17,000-square-foot Central Florida Business and Technology Development Center will nurture new, technology-driven companies by drawing heavily on university expertise. UCF resources span the Colleges of Engineering and Business Administration, School of Optics/CREOL and the Office of Research. UCF's Small Business Development Center and the Central Florida Innovation

Corp. will be housed in the incubator to provide on-site client coaching, mentoring, capitalization guidance and other services.

A 1,600-square-foot Scottish Technology and Research Center, established by Scotland's official trade office with a \$500,000 investment over two years, will be the incubator's largest tenant. The Scottish center mirrors similar centers that were created by the trade office, Scottish Trade Internat-

Please see BUSINESS, page 3

University looks west for campus expansion

Valencia will soon share classroom space on its main campus with UCF

UCF is going west, taking up to 20 courses annually to Valencia Community College's main campus near Pine Hills.

The tentative agreement was recently approved by Valencia's Board of Trustees, while negotiations continue

on a possible UCF-VCC partnership in Osceola County. Paul Kinser, VCC's west campus provost, offered classroom space to UCF and opened negotiations. In return, the university will pay \$400 per course to VCC for support services.

Upper-level and graduate courses — likely to include criminal justice, education and business — could be available as soon as January at Valencia's west campus on Kirkman

Please see EXPANSION, page 3

Changes in store for tomorrow's UCF

Vice president says the university will have to adapt to a growing enrollment

How will the university grow and develop beyond the university's master plan? William Merck, vice president for Administration and Finance, took a peek into his crystal ball for his best guess.

"I feel like a pilgrim landing on the shore of the New World. We will have to anticipate what facilities and support will be needed so the univer-

sity can continue to fulfill its goals," he says.

One thing seems sure. Concerns about water, traffic and, of course, parking won't go away. But beyond that, who knows?

"The Master Plan says we could accommodate 48,000 students in the near future. What happens to the surrounding areas and roads with that many students?" Merck wonders.

One idea is to build a connector from Seminole County to the East-West Expressway to reduce campus traffic. As it is now, motorists use UCF roads as a shortcut. And remem-

Please see FUTURE, page 2



Jacque Brund

Sitting by the dock of the bay

Freshman Ricky Lebrun, a molecular and microbiology major, took advantage of a rain-free day last week to study next to the Reflecting Pond. The university seal on the Administration Building is reflected in the water.

Next issue of The UCF Report is Oct. 22 • Deadline is noon, Oct. 13

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Bombings don't panic police

UCF Lt. Mike Zelanis says police will patrol as normal in wake of bombings at FAMU

Two bombings at Florida A&M University earlier this semester have not sparked increased concern by UCF police, with surveillance of campus and its buildings unchanged.

"The bombings seem to have been racially motivated," says Lt. Mike Zelanis of the UCF Police Department. "We're taking it seriously, but

we're not doing anything except our usual foot patrol."

An arrest was made last week in connection with the bombings at FAMU.

Nevertheless, Zelanis asks that anyone report anything suspicious.

"Call us and we'll check it out. We never treat any report as a hoax. We treat all incidents as authentic," he says.

When UCF receives bomb threats — which does occasionally occur, particularly around exam time — campus police follow established procedures, as they do for all emergency situations. In the case of bomb threats

and unidentified packages, UCF police call in the Orange County bomb squad.

"We work closely with Orange County. First, we evacuate the building if there was a threat or if a suspicious package or item was found. Then, Orange County's remote-controlled robot is sent into the building to remove the box or item and take it to a remote place where it can be opened," Zelanis says.

"We'll do anything we have to do to make sure that no one gets hurt," says Zelanis.

— Joanne Griggs

Bombs at FAMU harm all our hearts

The recent bombings at Florida A&M should anger and frighten us all. If someone is sick enough to bomb that school, you can bet there's a nut out there with enough ugliness in his heart to do it here.

The FBI suspects that the bombings at our sister institution in

From the ivory tower

Tallahassee are racially motivated. That's sad. We, as a society, should be long past the point where skin color causes us to

hate. The disturbing truth is, we're not. There are still people out there — white, black, Hispanic and other — whose minds are so twisted they'll plant a bomb in a restroom with the hope of harming ... or killing ... college kids.

This time, the target, presumably, was black students, teachers and administrators. But it could just as easily be Catholics at Notre Dame next time. Or rich kids at Yale. Or you-name-the-group at UCF.

Hate, after all, comes in all forms, shapes and colors. What's it take for someone to become demented enough to want to kill? A motorist cutting too close in front of the wrong person? A lousy month playing the stock market? Too many failing grades?

Don't think it can't happen at UCF. If someone is disturbed enough to shoot children in a Jewish daycare center, or drag a man behind a pickup truck for no other reason than he happens to be black, or beat up and leave a gay man tied to a fence in the boon-docks to die, what could possibly make us think that some screwball wouldn't think twice about bombing our campus?

All this, of course, doesn't mean we need to stop using the restroom or start becoming suspicious of every piece of junk mail that crosses our desk. What it means is that a university is not necessarily any safer than a mall or grocery store or city bus. But we already knew that, didn't we? The bombings at FAMU just verifies that awful fact.

So yeah, we should be angry. Not just because a bomb might blow up when we're microwaving our lunch in the break room. If that happens, it happens. We can't let some lunatic with a pipe bomb keep us locked in our homes. What's truly aggravating is that there are still sick, sick people in our community — even now, at the end of this millennium.

We just shouldn't have to be dealing with pipe bombs in university restrooms.

— David Finnerty



Jacque Brund

Mirror, mirror on the wall

The reflection of students appeared in a mirror at one of the booths at the Career Expo at the Student Union late last month. The Sept. 22 event attracted thousands of students hoping to get a jump on their lives after college.

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ber that plan for four campus parking garages? Merck says to expect others, because the university will attempt to save land and create more convenient parking. With more than 80,000 riders using public transportation to and from the main campus annually, Merck also plans to explore ways to make public transportation more accessible.

One of the most tantalizing questions is how to mesh increased distance learning and a developing campus as a social destination.

"I think the main campus will become more of a destination for purposes other than to attend classes. It could become almost like a park, a place for social gatherings with pockets of serenity," Merck says.

"People will stay for longer periods on campus. There will be a lot of diversity in the environment and a greater variety of people and events for us to deal with. We will need to offer many more locations for large

gatherings, athletic activities, serenity and quiet work."

Meanwhile, the electronic age is expected to continue bringing innovations to campus.

"We're on the edge of many more breakthroughs in technology. We'll not only be high-tech, but high-touch," Merck says. "We'll be untethered in access to the Internet, which will make us a lot more mobile."

The Engineering Building is already being equipped to allow computer users to plug into the Internet without plugging into a wall socket. The Business Administration Building will be next with other buildings to follow. "If we're wireless, then we may not choose to spend so much time in our traditional office settings," he says. "We'll be less and less bound to the campus. How that changes the way we work remains to be seen."

The shift to distance learning will remain just one way for students to take classes. "Many students will con-

tinue to come to campus for the social interaction. It will be our job to give them choices," Merck says.

Another opportunity — and complication — might be the electronic availability of books, Merck points out. "Will students be buying or renting their books for classes in the future? And from the Bookstore or the Library?"

Merck's vision of UCF's future is one with many unknown opportunities.

"We don't know what tools will be available to us in 10 years. Who knows? We'll have to be open-minded to the good stuff coming up, but mindful also of the fads," he says.

"As we get beyond the Master Plan, things get hazy. There are a lot of unknowns. As things unfold, we've got to keep up with what's happening and be open to it. We must continue to provide a safe and comfortable environment, but one that is stimulating."

— Joanne Griggs

Short Takes

Expo attracts array of vendors to UCF

The Minority Business Enterprise Expo, hosted by the Purchasing Department, is Tuesday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., in the Student Union's Key West room. Vendors representing audio/video, printing, office supplies and equipment, computer, photography, electronics, data processing, electrical supplies and communication will be at the expo. For information, call Greg Robinson, 823-5348.

SARC open around clock for mid-terms

The Student Academic Resource Center will be open 24 hours a day during mid-term exams, Monday, Oct. 11-Friday, Oct. 22. SARC provides students with the following services: An academic setting for studying; a place for study groups to meet; computer, access for preparing papers and reports, e-mail access and access to the information kiosk; and, tutoring services. For information, call 823-5130 or visit the center at PC1-102, near the Biological Sciences Building.

Take Back the Night event rescheduled

Take Back the Night, an event that had been postponed because of Hurricane Floyd, is rescheduled for Thursday, Oct. 21. Students, staff and faculty will gather in front of the Reflecting Pond at 7 p.m. to show support for creating an atmosphere of zero tolerance of violence on campus and in the surrounding community. There will also be a two-mile march through campus and a candlelight vigil. Take Back the Night marches and rallies have been taking place around the world since 1976. The Police Department's Victim Services Unit, REACH and the Campus Activity Board are sponsoring the campus event. For information, call Nancy Eastman at 823-2425.

Upcoming holiday

There are still a few weeks before the next universitywide holiday. Veterans Day is Thursday, Nov. 11.

This issue

This issue of *The UCF Report* is for the weeks of Oct. 8-14 and Oct. 15-21. It is the sixth issue of fiscal year 1999-00. *The UCF Report* is published 23 times a year (every other week in the fall and spring, and every third week in the summer).

The UCF Report

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Trip down info superhighway can lead to parking decals

Faculty, staff and students can now purchase campus parking stickers through a Parking Services Web site

Buying a parking decal at UCF will soon get easier. Starting this spring, it will be something you can take care of any hour of any day. And students, staff and faculty will no longer have to wait in lines.

Decals can be purchased on-line with a credit card and will be mailed to whatever location desired. There is no extra fee for the service.

Richard Coy of campus Parking Services, who developed the Internet site, says that within 48 hours of activating it for a test run this fall, 17 people bought decals even though there had been no announcement of the service. It takes approxi-

mately eight minutes to complete the process, and Parking Services is working to reduce that time.

"The entire process takes only a few minutes and the permit is received through the U.S. mail within a few days," Coy says.

During the first 16 days of the test run, 122 orders were received on-line. Forty-five of those were after business hours and 27 were from students living more than 30 miles from UCF.

"I think it's a good service, the kind of thing we're trying to do throughout the university," says William Merck, vice president for Administration and Finance. "I'm impressed they developed this kind of convenience for our students and staff."

Parking Services plans to add the capability to pay for parking citations on-line in the near future.

The Parking Services Web site address is <http://parking.ucf.edu>.

—Joanne Griggs



President John Hitt, Vice President for Research M.J. Soil-eau (right) and dignitaries from Scotland and America dedicated the new Central Florida Business and Technology Development Center, last week.

Jacque Brund

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ional, in California and Virginia to boost commerce between the U.S. and Scotland and to assist Scottish companies seeking to expand in this country.

"We are pleased that government and business leaders in Scotland have selected Florida as a place to invest for their future business success," says Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, who also heads Florida's economic development efforts as chairman of Enterprise Florida. "Both Florida and Scotland have been building world-class reputations for high-tech industries including software development, laser optics and microelectronics. This collaboration can only further those efforts."

Up to 10 Scottish companies will be housed at the center. The overall incubator is capable of taking 25 additional firms. Five already have been approved, having met the high-tech focus for the incubator. Firms seeking incubator occupancy must show minimum prospects for success, demonstrate a need for incubator services and show that they can benefit from the business and technical expertise of UCF.

In addition to the Scottish investment, the UCF development center has been established with more than \$800,000 in funding for the next two years

EXPANSION, continued from page 1

Road. By offering UCF classes on that campus, UCF students majoring in select programs and living in west Orange County won't have to travel far to complete their studies.

"Part of UCF's metropolitan university mission is service to our community. It is important to that mission to be able to serve the west Orange County residents," says UCF Vice Provost Frank Juge.

Valencia is one of five community colleges in 11 central Florida counties working with UCF to ex-

from university and outside sources, including \$300,000 from the Technology Research and Development Authority, a state agency. According to the National Business Incubation Association, investment in incubation programs return 400 percent back to the community in wages, purchases and other economic impacts.

Besides the partnership with Scottish Trade International, UCF's Central Florida Business and Technology Development Center is supported by TRDA, the Florida High-Technology Corridor Council, Orange County, the city of Orlando, the Central Florida Research Park, Valencia Community College and Taurus Investment Group.

The incubation center is UCF's first university-wide effort to develop small high-tech companies.

"Small business incubation provides the tools and resources that enhance the prospects for commercial success of developing companies," says President John Hitt. "Our center will be a valuable addition to the university's efforts to develop the I-4 corridor into one of the nation's premier locations for high-tech enterprise. The presence of Scottish firms provides an international dimension."

—Dean McFall

pand four-year degree access. More than 17 percent of the 31,700 students enrolled at UCF take at least one course at one of the branch campuses.

As Valencia grows and demand for UCF courses increases, the university may build its own facilities there, as it has at long-standing branches at Brevard and Daytona Beach community colleges. The university also offers courses at Seminole and Lake-Sumter community colleges.

—Susan Loden

Y2K no problem ... but be prepared

Experts addressed people's concerns over the Year 2000 computer bug during a community meeting at UCF

After spending millions to fight the Y2K bug, business and agency officials assured central Floridians that no complications are expected as the clock strikes for the new millennium.

"The Y2K Community Conversation," a town meeting hosted by UCF last month, featured 12 speakers who explained how their companies and agencies have ensured a smooth transition to the new century. The forum was part of a national effort under the auspices of the President's Council on Year 2000 Conversion to increase citizen awareness of potential problems associated with computer systems.

Despite the reassurances of a seamless transition to the year 2000, Red Cross representative Carmen Iannelli cautioned the public to prepare as if getting ready for a hurricane. "It might be a non-event, but still it's best to prepare because no one can predict with 100 percent certainty that all will go smoothly," she says.

Larry Strickler of Bell South cautioned people not to pick up their phones right after midnight to see if they're still working. "Don't test your phones. If everyone picks up at the same time, the phones won't work," he says.

Bell South has tested all its systems, including 911, and everything tested fine. Still, a contingency plan is in place to ensure continuous service.

"We have stations all over the world, so if there is a problem, our systems in Israel will have problems before we do. We would have lead time to resolve any glitches," Strickler says.

Bill Staffeld of Orange County says that the initiative the county has taken not only assures continuous operation, but that the upgrades had actually improved systems. "We've gotten a return on this project. Our systems are now faster. We've improv-

ed our efficiency," he says.

Federal Reserve Bank representative Chris Oakley said the "fate of the nation's economy is in the hands of the consumers." He asked that preparations be kept in perspective, reminding that removing excess money from banks opens customers to the risks of theft and loss. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan recommends leaving money in banks, he notes.

"All of the approximately 10,000 federally insured financial institutions have been reviewed twice for readiness," Oakley says. "And remember, you will be losing interest if you withdraw excess funds."

He and Kathy Bartlett of the Florida Bankers Association stressed the importance of customers keeping accurate financial records and copies of banking transactions.

Other reports:

- The Greater Orlando Aviation Authority will be fully operational and is testing contingency plans.

- Florida Power Corp. finished its preparations in June, and included dry runs of contingency plans.

- The city of Orlando's critical systems, such as the Police Department, is ready for Y2K. "If someone runs into a power pole and knocks out the power in your area, don't just assume it's the Y2K bug," says city representative John Matelski.

- The Orlando Utilities Commission has had two successful drills.

- Publix Supermarkets have additional warehouse space to store critical products to assure

shoppers will be able to buy groceries as usual.

- Capt. Ricky Ricks of the Orange County Sheriff's Office says law officers are concerned with personal safety issues, especially with so many people having extra cash on hand. He suggests using traveler's checks or money orders.

The checklist for Y2K preparations from Red Cross is:

- Check with manufacturers of computer-controlled electronics in your home, such as fire and security alarm systems, programmable thermostats, appliances, garage door openers, electronic locks and anything with an embedded chip.

- Stock a week's worth of supplies — just as you would for a disaster — such as non-perishable food, water and medications.

- Have some extra cash or traveler's checks well before Dec. 31.

- Keep your car's gas tank full.

- Have extra blankets, coats, hats and gloves. Only use alternative heating devices inside if approved for such use by

the Underwriters Laboratory.

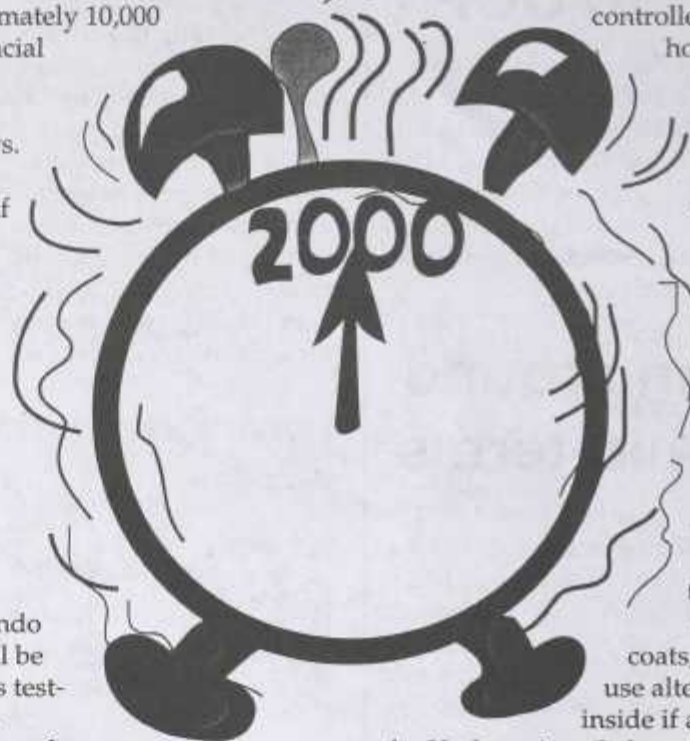
- Have flashlights and batteries on hand. Don't use candles for lighting.

- Check home smoke alarms. If yours is hard-wired into the electrical system of the house, check to see if it has battery backup. Replace batteries annually.

- Have a battery-operated radio or TV.

- Connect generators directly to appliances; not to your electrical system. Don't use generators inside your house.

— Joanne Griggs



A view from above

A student on his way to class passes through an abstract design created by light shining through a glass wall in the Computer Science Building.



Jacque Brund

Army marches into university partnership

A STRICOM division will use labs, offices in the Institute for Simulation and Training

UCF's Institute for Simulation and Training is the new home to the U.S. Army's Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command's Synthetic Environment and Technology

Management Division.

Led by Robert Sottolare, the division's staff consists of 28 researchers, engineers, support and contract personnel. The new location provides more office and laboratory space: one a high-bay lab that STRICOM will use to showcase research and engineering projects; the other, dubbed the "Innovation Center," outfitted with high-technology tools to support researchers, scientists, professors and students

seeking solutions for future technology needs.

UCF made the space available to promote closer coordination between the university, industry and STRICOM for ongoing and evolving projects. The collaboration is expected to significantly broaden the research capability of UCF and IST and help STRICOM satisfy its research and development goals.

IST is internationally recognized

for its role in advancing simulation technology. Principal research areas focus on visual systems, distributed simulation, information technology service and human performance technology.

The institute has worked closely with STRICOM on interoperability, computer-generated forces, dynamic environments and the Combat Trauma Patient Simulator program.

— Randall Williams

'Hip-hop intellectual' brings views to campus

Author, scholar and noted black intellectual Michael Dyson, variously described as a "hip-hop intellectual" and a "street fighter in suit and tie," will lecture on "Diversity for the 21st Century" as part of UCF's annual Diversity Week activities later this month.

The lecture will be in the Student Union's Key West room Monday, Oct. 18, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Since his first book, "Reflecting Black: African-American Cultural Criticism," won the Gustavus Myers Center for Human Rights Award in 1994, Dyson has risen to a position of prominence in both public and scholarly circles. He has been profiled in *Time*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *USA Today* and *The New Yorker*. His commentary on American culture has landed him on "Nightline," "The Charlie Rose Show," "Good Morning America," "The Today Show," "Oprah," BET and National Public Radio.

He has written for scores of publications, ranging from *The New York Times* to *Rolling Stone*. His latest book, "Race Rules: Navigating the Color Line," is a national best-seller and an audio version won the Publisher's Weekly award for best audio for current affairs.

Dyson is a professor at DePaul University and just completed a stint as visiting distinguished professor of African-American Studies at Columbia University.

— Jerry Klein

Week celebrates our diversity

Activities range from performances and lectures to rallies and a business expo

The timing is perfect with Diversity Week, a celebration of our differences and similarities, leading into Homecoming Week.

"We invite alumni to come back home to a community that is inclusive and diverse," says Valarie King, director for Diversity Initiatives.

In fact, the finale of Diversity Week, Oct. 18-24, kicks off Homecoming festivities with a 7 p.m. National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show — a traditional African-American performance similar to "Riverdance" — at the Arena on Oct. 24.

Some Diversity Week events — including the Step Show, an art exhibit in the Administration Building by children in the Creative School for Children and a concert by the Puerto Rican Sinfonica in the Arena on Oct. 23 at 7 p.m. — are festive opportunities to stir the UCF melting pot. However, a serious theme runs through this focus on commitment to one of the university's major goals: to become more inclusive and diverse. For the first time in the celebration's

seven-year history, issues related to victimization, violence and religion will be addressed.

On Oct. 20, at the Kappa Delta Diversity Dinner, Frances Driscoll, a poet who writes about rape, "will be sharing, with student organizations, how one's inhumane acts affect us all as a whole. That too is an aspect of diversity," says King. The following evening is the Take Back the Night rally at the Reflecting Pond.

"We are also going to address religious diversity and how people of different religions can work together, study and function on campus in view of the different perspectives they hold," King notes. This issue will be raised at 7 p.m., Oct. 22, in the Student Union Key West room, with author Aminah Beverly McCloud speaking.

King points out that the issues of inclusion and diversity are at the fore on campus year-round, with in-class diversity requirements. "It's all based on communication. The focus is on the fact that we are diverse and to provide a variety of opportunities for people to learn more about each other.

"When we began Diversity Week, the emphasis was on making a significant impact, primarily in the classroom. We asked faculty to use this as

an opportunity to explain a variety of human diversity issues, primarily as an academic experience. Since then, we have added a variety of activities. However, the primary function is still for the academic community to explore diversity with the students."

The week kicks off with the Dean's Diversity Breakfast, where invited guests will hear the deans highlight the diversity initiatives of their colleges.

Diversity Week, King points out, "is a universal experience, not a minority experience."

"There is a difference. At UCF, we are going beyond the concept of race and gender. We are looking at all kinds of differences as well as all kinds of similarities. The purpose is to understand how our differences, if managed effectively, can make us one of the most creative institutions around ... We must look at power, privilege, prejudice and oppression and see how we can come together and work on these issues.

"We want to make people begin to think of not doing unkind things. We need to understand, we're all in this together. It's going to take all of our creative energy to make this the best community and the best university it can be."

— Susan Loden

Seventh annual Diversity Week activities

Remembering Our Past, Creating Our Future

- Monday, Oct. 18 — **Deans' Diversity Breakfast**, Student Union's Cape Florida ballroom, 8 a.m.; **Grand Opening Celebration**, Student Union's south plaza, 11:30 a.m.; **Keynote address** by Michael Dyson, Student Union's Key West room, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 19 — **Minority**

- **Business Enterprise Expo**, Student Union's Key West room, 9 a.m.

- Wednesday, Oct. 20 — **Kappa Delta Diversity Dinner**, featuring poet Frances Driscoll, Student Union's Key West room, 6 p.m.

- Thursday, Oct. 21 — **Take Back the Night** rally, Reflecting Pond, 7 p.m.

- Friday, Oct. 22 — **Speaker** Aminah Beverly McCloud, Student Union's Key West room, 7 p.m.

- Saturday, Oct. 23 — **Puerto Rican Sinfonica**, UCF Arena, 7 p.m.

- Sunday, Oct. 24 — **Greek Extravaganza**, National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show, UCF Arena, 7 p.m.

Homecoming for faculty and staff, too

Campus and off-campus events are open to UCF employees — in fact, alumni would love to see them

Faculty and staff don't have far to go to take part in Homecoming '99 festivities, Sunday-Saturday, Oct. 24-30.

The Reflecting Pond is the place to be for a free movie on Monday at 8 p.m. Then it's back to (and into) the UCF landmark for the Spirit Splash pep rally on Friday at 2:30 p.m., when the uniform of the day is almost anything black and gold.

"We hope faculty will let students out of class early for the pep rally," says Darla Olive, assistant director for Alumni Relations. "We want to encourage greater participation by faculty and staff in all events. UCF is as much theirs as it is the students."

For events that aren't free, employees are eligible for the same discounted price that Alumni Association members pay.

Early birds, for \$85, can tee-off at 7:30 a.m. in the Homecoming Golf Tournament at Orange County National Center on Tuesday. At 5 p.m. that day, the Downtown Kick-Off at the Church Street Market courtyard will be the place to relax and enjoy music, before the 7 p.m. Knight Out at the Have a Nice Day Cafe on Orange Avenue.

"Every Homecoming gets bigger and better," says Olive. "We're tying everything back to a Medieval theme, the Golden Knights and all."

The Class of '74 will get special attention at the Reunion Banquet at the Student Union on Friday at 6 p.m. Hullabaloo spells "free party" following the

banquet, with refreshments, music and reminiscing for alumni, faculty and staff. "People ask if certain professors are going to be in attendance. Their former students care about seeing them," Olive adds.

You don't have to be a kid to stuff your face with cotton candy and enjoy the rides and games at the carnival 2-9 p.m. at the Arena parking lot on Wednesday. However, you may not need that snack if your first stop that day is the Tip-Off Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at the Orlando Expo Centre, for \$20.

Thursday at 6 p.m., you can be all dressed up, with some place to go — Hard Rock Live at Universal Studios CityWalk, for the Black and Gold Gala. For \$45, faculty and staff can dine, drink and mix

with Alumni Association members and alumni honored for their good works.

Saturday's action is downtown. Except for the 4 p.m. football game in the Citrus Bowl, when the Golden Knights face Eastern Michigan, the events are free.

Refreshments will be offered at 9 a.m. at the Downtown Academic Center. The Homecoming Parade is 11 a.m. The hours before the game, from 1 p.m., can be partied away at the Fan Fair tailgate party at Tinker Field.

For information on all events, contact the Alumni Association at 823-2586.

— Susan Loden



Last year's Homecoming activities drew a record number of participants and is widely considered the best ever. Will Homecoming 1999 top it?

Simply divine

When Jan Ring Kutz created her 20-foot tapestry that hangs in the reception area of local TV station WKMG-Channel 6, she didn't tell anyone that the large-scale piece is named "Reverence."

"There is copper Mylar all through the surface of the work. When the light strikes it, the light moves through the piece. I wanted people to walk in [the reception area] and all of sudden experience a sense of reverence," she says.

An art professor at UCF for some 25 years, Ring Kutz has urged her students to create works that are more than just pretty. "It's important that the work has a life, a presence beyond what you see. It should have a life

that transcends its visual image," she says.

Ring Kutz's ability to accomplish that comes from her deep spiritual beliefs. "I not only believe in God, but believe God," she says, suggesting that listening is as important as prayer. "What I

do has to be an extension of that. It's a way of honoring Him, praising, I guess. I'm a very quiet person by nature. I use visual arts and fibers as my way of speaking."

Ring Kutz has more than 100 exhibits and competitions to her credit. She has won more than 30

state and regional awards. Her first "big" award was "Best of Show" at the Winter Park Sidewalk Art Festival. It was the first time an artist-craftsman was presented the award.

"I had a vision of what I wanted to create, but I didn't know how to make it happen. So I taught myself all sorts of techniques, experimenting with form and shape. No one was doing weaving the way I did it at the time," she says.

The end result was an environmental piece; that is, viewers walked into the artwork, which included layers of hanging tapestries.

Over the last 25 years, Ring Kutz has become well known for her sculptural weavings and has worked on a number of commissioned pieces.

"It takes a long time to do a commission, often about four months. It takes a great deal of work, a great deal of planning. Weaving is not a fast medium. You have to have lots of patience," she says.

One of her commissioned pieces is a 10-layered tapestry for United Technologies at Epcot in the Living Seas Pavilion, which she describes as portraying the movement of water. "It's all curves because it relates to water," she says.

Born and raised in Chicago, she grew up surrounded by artistic people. Her mother and grandfather were painters and her father designed stage sets as an avocation. When she was a teenager, the artistic endeavors of her family were featured in a Chicago newspaper.

"We would go and paint life-sized murals for, say, the Boy's Club. I did my first mural at 13 years old. I always just assumed I could do it," she says.

Despite her background, Ring Kutz planned on becoming a math teacher, until she took her first drawing class at the University of Wisconsin. "My teacher taught me how to 'see' and to explore the beauty of line," she says.

After formal training at Wisconsin, Northwestern University and the Chicago Art Institute, Ring Kutz married, moved to Florida and devoted most of her time to raising a family of four daughters.

"When they were small, I realized that I wanted to go back [to working in art]. I had been doing small things for my dad and started taking a drawing class at night," she says.

She began showing and getting recognition, especially when she moved from painting to ceramics.

"I liked working with my hands. I found I had to have contact with the medium, even when I was painting. But I realized that I really liked working with form," she says.

The love of working with materials led to fiber art. She works with fiber, wood and metal, combining techniques and materials. Her fabric pieces can be painted, weaved, printed, collaged

"I not only believe in God, but believe God. What I do has to be an extension of that. It's a way of honoring Him, praising, I guess. I'm a very quiet person by nature. I use visual arts and fibers as my way of speaking."

Jan Ring Kutz

or stenciled (hand-cut).

"There's so much you can do with fibers. You can hang it on a wall or suspend it from the ceiling, wear it, use it; it can be tiny or huge, flexible or not, layered — it has infinite possibilities," she says.

In all her years at UCF, she has remained a part-time instructor.

"I like working with young people; I try to encourage their individualism," she says. "But teaching full time would have interfered with working on my art."

She also taught at the Penland School of Crafts in North Carolina for more than 10 years. Her exhibitions include the prestigious international "Fiber Structures" Exhibition at Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh and the National "Fabrications" Exhibition at Cranbrook Academy in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. She has a pair of tapestries hanging in the Southeast Bank Building in Orlando, a large silk painting in UCF's Facilities Planning reception area and a variety of pieces at Daytona Museum, State University of New York and the CRS Architectural Firm in Houston. Her work is published in the book "Soft Sculptures" and she has had three one-woman shows.

Although she continues to work and show her art, most of her attention goes now toward teaching, which includes silk painting, soft sculpture, weaving and design fundamentals. Her classroom is festooned with colorful silk paintings, large weavings in progress on looms and a collection of self-portrait sculptures made of cloth and wire.

Most of the pieces are samples at this point in the semester, but soon Ring Kutz will be expecting her students to follow in her footsteps and create something more than just a pretty picture — something that transcends the ordinary.

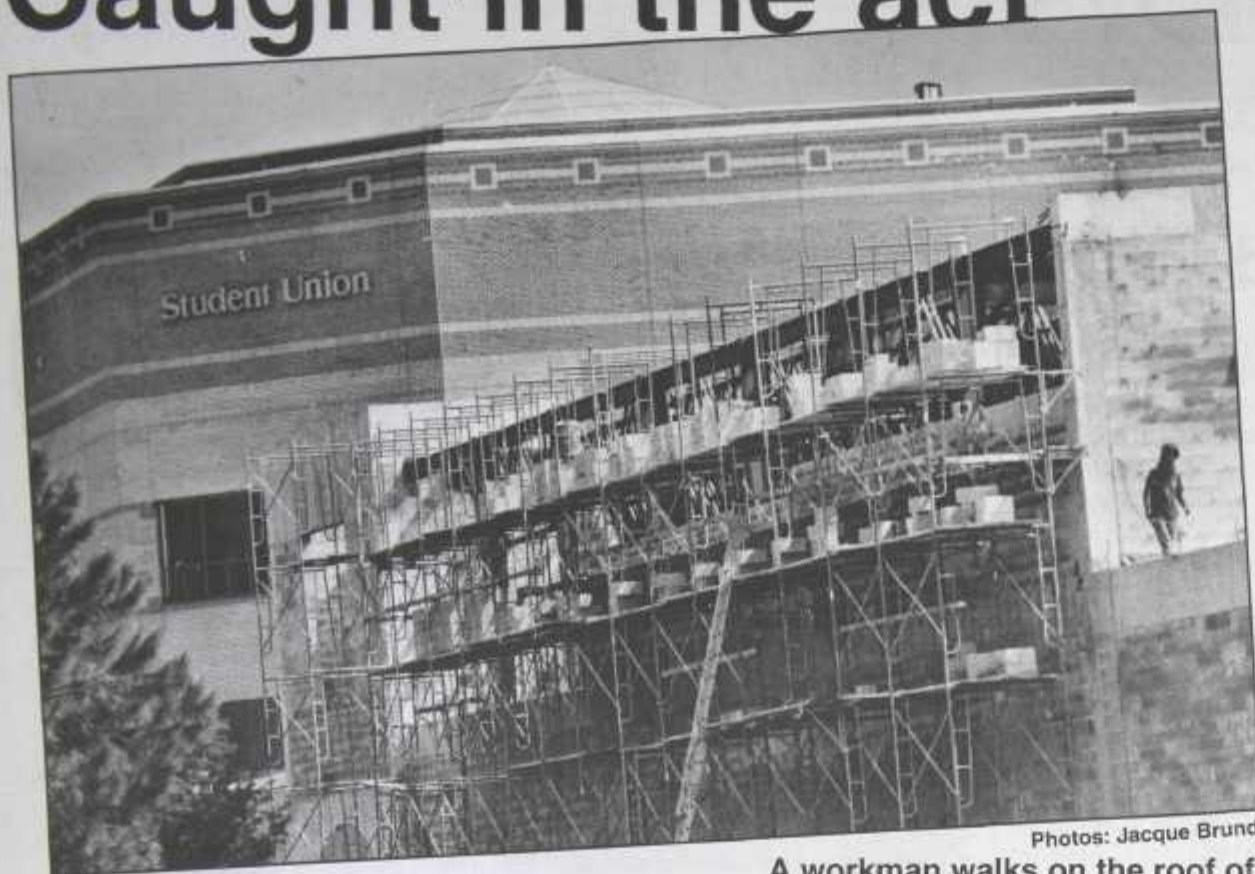
— Joanne Griggs



Jacque Brund

Jan Ring Kutz, a UCF professor for 25 years, is one of the best at her craft in the world.

Caught in the act



Photos: Jacque Brund

A workman walks on the roof of

the Student Union expansion project as work nears completion. The addition will include a ballroom and more shops.

Welcome

Leah Beachy — senior registered nurse, Student Health Services; **James Bryson** — assistant director, Undergraduate Admissions; **Sara Colindres** — senior fiscal assistant, Human Resources.

Kudos

Bettie Sommer, associate English professor, presented "African-American and Anglo-American Communicational Styles" at the Florida College English Association in St. Augustine in February.

Don Stap, English professor, published three natural history essays: "Handle With Care," "Arias of Debate and Desire" and "Island in Time." Stap presented a reception and reading to mark publication of "The Wild Heart of Florida" in Tallahassee in February.

Peter Telep, visiting English Instructor, published the novels "Wing Commander," "Wing Commander Junior Novel" and "Descent: Stealing Thunder."

Beth Young, assistant English professor, published "Survey Validity: Are You Measuring What You Think You're Measuring?" Young presented "Ethis & the ESOL Writer" at the Conference on College Composition and Communication in Atlanta in March. She is a member-at-large of the Southeast Writing Center Association's executive board and a member of the National Peer Tutoring Conference's steering committee.

Education project earns prestigious grant

UCF's Instructional Technology Resource Center and its partners in an education technology project have received a three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Strategies for Understanding and Networking Resources, Actions, and e-Yearbooks, better known as SUNRAY, is the recipient of one of 22 catalyst grants awarded nationally under the Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology program, a discretionary grant program authorized under Title III of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994.

"Teacher training has emerged as the critical issue limiting effective use

of modern technologies in today's classrooms," says PITT Director Tom Carroll. "We are investing billions of dollars a year across the country to equip our schools and to connect them to the Internet, and yet only 20 percent of our teachers report that they are comfortable using technology to improve teaching.

"Ensuring that teachers become technology-proficient educators takes on added importance when we recognize that we must recruit two million new teachers in less than 10 years to replace retiring teachers and to respond to increased enrollments. These new teachers must arrive at our

schools well prepared to teach 21st century students. The SUNRAY project is a powerful response to these needs," he says.

The goal of SUNRAY is to assist higher education faculty in developing strategies and partnerships that will prepare future educators to use technology effectively for teaching and learning in order to meet the goals of 21st century schools. The project will conduct professional development institutes and academies, create and maintain a virtual technical assistance community, and establish and support cohorts of higher education faculty and colleagues

across the Southeast to further efforts at infusing instructional technology into teacher preparation programs. In addition, participants will document the processes and lessons learned during the project to share with other educators.

Partners with UCF are North Carolina at Greensboro, the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory in Austin, Texas, Learning Innovations, a division of WestEd in Stoneham, Mass., and the National Center on Adult Literacy in Philadelphia. Apple Computers and Hart Inc. in Asheville, N.C., will provide technical support and services.

Lawmakers turn to UCF for expertise

UCF is one of four educational institutions in the country that participated in a congressional demonstration of capabilities designed to enhance the nation's simulated forces.

The U.S. Army's Simulation Training and Instrumentation Command (STRICOM) invited UCF to take part in the demonstration, held Oct. 7 in the Senate Building. UCF and its Institute for Simulation and Training have worked extensively with STRICOM.

"We're pleased to have this opportunity to show members of Congress the extent to which UCF research efforts contribute to a superior military force," says M.J. Soileau, vice president for Research.

Mark Yerkes, assistant vice president for Research, and Charles Reilly, chair of the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management Systems, attended the demonstration as UCF's representatives.

The other universities that participated along with the University of Central Florida were the University of Southern California, the University of Texas and Texas A&M. The demonstration was arranged by Texas Sen. Kay Hutchison.

— Barb Compton



Jacque Brund

Guitar man

A student took advantage of one of the few recent sunny days to practice his instrument of choice outside the Rehearsal Hall.

CALENDAR

10

Art (Library exhibits through Oct. 31): "Coffee Aroma in Orlando," by Francisco Rivera Rose; "Hispanic Awareness Month Art Exhibit," by Justina Gonzalez-Marti; "Remembering Our Past, Creating Our Future," by Valarie King; "October is Crime Prevention Month," by Tom Gorbas and Kelli Smith; "54th Anniversary of the United Nations," by David Nickerson.

Music: Guest artist Laurence Golan, violin, Gary Wolf, piano, Rehearsal Hall, 3 p.m., \$7.50. 823-2869

11

Event: International Fair '99, Student Resource Center, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 823-2337

Seminar: Women's Studies Program — "An Investigation of Gender Differences in Preferences Toward Mutual Fund Risk," by Peggy Dwyer, Jim Gilkeson and John List, Student Union's Egmont Key room 224, 4 p.m. 823-2269

12

Meeting: AFSCME, Education conference room 214, noon-1 p.m.

Meeting: Faculty Research Writers Group, Student Union's Cedar Key room 223, noon-1 p.m. 823-2853

Seminar: Noontime Knowledge Series — "You Have a Web Site, Now What?" by the *Orlando Sentinel* interactive staff, Downtown Academic Center, noon-1 p.m. 317-7700

14

Art (through Nov. 12): "Johann Eyfells, Sculptor," by Johann Eyfells, Art Gallery. 823-2676

Event: Poet and author William Trowbridge question/answer session and book signing, Art Gallery, 11:30 a.m. 823-2212

Faculty assembly planned for Nov. 1

A faculty assembly will be held in the Student Union's Key West ballroom on Nov. 1, 10 a.m.-noon. The assembly will provide faculty with the opportunity to vote on final approval of the revised Faculty Constitution, which was approved by the Faculty Senate on Sept. 23. A copy of the constitution has been posted on the Faculty Senate Web site at <http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~fsenate>. All deans, chairs, directors and faculty senators have been provided copies.

Judaism scholars to lecture at UCF

Two experts on Judaism will speak at UCF this month as part of the UCF Judaic Studies Distinguished Lecturers Series. Charles Liebman of Bar Ilan University, will address the "Religious Pluralism in Israel" (in COM 115 on Tuesday, Oct. 19, at 1 p.m.). Moshe Idel, 1999 Israel Prize Laureate and professor of Kabbalah at the Hebrew University in Israel, will give two lectures on Tuesday, Oct. 21. His lectures are "Kabbalah: Messianism and Mysticism in Judaism" (VAB auditorium at 7:30 p.m.) and "Hasidism: Ecstasy and Magic" (HFA 207E at 10 a.m.). All lectures are free and open to the public. For information, call Judaic Studies Director Moshe Pelli at 823-5039, 823-5129 or 823-2296.



Liebman

Lecture: Poet and author William Trowbridge, Student Union's Cape Florida room 316, 3 p.m. 823-2212

Theatre (through Oct. 24): "Side by Side by Sondheim." 823-1500

15

Event (through Oct. 17): Family Weekend '99. 823-6471

Open Forum: Central Florida Quality Exchange, sponsored by the Center for Quality and Central

Florida Manufacturing Technology Center, 8:30-10:30 a.m. 275-4330

16

Fund-raiser: United Way Jazzerthon, Arena. 823-3802

18

Event (through Oct. 22): Diversity Week — "Remembering Our Past, Creating Our Future." 823-6479

19

Book sale: Friends of the Library, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 823-5982

20

Lecture: Women's Studies Program — "Women and Crime," by Frances Driscoll, HPB room 126, 2-2:50 p.m., and COM 121, 4-5:15. 823-2269

Star gazing: Robinson Observatory, free public viewing, 7:30-10:30 p.m. 823-2805

21

Lecture: Women's Studies Program — "Captivity Narratives," by Frances Driscoll, CSB room 109, 2:30-3:45 p.m. 823-2269

Luncheon: UCF Retirement Association's 10th anniversary fall luncheon, Student Union's Cape Florida room. 889-9833

Meeting: Staff Council, Business Administration 230, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting: Women's Studies Program Reading Group — "The Rape Poems," by Frances Driscoll, VAB room 105, 4:15-5:30 p.m. 823-2269

22

Meeting: Faculty Research Writers Group, Student Union's Cedar Key room 223, noon-1 p.m. 823-2269

Music: Chamber Arts Series — Arman Ensemble, Rehearsal Hall, 8 p.m., \$7.50. 823-2869

Sports: Volleyball vs. Mercer, 7 p.m. 823-1000

23

Music: John Almeida, trumpet, Gary Wolf, piano, Visual Arts Building, 3 p.m., \$7.50. 823-2869

For a more complete calendar, check out the universitywide listing on the Web (<http://www.ucf.edu/pubrel/>).

October

CLASSIFIED

For Sale

Camper, 86 VW Westphalia Van, automatic, exc. condition, good tires, radio/tape stereo, tinted windows, pop top, stove, sink, 3-way refrigerator. 97K miles. About \$8,500. 366-4254 or e-mail for information, bradley@mail.ucf.edu.

Car, 1994 Honda Prelude, Navy, 5-sp., cold AC, spoiler, power windows and sunroof, cruise, tilt, stereo, 81,000 mi. Must sell soon. First \$8,800 takes it. 823-5139 or 671-9817.

Car, 1985 BMW 635CSI, 2-dr. cpe, diamond black metallic, black leather, 92,000 miles, \$9,500. 644-9616.

House, 3/2, dining room/sunken living room, brick fireplace, fans, screened patio, eat-in kitchen. 1864 sq. ft. in Oviedo cul-de-sac. 23 homes share 2 tennis courts, large pool, fenced wooded lot, many extras. \$125,000. 773-1854

Miscellaneous, beds, two, adjustable twin size, \$150 each; **Ryobi weedeater.** \$25; dining **table** with leaf and 4 chairs, \$25. 273-7856

Miscellaneous, day bed, w/ mattress, like new, \$200. **Desk,** \$40. Large **sofa,** like new w/ end recliners, \$450. 823-3263

Miscellaneous, desk w/ 6 drawers, \$50 obo. **Tank for oil heater,** contains 1/4 tank of oil, \$10 obo. **Golf club bag,**

\$10. **Feather mattress,** queen size, \$75 obo. **Espresso and cappuccino machine,** \$25 obo. **Ironing board,** \$5 obo. **Golf caddy,** \$15 obo. 823-5344

Miscellaneous, mountain bikes, 2, boys Free Spirit 24 inch, 10 speed, \$55 each; **Inline skates,** K2 backyard Bobs size 10, \$85; **Hamster,** male, w/ cage, running ball. \$40; 3 **Netherland dwarf bunnies** with cages. Donna, 365-3704.

Mobile home, 3/2 doublewide in Fairways Country Club, AC and appliances, less than 4 years old, carport, screen room. \$20,000. 273-7856

PalmPilot III Electronic Organizer, four months old, \$199 obo. Cradles, software and user manuals all included. Rick, 823-2865 or 671-6375.

Ski boat, 1978 Classic MasterCraft Pro 19 Comp, Canadian National Team edition, \$6,500. 644-9616.

For Rent

Chalet in Little Switzerland, N.C., 1/2 mile above village and inn. Stone fireplace, 23' cathedral ceiling. Near Biltmore Estate, 6,700' Mt. Mitchell, Linville Falls, Penland art/craft studios, parkway, skiing, golf, waterfalls, gem mining, ice-skating, caves. Photos available. \$475 week. 678-9383.

Vacation home, accepting fall and winter reservations for Asheville, N.C., rental. 3/2 cedar home. View of mountains,

20 minutes from Biltmore House and Gardens. 2 fireplaces; wraparound deck. Sleeps 6. Available by the week. 10 percent discount to UCF faculty and staff. 389-3222 or e-mail siebert@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu.

Wanted

Good home for kitten, cute young male. Attractive striped tabby about 3-4 months old. Friendly, frisky, purrs before your hand reaches his head. Shows up at my door nightly since he was but a handful. Needs a real indoor home, appreciates the finer life of a housecat. Michelle, 823-2338.

Ballot to Spotlight Employee of the Month

I nominate: (name) _____
(campus address) _____
to be UCF Employee of the Month. (Nominee must have been a USPS employee at least two years.) Any employee, including faculty and A&P, may nominate a candidate on the basis of job performance, dependability, attitude, etc. A name submitted remains in the pool of eligible candidates for one year.
Signed: (name) _____
(campus address, phone) _____
Return to Human Resources, ADM 230, EOM. USPS Council
Web: <http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~uspsstaff/>
(Mark envelope "confidential.")