

Academic Year Begins with Opening Session

DeBow Freed, Ph.D., president of the University, welcomed faculty and staff members to the start of the new academic year during the annual Opening Session Aug. 18 in the Koehler Complex.

Freed attributed high pass rates on professional exams and successful graduates in the workforce to good teaching at the University and also commended both the men's basketball team and the western equestrian team on their national championship wins during the last academic year.

He noted that the University completed an active and successful summer and that prospects for a strong first-year class are good.

"We can help students achieve

what they want to achieve," said Freed. "It is an enormous privilege to be working on a small college campus."

The morning continued with a message from Rev. William Reist, pastor at College First Church of God, and comments from Dr. David Draper, president of Winebrenner Theological Seminary and Daniel May, Ph.D., vice president for academic affairs at UF. Two videos



Faculty and staff members visit during the Opening Session breakfast, hosted by Dr. DeBow Freed, Aug. 18.

A. Risser Lee

showing University activities and the people of Findlay concluded the session.

Findlay is One of "Best in the Midwest"

The University of Findlay is one of the best colleges and universities in the Midwest, according to The Princeton Review.

The education services company selected the school as one of 158 institutions it profiles in its "Best in the Midwest" section of its Web

site feature 2010 Best Colleges: Region by Region that posted July 27. The profile is posted on www.PrincetonReview.com.

"The University of Findlay is so pleased to once again be recognized as an outstanding university by the Princeton Review," said Donna Gruber, director of undergraduate admissions at UF. "We will continue to strive to transform our students into creative thinkers and productive citizens through our innovative curriculum, commitment to service-learning, one-on-one interaction with faculty and hands-on experience."

The 158 colleges The Princeton Review chose for this year's "Best

in the Midwest" designations are located in 12 states: Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

The Princeton Review does not rank the colleges in its 2010 Best Colleges Region by Region Web site section. The Princeton Review survey for this project asks students to rate their own schools on several issues — from the accessibility of their professors to quality of the campus food — and answer questions about themselves, their fellow students and their campus life.



Welcome Week Activities on Campus

Classes for the standard semester session begin Monday, Aug. 24.

Listed below are activities planned for students during Welcome Week.

Monday, Aug. 24

10 a.m. – 2 p.m., community church fair, AMU atrium and lounge

7-8 p.m., ice cream social, Cory Street mall*

Tuesday, Aug. 25

11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Findlay's Market on the Mall, Cory Street mall*

8-10 p.m., UF Martial Arts Club self-defense demonstration and workshop, FRC track

Wednesday, Aug. 26

Noon – 2 p.m., Chill Out with Colleges Against Cancer, AMU

5-8 p.m., Theta Chi Wing-Off, Cory Street Mall*

Thursday, Aug. 27

11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Massage on-the-Go, AMU lounge**

5-7 p.m., Welcome Day at the Farm, Dr. C. Richard Beckett Animal Science Building; shuttle provided from AMU

8-10 p.m., Greek block party luau, Cory Street Mall

Friday, Aug. 28

11 a.m. – 3 p.m., Massage on-the-Go, AMU lounge**

5-7 p.m., Des Buford 3-on-3 basketball tournament, FRC

8 p.m., Live comedian Ron G, AMU-MPR**

Saturday, Aug. 29

7-9 p.m., Alpha Sigma Phi Welcome Jam, Bare/Fox courtyard

The Findlay community offers activities and events off campus, as well. Look online at www.visitfindlay.com.

*Rain site: AMU

**Passport event

Skrabec Publishes 17th Book with Help from UF Faculty Research Mini-Grant

“William McGuffey: Mentor to American Industry” by Quentin R. Skrabec Jr., Ph.D., associate professor of business, was recently published by Algora Publishing, thanks in part to the UF Faculty Research Mini-Grant Pilot Program.

The program, which was piloted during the 2007-2008 academic year, provided Skrabec with partial funding to do research for the McGuffey book. The goal of the program was to support activities that include original contributions to knowledge, ranging from professional publications and research studies to creative fine-arts projects. Nine faculty members received a mini-grant.

With the mini-grant, Skrabec traveled to Oxford, Ohio, to delve into the archives at Miami University, which contain original correspondence of McGuffey's.

This is Skrabec's 17th published book, and he became interested in McGuffey after researching several American industrialists for previous works. Though McGuffey is best known as an educator who developed the McGuffey “readers,” which were surpassed in sales in America only by the Bible and Webster's Dictionary, Skrabec found that McGuffey's texts were the source of knowledge and motivation for several American industrialists.

McGuffey instilled the basic principles of capitalism and democracy, while promoting the basic virtue of giving to and helping the poor.

Industrialists such as Henry Ford, Andrew Carnegie, Henry



Quentin R. Skrabec Jr., Ph.D.

Clay Frick, H.J. Heinz, George Westinghouse, Thomas Edison and John D. Rockefeller all cited McGuffey as being influential in their lives and business philosophies. Many American presidents and a long list of Supreme Court and federal judges attributed their scholarship to the McGuffey readers, as well.

Ford was so interested in McGuffey that he acquired the largest collection of McGuffey readers in the country. The Ford museum maintains the collection, and Skrabec utilized the museum for additional research.

Skrabec also traveled to the University of Virginia, which also holds some of McGuffey's archives.

Students Return for New School Year



A. Rüsser Lee

(Back row) Tyler Jacobs, Ellis Thompson, Brian Treece, David Nelson, (front row) Tara Bastin, K.T. Steward and Kimmie Eaken have some fun with Crazy Hair Day during Residence Life training sessions.



A. Rüsser Lee

Members of the trumpet section of the Marching Oiler Brass prepare for marching band season.



A. Rüsser Lee

Brian Swartz practices a drill while Jonathan Mora and Dustin Zielaskiewicz observe during football practice. The team will compete against Urbana at 7 p.m. Aug. 27 at home.



A. Rüsser Lee

Rosie Paris gets ready for a powerful kick during soccer practice. The women's soccer team will compete against Bellarmine at noon Aug. 30 in Louisville, Ky.



A. Rüsser Lee

Dr. DeBow Freed, right, greets guests prior to the Opening Session breakfast Aug. 18.



A. Rüsser Lee

Hiroaki Kawamura, Ph.D., and Josephine Kershaw chat during the Opening Session break.

Japanese Outreach Program to Begin

Natsue Yonekura arrived at the University from Osaka, Japan, in early August to begin a two-year post as Japan Outreach Initiative (JOI) coordinator at UF. Her first impression of campus was that she was “surprised at how big it is” compared to small Japanese universities.

Earlier this year, the University received a two-year JOI grant from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and The Laurasian Institute.

The JOI program aims to promote interest in and study of Japan by increasing grassroots exchange between the United States and Japan. It also will cultivate individuals both in Japan and in the U.S. who will take leading roles in

future grassroots exchange.

Hiroaki Kawamura, Ph.D., chair of the department of language and culture, believes the outreach program is extremely valuable. “This program will increase interest in Japan, not through books and DVDs but through Natsue, who will take time to go and meet people at places like schools and nursing homes,” he said. “She will be able to interact directly with people who have never interacted with the Japanese before. We want to make a difference in the community.”

Yonekura, who had never been to the United States, is starting her two-year assignment by observing American elementary school classrooms in Findlay and develop-

ing imaginative activities for young children to help them learn about the Japanese culture.

After becoming comfortable with the American classroom, Yonekura will coordinate activities within Hancock County as well as surrounding counties. Incorporating Japanese students at UF and domestic students enrolled in the Japanese language program, as well as community members, Yonekura will reach out to schools, nursing homes and other community organizations to offer long-term educational opportunities to them.

Those interested in the program may contact Yonekura at yonekura@findlay.edu or 419-434-4634.

‘Last Comic Standing’ Finalist to Perform

The University of Findlay will host comedian Ron G at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, in the Alumni Memorial Union. Community members are welcome; tickets are \$1 at the door. Ron G describes his comedy as “high energy and clever with an urban flare.”

Ron G graduated with a dual degree in finance and management from the University of South Carolina. After deciding that he didn’t ‘fit’ into the corporate world, Ron G got up on stage for the first time in Atlanta, Ga., at his cousin’s urging and got ‘booed’ severely.

He calls that “the best and worst day of my life - the day I fell in love with comedy.” He has been performing ever since at clubs, colleges, churches and corporate events across the country, entertaining people while staying true

to his commitment to clean humor. His performance presents down-to-earth humor and funny characters.

Ron G began his stand-up career in Atlanta, Ga., and was crowned first-place winner of the 2005 Sierra Mist Late Night Laff Off. After moving to Los Angeles to further his career as a comedian and actor, he was a finalist on the TV show with Bill Bellamy, “Who’s Got Jokes,” and was also a finalist on the most recent season of NBC’s “Last Comic Standing.” Ron G also was chosen as national spokesperson for Checker’s & Rally’s Restaurants.

“I want to represent the new generation of comedians that get overlooked. I’d like to show the world the new generation is just as funny, clever and talented,” said Ron G.



Comedian Ron G will perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 28, in the AMU.

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

If you know someone who has done something “worth noting,” on campus or within the community, send the information to pattersonb@findlay.edu.