

## Salamanders are Visiting from Georgia

The University house at 229 Davis St. may look like an ordinary campus house from the outside, but the basement tells a different story. It houses approximately 120 salamanders, at least through the end of September. And no, they did not come with the house.

For several years, Jessica Wooten, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology and a new faculty member this fall, has been working on a collaborative project to study Black-bellied Salamanders and Dwarf Black-bellied Salamanders. Her and her colleagues' work will eventually be published in the Herpetological Monograph Journal, which is published once each year.

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A. Risser Lee

Students in an Introduction to Research class videotape survival analysis trials using more than 120 salamanders from Georgia.

## 'A Company of Wayward Saints' at UF



The University of Findlay will present its first theater production of the new academic year Sept. 30 – Oct. 4. "A Company of Wayward Saints" will be performed in Ritz Auditorium, located in Old Main, at 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are available. Contact the UF Box Office at 419-434-5335.

"A Company of Wayward Saints" was written by George Herman. The play is about a troupe of commedia dell'arte actors who wander by mistake into an allegory. They are trying desperately to get home, but they have no money to do so. A nobleman in the audience agrees

to help them if they perform a play for him.

They agree to perform "The History of Man," and so begins a delightful journey. The first act is done in the style of commedia dell'arte using appropriate masks and costumes. The second act is done in a more realistic setting without masks. This play is a beautiful mosaic of life portrayed through humor and human understanding.

The play is directed by Vicki McClurkin. Other staff members include Kathy Newell, costumer; Matthew Stimmel, technical director; Jerry Deall, scenic designer;

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# Students Study Salamanders for Class

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Planning for the fall semester, Wooten was looking for a project for her Introduction to Research class. After some discussion with a colleague on the salamander project, Wooten had found her project. She contacted UF student Caitlin Corbet late Wednesday night, Aug. 26, and the two left at noon Thursday, Aug. 27, to drive to Piedmont College in Demorest, Ga., picking up another researcher along the way.

“The best part of the trip itself was having the opportunity to learn about a field of science and species that I knew very little about before we left,” said Corbet. “Twenty-six hours in a truck gives you a lot of time to learn, though.”

That Friday, they visited three streams and caught approximately 130 salamanders using small nets. Wooten estimates they had a 50-percent catch rate. “They’re really slick and really fast.”

Once caught, the salamanders were placed with some moss in plastic bags and transported on ice. Now, the salamanders are living in individual plastic shoe-box size containers until they’re returned to their natural habitat. By law, researchers must obtain permits to take the salamanders from their habitats and then are required to return them within a specified period of time.

Students in Wooten’s class are using the salamanders to conduct survival analysis. They began the

semester by placing each animal on filter paper for five days. The chemicals deposited by the salamander remain on the filter paper.

Then, the students use all of the salamanders and the filter papers to conduct four combinations of trials. They expose salamanders to the filter papers of salamanders that have and have not lived near each other and those of the two different species.

Each trial is videotaped so that students can further study the animals’ reactions to the chemicals of other salamanders.

After the salamanders are returned, via FedEx, to their natural habitats, the students in the research class will continue to analyze the data.

# Kershaw Speaks Out for Minority Groups

Josephine Kershaw, Ph.D., associate professor of health care management, has dedicated significant time and effort as an advocate in minority research and tobacco prevention.

Born in the Philippines, Kershaw earned her bachelor’s degree in Latin, her master’s in business administration with an interdisciplinary specialization in health services policy and administration, and her doctorate in social sciences and education, all from Florida State University.

“I got involved in minority research and organizations after my Ph.D.,” said Kershaw. “Many of these people do not have a voice — so I consider myself a voice for these minority populations.”

As a voice, Kershaw does more than just speak out.

Years before her most recent missions to Capitol Hill, Kershaw contributed to the development of the widely popular anti-tobacco Truth campaign with the Florida Tobacco Pilot Program as director of evaluation.

Kershaw said the initial purpose of the Truth campaign was to “let youth have control instead of being lectured to.”

“We thought it would be more effective if young adults had a voice, too,” said Kershaw.

Kershaw expends a considerable amount of effort advocating for health disparities research and data collection in order to address specific health needs of diverse communities.

“If you don’t know there is a problem, it won’t be addressed ... you must do research and collect data in order to be able to identify needs and address health disparities,” said Kershaw.

She ventured to Washington, D.C., this past June as a representative of the Ohio Asian American Health Coalition at the Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum’s Voices Conference. She also served on grant review panels for the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities, part of the National Institutes of Health.

While at Capitol Hill, Kershaw and other Asian American community representatives visited the offices of Ohio legislators including Congressman Jim Jordan, Congresswoman Mary Jo Kilroy and

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## ‘Wayward Saints’ at UF

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and Samantha Woodman, stage manager.

Cast members are Tom LaLonde as Harlequin; Kevin Subler as Scapino; Gary Flowers as Pantalone; Dr. Marie Loudon-Hanes as Dottore; Tim Dunn as Capitano; Tim Sherman as Tristano; Michelle Billen as Columbine; Kara Wilkinson as Ruffiana; and Krissy Randolph as Isabella.

# Celebrating the Sciences on Campus



A. Rissler Lee

*Junior William Leach and sophomores Hailee Rekey Nathan Toney, environmental, safety and occupational health majors, perform a dance to promote their field of study.*



A. Rissler Lee

*Heda Samimi, assistant professor of computer science, dishes ice cream for students in the College of Sciences.*



A. Rissler Lee

*Jill Dentel and K.T. Steward participate in discussion during an Honors class taught by Matt Stolick, Ph.D.*



A. Rissler Lee

*A student talks with a potential employer during the CASH Network job fair in the AMU.*

# Greek Recruitment Activities



R. Cross

*Amanda Skwirut, left, and Woon Soup Kim, right, have some fun with a 'human bowling ball.'*



R. Cross

*Students gather on campus for a fun and unusual activity.*

# Kershaw Speaks Out for Minority Groups

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senators George Voinovich and Sherrod Brown.

Discussions with key legislative aides included topics such as expanding access to health care, improving health care quality, ensuring a diverse and culturally competent health workforce, supporting research on Asian and Pacific Islander (AAPI) health, and increasing investment in community-based programs.

Off campus and on, Kershaw feels that all groups of people

should be recognized and cared for, especially with regards to having basic human rights.

Kershaw encourages all students to participate in activities during Celebrating Diversity Month, which is in October.

“It’s beneficial for students to learn about other cultures, to travel abroad and to explore global opportunities,” said Kershaw.

Through all her experiences, Kershaw feels every lesson has been valuable and continues to be motivated in helping others.

“You could sum it up in a saying I tell my children: Do what’s good, do what’s right, do what’s best and let God take care of the rest,” said Kershaw. “There are so many problems and causes, if you just do your best to help make the world a better place — even if it seems just a little to you, you don’t know the effect it may have on other people.”

*By Hannah Wurm, sophomore communication/public relations major, Bucyrus, Ohio*

# Equestrian Students Get European Education

Alex Minnozzi, a junior English equestrian student, brought back an unusual souvenir from her summer in Europe: a horse.

Minnozzi was hired last spring to work as a summer intern for Patrick Nisbett, an Olympic equestrian team rider for Bermuda, whose training facility is near London, England. Minnozzi not only rode and cared for Nisbett’s horses as they competed throughout Europe, but she also was given the opportunity to compete on one of Nisbett’s international-level show jumping horses at Hickstead Royal International equestrian competition.

Nisbett was so impressed with Minnozzi that he donated that horse to the University for Minnozzi to ride during her junior and senior years at UF. The horse will remain at UF when she graduates in 2011.

Before leaving Europe, Minnozzi was given a standing offer to return to Europe and work for Nisbett.

“I always thought I wanted to work primarily with young horses,

but now I know that I would much rather compete international show jumpers,” said Minnozzi. “This summer, I got a real taste of what the job is really like, with the work, traveling and general lifestyle on the circuit. Now I know there’s nothing I’d rather do!”

UF students Lindsay Baker and Mary Fly also traveled to Europe for internships. Both Baker and Fly worked for Helena and Tim Stormanns of Eschweiler, Germany.

Fly was offered a full-time riding position with the Stormanns upon graduation in 2010. Baker graduated in May of this year and had already accepted a job offer in Columbus, Ohio.

All three students secured their internship opportunities through connections made by Michelle Arnold '98, M'06, English riding instructor. In 2006, Arnold attended the Aachen School of Course Design (ASCD) in Germany, which led to an invitation in early 2008 to attend the first World Trainer Forum, held in January 2009, also



*Alex Minnozzi rides Dylan, who was donated to UF by Patrick Nisbett, at Grey Friar’s Farm in Salehurst, England.*

in Aachen, Germany. Arnold was one of only two Americans among the invited 26 riders and trainers in attendance at the 12-day forum.

Arnold was invited to return to Aachen in January 2010 as a presenter at the second World Trainer Forum.

FYI is published by the Office of Public Information. Send story ideas to Brianna Patterson, public relations officer, at [pattersonb@findlay.edu](mailto:pattersonb@findlay.edu) or call 419-434-4345.

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