

Dean's Notes and Quotes

Our webinar series **Extension Connections** last week was another success. During this last session Dean for Research John Hayes was my special guest. Dr. Hayes explained some important yet sometimes hard to grasp topics related to grants, cost sharing, and indirect costs. For those who missed this webinar, here is a link with the recorded session as well as future session dates so that you can reserve the time on your schedules.

[UF/IFAS Extension Connections](#)

Our next session in December will focus on strategies for building and enhancing advisory councils. You will see more information e-mailed in December as we get closer to the broadcast date.

I look forward to interacting with you during our next **Extension Connections** sessions on December 16th and January 27th!

I would like to extend our warmest greetings and best wishes for this holiday season and a happy New Year.

Regards,

Dr. Nick Place

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." - Henry Ford

November/December 2013

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*Happy
Holidays*



Deadlines & Events

December 6, 2013 - County faculty must submit their ROA and POW

January 14, 2014 - Nominations to the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars (ADTS/ Academy) are due (directions: <http://fora.ua.ufl.edu/docs/70/ADTSApplicationGuidelines.pdf>) Application packets are due by January 14, 2014 to mccrayi@ufl.edu

January 15, 2014 - Complete entering in workload and impacts data

Meet Your Specialist



Linda Bobroff
Professor

Ph.D. in Nutrition

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After spending over six years in graduate school studying metabolic effects of portacaval shunts in rats (and yes I did the surgeries), I was thrilled to be hired by UF as an Assistant Professor and extension nutrition specialist. Although I knew nothing about extension in 1985, it clearly is where I was meant to be in my academic career. I am passionate about the work that we do to help people from all walks of life and backgrounds to live healthier lifestyles and reduce their risk of the major chronic diseases or their health complications from diseases they already have (e. g., diabetes and hypertension). Our award-winning (NEAFCS) curriculum *Take Charge of Your Diabetes* helps adults with Type 2 diabetes manage their disease and improve blood glucose control. In 2010, we had the opportunity to take this curriculum and

our training to the island nation of Antigua, where it has been implemented successfully since our visit. The Elder Nutrition and Food Safety (ENAFS) curriculum has a national reputation, and our materials have been purchased (modules) and downloaded (PowerPoints and other educational materials) by nutrition educators across the U.S. We are beginning to implement the CDC's National Diabetes Prevention Program (NDPP), initially with support from our collaborators in the Florida Department of Health and recently with a CDC grant for implementation in Broward and Palm Beach counties. We are planning a second "in-house" NDPP training for extension faculty and health professionals that will be held in Gainesville in the spring of 2014.

It is especially rewarding for me to work with some of the most outstanding county faculty in our extension system through our Design Teams, then Focus Area Teams, and now Priority Work Groups. Whatever you call them, our program teams related to nutrition and health have always been highly productive and interactive, with county and state faculty working together on curriculum development, program implementation and evaluation, and in-service training. I'm excited about our newest initiative, Aging Well in Florida, which is a multi-disciplinary team of 30 county and state faculty focused on addressing challenges that individuals, families, and communities are facing as our population ages over the next few decades. Our second in-service training, Aging Well in Florida Update 2014, will be in Gainesville February 11-13 at the Waccasassa Forestry Center. It will include research updates and educational materials related to issues facing aging baby boomers, frail older adults, and persons making end-of-life decisions.

On a personal note, I was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY and attended Brooklyn College where I majored in Elementary Education! After teaching for one year in Brooklyn, I did some traveling abroad and then lived in San Diego for sever-

al years where I took 60 post-baccalaureate credits before applying to graduate school in Nutrition. I have been married 27 years to Steve Bobroff, a general contractor who designs and builds custom homes and additions. Steve is a graduate of the UF College of Architecture and has lived in Gainesville his entire life. Our son, Ben, graduated from UF with a Bachelor's degree in Physics and is working at R+L Carriers in Ocala as a Business Process Analyst. We are thrilled that Ben still lives in Gainesville ... for now! Ben's girlfriend, Ashley Kushner, is an FYCS graduate and is the Volunteer Coordinator for the Alachua County Crisis Center. We are all GATORS!

Palm Beach County

One of many pleasant surprises I have experienced since accepting the UF/IFAS Palm Beach County Vegetable and Tropical Fruit Extension Agent a short year ago is meeting the multitude of people starting new farming operations in south Florida. As you can imagine, experience and knowledge levels differ but young and old alike are excited to be a part of the expanding grow/buy local movement. Most of the new growers I have met were inspired by attending a UF/IFAS PBC workshop on backyard gardening or through the Master Gardener program.

Small growers in PBC are eligible to acquire a Grower's Permit in lieu an occupational license by agreeing to an inspection to verify that they are growing what they are selling at the green market. This inspection saves the grower the cost of the license and they may also receive a discounted green market stall fee. In a weak economy, every dollar counts and it is especially true when on a fixed income. The trend here is for people nearing retirement age to supplement their incomes by selling homegrown herbs, vegetables, and/or fruit.

One gentleman I had the pleasure of meeting receives social security disability and lives on the first floor of a condo with no direct sunlight. He earns extra income by growing and selling wheat-

grass to the tune of around \$300/d at one of our local weekend greenmarkets. I also recently met a woman planning to never fully retire but instead earns \$200/d at the local green market selling a variety of colorful butterfly plants. Stories like these are invigorating, especially when experienced first-hand and their appreciation for extending the knowledge researchers generate to those with a practical need for it shine through from one person to another with each shake of the hand.

One such example is when I was called out to a farming operation and asked to determine the cause of a crop decline. Fortunately we, and our clientele alike, are not stymied by our own limitations but are blessed to live in an age of rapid communication and have a network of experts through UF/IFAS willing to generously share their time and experience.

A greenhouse tomato grower recently expressed concern over the leaf spots on the lower foliage of his plants. He recently sprayed copper but examination of the necrotic tissue revealed signs of fungal activity. A broad spectrum fungicide was recommended along with cultural measures like reducing humidity and better sanitation. Symptomatic leaf samples were taken to the local REC where a scrape-mount was done by Dr. Richard Raid. Under the microscope, long conidia characteristic of *Cercospora sp.* were observed allowing for a more specific management plan to be made. In this instance, following the cultural recommendations may decrease the need to spray by reducing the humidity inside the greenhouse and improving sanitation. Identifying the pathogen as a fungus stopped the unnecessary and ineffective use of copper alone and led to a more sustainable management program. The cost of losing the tomato crop due to inaccurate diagnosis is estimated at \$6,000 plus the environmental impacts of applying an ineffective product on the causal organism.

Dr. Chris Miller, Vegetable Crops EA II, Palm Beach Cty

4-H Science Solutions

During the 2012/2013 4-H year, nearly 4,500 Palm Beach County youth engaged in hands-on science learning through club, camp, in-school, and after-school programs. School-based programs were correlated with Florida Sunshine and Common Core standards.



Third graders at South Grade Elementary discover solar energy during their 4-H science project.

Some of the most popular subjects included embryology, science inquiry, engineering, and environmental sciences. Several key partnerships were developed with entities such as US Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Park Service, Whole Foods, and local NGOs.



Third and fourth graders at West Palm Beach Junior Academy hatch chicks during their 4-H embryology project

These relationships added operational capacity while introducing new youth to 4-H Science. Evaluations were conducted and showed that 84% of youth demonstrated an increase in science knowledge, 74% reported that they enjoy science more than they used to, and 41% reported that because of 4-H science programs they would like a career in science.

Jon Mayer, 4-H Youth Development EA I, Palm Beach Cty

Professional Landscapers Tackle Intensive 2-Day Training

The Florida Master Gardener program is a well-known and respected program that provides in-depth training to participants. In Duval county, professional landscapers are not accepted into the program, but are constantly calling to request entry because they want the training. In response to the requests, the Commercial Horticulture Agent Erin Harlow developed the 2-Day Professional Landscape Training. The training provides everything from basic botany to discussions about pest management options. The class was originally designed as a review for the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association's (FNGLA) Certified Horticulture Professional (FCHP) industry certification that requires professionals to pass a rigorous exam prior to certification. During the last two years, the class format and focus changed from a 10-week program to a 2-day event. Since 2010, 34 professionals have completed the workshop, with four completing their FCHP certification. Those individuals can now market themselves as FNGLA Horticulture-Certified Professionals and have the benefits associated with that, including special industry events and recognition on the state FNGLA website.



Spring 2013 2-Day Professional Landscape Training graduating class with Commercial Horticulture Agent Erin Harlow.

The curriculum used includes the FNGLA FCHP manual and UF research. Classes are kept to a

maximum of 15 people to maintain a casual, informal atmosphere where hands-on training can be utilized. The class has drawn professionals from as far away as Leon and Orange counties. Comments from participants included “loved the interaction” and 100% (n=34) indicated that they increased their knowledge in landscaping practices. Many indicated their largest increase in knowledge was either plant identification or plant biology. One hundred percent of participants surveyed (N=10) indicated that they felt their business would improve as a result of the class. The class is important because it gives a solid foundation for landscape professionals, gives them the knowledge and confidence to make the right decisions when in the field, adds value to themselves and their companies, and builds a strong relationship between the industry and UF/IFAS Extension. The class is offered during the winter and the next class is scheduled for January 9th and 10th, 2014. More information about the class and registration can be found at the Duval County Extension website at http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/Professional_Landscape_Series.shtml

Erin Harlow, Comm. Hort. EA I, Duval Cty

4-H Investing in Financial Literacy

Nearly 300 youth from across Palm Beach County learned the value of a dollar and much more



4-H Agent Jon Mayer teaches financial management to teens from across Palm Beach County.

through multiple 4-H “On My Own” workshops. Middle and high school youth gained valuable



skills and knowledge about writing checks, creating a savings account, understanding payroll deductions and managing a monthly budget through fun hands-on activities and simulations.

Nearly 80% of youth stated that the program helped them learn the amount of money it takes to live. Results also showed 63% of participants learned that there is a significant connection between occupation and lifestyle, while 90% believed that the “On My Own” workshop will help them better prepare for the future. In addition, further impacts were realized when ten teen participants who were new to 4-H joined the 4-H program as adolescent volunteers.

Jon Mayer, 4-H Youth Development EA I, Palm Beach Cty

Bringing STEM to the Table...Literally!

Picture youth standing around tables, setting up projects, reviewing notes, and getting ready to tell judges about a project that they did that took days or weeks to achieve results. Sound like a science fair? Not quite... try a STEM Fair!

Students in the United States are falling behind other countries in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Following one of the mandates for STEM related programming, 4-H seeks to encourage youth to ex-

plore STEM-related activities in a creative and innovative manner in order to sling-shot youth to the front of the field without flooding the career field and slowing discoveries.

Florida 4-H District IV recognized the need to provide STEM programs for students as well as something the students enjoy so they will keep coming back and revive involvement in our district activities. The agents worked together to create guidelines for presenting STEM projects and designed a day full of presenting projects and involving youth in the National Youth Science Day (NYSD) Experiment at the extension office in Hamilton County. As a result, 38 youth presented STEM Fair projects and 47 participated in the NYSD experiment. Through these activities, youth explored numerous facets of 4-H and STEM and developed critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Many of the youth indicated that they were interested in doing other STEM related projects in the future, interested in the STEM field as a career, and had a strong interest in becoming involved in other district activities. Sharing methods for statewide involvement are planned.



Judges listen while a 4-Her explains her STEM Fair project.

Heather Futch, 4-H/FCS EA II, Hamilton Cty

Sunbelt Ag Expo 2013

Each year, UF/IFAS Extension participates in the annual [Sunbelt Ag Expo](#) in Moultrie Georgia. The Sunbelt Ag Expo is the largest agricultural expo in the southeast, and is attended by more than 100,000 visitors! In addition to seeing more than 1,200 commercial exhibits and agricultural demonstrations, guests also visit many southeast-

ern university displays located throughout the expo. UF/IFAS Extension has its own permanent building for educational displays featured at the Expo. Additionally, this year Florida was honored as the Sunbelt Expo's "spotlight" state. The [Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#) presented an interactive display called "Florida Agriculture: Then and Now."

This year's UF/IFAS Extension theme was "**Water: Discovering and Sharing Solutions**," where we showcased eight interactive exhibits described below. It was estimated that at peak times during the three day Expo, 1,390 visitors per hour viewed the exhibits, for a total of more than 15,000 visitors. If you have not attended the Sunbelt Expo,



(From left to right) Jay Levenstein, Deputy Commissioner, FDACS, Dr. Joan Dusky, UF/IFAS Associate Dean for Extension, Agricultural Programs, Adam Putnam, Commissioner, FDACS, and Charlotte Emerson, UF/IFAS Director of Student Development and Recruitment visit together during opening day of the 2013 Sunbelt Agriculture Expo in which Florida was featured as the "Spotlight State."

come visit us next October, 2014!

The exhibits by UF/IFAS Extension were:

Florida's Magnificent Springs and Water Resources

Florida is uniquely characterized by its numerous and treasured water resources. This exhibit highlighted Florida's precious water resources and the importance of protecting them into the future.

Recreational Uses of Florida's Water Resources

The use of Florida's waters for [fishing](#), swimming, boating, and diving is one of the state's greatest sources of economic revenue. This exhibit described the many diverse uses of Florida's water resources.

Water Conservation in the Home and Garden

Florida's waters are vitally important not only for recreation, but for agriculture and domestic use as well. This exhibit demonstrated many ways [you can conserve and protect](#) our water resources.

Invasive Aquatic Plants of Florida

Non-native, invasive aquatic plants are a threat to Florida's water resources. This interactive exhibit highlighted Florida's most problematic [invasive aquatic plants](#) and the ways they negatively impact our water resources.

Invasive Animal Species of Florida

Non-native invasive animals are a threat to Florida's water resources, too. This exhibit provided information about some of these invasive animals, the ways they impact our water resources, and Florida agency response strategies.



(From left to right) Libbie Johnson, UF/IFAS Extension Escambia County, "Mr. Peanut," Florida Peanut Producers Association, and Elena Toro, UF/IFAS Extension Suwannee County, hand out complimentary roasted peanuts to Sunbelt Expo visitors.

Florida Aquaculture – Focus on Clams

[Aquaculture](#) is Florida's underwater agriculture! This exhibit featured a salt water tank with live

marine animals such as clams, crabs, starfish, and snails, and it educated visitors about Florida's [clam farming industry](#).

Florida's Citrus Industry

Florida's water resources are critical to irrigated agriculture. The [citrus](#) industry is one example of an irrigated agricultural product and this exhibit highlighted some of the BMPs the citrus industry uses to protect our water resources.

University of Florida College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) Ambassadors

This exhibit is part of the Sunbelt experience each year and it features the [CALS Ambassadors](#). They are on hand to answer any questions you may have about becoming a student at the University of Florida!

Judy Ludlow, Ag/Nat Res CED III, Calhoun Cty

Opportunity to connect with University of Florida Gator Clubs

I know that a number of our UF/IFAS Extension Offices have utilized opportunities to connect with local Gator Clubs, and these have been valuable partnerships. Recently, I had the opportunity to speak with Ana Barrenechea, Director of Building Alliances for the UF Alumni Association (UFAA), and they are very interested in working more closely with our UF/IFAS Extension Offices across the state. There are three key points and opportunities that she expressed to me regarding the partnership between UF/IFAS Extension and UFAA:

- **Marketing:** The Alumni Association aspires to be the entryway to the Gator Nation. Similar to our UF/IFAS Extension offices being the "Front Door to the University of Florida," UFAA wants to be the go to place when alumni are looking to reconnect with the University. With over 35 active Gator Clubs in Florida they can help be an active partner in edu-

cating communities about the breadth of programming that UF/IFAS Extension Offices have to offer.

- Programming for Gator Clubs: Gator Clubs are looking for educational programming that can be applicable to their daily lives. They also view this as a way to stay connected with UF. Extension Offices are ideal for providing this programming for Clubs as they are in very close proximity and are working to teach communities how to apply UF research & solutions in daily life. UFAA would like clubs to see IFAS Extension offices as the go to place for any educational program needs and have these offices be the first place our clubs look to for these events.
- UFAA sends a bi-weekly newsletter to all of Club leaders. They would like to be able to include UF/IFAS Extension information in these newsletters if possible, so feel free to share items that would be appropriate and timely.

So, I'd encourage each of us to look for these partnership opportunities. If you have further questions for Ana, her email contact is: abar-renechea@ufalumni.ufl.edu

Dr. Nick Place

Top Ten Things to Do for Successful Publishing in JOE

At EPAF, my colleagues and I delivered an in-service training designed to help Extension faculty boost their chances of success when submitting manuscripts to the *Journal of Extension*. I shared with participants the list of Top Ten mistakes made by authors when submitting articles to *JOE* that Editor Hoelscher put together for me. I'd like to return to this list now, but rather than focusing

on what *not* to do, let's take a look at the Top Ten things *to do* to avoid making mistakes.

Top Ten Things to Do		Supporting Resource
1.	Follow the <i>JOE</i> Submission Guidelines.	Link
2.	Consult the Help for <i>JOE</i> Authors page.	Link
3.	Answer the "So What?" question for Extension.	Link
4.	Explain methodology – clearly!	<i>Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA Manual)</i> , 6th ed. – Chapter 2, Section 2.06
5.	Avoid double-dipping, an unethical practice of submitting substantially the same article to two journals.	Link
6.	Learn what the differences are between Feature and Research in Brief articles.	Link <i>Comings and Goings</i> – February 2013
7.	Cite all previous studies in <i>JOE</i> (and beyond!) related to your study.	Link Link
8.	Use headings <i>and</i> subheadings to effectively organize your manuscript.	Link
9.	Use active voice or even first person.	Link
10.	Proofread, proofread, and then proofread again!	<i>APA Manual</i> , Chapters 3 & 4

I encourage you to read the latest issue of *JOE*. There are a number of great articles, but you may be especially interested in the scholarship from one of our UF/IFAS Extension colleagues!

Measuring agricultural paradigmatic preferences: The redevelopment of an instrument to determine individual and collective preferences – A pilot study. **Laura Sanagorski** (AEC), Theresa Murphrey, David Lawver, Matt Baker, James Lindner

Dr. Amy Harder, Associate Professor, AEC

Easy as PIE

Visit our website to learn more about the Easy as PIE Webinar Series: <http://www.piecenter.com/easy-as-pie/>.

Contact Laura Bernheim for more information: bernheim@ufl.edu or 352-273-0793. Registration for the webinar is required and can be found on the website.

Date: Dec. 4

Time: 2-3 p.m. Eastern

Topic: Floridians' opinions of GMOs, food safety and food security

Speakers:



Joy Rumble, Assistant Professor, UF-IFAS Department of Agricultural Education and Communication, UF-IFAS PIE Center



Kevin Folta, Associate Professor, UF-IFAS Horticultural Sciences Department

Three of the most contentious issues in agriculture come head-to-head in the PIE Center's newest public opinion survey. Genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, have led to genetically modified food, new crop traits and greater control over a food's genetic structure. Food safety practices avoid foodborne illnesses and potentially severe health hazards, while food security refers to the availability and accessibility of food among a growing population. PIE Center researcher Joy Rumble will share Floridians opinions about these issues, followed by Associate Professor Kevin Folta, who will discuss the public's surprising reactions to the science behind GMOs.

New Hires

We would like to welcome the following new faculty:

Bryan Dailey, Comm. Res. Dev CED II, Sarasota Cty

Dr. William Lester, Res. Comm. Hort. EA II, Hernando Cty

Andrew Thompson, 4-H YD EA I, Brevard Cty

Danielle De Vries-Navarro, Health Nut. & Food Safety EA I, Palm Beach Cty

New Positions

We would like to congratulate the following faculty members on their new position:

Alicia Bradigan-Betancourt, from FCS EA II to CED II in Monroe Cty

Extension Comings and Goings is a monthly newsletter distributed by the Office of the Dean for Extension via e-mail and on the Extension web site at <http://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu>.

If you have any suggestions or would like to submit your own recognition or short article of interest, please send them to Valkyrie Shah.

Please feel free to also forward any questions or comments about this periodical to Valkyrie Shah at valkyrieshah@ufl.edu.
