

GET TO KNOW ...



ALLISON G. JEFFERSON

ALLISON G. JEFFERSON, assistant dean for administrative and financial affairs in the College of Education and Human Performance, has worked at UCF for 15 years serving the college in a variety of positions. She currently is responsible for several administrative units in the college, including budget, technology, college outreach and others. She is a native of Orlando and earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism at Northwestern University. She previously worked as public relations coordinator at a national real estate association, and at Northwestern as an associate director in undergraduate admissions and coordinator for African-American student recruitment.

? When did you realize you wanted to have a career in higher education?

Almost 25 years ago I decided I no longer wanted to pursue a journalism career and took a job in undergraduate admissions at Northwestern until I could figure things out. It was more rewarding than I ever imagined because I was able to share with African-American students who were not even considering such a college that it was an attainable opportunity, just as I had experienced. Seeing students who I had spoken with at college fairs come to campus and thrive completely aligned with what I had been taught about the power of access to higher education. That job led to my career in higher education where my efforts make a difference in the lives of students.

? Who inspired your achievements?

My parents, Homer and Bertha Gaines. They modeled the importance of being hard-working, dedicated, resourceful and resilient. They did not attend college, but dreamed that

I would, and sacrificed on a working-class salary to make sure I did.

? What do you like about your job at UCF?

The variety of responsibilities and the opportunity to participate in new initiatives. I receive great satisfaction from helping the college to operate at its best.

? What accomplishments have you been most proud of at UCF?

My involvement in the renovation of the Education building and the construction of the Teaching Academy and the Morgridge International Reading Center. It gives me great joy to know that I had a role in turning words on building-program pages into a really nice work and learning environments.

? What is something most people may not know about you?

I love veggies and desserts. A favorite meal would be a variety of veggies followed by a sampling of cakes, cookies, pies and cobblers.

? If you weren't doing this job, what would you be doing?

I'm fortunate to have a job that I really enjoy. However, if I wanted to pursue something else, maybe a nutrition specialist at a resort helping people discover and enjoy the benefits of healthy foods.

? Tell us a little about your family.

I've been married for 23 years to my husband, Don, who is a licensed clinical social worker and marriage and family therapist. We have two sons, Bakari, 21, who has a passion for playing basketball, and Karanja, 17, who has played the clarinet in school bands for the past seven years. We have a loveable husky shepherd mix, Flex. And I'm blessed to still have my mother, father, brother and 98-year-old grandmother who continue to teach me about living.



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UCF AT WORK

FOR STAFF AND FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

APRIL 2015

5 NAMED AS PEGASUS PROFESSORS

Five UCF professors recently were named Pegasus Professors, the university's highest academic honor.

The professors and other faculty and staff were recognized at the annual Founders' Day Honors Convocation for their achievements in research, professional service, length of service to the university and other categories.

PEGASUS PROFESSORS:

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES



Humberto López Cruz, Spanish professor and interim director of the Department of Modern Languages and Literature.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES



Kerstin Hamann, professor and chair of the Political Science Department.



Cynthia Y. Young, professor in mathematics, an associate dean for the College of Sciences, and interim vice provost for international affairs and global strategies.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE



Mohamed Abdel-Aty, professor and chair of civil, environmental and construction engineering and deputy director of the Center for Advanced Transportation Systems Simulation.



Avelino J. Gonzalez, professor in computer science and the director of the international engineering program.

For other Founders' Day honorees, see inside.



FACULTY & STAFF CAMPAIGN EXCEEDS PARTICIPATION GOAL

UCF faculty and staff members attended a recent luncheon to celebrate the success of this year's Believe campaign, which raised \$1,036,248 to support a variety of university programs such as student scholarships and facility enhancements.

The focus of this year's Faculty & Staff campaign was to increase participation, with a goal of 1,500 total donors. This goal was exceeded, with 1,544 donors — many of them first time participants. This is a 12 percent increase above last year.

The month-long fundraising campaign enables faculty and staff members to support

the university's strategic goals by giving annual or planned gifts, and several hundred donors at the luncheon were honored for their time, talent and financial commitment to the university.

Organizers said several areas on campus had very high rates of participation in the campaign. The Burnett Honors College and the General Counsel's Office tied for the highest participation rate; both achieved 100 percent participation. Others with a high rate of participation were International Services, President's Office, Community Relations, Athletics, and the UCF Foundation and Alumni Association.

ACTING OUT THIS SUMMER

Employees starting to look ahead for summer activities for their children can enroll them in performance-arts camps at UCF.

The university, in partnership with the Orlando Repertory Theatre, will hold 25 weekly camps for rising 1st through 10th-grade students. Advanced training camps are also available for rising 9th to graduating 12th-grade students.

Camps will be June 15 to Aug. 7 and will be taught by professional teaching artists in the Performing Arts Center. Aftercare also is available.

For more information, schedules or to register, go to www.orlandorep.com/youth_academy_event/2015-summer-camps-ucf.

Santana Honored as Title IX Champion



Maria Santana, program director for the Women's Studies Program, was honored recently by the American Association of University Women as a Title IX Champion for her

work on behalf of women and girls in education, including her leadership on campus and her community activism.

Santana, who also is an associate professor, was one of 16 national recipients of the award. The association promotes gender equity in education; investigates Title IX compliance; lobbies for equitable school policies; and helps teach students, parents, educators, coaches, and administrators about the law's requirements.



What folks are saying about us ...

“I love any school that takes culture as seriously as [UCF] does.”

– Actress Kate Mulgrew, who narrated a multimedia performance at the UCF Celebrates the Arts 2015 festival

“UCF has gone from being the remote commuter campus to a growth engine for the entire region.

Some 50,000 people work within a five-mile radius of the campus, and the achievements of the faculty and students have added enormous prestige to the community.”

– Jim Sellen, a planner with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin

“That UCF is including some of our students is very exciting to us. Anytime they put their footprints in a venue like this, it raises their expectations of themselves and opens a whole new world of opportunities.”

– Debbie Fahmic, fine and performing arts resource specialist for the Osceola County School District, about UCF’s outreach to Central Florida middle and high school students to participate in UCF Celebrates the Arts 2015 workshops and performances

New Dean Hired for College of Education and Human Performance



Pamela S. Carroll, dean and director of professional education at Oklahoma State University, was named as dean of the College of Education and Human Performance.

Carroll, who has been at Oklahoma State for the past three years, is returning to Florida. She previously served as associate dean for academic affairs at Florida State University’s College of Education and as a faculty member for 21 years. She also served in various administrative roles at the university.

Carroll previously was an assistant professor at Georgetown College in Kentucky and specializes in teacher education and adolescent and young-adult literature. She earned her doctoral degree in education from Auburn University and is an executive board member of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

Carroll’s husband, Joe Donoghue, will join the College of Sciences as professor of geosciences.

NEWS FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

UCF At Work shares news updates from Human Resources. To see an online version of this edition, go to hr.ucf.edu/ucf-work.

New HR Blog

Human Resources is introducing a new blog to offer HR-related news and information in an accessible format to all UCF departments.

Employees can visit the HR Connection blog any time for tips and updates, submit suggestions, and subscribe to receive email notices when new blog posts appear. The new blog at hr.ucf.edu/hrconnection replaces the previous electronic HR newsletter of the same name.

Enrollment for Disability Insurance Ends May 1

The Gabor Agency’s special enrollment period for group disability insurance will end Friday, May 1. Group disability insurance is available on a guaranteed-issue basis (no medical exam required or health questions asked) to full-time university A&P and USPS employees not currently participating in the Group Disability Plan.

This insurance is underwritten by Standard Insurance Co., and premiums are deducted through payroll. The disability benefit replaces 60 percent of your income (up to \$15,000 a month) if you become disabled.

Questions may be directed to benefits@ucf.edu or 407-823-2771. Contact The Gabor Agency at 800-330-6115 for more details and to apply.

Retirement and Investment Fair

Human Resources will host an enrollment fair April 29 for employees to meet with investment company representatives, gather information and enroll in the various voluntary retirement plans offered to UCF employees.

The fair will be from 1 to 5 p.m. at HR’s Innovation Center Training Room, 3280 Progress Drive in Central Florida Research Park.

Employees can find out about:

- The Florida Retirement System
- Retiring from UCF; cash and debt management
- Investing basics for retirees
- Understanding your credit score
- Social Security and Medicare

No registration is necessary.

FOUNDERS’ DAY HONOREES

The University Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

College of Sciences
Alisha Janowsky

The College Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching

College of Arts and Humanities
Matthew Bryan
Matt Dombrowski
Mary Tripp
Ezekiel Walker

College of Business Administration
Christopher Leo
Carolyn Massiah

College of Education and Human Performance
Nancy H. Brasel

College of Engineering and Computer Science
Ricardo Zaurin
Miao Liu

College of Health and Public Affairs
Philip K. Wessel
Abby Fromang
Milon

Rosen College of Hospitality Management
Mathilda Van Niekerk

College of Medicine
Ken Teter

College of Nursing
Paul Desmarais

College of Sciences
Amy Melissa Donley
Alisha Janowsky
Stephen M. Kuebler
Jonathan Matusitz
Ann Neville Miller

The University Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching

College of Education and Human Performance
Glenn W. Lambie

The College Awards for Excellence in Graduate Teaching

College of Arts and Humanities
Keith Folse

College of Business Administration
Robert Folger

College of Education and Human Performance
Glenn W. Lambie

College of Engineering and Computer Science
C. David Cooper

College of Health and Public Affairs
Qian Hu

Rosen College of Hospitality Management
David J. Kwun

College of Medicine
Mollie W. Jewett

College of Nursing
Christopher W. Blackwell

College of Optics and Photonics
M.G. “Jim” Moharam

College of Sciences
Valerie Sims

The University Award for Excellence in Professional Academic Advising

Burnett Honors College
Rex Roberts

The University Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Faculty Academic Advising

College of Arts and Humanities
Patricia Angley

College of Sciences
Peter Jacques

The University Award for Excellence in Research

College of Sciences
Zenghu Chang

The College Awards for Excellence in Research

College of Arts and Humanities
Alla Kourova

College of Business Administration
Marshall Schminke

College of Education and Human Performance
William B. Russell III

College of Engineering and Computer Science
Steven J. Duranceau

College of Health and Public Affairs
Naim Kapucu

Rosen College of Hospitality Management
Fevzi Okumus

College of Medicine
Victor Davidson

College of Nursing
Karen Aroian

College of Optics and Photonics
Axel Schülzgen

College of Sciences
Zenghu Chang

Institutes and Centers
Swadeshmukul Santra

The University Awards for Excellence in Professional Service

College of Arts and Humanities
J. Blake Scott

College of Medicine
William T. Self

The Award for Excellence in Librarianship

Michael A. Arthur

UCF Reach for the Stars Award

College of Engineering and Computer Science
Weiwei Deng
Gita Sukthankar
Haiyan Hu
Dingbao Wang
Jun Wang

College of Medicine
Ken Teter

College of Optics and Photonics
Sasan Fathpour

College of Sciences
Masa Ishigami

20-Year Service Awardees

College of Arts and Humanities
Hadi Abbas
Dina Fabery
Kevin Haran
James Helsingier
Susan Hubbard
Alice Korosy
Anthony Major
Lisa Nalbone
Jeffrey Rupert
M.C. Santana

College of Business Administration
Leslie Connell
Barbara S. Quaintance

College of Education and Human Performance
Larry Holt
Karen Wolz Verkler

College of Engineering and Computer Science
Mohamed Abdel-Aty
Louis Chow
Timothy Kotnour
Charles Reilly

College of Health and Public Affairs
Robert Boehm
Mary Eastep
Kenyatta O. Rivers
Linda I. Rosa-Lugo
Raymond Surette

College of Medicine
Debopam Chakrabarti
Cristina Fernandez-Valle
Mark Muller
Saleh A. Naser
Otto Phanstiel

College of Nursing
Angeline Bushy

College of Optics and Photonics
Leonid Glebov

College of Sciences
Aubrey Jewett
Marianna Pensky
Houman A. Sadri
John Weishampel

Division of Information Technologies and Resources
Athena Hoepfner
Tammie McClellan
Jeanne Piascik

Office of Research and Commercialization
David Chasar
Janet McIlvaine

Office of Undergraduate Studies
Heath Martin

30-Year Service Awardees

College of Arts and Humanities
Moshe Pelli
Joseph Rusnock
Donald Stap

College of Business Administration
Charles Kelliher

College of Education and Human Performance
Karen Biraimah

College of Engineering and Computer Science
Gene Lee

College of Health and Public Affairs
David Ratusnik

Rosen College of Hospitality Management
Ady Milman

College of Sciences
Seth Elsheimer
Bernard Jensen
Piotr Mikusinski
Bhimsen Shivamoggi

Division of Information Technologies and Resources
Meg Sharf

Office of Research and Commercialization
Safvat Kalaghchy

45-Year Service Awardees

College of Arts and Humanities
Walter Gaudnek
Edmund Kallina
Husain Kassim

Division of Information Technologies and Resources
Chuck Dziuban

Emeritus Awards

College of Arts and Humanities
Donald Seay

College of Sciences
Jack McGuire

College of Education and Human Performance
Jeffrey S. Kaplan

College of Health and Public Affairs
Dr. Myron D. Fottler
Chad Nye

College of Nursing
Diane Wink



Schedule Ahead for Thursday Football

The UCF football team will play two Thursday home games next season, so faculty and staff members are asked to keep that in mind when planning fall schedules.

The night games are the first game of the season, Sept. 3 against Florida International University, and Nov. 17 against East Carolina University. The kickoff times haven’t been set, but details will be announced soon about university and class closures.

Another weekday home game will be on Nov. 27, which is the Friday after Thanksgiving, and the classes and offices will be closed.