

Extension Comings and Goings
From the Office of the Dean for Extension
November 2007

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Streaming Presentation by Bruce Delaney

This edition's streaming presentation is by Bruce Delaney, Program Coordinator for the Florida Agricultural Mediation Service. The presentation provided syncs streaming video of the presenter with his PowerPoint slides. Viewing the presentation requires the Microsoft Explorer browser, Windows Media Player 9 and a relatively fast Internet connection. However, for those using dial-up access, a modem version is also supplied, which plays an audio version of the presentation synchronized with the PowerPoint slides.

[Comings and Goings November -- Florida Agriculture Mediation Service](#)

(DSL or High Bandwidth Access - http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/Comings_Goings_Nov07/index.html)

[Comings and Goings November -- Florida Agriculture Mediation Service Modem Version](#)

(Modem or Dial-up access - http://training.ifas.ufl.edu/Comings_Goings_Nov07_modem/index.html)

New Faculty - Please welcome the following new faculty:

George Timothy Hurner, Jr., Citrus EA IV, Highlands County, 11/16/07

We would also like to welcome the following faculty into their newly appointed positions:
Cynthia Sanders, County Extension Director and Livestock EA II, Alachua County, 11/2/04
John Alleyne, County Extension Director and Commercial Hort., Highlands County, 11/30/07
Joan Bradshaw, County Extension Director and Natural Resources, Citrus County, 11/30/07

Resignations - We want to wish the following faculty the best of luck in their endeavors:
Glenn Schaibly, Hendry County, EA II Livestock M/C, 11/9/2007
Don Goode, Columbia County, CED III, 11/30/2007

Retirement - After many years of service and dedication Carla Chapman (Marion County Courtesy Urban Horticulture Extension Agent I) has retired. We want to thank her for all of her contributions to UF/IFAS Extension.

Meet Your Specialist - Michael Gutter



Michael Gutter, Ph.D. (photo)
University of Florida - Family, Youth, and Community Sciences
Email: mvgutter@ufl.edu Tel: (352)392-1945 ext 228

Michael Gutter came to the University of Florida from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was an Assistant Professor, CFP Program Director, and Family Financial Management State Specialist. His specialties are examining how culture and socialization influence behavior and he also takes special interest in evaluation, college students, and diverse families. In 2000, he received his degree in Family Resource Management from Ohio State University.

"I am a Science Fiction and Comic Book fan which I am slowly introducing my little boy to. I believe that having a healthy body helps us to have a healthy mind so I try to eat right and exercise daily."



Otwell Named 2007 IFAS International Fellow

Gainesville, FL (Nov. 29, 2007) -- Steve Otwell, a Florida Sea Grant seafood technology specialist whose work has led to innovative and cost-effective responses to issues of seafood safety worldwide, has been selected as an International Fellow in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida for 2007.

Otwell is a key architect of the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point system, or HACCP, that U.S. seafood importers, distributors and processors use to meet federal food safety regulations. He has been a professor of seafood technology in the University's Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition since 1979.

Otwell is also the founder of the University's Aquatic Food Products Program, the academic center of technical expertise that is home to the leading domestic and international training program for shrimp processors and regulators worldwide.

The International Fellows Award, established in 2004, recognizes outstanding international endeavors by UF/IFAS faculty members that contribute to the globalization of the University. Winners also receive a \$1,000 award.

Otwell's work "has helped to raise the visibility and stature of both the University of Florida and UF/IFAS in the international arena," said IFAS Senior Vice President Jimmy G. Cheek. His programs of seafood safety education and research "have been of great benefit to the citizens of Florida, the U.S., and the world," Cheek said

Otwell's tenure at the University began in an era when the domestic seafood industry supplied much of the state's and nation's demand for shrimp, fish, oysters and other seafood products.

Seafood is now a \$65 billion industry in the U.S., but its focus has shifted from supplying wild-caught product to the processing and retailing sectors, a reflection of the nation's growing dependence on imported seafood and aquacultured products.

"Otwell has adjusted the University's research and education programs to meet the needs of the changing industry," according to former Florida Sea Grant director Jim Cato. "He has always had the vision to predict and initiate research and training in advance of the time they need to be implemented," Cato said.

Otwell was instrumental in initiating the Seafood HACCP Alliance, a nationwide network of processors, university researchers, and government agencies that provides seafood processors and importers with the sanitation training required to market fish and fishery products in the United States. Alliance programs have to date graduated more than 30,000 participants from 28 nations.

The aquatic food products program that Otwell founded at the University has grown to include six departmental faculty members, numerous graduate students, and external research funding exceeding \$500,000 annually. The program is housed in the Aquatic Food Products Laboratory that Otwell -- together with Sea Grant, industry, and University Foundation partners -- raised more than \$4 million to build in 1994.

"My research approach was strictly applied to solving problems and recognizing commercial opportunities," Otwell said. "The University of Florida is now recognized as a leading authority in controls for various bacterial pathogens in oysters, prevention of spoilage in shrimp, and a variety of monitoring methods for aquatic product quality and safety," he said.

Otwell earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Virginia Military Institute, a master's degree in marine science from the University of Virginia, and a doctorate in food science from North Carolina State University. In 2004 he was named a Fellow of the Institute of Food Technologists.

Hands-On Pelican Rescue Training - The Collier County Marine Agent collaborated with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida's Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic to host a Pelican Rescue Techniques workshop in September. The intended audience was park rangers, beach patrol

officers, and other agency field staff who commonly work in areas where pelican injuries are common. The purpose of the workshop was to increase the number of field staff who were capable of rescuing pelicans injured or entangled from fishing gear, and who could educate others on proper rescue techniques. Participants practiced handling live pelicans and removing hooks and line from preserved specimens. Eighteen people attended the workshop representing nine different agencies. Participants received rescue kits that included tools and supplies they could be used to rescue pelicans while in the field. Workshop evaluations indicated that 92% of the participants increased their knowledge by some degree on how to properly remove hooks and line from injured pelicans. As a result of the workshop, new county park rangers will receive training on pelican rescue techniques and protocols from senior park rangers who attended the program. A member of the agent's advisory committee purchased extra supplies to create rescue tool kits to go in all of the county park ranger vehicles as well. (Contact: Bryan Fluech)

Finding Fun in Fitness - The 4-H Agent has worked with 4-H Volunteers, Collier County Parks and Recreation, and a local non-profit to increase healthy and active lifestyles in Collier County. A 4-H club of 35 youth has been implemented with the mission to improve the overall health of youth through nutrition and physical education. This will involve teaching the benefits of daily exercise while reducing nutritionally related risks such as obesity. The club members participate in training sessions at the different Collier County parks, field days, workshops, and local races. The students learn how to maintain a training log, while learning about nutrition, sportsmanship, leadership, and how to gain a life-long appreciation and understanding of the importance of health and fitness. In partnership with Bikes for Tykes, a local non-profit organization, the 4-H Bicycle Maintenance Program has initiated with eight week training for the 4-H Agent and 6 youth and adult volunteers. Following the training, the agent and volunteers will hold their own bicycle maintenance workshop in Immokalee for youth to become junior mechanics and learn about bicycle safety. The train the trainer workshop will prepare students to learn how to fix and maintain bicycles, and become experts in repairing and reconditioning donated bikes for others in their community. Through this program, Collier County 4-H will be promoting exercise and healthy lifestyles through bicycling, while generating interest in safe, recreational bicycling in Immokalee. (Contact: Anna Galdames)

3rd Annual Florida Quail Management Shortcourse - Approximately 70 individuals attended a program designed to educate landowners, managers, hunters, and quail/dove enthusiasts on the ecology and management of Northern Bobwhite Quail (4 presentations) and Mourning Dove (3 presentations) in Florida. A small trade show was conducted and the program had 5 corporate sponsors. In addition to the seminars, a tour of Longino Ranch was conducted highlighting habitat management, native plant identification, dove fields, and growing season vs. dormant season burns and chops and their relationship to cows and quail. Five major statewide short courses have been conducted for landowners, ranchers, and hunting enthusiasts over the past 2 years in Florida. Hundreds have attended and millions of acres have been represented at these successful educational programs. The partners for conducting the 3rd

Annual Florida Quail/Dove Management Shortcourse were: DeSoto County Extension, UF/IFAS Wildlife Ecology and Conservation Department, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the South Florida Beef Forage Program, Farm Credit Association of Florida, Alico, Inc. Diamond R Fertilizer, Wal-mart of Arcadia, Hancock Farm and Seed C., Inc., and Longino Ranch. [Contact: Jim Selph or Kristen Candelora]

Grazing Management 101 - The South Florida Beef Forage Group held its first basic Pasture Management School on Saturday, August 11, 2007, at the Hardee County Extension Center and the Ona Research and Education Center. This course represented the basic principles and concepts of pasture establishment and management and is part of a continuing multi-county educational effort to assist South Florida livestock producers raise and market healthy, high quality livestock. Over 60 producers from a nine-county area participated in the two session format offering basic pasture management along with hands-on activities and demonstrations. The theories and concepts of grazing management were discussed in a classroom setting followed by practical field applications in the afternoon. Each speaker encouraged producers to fully comply with IFAS fertilizer recommendations and Best Management Practices for Water Quality in order to ensure a sustainable Florida agriculture. [Contact: Lockie Gary]

Improving Resiliency to Cope with Change - Recent budget-tightening has resulted in many Hillsborough County offices laying off employees, downsizing hours that employees work, and reacting to a hiring freeze for current vacancies. Extension offered a series of Stress Management workshops to help "surviving" employees cope with the changes. Workshops were conducted for the Parks and Recreation Department, The Tampa Port Authority, Head Start managers, teachers with Hillsborough County Schools' Early Childhood program, and Healthy Start staff. Two "open" workshops were also offered to general county employees at two locations. Workshop topics included Stress Management: Your Road to Resiliency, Relax Your Body, Calm Your Mind, Managing Your Emotions at Work, Improving Communication Skills and Workplace Relationships, and Goal Setting for Success at Work. Workshops focused on building skills to increase resiliency and more effectively deal with stress, making healthy changes in lifestyle habits, setting goals, managing fear and anger, improving decision-making skills and communicating more effectively. A total of 680 county employees attended and participated. 92% of the participants responded that they learned new ways to cope with stress, use relaxation exercises to improve health and/or build resiliency. 76 % said they would make changes in their lifestyle habits, decision-making skills, or communication skills. Extension is seen as a leading provider of practical education for helping county employees cope with difficult change. (Contact: Diana Converse)

Florida 4-H Wins the 2012 National Association of Extension 4-H Agents National Conference - At the 2007 annual meeting recently held in Atlanta, Florida was awarded the NAE4-HA National conference for 2012. What a great opportunity The University of Florida, Extension and the Florida 4-H Association of Extension 4-H agents has to showcase Florida to the rest of the nation. We look forward to sharing the Sunshine State, and one of our most popular vacation spots, Orlando, with over 1,500 agents and guests from 50 states for

the five day fall conference. Plans are already under way planning a full schedule to allow plenty of time for "work" and "play" as we incorporate numerous professional development opportunities along with sightseeing and family oriented activities. With all that going on there will be plenty of help needed to show how great Florida Extension is. With so much to do and so little time, I hope that other agents will look for opportunities to volunteer and pitch in. (Contact: Jean Hink, Bridget Carlise or Christa Carlson)

Pinellas County Extension Hosts Regional Discussion on Climate Change - Pinellas County Extension's Bushnell Center for Urban Sustainability hosted a community-wide event on Thursday, Oct. 4, as part of the National Conversation on Climate Action. Devesh Nirmul, Regional Specialized Agent for Urban Sustainability, presented the science on climate change and facilitated a panel of experts and discussion groups. The conference discussed what is needed at the local level and beyond to solve climate change. Pinellas County was one of more than 60 local governments hosting similar events. The National Conversation was sponsored by ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and the Association of Science-Technology Centers. It was designed to highlight and catalyze local efforts to address climate change, build local awareness and facilitate community engagement. Participants included area developers, educators, and government officials. [Contact: Devesh Nirmul]

New multi-county initiative brings nutrition education to Children's Medical Services clients - A new UF/IFAS Extension partnership with Children's Medical Services in Sarasota, Charlotte, Desoto and Manatee counties will expand the Sarasota County Family Nutrition Program in order to provide nutrition, food safety and food resource management education for Children's Medical Services clients in the four counties. In 2007 the Sarasota County Family Nutrition Program reached 48,140 Food Stamp-eligible participants in 37 partner agencies in Sarasota County through a \$362,523 federal grant. The new multi-county initiative is expected to increase Sarasota County federal grant funding by \$90,000, bringing the total 2008 grant to \$452,523 for 2008 and increasing total expected program participation to 60,000 Food Stamp-eligible clients. [Contact: Mary Jo Oswald]

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 Liz Perez at lizann@ufl.edu.