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Breast cancer survivors study funded

The University of Central Florida will direct a \$1.6 million national study that could lead to uniform practices for raising the quality of life of breast cancer survivors on issues as diverse as fatigue, lost sexual interest and grappling with their illnesses in spiritual, life-affirming ways.

"While there is considerable research and clinical attention to symptom management during cancer therapy, the same can't be said about the negative physical, psychological, social and spiritual long-term late effects that plague cancer survivors after treatment ends," said Karen Dow, a UCF School of Nursing faculty member and principal researcher on the study funded mainly by the National Institute of Health.

"The first year after treatment is a period when women are making the transition to recovery and survivorship with very little interaction with health care providers," the veteran cancer nurse and researcher argues. "There is a great need to develop effective strategies and interventions to help breast cancer survivors deal with the quality of life issues they face."

The four-year study, known as Breast Cancer Education Intervention (BCEI), will test whether education and information on post-surgery fears and concerns improve the physical, psychological, social and spiritual well being of the participants. The study will be conducted among 250 subjects, all recent breast cancer survivors.

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Fighting substance abuse

A beefed-up student alcohol and substance abuse program that includes the hiring of a program administrator with wide-ranging responsibilities will be implemented beginning with the fall term.

The program follows the recommendations made by an alcohol task force appointed by President John Hitt to examine the scope and depth of alcohol-related issues and to propose ways to strengthen programs that reduce the negative influences of alcohol use and abuse.

"Study after study reveals that substance abuse is a problem on campuses throughout the nation and has a negative influence on academic achievement and

student success," said Thomas Huddleston, vice president for Student Development and Enrollment Services. "The problem is compounded by the fact that a majority of entering freshmen at UCF and elsewhere already have acquired usage habits and those habits can worsen with the increased independence of the college experience."

UCF will step up substance-abuse education

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Plenty of water on Mars

When we make it to Mars, there's an excellent chance that we will find a vast, easy-access watering hole to help sustain life on the Red Planet. This ice-crusting reservoir was found by Nadine Barlow, director of UCF's

Robinson Observatory, and her partners John Koroshetz, a former UCF physics undergraduate student, and James Dohm, a research associate with the University of Arizona's Department of Hydrology and Water Resources.

Barlow's use of impact craters to identify a near-surface ice reservoir south of the big canyon system Valles Marineris on Mars is outlined in the Aug. 15 issue of *Geophysical Research Letters*.

"This ice is closer to the surface in the Solis Planum area than ice elsewhere in the equatorial region and our analysis also suggests that an extensive liquid water reservoir underlies this shallow ice deposit" Barlow says.

"We believe that nearby, long-term volcanic activity has concentrated the volatiles in this region, due to various episodes of up-

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Engineering II ready for classes

UCF's long-standing ties to technology are strengthened with the August 15 opening of Engineering II. The \$15 million, 65,382-square-foot, brick building is linked to Engineering I by the 11,000-square-foot Harris Corp. Partnership Atrium.

"This is a most important occasion in the history of the university... Engineering has always been central [to UCF]" said President John Hitt, in dedication ceremonies. "This building is almost as badly needed today as it is richly deserved by faculty, staff and students."

The facility is the second of a planned, three-building engineering complex. "I am

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Half will meet regularly with research nurses, who will provide information on concerns that prior research has shown trouble cancer survivors. The nurses will also offer strategies for dealing with those concerns. The face-to-face meetings will be augmented with written and audiotape materials and telephone reinforcement. Each participant will be evaluated to determine the state of their well being at various stages of the study.

The remaining 125 study participants will comprise a "waiting" control group and will be evaluated on the same well-being standards as their study counterparts, but without any of the educational interventions and information on ways of coping with their circumstances. At the conclusion of the study, control group members will receive the interventions, so that they are not excluded from any benefits.

In the end, Dow said, the interventions rely on the belief that education and knowledge about breast

cancer and coping strategies are empowering and have therapeutic value. "Patients require knowledge to actively participate in their health," she said. "When they have it, they can better manage their health care problems and improve the quality of their lives."

— *Dean McFall*

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lifting and tilting of the groundwater table. Heating associated with the volcanism has also kept the water liquid for longer time periods."

The team poured over Mars surface images from two 1970s-era Viking Orbiters, taking a closer look at the smooth plains of Solis Planum which is pocked with craters formed by meteorite impact. They evaluated crater shapes and the ejecta deposits thrown from the craters when they were created. The locations and diameters of hundreds of craters were evaluated, mapped and cataloged. Excavation depths of the craters were obtained from the crater diameters using rela-

tionships derived from the laser altimeter data taken by the Mars Global Surveyor (MGS) spacecraft, which has been orbiting Mars since 1997. More analysis of this area is continuing with the MGS Mars Orbiter Camera data.

The character of craters and deposits is believed to indicate what might be beneath the surface. In particular, the fluidized appearance of ejecta deposits surrounding fresh impact craters on Mars is commonly believed to indicate impact into subsurface ice and or water.

Barlow believes ice and water are just below the surface in the Solis and Thaumasia Planae region. The tip-off is smaller than average onset-diameters for single-layer craters, strongly suggesting a supply of ice about 360 feet from the surface there, compared to approximately 650 feet elsewhere in the equatorial region.

The team will now try to estimate how much ice and water the reservoir holds, while their find attracts media attention. Space.com

was first to interview Barlow after she reported on the reservoir at a workshop last year.

— *Susan Loden*

Engineering from page 1

indeed fortunate to have this new engineering complex. Fortunate to have so many good partners," said Martin Wanielista, dean for the College of Engineering and Computer Science. The facility was envisioned as a "complex used as one by all. I think we've achieved that," he continued.

Engineering II features a 5,000-square-foot Harris Corp. Computer Lab that is open around the clock. There are 40 smaller computer labs, seven classrooms equipped with state-of-the-art multimedia equipment, suites for the departments of Industrial Engineering Management Systems and Civil and Environmental Engineering, a three-story structures lab, a 169-seat Alumni Auditorium, faculty offices and the dean's suite.

— *Susan Loden*

NEWCOMERS

Manuel Rodriguez, assistant director, Institutional Research; **Nathaniel Peoples**, assistant strength coach, Athletic Department; **Jackie Drisgill**, office manager, Office of Research; **Russell Moore**, assistant director, Undergraduate Admissions; **Manuel Molina**, senior fiscal assistant, English Department; **Melissa Engar**, assistant director, Alumni Relations; **Scot Boeringer**, assistant professor, Sociology; **Anna Marie Durant**, cashier, Telecommunications; **Jerry Sublette**, visiting instructor, Organizational Communications; **David Finnoff**, assistant professor, Economics; **Nihan Cicekli**, associate professor, Computer Science; **Stephanie Myers**, assistant professor, Criminal Justice and Legal Studies; **Eugene Paoline**, assistant professor, Criminal Justice and Legal Studies; **Steve Hamilton**, associate professor, Economics; **Shelby Gerking**, professor, Economics; **Darryl Conway**, head athletic trainer, Athletic Department; **John Haynes**, visiting professor, Management Information Systems; **Larry Marks**, psychologist, Counseling and Testing; **Steven Berman**, assistant professor, Psychology; **Stacey Lacenby**, assistant director, LEAD Scholars.

UCF Report

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Distance learning to address nursing shortage

The University of Central Florida will be administering larger doses of distance learning to improve the quality of rural nursing care in the midst of a professional nurse shortage that is doubly acute outside Florida's metropolitan areas.

A federal grant of \$539,822 from the Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, announced by U.S. Rep. Ric Keller (R-8th District), will expand UCF's pioneering web-based program of providing bachelor's degrees in nursing to nurses who hold current Florida registered nurse licenses. The program aims to produce 78 bachelor-of-science-degree-educated nurses in three years, all from rural areas and many from minority backgrounds.

"Evidence is mounting about the relationship between health-care quality and the educational level of health-care providers," Keller said. "Florida does not begin to approach the recommended standard that two-thirds of all nurses be prepared at the baccalaureate level."

According to Linda Hennig, nursing faculty member and coordinator

of UCF's RN to BSN (for Bachelor's of Science - Nursing) program, the UCF effort could well combat the nursing shortage, as well as yield improvements in nursing-care quality. The slowdown in the number of young people attracted to nursing and the flight from the profession by practicing nurses is influenced significantly by limited advancement opportunities for nurses lacking bachelor's degrees, she said.

"Increasingly, hospitals and health departments require baccalaureate degrees for nursing-based positions such as case managers, clinical educators, community educators and nurse managers," Hennig noted. "Fewer nurses likely would leave the

profession if they had a baccalaureate degree."

Clearly, many nurses would like to earn a bachelor's degree in nursing. A random survey of active registered nurses in UCF's 11-county service area conducted by the UCF School of Nursing has shown that 35 percent were interested in obtaining a baccalaureate degree within one to three years.

The problem, Hennig explained, is that practicing nurses, particularly in rural areas, often live far from a university and find that their work schedules don't allow them to attend classes when they are offered. And that's where web-based instruction can be a godsend.

— Dean McFall

KUDOS

Carol Bast, associate professor, Criminal Justice and Legal Studies, has published a book, "Foundations of Legal Research and Writing."

Law Ehrhart, biology professor, one of the world's leading authorities on endangered sea turtles, is the subject of an August 3, 2001, article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, page B 17.

Pamela McCauley Bell, professor of Industrial Engineering and Management Systems, is one of 4 recipients of the Central Florida Women's Resource Center awards to be honored during the 17th Annual "Salute to Women" Summit Awards on Sept. 25 at the Orlando Expo Center.

Students line up international sales

Five central Florida business may net up to \$8 million in foreign sales thanks to the efforts of eight UCF students in this summer's IB-2001 course. This is the fifth year of the program, which sends business students overseas representing local companies.

"The students recruited these companies, which each paid \$4,000 to be in the program, and helped these companies develop strategies for five overseas markets," says fi-

nance professor Bob Taft, who originated the course. "Then, in teams of two, the students worked in these markets to generate business for the companies. The five markets this year were Australia, Hong Kong, Italy, Singapore and Spain."

The companies this year include Lentek International, Norcross Marine, Dearborn Electronics, Superletter.com and High-Tech products International Corporation.

— Jerry Klein

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) _____ Print: (name) _____
(campus address, phone) _____

Return to: Human Resources, University Tech Center, 12565 Research Parkway, Suite 360, Research Park, EOM.

USPS Council Web: <http://pegasus.cc.ucf.edu/~uspssta/>

(Mark Envelope "confidential.")

Substance from page 1

activities and will more widely deploy "social norm" programs that have shown promise in reducing drug and alcohol consumption. Social norm efforts rely on the fact that young people tend to mimic their peers on almost everything, including drinking habits, overestimate how much their peers consume and often will lower their own consumption when they discover the truth.

At-risk populations identified by local and national studies, such as freshmen and sophomores, Greeks and athletes will be especially targeted. For the first time, for example, students pledging Greek letter organizations and athletes will

participate in university-sponsored alcohol and substance abuse prevention programs.

The new program administrator, who will report directly to Huddleston, will play the key role in implementing task force recommendations. He or she will be charged, for instance, with launching discussions with the academic colleges, schools and departments on integrating alcohol and substance abuse education into the academic curricula, conducting ongoing research on the effectiveness of prevention efforts, and working with bars and restaurants on alcohol safety issues, such as advertising promoting alcohol abuse.

—Dean McFall

Fan from FSEC so hot it's cool

Aerodynamically designed ceiling fans developed by the University of Central Florida's Florida Solar Energy Center are hot because they're so cool.

With blades modeled after the propellers on the human-powered Gossamer Condor and Gossamer Albatross aircraft, the fans are flying off the shelves of Home Depot stores nationwide, where they are exclusively sold under the Hampton Bay label. During their first five months of sale, buyers have snapped up more than 130,000 of the superefficient Gossamer Wind series fans.

The FSEC-developed fans, manufactured by King of Fans of Fort Lauderdale, move up to 40 percent more air than standard flat blade models utilizing a motor found on many conventional ceiling fans. UCF's Florida Solar Energy Center in Cocoa and the fan's developer, Danny Parker, a senior researcher there, are sharing in royalties earned since the fans first arrived at Home Depot in March.

The Gossamer Wind fans come in three models, two for homes (Callaway and Windward) and one for industrial or commercial use. Each shares the twisted blade design of propeller-driven planes.

The two home models are equipped with advanced remote controls, which turn the fans on or off and adjust fan speed depending on room temperature. Timers control the fans so they are not inadvertently left on. The Windward II model comes with a dimmable fluorescent light and the Callaway uses conventional dimming incandescent bulbs. The fluorescent system cuts lighting energy use to about one-third of most conventional fan/light units and generates much less heat.

The Florida Solar Energy Center is the largest and most active state-supported renewable energy and energy efficiency research and training organization in the United States.

—Dean McFall

CLASSIFIED

For Sale

Microwaves: one with turntable and one without turntable. \$25 each. Call Susan at (407) 823-6804.

Truck: 1995 Chevy extended cab, bed liner, tape deck, short bed, A/C, tow package included, excellent condition, fair price. Call Frances at (407) 839-5800.

Desk: beautiful, very old French antique, two drawers. Call Frances at (407) 839-5800.

Motorized Chair/Scooter: MX3/3 wheel scooter. Like new, used only three or four times. Bonus kit includes extra tire and mirror. Cobalt blue color. \$2,100. Call Corinne at (407) 823-2631 or (407) 695-2942.

Acura Legend: 1990, dark gray with tinted windows, 144,000 miles, sunroof, A/C, auto, power lock, power windows, 6 cyl., power steering, radio, tape deck, cd deck, leather interior, 2 door coupe, practically new tires. Call Karen or John at (407) 332-6595 or (407) 823-6584.

Furniture: Stickley four drawer dresser, dark oak, \$400. Mahogany five drawer dresser, \$400. Queen size Mahogany sleigh bed, \$500. Can e-mail pictures upon request. Call Kellie at (407) 823-2394 or (407) 381-8357.

Bicycles: Caloi-blue, on/off road, short frame, 21 speed, \$150. Giant/Warp-yellow, off road, hybrid frame, 21 speed, \$150. Motebecane-brown, on/off road, men's frame, 21 speed, \$150. Call Larry Hudson at (407) 678-5204.

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