

Teaching Academy Offers Opportunity to Learn from Others

The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) was established in 2009, with the addition of the Teaching Academy (TA), to raise awareness of good teaching practices and to share new ways to approach teaching in UF classrooms.

“Everyone’s teaching style and approach are different,” said Chris Denecker, Ph.D., associate professor of English, who serves as TA coordinator and liaison to the CTE. “Hearing others talk

about what they do gives me ideas for my own classes. Teaching can cross academic discipline boundaries, and we can learn from one another.”

In May, the TA hosted a Collegiate Learning Assessment visit, and this fall, a new Engaged Learning Brown Bag Lunch series began. Speakers have included professors Chris Ward, Chris Moser, Cheri Hampton-Farmer, Tim

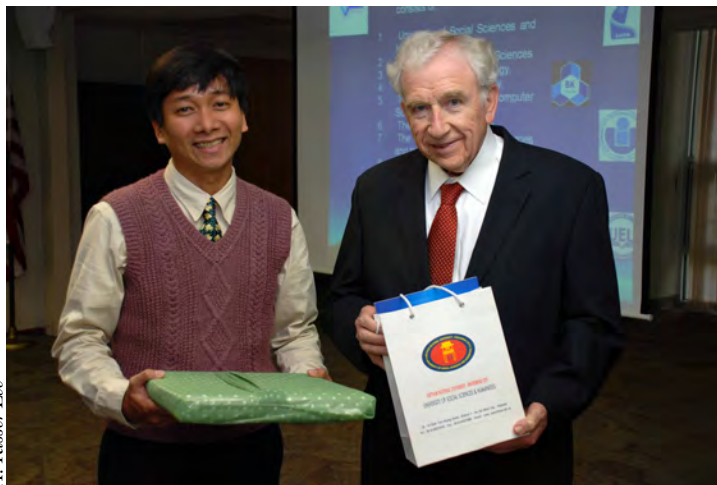
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A. Risser Lee

Cheri Hampton-Farmer, Ph.D., assistant professor of communication, talks to a group of faculty members during a Brown Bag Lunch series session in the TLTC #2.

Visiting Scholar Shares Vietnamese Culture



A. Risser Lee

Son Thanh Tung, visiting scholar from the Vietnam National University of Social Science and Humanities in Ho Chi Minh City, poses for a photo with Dr. DeBow Freed. During Tung’s stay, he gave public lectures and interacted with students and faculty.

On Oct. 14, Son Thanh Tung arrived in Findlay with a mission.

Tung, a professor at the Vietnam National University of Social Science and Humanities in Ho Chi Minh City, came to The University of Findlay as a visiting scholar. During Tung’s three-week stay, he has given lectures, visited classrooms and attempted to teach others about Vietnamese culture and issues.

“I applied to come here as a visiting

scholar because I saw an announcement at my university,” said Tung. “About one month after I applied, Dr. Hiro Kawamura from The University of Findlay came to interview me and four other applicants. He told me they chose me because I was different from the others — they all teach literature, but I teach about social issues and environmental management.”

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Teaching Academy Offers Opportunities

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Murphy and Ron Tulley.

The next speaker in the series is Susan Brooks, assistant professor in the College of Education, who will talk about “Three Groups, Two Goals, One Course: Engaging Students Through a UF-Community Partnership” at noon Wednesday, Nov. 4, in TLTC #2.

Faculty and staff members are welcome, and no reservations are

necessary. Coffee and dessert will be provided.

Also on the schedule this fall are two additional workshop series through the TA: program assessment support and Extreme Make-over: Course Revision.

The idea for the CTE arose in 2008 with the goal of creating a new initiative to enhance teaching and learning on campus. The CTE is a combined effort of the TA, Academic

Career Development (ACD) and Academic Technology Services (ATS).

Visit www.findlay.edu, Keyword: ats, for a complete schedule and to register online. Those interested also may e-mail training@findlay.edu or call ext. 4538.

Weekly e-mails are distributed with information about that week’s CTE workshops, and all sessions are open to both faculty and staff.

Visiting Scholar Shares Vietnamese Culture

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With his knowledge and unique cultural perspective, Tung prepared two lectures: “Rural Life in the Mekong River Delta,” which he presented Oct. 22, and “Economic Development and Socio-Environmental Challenges in Ho Chi Minh City,” presented Oct. 28.

Tung said he enjoyed speaking to audiences at UF and that the students in Findlay differ from those in Ho Chi Minh.

“Vietnamese students are taught to listen and not object, but they are very good students, while American students ask more ques-

tions and are more challenging and straightforward,” said Tung.

Although Tung was here to share information about Vietnam, that’s not all he hoped to achieve.

“I’m not just here to give lectures, I want to learn,” said Tung. “Through the directness and curiosity of American students, I can learn about their knowledge and perspective about issues and Vietnam ... and I want to tell about Vietnam as much as I can.”

Tung said he would like to act as liaison between the United States and Vietnam, and he hopes to help anyone with an interest in Vietnam-

ese culture or social and environmental issues.

“I am available as a connection between America and Vietnam at all times—even when I leave,” said Tung. “I have enjoyed my time here in this university environment because everyone is very nice and well-educated. I want to be a contact for students who want to help or learn in Asia and I am happy for the opportunity.”

Tung will leave the University Wednesday, Nov. 4.

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

‘Blithe Spirit’ Opens Nov. 11 in Egner

The University of Findlay will present “Blithe Spirit” at 8 p.m. Nov. 11-13 and at 2 p.m. Nov. 14 in the John and Hester Powell Grimm Theatre, located in the Egner Center for the Performing Arts.

Tickets are \$5 for general admission; \$3 for students and seniors; and free for UF faculty, staff and students. Tickets are available from the UF Box Office. Call 419-434-5335, and tickets may be available at the door.

Noel Coward’s witty and eerily funny comic farce, “Blithe Spirit,”

introduces audiences to the English countryside where audience members meet the charming and well-to-do Condomines.

Charles Condomine, a cynical mystery novelist, and his equally skeptical second wife, Ruth, invite the local spiritualist, eccentric and feisty Madame Arcati, to their quaint home in order to procure research for Charles’ newest book.

When Madame Arcati performs a séance for the Condomines and their dinner guests, the result is

infinitely more than Charles or Ruth imagined.

Charles’ first wife, Elvira, who passed on seven years prior, is magically summoned and the audience soon realizes that, indeed, three can certainly be a crowd.

Written in 1941 in an effort to provide a comic escape for audiences of war torn England, Coward’s “improbable farce” is just as delightful and “spirited” now as it was during the play’s original inception.

Heather Williams, instructor of theater, is the director.

Buford Center Sponsors World Dances



The UF dance team teaches students how to perform a kick line. More than 90 students gathered in the AMU and then were divided into smaller groups to learn dances from the Japanese, Taiwanese, Indian and American cultures.



Ryan Radebaugh and Swapna Pratap Japthan teach a group of students dance moves to a traditional Indian song, "Tunak Tunak Tun." Students had 30-45 minutes to learn the dances being taught to them and then they performed the dances in front of all other participants and a panel of judges.

A. Risser Lee



Yunbo Jiang, a graduate assistant from China, shows off his costume and pumpkin during the Office of International Admissions and Services' annual pumpkin carving event.

A. Risser Lee



Shawn Jordan, center, talks to a group of potential Oilers and their parents during a Fall Visit Day.

A. Risser Lee



Two actors from the touring stage show "Legally Blonde" give a master's class on auditioning Oct. 19. They also gave a master's class on dance and talked about the theater business.

A. Risser Lee



UF students, faculty and staff volunteer at a Mobile Food Pantry Oct. 24 as part of Make a Difference Day.

R. Powell

Operation Christmas Child Under Way

Faculty, staff and students at UF are invited to participate in Operation Christmas Child, an organization that collects and distributes shoeboxes of gifts to children around the world.

Through Nov. 17, participants may pick up a shoebox from the of-

fices of Campus Ministries, Campus Compact, International Admissions or Student Service (or use one from home) and fill it with small toys and school supplies.

The filled shoebox may be returned to any of the offices previously mentioned from 6:30–10

p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17, or any time during regular business hours, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Cash and supply donations also are accepted.

Contact Katie Wilburn at wilburnk@findlay.edu for additional information.

Helping Hands Across America Nov. 12

The Findlay community is invited to drop off donations of canned goods at Henderson Dining Hall between 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12, to participate in Helping Hands Across America and attempt to break the Guinness®

World Record for the largest food drive by a non-charitable organization in a 24-hour period.

Student organizations and faculty/staff groups will compete against each other. The student organization that donates the most canned

food will win a pizza and bowling party. Faculty and staff members who donate at least 15 pounds of canned food will receive a free lunch in Henderson Dining Hall, and their names will be placed in a drawing for a grand prize.

UF Senior Chosen for Leadership Class

For the Hancock Leadership class of 2010, nine months of this year will be dedicated to volunteerism, leadership and involvement in the community.

For Sara Wilson, senior business management and marketing major, nine months of this year will serve as an opportunity which will shape her future in more ways than one.

According to its Web site, Hancock Leadership is a nationally recognized nine-month seminar program sponsored by Greater-FindlayInc. and designed to foster and promote volunteer leadership resources within the community on a planned, continuing basis.

Wilson is the only student representative from The University of Findlay to participate in the class, and she qualified because of her internship with GreaterFindlayInc.

“I already feel more comfortable talking with businessmen and businesswomen, especially about

important topics that will ultimately affect the people of Findlay,” said Wilson. “I look forward to the volunteer time we get to devote to a group project and the opportunity to make a difference in the community.”

Each year, the class chooses a service project called the class legacy project, which Wilson’s class has not chosen yet.

Last year’s class chose to partner with Hancock Agency on Aging, while previous classes have worked with other Findlay organizations.

Along with dedicating time to the class legacy project, the class meets once a month and participates in a variety of activities.

“We had a retreat at Camp Glen where we participated in team-building activities, and we created a poster that described who we are and what we consider important characteristics in a leader. We were also fortunate enough to spend the day visiting family

farms, dairies and other agricultural businesses throughout the Findlay area,” said Wilson.

Wilson feels the class will be beneficial to her future and her career.

“I feel being part of the program will differentiate me from other employees and will force me to manage my time better and remain focused through these final semesters at Findlay,” said Wilson. “I look forward to working on our project and getting to know the other members of the program better. These people are hard-working and focused, and I can learn a lot by talking to them. They can offer great advice to someone like me who is preparing to enter the work force.”

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

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.