

## Excellence in Student Engagement at UWF

UWF Board of Trustees Meeting

June 2, 2009

### Student Accomplishments Compiled from March, 2009 – May, 2009

#### College of Business

University of West Florida students **Krystle Escarfullet (Masters, MSA)**, **Cristina Jantzen (Senior, Business Admin.)** and **Shari Tucker (Senior, Business Admin.)** developed a mobile tax system with usability features for “Business Systems Design”. The article on their work was selected to be presented at the **Southwest Decision Sciences Institute Conference** in Oklahoma City, OK. where it received the “**Best Undergraduate Paper Award**”. The article describes the concept of utilizing mobile devices to carry out the task of filing income tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service. The model represents the cutting edge of applications for mobile computing in e-Government.

The following **MBA** students had papers published:

- **Rob Null** and Dr. Jun Wei (forthcoming), “Value Increasing Business Model for E-Hospital”, *International Journal of E-Healthcare*
- **Meiga Loho-Noya** and Dr. Jun Wei (2008) “Human Safeguards on Information Privacy and Security in Global IT Outsourcing”, *Proceedings of Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics International*, Las Vegas
- **Rebecca Peterson** and Dr. Jun Wei (2008) “E-Customer Chain Management on the Human Perspectives in Engineering Services”, *Proceedings of Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics International*, Las Vegas
- **Faustine Casassus** and Dr. Jun Wei (2009) “Development of a Value Increasing Model for Movie Industry”, *Proceedings of the Southwest Decision Sciences Institution*, Oklahoma
- Dr. Jun Wei and **Meiga Loho-Noya** (2009) “Creativity in E-Government Website”, *Proceedings of the Southwest Decision Sciences Institution*, Oklahoma

**Steven Pepper (Masters, MBA)** was the sole author and presenter of a paper titled, “**A Comparison of Patient Attendance Prediction Models**” at the **2009 Southeast Decision Science Institute Conference**. The paper was published in the SEDSI Proceedings. This paper addressed nonattendance in healthcare and compared thirteen models that offer methods to predict patient attendance in an attempt to aid decision making for healthcare management. A number of factors that impact attendance were identified, as well as isolated successes for individual clinics.

#### College of Arts and Sciences

The College of Arts and Sciences announced the award recipients for the **Sixth Annual Scholars of Engineering, Applied Sciences and Technology Annual Research Symposium (SEASTARS)**. The symposium was held April 16 and featured more than 50 research poster presentations by UWF students and faculty from 11 participating departments. Recipients of the **President’s Award for Best of Show** were Physics Department members **Jon Welch (Senior)**, **Charles Amos (Senior)**, **Scott Miller (Senior)**, Dr. Chandra Prayaga, Dr. Guoqing Wu and Dr. Laszlo Ujj, for their poster titled “Investigation of a Molecular Rotor with Vibrational Spectroscopy.” The **Provost’s Award for Best Poster for Research Emphasizing Excellence in Teaching and Learning** was given to **Michael Rubey (Masters)** and Dr. Morris Marx, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, for their poster titled “Stochastic Generation of Music.” Recipients of the **Dean’s**

**Award for Best Collaborative Effort** were **Dustin Addis (Masters), Mike Dance (Masters), and** Dr. William Patterson, Department of Biology, for their poster titled “Site Fidelity and Dispersion of Reef Fishes Tagged at Unreported Artificial Reef Sites off Pensacola, Florida”.

Two teams of Communication Arts students were recognized at the **Florida Public Relations Association Northwest Florida (FPRA) Image Awards** on April 25, 2009. The annual competition recognized the year’s outstanding public relations programs in Northwest Florida and serves as a stepping-stone to the FPRA Golden Image Awards. Entries were judged on sound public relations research, identification of objectives, implementation and measurable evaluation of success. **Caitlyn Blizzard (Junior, Com Arts)** and **Amanda Short (Senior, Com. Arts)** received both a **Judge’s Award** and an **Award of Distinction** for a class project completed in Dr. Gretchen Norling's Leadership Communication course. **Victoria Stafford (Senior, Com. Arts), Shea Byrne (Senior, Com. Arts) and John Williams (Senior, Com. Arts)** received an **Award of Distinction** for a class project in Mr. Rick Scott's Crisis Public Relations course.

The UWF Java programming team of **Gilbert (Ryan) Petris (Junior, Computer Science)** and **Ryan Sharpe (Senior, Computer Science)** took **first place** in the **Java programming competition** at the **2009 Association of Information Technology Professionals National Collegiate Conference**.

The University of West Florida’s **Forensics Team** produced 12 individual finalists at the **Florida Intercollegiate Forensics Association (FIFA) State Championship** in Lakeland. Three UWF students combined to win four state championships. The FIFA state championship is the most competitive tournament in Florida, hosting students from many other Florida institutions, including Florida State University and the University of Florida. The following UWF students were named FIFA state champions: **Allison Anderson (Senior, Com. Arts), for Poetry and Duo Interpretation; Colossia Butts (Senior, Com. Arts), for Information Speaking; and Joseph Gagliardi (Junior, Com. Arts), for Duo Interpretation and Pentathlon. Gagliardi was also named Overall Top Speaker.** For a second year in a row, **Butts** also qualified for the **Interstate Oratory Contest (IOA)**, a historic contest that invites the top two persuasive speakers from each state for the final competition of the season. UWF has represented the state of Florida at this national event for the last three years.

**Tanya Gallagher (Senior, Environmental Studies)**, has been accepted into a competitive **10-week summer internship program** at **NASA’s Langley Research Center** where she’ll be working on Environmental Applications of GIS.

**Jessie Brown (Senior, IIT-eLearning Support), Tessa Love (Senior, IIT-Networking and Telecommunications), and Adrienne Wallace (Senior, Computer Science),** are working with Dr. Lakshmi Prayaga and Dr. Dave Dawson on the **Multidisciplinary Research Opportunities for Women grant for 2008-2009**. They received a **second prize in SEASTARS** on April 16th 2009 for their game *Mall Crawl*. They are working on a girl-friendly game designed to teach high school economics centered around shopping, inventory management, designer selection, etc.

#### **College of Professional Studies**

University of West Florida Army ROTC cadet **Joseph McCandless (Senior, INT INF Tech/Hum CPT)**, of Pensacola, joined senior U.S. military leaders at a national security seminar. Cadet McCandless traveled to historic Lexington, Va., along with key military officials such as Army Chief of Staff Gen. George W. Casey and Secretary of the Army Pete Geren for the “**George C. Marshall ROTC Seminar**” in April. McCandless

earned the opportunity to participate in the seminar by being selected as the **top Army ROTC cadet at UWF**. “Cadet Joseph McCandless is among the best and brightest of our students here at UWF,” said Lt. Col. Chris Speer, Army ROTC professor of military science. “He was recently awarded the **Kenneth L. Curtis Award for Outstanding Service**; the highest award given to a student from the Division of Student Affairs. Whether he is the guest speaker at the Baptist Collegiate Ministries, mentoring junior cadets, executing an orienteering event or redesigning the Army ROTC Web site, McCandless is a leader who represents UWF and Cadet Command with distinction.”

The **UWF Mock Trial Team** won the “**Spirit of AMTA Award**” which recognizes the one team at the regional mock trial competition who best displays the principals of the American Mock Trial Association (civility, fairness, and justice). This young team performed very well in the competition and we commend all of them and Professor Tatum for their strong showing in this tough competition.

**Sean Lacey (Junior, HLES), Jonathan Owens (Senior, HLES), and Justin Hardee (Senior, HLES)** of the Exercise Science Club placed second in a hotly contested **Brain Bowl** competition at the **Southeast American College of Sports Medicine annual conference**. They placed second behind FSU by one point out of a field of eleven teams.

**J. Michelle Baragona (MSA-HPT), Stefanie Chrisman (MSA-HPT), P. Darlene Peters (Doctoral-C&I-IT)** and **Vaun Shebeck (MSA-HPT)**, and their faculty sponsor, Dr. Nancy B. Hastings, traveled to Orlando to attend the **International Society for Performance Improvement (ISPI) Conference** and participated in the final phases of the inaugural **ISPI University Case Study Competition**. The team, working under the name Performance Solutions to insure anonymity throughout the judging process, began this journey in January, as one of five universities invited to participate in the competition. In the weeks prior to the conference they worked with a hypothetical client, demonstrating their Human Performance Technology expertise by analyzing and recommending solutions for an authentic performance improvement situation. They worked long and hard throughout the competition, which was evident in the high quality work they produced and the positive feedback they received from the judges, competing teams and faculty sponsors, and other conference attendees.

#### **Emerald Coast**

**Eneami Bestman (Senior, Criminal Justice)** collaborated with the ACLU of Florida to organize a “Rights Restoration Workshop” for ex-offenders. She assisted members of the local community in applying to have their rights restored, and organized a community discussion panel with Seth Miller and Alan Crotzer (who was exonerated from prison through DNA testing after serving 24 years).

**Adrian Wigston (Senior, Accounting)** organized **Beach Clean-Up on the Emerald Coast** where students and community members helped to clean over three miles of beach.

#### **Student Affairs**

The **2009 University of West Florida Student Leadership Award** winners were: **The Cycling Club** for Outstanding University Service, **The Minority Graduate Association and the Ladies in Waiting Program** for Outstanding Program, the **UWF Barbeque Club** for Outstanding New or Reactivated Student Organization, **Ashley Burton (Junior, Hospitality, Recreation, and Resort Management)** for Emerging Leadership Award, **Brittney Lewis (Senior, Com Arts)** and **Jin Seup Lim (Senior, Biology)** for Outstanding Student Leadership, **Donielle Ojeh (Masters, CSPA)** for Outstanding Graduate Leadership, **LaRonda Mangun (Junior, Pre-BSN)** for the Campus Activity Board Award, **Michael Parlato (Sophomore, Pre-Electrical Engineering)** for

Sports Club Leadership, **Jenna Moes (Senior, Exercise Science)** for the William M. Healey Award, **April Jardine (Senior, History)** for The Hal Crosby Leadership Award, **Joseph McCandless (Senior, Int Inf Tech)** for The Kenneth Curtis Award, and **Colossia Butts (Senior, Comm. Arts)** for The Linda O. Dye Award.

**Jenni Brian (Doctoral, Education), Jennifer Johnson (Doctoral, Education), Missy Pritzl (Masters, CSPA), Alex Colley (Masters, MBA) and Sara Sheets (Masters, Exercise Science)** presented “**The Donut Budget**” at the 2009 National Intramural Recreational Sports Association Conference. This session discussed creative ways to use technology, employees, and academic partners to create effective marketing programs without a dedicated budget.

**April Moore (Masters, CSPA)** received a **National Intramural Recreational Sports Association Student National Service Award** for her work and dedication in promoting student learning outcomes as a critical element of recreational sports.

**Tasha Sanders (Masters, MSA)** has been awarded a Fellowship with the **National Association of Campus Activities**. This will allow her the opportunity to present at the national and regional NACA Conferences, as well as have an article published in *Campus Programming Magazine*.

The **Resident Assistants** with Housing and Residence Life have won the bid to **host the 2010 Florida Resident Assistant Symposium** at UWF. UWF’s representatives at the 2009 FRAS also won the “**Spirit Cup**” Award.

The 2009 UWF Housing and Residence Life award winners were; Resident Assistant of the Year **Melissa Nystrom**, Hall Director of the Year **Kelly Kalmburn**, Staff of the Year **Delphi (Martin Hall)**, Most Creative **Dali Ramos**, Community Builder of the Year **Tyson Alburn**, Life Saver Award **Ronnie Rentz and Noah O’Donnell**, Above and Beyond the Call of Duty **Melissa Nystrom**, Programmer of the Year **Tyson Alburn**, Service Pins **Ronnie Rentz, Lindsay Onjukka, Kim Luzano, Cami Patterson, Melissa Swartz, Jessica French, Tristan Franke, Maverick Hoenig**.

**Stephen Trimble**, Argo RA, was accepted to the prestigious **STARS College** of our **Association of College and University Housing Officers-International**. This College is designed for undergrads who want to pursue a career in Housing and student Affairs.

Student leaders operating under a **Campus Action Project** grant from the **American Association of University Women** hosted approximately 200 8<sup>th</sup> Grade girls from area middle-schools on the UWF campus for a half day “**Girls Rock!**” program. The program provided information on career choices, STEM careers, body image, and preparation for high school and college.

### **Athletics**

The University of West Florida claimed its **fourth straight Gulf South Conference Women’s All-Sports Trophy** and fifth in the last six years. UWF joined former GSC member Jacksonville State as the only schools to capture four straight women’s all-sports trophies since the award’s inception in 1982-83. The UWF men’s teams tied for fourth place in the GSC standings.

The Argonaut **Softball Team** tabbed five spots on this year’s **All-Gulf South Conference** teams. Pitcher **Jillian Lafrance (Junior, HLES)** and first basemen **Shannon Miles (Junior, Art)** were both named to the **All-GSC First Team**, as **Lafrance** captured the **GSC East Pitcher of the Year** laurel. Pitcher **Emily Burge (Senior, HLES)**, shortstop **Caurie Miller (Senior, HLES)**, and leftfielder **Melissa Chastang (Senior, HLES)** earned **All-GSC Second Team** honors after a successful 2009 regular season.

The Argonauts **Baseball Team** placed six Argonauts on the **All-GSC Second Team**. Earning their first nod to the All-GSC team were **Tyler Hastings (Sophomore, Criminal Justice)**, **Greg Pron (Sophomore, Computer Science)**, **Brandon Brewer (Sophomore, HLES)** and pitchers **John Church (Junior, HLES)** and **Kevin Johnson (Junior, HLES)** while **Kyle Ramsey (Senior, Business Administration)** earned his third career laurel. John Church was also named by Daktronics to the **All-South Region Second Team**.

**Shannon McDougall (Senior, Marketing)** and **Bailee Hedstrom (Freshman, Pre-BSN)** highlighted the **2008-2009 Women's Cross Country Individual Awards** at the year-end banquet. **McDougall** earned the **Most Valuable Runner** award, while **Hedstrom** earned the **Most Promising Freshman** award. The two together were honored for earning **All-Gulf South Conference second team** honors for their **top 20 performances in the GSC Championships**.

The **UWF Men's Cross Country Team** concluded the 2008-2009 year with an awards banquet to honor the best of the fall cross country season and the spring off-season competition. **Justin Gates (Senior, Business Administration)** and **Andrew Maedel (Junior, Business Administration)** took home the top awards. **Gates** earned the **Most Valuable Runner Award**, while **Maedel** was honored for academic and athletic success after being named to the **Gulf South Conference All-Academic Team**.

**UWF Men's Tennis** players **Kevin Ducros (Freshman, Business Administration)** and **Andrey Pozhidaev (Freshman, Business Administration)** earned **All-Gulf South Conference Team** selections, and **Ducros** was honored as the **2009 GSC East Division Freshman of the Year**.

**(Exhibit A)**