THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
Fall 2009 Year End Report to Alumni and Friends

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES & PUBLIC POLICY
Vote for you favorite professor

We are inviting alums to tell us about their favorite professors and to tell us why they were special. There won’t be a “Professor of the Century” award but we will report the results of this survey. Please send the names and any commentary to Joan Kallestad at jkallestad@fsu.edu. Please let us know if we can use your name in the story.
Investing in a Future of Outstanding Opportunities

Our Mission

The College of Social Sciences & Public Policy is dedicated to providing students with the highest quality instruction and performing first class research to serve society. Our students and faculty generate new knowledge that enhances discussion of important social, economic, and public policy issues and leads to innovations in industry, government, and non-profit organizations. We prepare our students for meaningful careers, advanced professional training, and an active role in public life.

The College’s strategic plan is to build on our existing strengths to:

• transform the educational experience for our most outstanding students;
• expand our programs to help prepare tomorrow’s leaders in business, politics, government, and the non-profit sector for a global society;
• build world class research and teaching programs focusing on issues related to equality of opportunity, aging, health, and environmental quality that are critical to the state of Florida and the nation;
• develop an international research and teaching program on the impact of culture, social and political institutions on equality of opportunity, economic growth, terrorism, and international relations; and
• use our path breaking research to generate innovative solutions to economic, political and social problems.

Submit Alumni News Items

We now allow alumni and friends to submit news items via the College website. If, in the future, you would like to submit news items, you may do so on the College website at www.coss.fsu.edu.

About the cover:

From left to right: John and Hallie Quinn Eminent Scholar Mark Isaac (Economics), Augustus Turnbull Professor Richard Feiock (Askew School of Public Administration and Policy), Associate Professor Tim Chapin (Chair, Urban and Regional Planning), and Assistant Professor Tingting Zhao (Geography) are standing in front of FSU’s Off Grid Zero Emissions Building. They and other College faculty are working on issues of sustainable energy use (see the article on page 6).
Dear Friends,

“May you live in interesting times” is an ancient Chinese curse that is apropos for life in the College this last year. In the third consecutive year of diminished state funding, the College suffered its largest budget cut yet, and the collapsing economy continues to adversely affect the support we receive from our endowment funds. Despite diminishing resources and tightening budgets, students continue to flock to our academic programs. College enrollments continue to grow faster than the university as a whole.

Nevertheless, this report chronicles impressive achievements of our students and faculty.

I was pleased that the committee on university reorganization recommended that the College add “Public Policy” to our name. It is only fitting that we do so. The value of our research is that it increases our understanding of important political, social, economic, public management processes and issues that affect the well being of people. Our faculty must be able to explain the significance of their work and also communicate this to the generations of students that are in our charge.

Students in the College have again garnered numerous national awards: they have received two Boren Fellowships, three Fulbright awards, two Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowships and a Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship. By winning these intensely competitive national awards our students are distinguishing themselves as being among the nation’s top students.

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It is especially exciting that a large portion of these elite award and scholarship recipients hailed from the International Studies program. We have made a major commitment to improving these programs and Director Lee Metcalf has done an absolutely outstanding job of developing the program so students have an array global internships and study abroad opportunities that are easily accessible.

Over the past year we saw our Experimental Social Science Program (XS/FS) and the Masters in Public Health (MPH) mature into developed programs. The XS/FS has now filled all the faculty positions that were authorized and has already realized the national prominence that we had hoped it would achieve. The MPH program just celebrated its 100th graduate and its students are prepared to make important contributions in the policy debates surrounding this important aspect of health care.

This past year was marred by the death of Monsignor William A. Kerr on May 13, 2009. The loss of our beloved priest has been keenly felt throughout the FSU community. A man with great dreams, Monsignor Kerr was the driving force behind the creation of the Intercultural Dialogue Initiative. By building on our International Studies programs and the University’s Global Pathways Initiative, and we are committed to making this dream a reality. We will create a program that provides educational opportunities for young people from poor countries that will generate intercultural dialogue that will enrich the educational experience for our students.

I hope you will join us for homecoming this year. Please note that this year we have a new format. We will be making our Distinguished Alumni Award presentation at a reception on Friday, October 30 in Bellamy 150 at 3:30-5:00pm. On Saturday three hours before kickoff we will have a tent at the Alumni Association’s Festival of Colleges that will be held between the football and baseball stadiums. I look forward to seeing you at both of these events.

Best wishes,

David W. Rasmussen, Dean
Alena Ho and Isabel Callejas Receive Boren Scholarships

Boren Scholars are awarded to undergraduates to study less commonly taught languages that are critical to U.S. interests but under-represented in study abroad opportunities. Two of our international Affairs majors, Alena Ho and Isabel Callejas, earned this prestigious award. With the financial support this scholarship provides, Alena will study Turkish in Istanbul for a year and Isabel will spend the same amount of time studying Swahili in Tanzania.

Amanda Marie Gonzales was named to USA Today’s All-USA College Academic Team. She has volunteered at an AIDS agency in Spain and has been active in many service activities during her career at FSU. She was the College’s nominee for the President’s Humanitarian of the Year Award.

A Thomas Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellow, International Affairs major Navarro Moore has thrived at FSU and found a comfortable balance between the rigors and challenges of academia and his own career interests. His internship with the East Asia Pacific Bureau of the State Department and his choice of classes have given Moore a strong foundation for a successful career in international relations. Navarro’s research paper, entitled “U.S. Iran Relations: 1998-2001” will be published in the 2009 Spring edition of the Yale Journal of International Affairs.

Graduating in the spring of 2009, Navarro will conclude his career at FSU with an internship in the State Department under the Political Officer in Bangkok. In September he will move to Washington, DC where he will embark upon a State Department year long diplomat training program that Navarro hopes will result in a first assignment in Beijing or Hong Kong.

Global Peace Exchange Founders Reap Honors

During Harvard University’s World Model United Nations conference in the Hague Global Peace Exchange co-founders Nick Fiore and Alex Merkovic-Orenstein were awarded a Resolution Fellowship. They were awarded $3,000 to support their work in Rwanda. They accounted for two of the four prizes that were announced in front of 2,600 delegates from 80 countries.

Alex, a Middle East Studies major, also won the prestigious Truman Scholarship for graduate study. One of only 65 Truman scholars in the country, Alex will attend the School of Oriental and African Studies in London.

Nick was one of 15 students in the US to be awarded the IMUSE 2009 Beijing Summer Fellowship. IMUSE (Integrating Mutual Understanding through Student Exchange) selected him from a pool of 1,500 applicants for the two week program.

Alex and Nick spent the summer of 2009 working with Global Peace Exchange volunteers on a foreign language education project in Rwanda. The GPE is also bringing the first internet connection to the rural area of Byimana by establishing a self-sustaining internet café that will bring information, education, and jobs to a highly impoverished community.

Dear Dean David Rasmussen,

I wanted to thank you for the International Affairs Travel Scholarship for my study abroad experience this past fall 2008 semester. During my three and a half months in London I really enjoyed being a part of the challenging and rigorous International Affairs program at the FSU London Study Centre. While the courses were intense, all were taught at the graduate level, as an International Affairs and Political Science dual major I am very pleased with how much I have been able to take away from each course.

In the summer of ’08, with the help of the Summer Service Scholarship from the FSU Center for Leadership and Civic Education, I worked with a local NGO in Uganda where I taught 6 classes each week for 8 weeks.

I want to work abroad, especially in developing countries, and because of my summer of service in Uganda and my academic semester in London I would like to work for international non-profit organizations and institutions.

Thank you again for your support. I really appreciate your confidence in my academic ability and career goals.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Ann Pagan
A recent Florida State news headline brags that “Student Honors Soar at Florida State.” And soar they have. But students in the College’s three international studies programs (International Affairs, Russian and East European Studies, and Asian Studies) have accumulated many of those honors. Carly Nasehi, a recent graduate in International Affairs and Religion from Orlando, received a Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship which is an extremely competitive award for students seeking careers in the U.S. Foreign Service. She is also one of only 60 within the nation to be awarded a Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship.

Finally, Carly was one of three International Affairs students and five Florida State students who were awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships. She planned to teach in Germany. She is joined by Travis Smith, a recent graduate of International Affairs and Russian from Tallahassee, who plans to teach in Russia, and Lulio Vargas-Cohen, a recent graduate of International Affairs from Delray Beach, who plans to teach in Spain.

Two other International Affairs students, Alena Ho and Isabel Callejas, won Boren Scholarships which will allow them to study less commonly taught languages in regions critical to American interests.

Our graduate students have been active as well. Carl Clement, a graduate student in Asian Studies, presented a paper at a graduate student conference at the University.

Lee Metcalf was named Director of the International Studies in August 2006. After earning her Ph.D. at Stanford University, she served as an Assistant Professor of Political Science and became the Assistant Director of the Program in 2000. A specialist in the politics of Eastern Europe she has led several foreign study trips to Croatia. Dean Rasmussen says that “International Studies has prospered under Lee’s excellent leadership. More students than ever are engaged in foreign study, doing internships abroad, and winning prestigious scholarships and fellowships.”

Students in INTERNATIONAL STUDIES Have Another Great Year
of Hawaii, Manoa. Jolie Keitel, a graduate student in Russian and East European Studies, presented a paper at the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies South meeting. International Affairs students Lucky Anguelov, Amy Kochanasz and Suliman Al-Atiqi also presented papers at the Florida Political Science Association meeting. Navarro Moore, another International Affairs student, had an article published in the Spring issue of the Yale Journal of International Affairs.

In order to prepare more students for honors such as these, we are continuing to invest in the International Affairs program in several ways. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Jason Jordan will be joining the staff as the Assistant Director. He will be responsible for undergraduate advising and the World Affairs program.

In order to help students and faculty stay better connected, we have created a website which is available to current students where we post information about fellowships, internships, study abroad opportunities, conferences, and events on campus. This allows students to access this information where ever they are and whenever they want.

In addition, we have created a Facebook group, International Affairs FSU, which is open to both alumni and current students of all three international studies programs. This allows us to communicate with our alums and for our alums and our current students to network about job opportunities. One of our alums, Marshall Frith, recently returned to campus to give a presentation on job opportunities in Washington, DC. If you have not already, we invite you to join this group.

Students are also strongly encouraged to take advantage of internship opportunities to build their resumes. This year these opportunities have been expanded to include students in Asian and Russian and East European Studies. In 2008-09, students have participated in a variety of internships both in the United States and abroad. They have interned for the U. S. State Department in Casablanca, Athens, and Vienna as well as at the British House of Commons, the World Food Program, and Valencia City Hall and a variety of non-government organizations such as Unseen Stories, Youth Action International, and the Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council.

To further help our students gain invaluable international experience, we have also been awarding travel scholarships to students who are studying or interning abroad. Thanks to the generous support of the Thomas Culligan family, Governor and Mrs. Reubin Askew, Ronald and Ruth Hedge, Stewart Brown, the Shepard and Ruth Broad Foundation, Carl and Joanne Blackwell, and the generous donors to the College’s General Development Fund, this year seventeen graduate and undergraduate students from International Affairs, Russian and East European Studies, and Asian Studies were awarded $1,000 travel scholarships to study in Croatia, Turkey, London, Moscow, China, Prague, and Panama and to participate in the Human Rights Center’s summer program.

We are very excited about the success of our students, and we are confident that the efforts we are putting into strengthening the program will lead to even more success in the future. For more information visit our website at www.coss.fsu.edu/inaprog/

The Florida State University Mourns the Passing of Monsignor Kerr

The Florida State community mourned the death of Monsignor William Kerr on May 13, 2009. When Terry Coonan, Director of FSU’s Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, wrote to tell friends and colleagues the terrible news he said “Robert Frost once wrote that the passing of a great man is like the felling of a mighty oak in the forest—it leaves a grey and lonely place against the sky. Tonight it seems like a great many of us stand in that grey and lonely place.”

Bill served the St. Thomas More Parish and Co-Cathedral in Tallahassee from 1971 to 1984 and during this time he earned a Ph.D. in diplomatic history from FSU. He served as vice president of the Catholic University of America (1984-92) and President of LaRoche College (1992-2004). He returned to FSU in 2006 as Director of the Claude Pepper Center to create an Intercultural Dialogue Initiative that would reflect his life long effort to bring peace and understanding to the world.

The College of Social Sciences and Public Policy and all the international programs at Florida State intend to join forces to build this Dialogue Initiative to bring Monsignor Kerr’s dreams to reality.
Sustainable Energy & Governance Program Established

Off-grid zero emissions building.
As environmental concerns regarding the use of fossil fuels emitting greenhouse gases and causing global warming continue to grow, the need for energy sustainability becomes more pressing. Florida State University’s College of Social Sciences and Public Policy (COSSPP) has risen to this challenge and is now poised to play a vital role in Florida’s sustainable energy future. In order to support sustainable energy research at FSU, this past spring the College introduced the Sustainable Energy and Governance Program (SEG).

The program will examine the roles and relationships among the public sector, consumers, and business firms in the promotion of sustainable energy delivery and consumption. To expedite the adoption of necessary energy and climate policies, the SEG will extend its research into the realm of legal, political, institutional factors that affect the design, adoption, diffusion, and implementation of energy and climate policy innovations.

Richard Feiock, the Augustus B. Turnbull Professor in the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy is the director. Internationally recognized for his work on local government and local democratic institutions, Dr. Feiock has published extensively on governance and regulatory issues related to state and local environmental policy, land use, and sustainable development.

SEG projects will involve 15 faculty members from the COSSPP and a large number of graduate students in five separate research studies. These are:

1. “Promoting Energy Sustainability through Land Use, Transportation, and Green Infrastructure,” coordinated by Tim Chapin, the chair of Urban and Regional Planning, and involves 5 other faculty members in urban planning.


The SEG program is part of the University’s Institute for Energy Systems, Economics and Sustainability (IESES). This research and policy group has been established at FSU to address sustainability and alternative power issues in Florida and to participate in the Florida University System’s state-wide Florida Energy Systems Consortium. Faculty members in social science are working with the IESES engineering faculty in their research on the implementation of smart grids technologies by addressing issues of urban form, land use, and inter-organizational cooperation.

In addition to policy analyses and research, IESES intends to place a heavy emphasis on education. As a leader in basic and applied research of sustainable energy, energy demand and supply, and energy governance in the United States, IESES will be in a position to mold the next generation of sustainable energy professionals into the educators, engineers, scientists, policymakers, and planners with the understanding of public policy and the complexities of sustainable energy systems.

Finally, SEG intends to engage in outreach and service activities. Presentations and reports to government organizations, private institutions, and academic symposia will work to integrate its research into public policy debates of energy policy.

Over the next two years the program will expand its research activities to include issues such as regional cooperation for climate change policy and the economic development consequences of the new energy economy. For more information on the projects and activities of the Sustainable Energy and Governance program visit the SEG web site at http://seg.fsu.edu.
Experimental Social Sciences Takes Off

In 2005 John and Hallie Quinn Eminent Scholar Chair Mark Isaac (Economics) led a group of economics and political science faculty that crafted a successful proposal to build a program in Experimental Social Science for the “Pathways of Excellence” initiative. Issac said that “experimental methods in social science allow scholars to assess how alternative institutional arrangements affect the behavior of people.”

By 2008, Experimental Social Sciences at Florida State (commonly called XS/FS) had welcomed three new faculty members: Professor of Economics David Cooper from Case-Western University, Assistant Professor of Political Science Jens Grosser, a PhD from University of Amsterdam and a post-doc at Princeton University, and finally Assistant Professor of Economics John Lightle, a Ph.D. from Ohio State University. In a short time, these three faculty members were able set the foundation needed for the cluster to become one of the finest programs in interdisciplinary experimental social science research.

Experimental methods allow scholars to study how individuals actually behave when they face different incentives and constraints. Economist Tim Salmon and political scientist Charles Barrilleaux, for example, joined forces to study the factors that affect voters’ willingness to vote for taxes that redistribute income to the poor. Other studies have explored the design of auctions and sports tournaments, philanthropy and non-profit institutions, the polarization of politics, and sustainable energy.

XS/FS concluded its hiring for its proposed positions with a spectacularly successful 2008-2009 recruiting season. The Political Science Department hired two new Ph.D. Assistant Professors: Eric Coleman from Indiana University, and John Ryan from the University of California, Davis. The Economics Department hired two new Assistant Professors: John Hamman from Carnegie Mellon University and Danila Serra from Oxford University.

These new faculty joined the existing strong base of XS/FS faculty who include Mark Isaac, Tim Salmon, Svetlana Pevnitskaya, and Dmitry Ryvkin in Economics as well as Charles Barrilleaux and John Scholz in Political Science. Florida State is increasingly recognized world-wide as one of the strongest experimental social science programs.

Mark Issac says that XS/FS has increased collaboration among many departments in the university. Faculty and graduate students from other departments on campus such as Accounting, Finance, Philosophy, and Mathematics, frequently attend XS/FS seminars and workshops.

Dean David Rasmussen said that “The College made a commitment to XS/FS before we became part of the Pathways program because experimental methods in the social sciences offer exciting new ways to teach important concepts to our students in addition to being a powerful research tool. The Pathways of Excellence initiative allowed us to build a world-class program that would have otherwise been impossible to achieve.”
“Experimental methods in social science allow scholars to assess how alternative institutional arrangements affect the behavior of people.”
The application of Experimental Social Sciences

Two proposals from our experimental cluster received funding from the Institute for Energy Systems, Economics, and Sustainability (IESES), demonstrating the value of experimental social science research in guiding important public policy decisions.

In a SEG project entitled, “An Experimental Investigation of Economic Incentives of Policies, Institutions and R&D in Environmental Conservation, Sustainability and Renewable Energy” Svetlana Pevnitskaya and Dmitry Ryvkin combine theoretical and experimental economic methods to study the mechanisms of sustainable energy investments and efficiency of institutions. The major advantage of the experimental method is a much tighter control over relevant factors that allows researchers to identify and study the net effect of particular variables, such as characteristics of the company, technology, and public policy on decision making in the private sector. In the experimental design, the researchers implement the key features of the dynamic economic system in which individuals face...
the problem of continuing to run “business as usual” and possibly facing energy deficits and an environmental disaster in the future, or investing in sustainable technologies.

Some of the questions addressed in the study include the effect of investment in research and development on the probability of creating new technologies; the impact of the dynamic and uncertain nature of environmental changes on economic behavior; the efficiency of current institutions, and the design of new mechanisms that might solve the problem of underinvestment in sustainable technologies. The results will inform policymakers and the public about how economic institutions might be changed to achieve sustainable development.

Also funded by the IESES initiative is a project proposed by economists Isaac, Doug Norton, Pevnitskaya and economics graduate student Sean Collins. This group recognizes that facility siting issues are crucial for a roll-out of alternative energy facilities such as wind farms and bio-mass industrial parks and that economic, political, and legal issues are also crucial to the siting process. These researchers use laboratory social science methods to investigate the two problems in facilities siting: the so-called “hold-out” and “NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard)” problems. The lab will allow careful control over informational and contracting issues that might make hold-outs more or less problematic in negotiations about siting decisions. The group will also examine what types of group identity issues are likely to exacerbate NIMBY problems.

David Cooper, who joined FSU from Case Western University.

Prof. Cooper’s Ph.D. was awarded by Princeton University, where he specialized in economic theory and began his interests in experimental economics. His research transcends traditional field boundaries by examining questions of the internal organization of firms, fairness, learning, and entrepreneurship. He has published almost two dozen professional papers in journals such as the American Economic Review, the Economic Journal, and Experimental Economics. He has been a PI on many grants, including several from the National Science Foundation. Prof. Cooper has attracted graduate students from economics, political science, and other disciplines into his graduate course on experimental methods.
Public Health Masters Program
Grants its 100th Degree

A new Masters of Public Health Program hits its stride. Graduating its 100th student last year, the College of Social Science and Public Policy’s Masters of Public Health Program has grown tremendously in the last few years. The program started in 2003 with one student: Brad Goldstein. He helped design and shape the program, took 18 to 21 hours per semester, worked part-time, completed his public health internship, and applied to medical school. He’s now finishing his training as an osteopath.

The program has now grown to about 35 students enrolled and admits about 18-20 new students per year. As we move toward seeking accreditation from the Council for Education in Public Health, we’ve increased our credit requirements to 42 hours including the internship.

FSU’s COSSPP has the nation’s only Masters of Public Health (MPH) program located within a college of social sciences. This is an odd fact of academia considering that most of the academic disciplines that form the intellectual basis of public health are among the social sciences. For an MPH to be accredited, students must take courses from the five major disciplines: epidemiology (a specialization within sociology); public administration; biostatistics; health behavior; and environmental health. Our program also requires finance or economics, political science and comparative health systems from an international perspective.

Public health is a broad interdisciplinary field and our program draws faculty from all of the College’s departments. It ranges from a bench science studying infectious agents to the policymaking process. Given our position in a policy-oriented college of social science, we focus on health policy. We pay very close attention to the relationship between how health care providers are paid and how they behave, how much patients are charged and how that changes their behavior, and what kind of information best catches the attention of a teenager at risk of taking up smoking or engaging in risky sexual behavior. We also study how the environment and how lifestyles can impact health status. Using GIS (geographic information systems), we teach students to map the geographic distribution of diseases, medical conditions, injuries, health resources and other health related outcomes. Students can also earn a certificate in GIS or emergency management.

The program works closely with the state Department of Health through internships, speakers, and community events. This past year we partnered with the local health departments in volunteering at over a dozen community health events, including health screenings for men, women, and minorities, Downtown Getdowns, and various health fairs.

The program was started by former dean Marie Cowart and has been nurtured, expanded, and supported by current dean, David Rasmussen. We have grown considerably since 2003 and look forward to many more exciting years. Visit us at www.coss.fsu.edu/publichealth/.
Students in the College of Social Science and Public Policy’s (COSSPP) Masters in Public Health Program, can expect to learn the following:

- World-wide, 1.5 million children die each year from diarrheal disease, primarily from unsafe drinking water and poor sanitation.
- In the US, only about 10% of the extension in life expectancy over the past century has been due to medical care. Most of the improvement is due to public health and lifestyle factors.
- Up to 100,000 patients are killed annually by medical errors, many of them drug related.
- No matter what city you live in, chances are you get only about half the care recommended for your condition.
- America pays far more for our drugs than other countries do – often several times more – though many of the drugs are made in America.
- America spends more than $2.2 trillion dollars on healthcare each year. With all that money moving around the system, there’s a pretty good chance a graduate today from any field will be working in the health care industry at some point in his or her career.
- Health care now represents one-sixth of the economy and is one sector of the economy that is growing despite the recession.
Anderson Ashby Lecture Series

September 25, 2008  Roger Mudd  Former News Correspondent and Author  
“When the News was the News”

Joe Cresse Ethics in Government Lecture Series

October 7, 2008  The Honorable David M. Walker  President and CEO Peter G. Peterson Foundation and former Comptroller General of the United States  
“Improving Ethics and Stewardship in Government”

Ruth and Shepard Broad International Lecture Series

September 30, 2008  Nancy Soderberg  former US Ambassador and Author  
“National Security Challenges: The Next Presidents Inbox”

October 9, 2008  Hamdi Saleh  former Ambassador, Columnist and Commentator  
“The Arab World and the Process of Globalization”

October 16, 2008  Steven Lawry  Senior Research Fellow, Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University  
“The Terrible Burden of Narrowly Defined Identities: Toward New Perspective on Identity and Conflict Reduction”

November 13, 2008  Walter Slocombe  former US Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, and former Director for Security Affairs in the Coalition Provisional Authority for Iraq  
“Cairo to Kabul: The Focus of Foreign Policy Challenges for the New Administration”

February 12, 2009  George Ayittey  Distinguished Economist in Residence, The American University  
“Is There any Hope for Africa?: The Problems and the Solutions”

March 5, 2009  Roger Kangas  Professor Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies at the National Defense University, Washington DC  
“Playing the Energy Card: How Eurasian Oil and Gas Matter to the World Market”

April 2, 2009  James Goldgeier  Professor of Political Science and International Affairs, George Washington University  
“Liberal legacies and Conservative Conundrums: Democrats, Republicans, and the Future of American Foreign Policy”

April 9, 2009  Douglas Casson Coutts  Visiting Professor Auburn University (U.N. World Food Programme)  
“Feeding the World’s Hungry-Challenges and Opportunities: The United Nations World Food Programme in Action”
Students take advantage of opportunities to converse with speakers, outside the lecture hall.
Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients:

Victor W. Holcomb & John L. Holcomb

Holcomb & Mayts in Tampa. Since 1984, Vic has been actively involved with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, serving on their Executive Board of Directors for many years, including the last two years as Chairman of their Board of Directors. The Tampa Bay Boys & Girls Clubs own and operate 21 club facilities throughout their service area. As a result of his 25 years of service and leadership to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay, Vic has impacted, either directly or indirectly, thousands of children and young people throughout the Tampa Bay area. Along with brother John and mother Virginia Holcomb Kaul, he also serves as a Trustee of The Kaul Foundation, which was established in 1995 to continue the legacy of Ralph Kaul, one of the principal developers of Tampa for nearly 40 years after World War II.

John came to FSU on a football scholarship in the pre-Bobby Bowden days, majored in Political Science, and after graduating in 1977, headed to Law School at UF, where he earned his J.D. degree in 1979. During the course of his 30-year legal career, John has concentrated on trial practice, professional negligence, personal injury and drug & medical device litigation. A partner with the law firm of Hill, Ward & Henderson in Tampa, John has received numerous accolades as a top trial attorney, including being named to the list of Best Lawyers in America, Florida Super Lawyers and Florida Trend Magazine’s FL Legal Elite. In addition, he currently serves as the National President of American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), having served that group previously as its National Secretary.

Dean David Rasmussen will present the Holcomb brothers with their award during Homecoming Weekend on Friday afternoon October 30 at a special reception hosted by the College in the DeVoe Moore Center (Bellamy Building 150E) beginning at 3:30 pm. The reception is open to all College alumni and friends.
Guardian of the Flame Award

**Joseph Calhoun**, Lecturer in Economics, received the Guardian of the Flame Award for outstanding teaching and support of students. An FSU student organization, Burning Spear, gives this annual award to one member in each college.

2008-09 Teaching Awards

**Annette Schwabe** and **Kathryn Tillman** of the Sociology Department received a university award for outstanding undergraduate teaching. Receiving an award for outstanding graduate teaching were **John Reynolds** (Sociology) and **Kaifeng Yang** (Askew School of Public Administration). **Philip Steinberg** (Geography) received the Honors Thesis Mentor Award for outstanding effort in directing and advising of undergraduate research through the Honors in the Major program.

Students nominated eight other faculty for teaching awards. They are **Robert Deyle** and **Jeffrey Brown** (Urban and Regional Planning), **Ronnie Cheung, Tim Salmon**, and **Lora Holcombe** (Economics), **Victor Mesev** (Geography) and **Jenifer Jerit** and **Ray Block** (Political Science).

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Ihlanfeldt Named RSAI Fellow

RSAI is an international community of scholars interested in the regional impacts of national or global processes of economic and social change. The organization has chosen DeVoe L. Moore Eminent Scholar Chair **Keith Ihlanfeldt** (Economics and Director of the DeVoe L. Moore Center) to receive its highest honor by appointing him as an RSAI Fellow.
Faculty win distinguished research awards

R. Jay Turner (Sociology) received the Distinguished Research Professor Award. He was one of only three professors to receive this prestigious award which is the third highest honor that is bestowed on faculty members. Dr. Turner also recently received a $4.3 million dollar grant from the National Institute on Aging.

Mark Horner (Geography) was selected to receive one of six Developing Scholar Awards for 2008-09. This annual award goes to outstanding associate professors.

Pepper Eminent Scholar Jill Quadagno (Sociology) was awarded the Leo G. Reeder Award for Distinguished Contributions to Medical Sociology. The annual award acknowledges superior contributions to research, teaching, mentoring and training in the area of medical sociology.
DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

Economics

Economics Department: Building Centers of Excellence

The economics department continues to be very productive in both teaching and research. 529 undergraduates majored in economics or applied economics in 2008-09, and 56 students were in our graduate programs. 118 bachelors’ degrees, 26 masters’ degrees, and two PhDs were also awarded.

Success in research is illustrated by a new study that ranks economics PhD programs and PhD fields based on measures of research impact. FSU placed fifty-second overall and twenty-seventh among public institutions, about a dozen places better than previous rankings. FSU also ranks seventh nationally in Urban and Regional Economics, and ninth in Law and Economics.

Unfortunately, our twenty-fifth place in Labor and Demographic economics may tumble with the loss of David Macpherson, who accepted an endowed-chair position at Trinity University. He will be missed.

We are pleased, however, to announce that Frank Heiland was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, and that Stefan Norrbin has returned after a two-year leave. In addition, five new faculty members were hired because of our successful Pathways of Excellence program in experimental social sciences, and our success in attracting substantial private-foundation gifts in support of free enterprise.

Previously dedicated Pathways of Excellence funds allowed us to hire John Hamman, a Carnegie Mellon PhD specializing in behavioral and experimental economics. He joins the Experimental Social Sciences Research Group (XS/FS) in August. In addition, gifts of almost $1.6 million from the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation support two new assistant professors, Danila Serra and Shi Qi (plus two four-year PhD fellowships). Danila, an Oxford University
PhD, specializes in economic development and political economy using experimental methods, so she also will be in XS/FS. Shi, an Industrial organization specialist, earned his PhD from the University of Minnesota. Both join several current professors in the newly-established program for the Study of Political Economy and Free Enterprise (SPEFE) housed in the Gus Stavros Center for the Advancement of Economics Education and Free Enterprise.

The BB&T Charitable Foundation also committed $2.25 million to the department over ten years to support an undergraduate teaching specialist (plus a four-year PhD fellowship, dissertation fellowships, visiting speakers, and several new opportunities for undergraduates). Joab Corey is the new BB&T Lecturer in Free Enterprise Economics. Joab, whose PhD is from West Virginia University, joins other outstanding economics instructors in the new program for Excellence in Economics Education (EEE), also in the Stavros Center. EEE has already created a Certificate Program in “Markets and Institutions,” and several new courses. Our fifth new faculty member is Onsurang (Onnie) Norribin, previously an assistant professor at Samford University. She returns to FSU where she earned two outstanding teaching awards while obtaining her PhD (2005). Onnie will serve as Director of International Economic Education for International Affairs while teaching for both that program and economics.

The economics department maintained its upward momentum through 2008-09 in the face of severe budget cuts. In addition to successes noted above, a dozen faculty members had research grant support, 65 academic journal articles were published or are forthcoming along with dozens of book chapters and policy reports, six new courses were offered (three more are in development), and the newly-recruited PhD class has more students on funding than ever before, thanks to our new fellowships. A new, but already very active, Economics Club also was established for students.

### Geography

**Geography Hit Hard with Budget Cuts**

The Department of Geography was hit hard by the University’s financial problems. The lines of the four members of the faculty who left last year remained unfilled and there was concern among the rest of the faculty if the Department would even survive as a viable academic entity. But survive we did, and the strength of resolve in the geography faculty and doctoral students are still evident by strong research productivity, conference participation and high enrollments in both the geography and environmental studies undergraduate programs and the master’s program in geographic information systems. In addition, four master’s degrees in geography were awarded and three doctoral students were hooded last year. Instead of replacing faculty the Department continues to employ teaching Instructors: Kelly Watson (PhD 2009), who serves as undergraduate advisor, along with Hosuk Lee (PhD 2008) will teach many of the human geography classes next year.

Of the many achievements, some of the more outstanding include Phil Steinberg’s promotion to full professor and his funding of over $300,000 from the National Science Foundation to conduct research on territorial imaginaries and Arctic sovereignty claims with colleagues in Towson and Alberta.

Thanks to Xiaojun Yang’s contribution to the International Partnership Project, they were awarded nearly a million dollars to conduct research on ecosystem processes and services.

Mark Horner received a Developing Scholar awards from the Council on Research and Creativity.

Tony Stallins, Mark Nesius (doctoral student) and Kelly Watson published “Biogeomorphic characterization of floodplain forest composition changes to reduced flows in the Apalachicola River” in the journal of River Research and Applications; and Victor Mesev published the “Geography of Conflict and Death in Northern Ireland” in the journal Annals of the Association of American Geographers with colleagues from Belfast and Joni Downs (PhD 2008 and Assistant Professor at USF).

Jim Elsner (Earl and Sophia Shaw Professor) continued his research on hurricane predictions that has received world-wide attention. In addition to being covered in the New York Times, Reuters, and BBC, outlets in Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Thailand, and Turkey have discussed his research.
Our doctoral students also remain very active. **Julie Mura** was recently elected Chief Financial Officer for the Congress of Graduate Students. She is the first female and first person outside the Business School to hold the position. **Sunny Sim** was selected to be a Program Excellence (PIE) Associate. **Derek Morgan** was awarded an NSF Dissertation Improvement Grant for research on a visual time geographic approach to crime mapping, and **Heather Gamper**’s paper on the Examination of the use of honeydew by birds in tropical montane forests of Mexico was accepted for publication in the Journal of Tropical Ecology.

Finally looking to the future, the Department is currently developing an on-line program in geographic information systems that will begin fall 2010. Our assistant professors, **Lisa Jordan** and **Tingting Zhao**, have invested a lot of work on the program. The Department would also like to welcome **Christina Dippre** to our front office and **Victor Mesev** will continue as Department Chair for another three years.

**Maestas** have all included undergraduates in their National Science Foundation-support research projects. Professor **Will Moore** and doctoral student **Courtenay Ryals** just received an NSF grant which will fund a large number of undergraduates next year. Each year we seem to be finding more opportunities for undergraduate research, and this is of great benefit to our students planning to go on to graduate study in political science.

In terms of other news about undergraduates, **Kristen Holder** received the inaugural Thomas R. Dye scholarship, which goes to a political science major exhibiting the highest levels of academic success. This year the department’s Charles Billings Award for public service went to **France Francois**.

The faculty’s fine work continues to enhance the reputation of both the department and university. Professor **Carol Weisert**, the Leroy Collins Eminent Scholar, was selected for the 2009-2010 Leadership Florida class. Professors **Jennifer Jerit** and **Jason Barabas** received a “best paper” award at the annual meetings of the International Society of Political Psychology. Professor **Christopher Reenock** received an award for the best article published in the 2008 volume of the Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory. Professor **David Siegel** is part of a team of researchers from several different universities which received a grant of over $1 million from NSF. Eppes Professor **John Scholz** received a grant from the NSF to host two national-level conferences on the study of networks in political science. And finally, the department’s Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions and Democratic Performance hosted its inaugural mini-conference on “Citizen Preferences, Political Institutions and Democratic Performance.” In a series of workshops, department faculty and students shared research with faculty from Cornell, SUNY-Binghamton, Rochester and Simon Fraser universities.

**Political Science**

**Political Science Continues to Experience Growth**

Interest in Political Science continues to expand. Last year the Department of Political Science awarded 351 undergraduate degrees. We are now awarding twice as many degrees as we awarded five years ago, so our alumni base is expanding rapidly, and if you are one of our new alumni, congratulations!

In this year’s letter we want to call attention to the expanding opportunities our undergraduates have to work with faculty on funded research projects. Professors **Jennifer Jerit**, **Jason Barabas** and **Cherie Weissert** received a grant from the NSF to host two national-level conferences on the study of networks in political science. And finally, the department’s Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions and Democratic Performance hosted its inaugural mini-conference on “Citizen Preferences, Political Institutions and Democratic Performance.” In a series of workshops, department faculty and students shared research with faculty from Cornell, SUNY-Binghamton, Rochester and Simon Fraser universities.

**Sociology**

**A Year of Awards for Faculty and Students**

FSU Sociology members won more awards at the Faculty Awards Ceremony this spring than any other department in the University. **Jay Turner** was honored with a Distinguished Research Professor Award, one of the University’s top honors. **Kathryn Tillman** and **Annette Schwabe** won University Teaching Awards for their undergraduate teaching, and **John Reynolds** won for his graduate teaching.

Extra-mural awards were plentiful, as well. In recognition of her distinguished contributions to medical sociology, **Jill Quadagno** was awarded the prestigious Leo G. Reeder Award by the American Sociological Association’s Medical Sociology Section, and **Irene Padavic** was honored by the Southern Sociological Society with its Jocher-Beard Award for her distinguished scholarly contributions to the understanding of gender and society. Graduate student **Christian Vaccaro** won the American Sociological Association’s Emotions Section Best Paper Award, and honors undergraduate **Mandy Martinez** was selected to be a member of the Urban Institute’s Summer Academy.

US News Rankings for 2009 place FSU Sociology at 23 in the nation among public institutions and among the top-10 in the nation for Sex and Gender.

In grants news, **Jay Turner** and his team (including sociologists **Verna Keith**, **John Taylor**, and **Don Lloyd**), a medical school professor and a biologist) were awarded a $4.3 million grant for five years from the National Institutes of Health to study health disparities and the stress hypothesis. This study has potential to contribute in a landmark way toward understanding the origins of racial and socio-economic disparities in physical and mental health.
Several faculty members have been appointed or elected to important national offices in the American Sociological Association. Anne Barrett is Secretary of the Lifecourse Section, Karin Brewster is a member of Council of the Population Section, Irene Padavic is a member of the Committee on Committees and the Publications Committee. Other national organizational honors include Jay Turner’s membership on the Social Psychology and Interpersonal Processes review panel for NIH, Ike Eberstein’s membership on the Population Sciences Committee of the NICHD, and Jill Quadagno’s membership on the Board of Directors and Chair of the Membership Committee of the National Academy of Social Insurance and her membership on the Robert Wood Johnson National Advisory Council for Investigator Awards in Health Policy Research.

We are pleased to announce that Kathryn Tillman was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure and that John Reynolds was promoted to Full Professor and also appointed to be Director of the Pepper Institute on Aging.

Dr. Kaifeng Yang, Associate Professor, was awarded the 2008-09 University Graduate Teaching Award from Florida State University. This is one of the highest teaching awards a FSU professor can win and is a coveted recognition of excellence in teaching. The faculty selection committee gives a very high priority to information received from a survey of the students from professor’s classes last year; especially important is their assessment of what they learned and how the class was conducted. Dr. Yang was also named Managing Editor of the journal Public Performance Management and Review for a five year term.

Dr. Frances Berry, Frank Sherwood Professor of Public Administration, was awarded a Fulbright Lectureship to Taiwan for the upcoming 2009-2010 year. Her primary academic home in Taiwan will be the University of Taipei where she will teach a class in the Department of Public Administration and Policy. Dr. Berry’s research topics will examine the role of social entrepreneurs in Taiwan society, how they work with government to serve the needs of citizens in civic society, and an assessment of local government’s policy towards “green policies” and environmentally sustainable practices.

Dr. Richard Feiock, Augustus B. Turnbull Professor of Public Administration, was the recipient of the William E. Mosher and Frederick C. Mosher Award, along with his co-authors Professors M. Jae Moom and Hyung Jun Park. This award recognizes the best article published in Public Administration Review in 2008 written by an academician.

The winning article is entitled: “Is the World ‘Flat’ or ‘Spiky? Rethinking the Governance Implications of Globalization for Economic Development.”

Dr. Richard Feiock also received the Manning Dauer Award presented at the 2009 Florida Political Science Association meeting for Career Research Achievement.

Dr. Robert Lee, Director of the Center for Florida Local Government Excellence, organized a symposium on “Managing and Succeeding in a Politically Challenging Environment.” Co-sponsored by the FL City and County Management Association.

The symposium provides professional development for young professionals in city and county government and MPA students looking for a career in local government.

Congratulations~ Students Claire Connolly Knox won the Collins Award for Best Ph.D. Paper at the Southeast Conference of Public Administrators held in Orlando, Florida. The name of Claire’s paper was “Passing the Northern Everglades Bill: A Case Study Applying Theories of Policy Change.”

Dr. Manoj Shrestha, now an assistant professor at the University of Idaho, won the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration Best Dissertation Award at the annual conference in Charleston, SC. The name of Manoj’s dissertation is “Decentralized Governments and Inter-local Cooperation: Explanation of Choice, Level, and Network in Supply of Local Public Goods.”

Wenjue Lu Knutsen won the Emerging Scholar Award from the Association for Research in Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action at its annual meeting in November 2008. Her dissertation, an ethnographic study of Chinese ethnic nonprofits in Canada, explored and extended
existing theories about the competing dynamics between instrumental and expressive activities in nonprofit organizations.

Urban and Regional Planning

Despite the many challenges of the past year, the Department of Urban and Regional Planning had one of its best years ever. The Department’s faculty continued to undertake and complete important, cutting-edge research, our students continued to excel in the classroom, and our alumni continue to lead Florida and its local communities through these tough fiscal times.

In the Fall of 2008 Planetizen, an online network for planning professionals, once again ranked FSU’s Department of Urban & Regional Planning as one of the best urban planning programs in the nation (19th overall). In addition, the program is highly regarded by both the academic and professional communities, ranking 17th in surveys of educators and practitioners. DURP’s faculty ranked 11th overall in terms of faculty scholarly productivity.

In terms of its research and teaching emphases, DURP was ranked as one of the top programs in four specialty areas: Environmental Planning, Growth Management, Housing, and Public Health. Overall, these rankings illustrate what our current students, graduates, and employers already know, that DURP remains one of the strongest and most productive urban planning units in the nation.

Over the last year the Department graduated another excellent cohort of master’s (MSP) students, over 40 in total, as well as another 3 PhD students. Despite the very tight economy, most of our MSP graduates have already found employment with local governments, state agencies, and private firms. Similarly, our PhDs continue to find employment at excellent universities like Michigan State, Central Florida, and Appalachian State.

Our faculty continue to be engaged in research projects investigating topics of immediate and long-term importance to the state of Florida and its citizens. Included among them are analyzing the impacts of rising sea levels on transportation infrastructure, investigating school siting issues in Florida and elsewhere, and evaluating the success of transit systems in the United States.

Professors Robert Doyle and Tim Chapin, working with former Planner-in-Residence Harrison Higgins, were awarded a $1 million research contract to investigate ways to better link hazards planning, transportation planning, and land use planning. The project team, which also includes faculty members Greg Thompson and Jeff Brown, as well as new Senior Planner Peter Koeppel, is working with the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (CCPG-MPO) to assess vulnerabilities to that county’s infrastructure due to hurricanes and rising sea levels.

Faculty members Christopher Coutts and Rebecca Miles are examining the relationship between neighborhood physical and social environments and the effects on residents’ mental and physical health. Professors Thompson and Brown have also wrapped up a project with the Mineta Institute which evaluates several transit systems in the United States.

The Department also had much to celebrate in the past year, as Professor Rebecca Miles and Associate Professor Jeff Brown were promoted by the university in recognition of their excellent contributions as scholars and teachers. In May 2009, Melissa Saunders was hired as our new Planner-in-Residence. Saunders earned a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, and she has almost twenty years of professional experience as a planning consultant and project manager and she continues the long tradition of excellence in this faculty line. In addition, ‘The Colquitt Sustainability Plan studio headed by Professor Saunders won APA Florida’s student project award for 2009.

During the past year we have had great success in attracting outside funding to support the activities of the Department. Within the last year the Department has brought in roughly $1.85 million in outside funding to support faculty research and provide our students professional and educational opportunities unparalleled in the state. A new endowed fund resulting from a gift by Joy Jinks of Colquitt, Georgia is being used to support graduate students with interests in community development and empowerment, particularly in rural towns in the South. The Department has also signed a contract with the state’s Division of Emergency Management to help local governments update their local mitigation strategy plans. This project will employ between 10-15 interns in the field during the summers of 2009 and 2010.

In sum, while the last year brought many challenges, the Department fared well in all aspects of our mission. The faculty, staff, and students appreciate the great support we have received from our alumni, the friends of the program, and the many agencies, firms, and non-profits that hire our students, make presentations in our classrooms, and engage the Department in professional work.
This year our annual symposium was organized by Bruce Benson, who is a Center faculty member, DeVoe Moore Professor, and Chairman of the Economics Department. The symposium was titled “The Economics of Crime.” Land use, crime, and regulation are highly intertwined in the real world, which made the topic of the conference highly relevant to the Center’s mission. Professor Benson has arranged for the papers presented at the conference to be published in a compendium titled “The Economics of Crime,” which he and his former student, Paul Zimmerman, will edit.

The DeVoe Moore Center is not just about research; we have a strong commitment to teaching as well. This commitment was demonstrated this past academic year as we introduced two new courses into the undergraduate economics curriculum. Both courses focus on land use regulation. In the fall semester, 40 students took the first course, which introduced the students to the mortgage and real estate markets and the role of government regulation within these markets. Obviously, our timing for launching this new course was perfect. In the spring, 20 of those students continued on to the second course which applied the theories they learned in the first course to actual land use problems confronting the City of Tallahassee and Leon County. Tom Mayock developed and taught these two new courses.

Regarding future events, the DeVoe Moore Center will be co-sponsoring two new symposia over the next academic year – one with the LeRoy Collins Institute and the other with the Business School. We are all quite excited about these events because they underscore the goal of the Center to have a broad presence throughout the entire university community.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

DeVoe L. Moore Center

Center Develops New Courses

The DeVoe Moore Center’s mission focuses on the role of government in a market economy, with special emphasis on the roles of local and state government. For the past three years, most of the Center’s research has been related to state and local land use regulation. The journal articles we published dealt with a wide range of regulatory issues, including the effect of development impact fees on employment, the impact of land use regulations on home ownership affordability, the role that land use regulations played in the run-up in housing prices within Florida during the years 1995 – 2005, and how to achieve better cooperation among local governments in addressing region-wide land use issues.

Our most noteworthy publications are the chapters we published in the Lincoln Land Institute’s new book Assessing Smart Growth Policies in the United States. This is the first book written that addresses the question of whether or not Florida’s and other states’ smart growth programs have had their intended effects. The overall conclusion of the book is that the success of these programs has been limited, but in most cases gains have been made in that area chosen by each state as its highest priority.

Each year the DeVoe Moore Center hosts a Critical Issues Symposium on a topic falling within our mission statement. The purpose behind these symposia is to bring to campus experts from throughout the world to present papers and interact with FSU students and faculty. Many of our research ideas and dissertation topics have come from our symposia.
A grant from the Earhart Foundation enabled the Center to sponsor a series of workshops for high school teachers on “Common Sense Economics and Practical Ideas to Enliven your Social Studies, History, Economics and Personal Finance Classes.” These day-long workshops were led by Stavros Center Director, James Gwartney, along with several other faculty who have worked with the Center through the years. They have provided teachers with materials that would add excitement to their teaching of economics and gave them training about how to use them effectively. Nearly 200 teachers attended the workshops held in Florida, Arizona, Colorado, Michigan, and Texas and we are currently seeking funding to continue and expand this program.

Lora Holcombe, Center faculty associate, is the faculty advisor for the Economics Club. This club is open to all interested FSU students and has just completed its most successful year. They meet on a regular basis, watch and discuss movies with economic content, and sponsor special lectures and events.

The Stavros Center and the FSU Economics Club co-sponsored several activities during the year. These included:

- “The Current Economic Crisis Cause and Implications” led by a panel of faculty members from the Department of Economics.
- A special lecture by George Ayittey of American University, “Is there any Hope for Africa? The Problems and the Solutions.”
- “The Current Economic Crisis Cause and Future Prospects”, led by James Gwartney, Joe Calhoun, and Joe Connors.
- “Will President Obama’s Economic Policy Turn the Recession Around?” A panel presentation by economists from the FSU Department of Economics.

Pepper Institute on Aging and Public Policy

The Pepper Institute awarded, with funding from the Claude Pepper Center, two dissertation fellowships this year. Lisa Rill, Department of Sociology, spent six months working closely with the Tallahassee Senior Center doing research for her dissertation, tentatively titled, “Early 21st Century Examination of Variation in Senior Center Participation.” She sees the fellowship as a generous contribution not only to her dissertation, but to her future as well. She remains dedicated to the field of aging and plans to remain in this field in her future career.

Nitin Dua, Department of Economics is focusing his dissertation, tentatively titled, “Competitive Effects of Ambulatory Surgery Centers – Patient Welfare and Role of Physician Exclusivity,” on an analysis of the competitive effects of growth of ambulatory surgery centers (ASCs) in Florida, on the efficiency of the health care system and the well-being of patients.

The Pepper Institute on Aging received a $100,000 grant to support growth of the lifelong learning program for mature adults sponsored by the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy at Florida State University. The Grant was awarded by the Bernard Osher Foundation and may be renewed for $100,000 for each of the next 3 years. The goal of the grant is to encourage mature adults to continue to pursue learning, to develop leadership skills, to promote intergenerational interactions, to advance research in the field of active aging and to extend the resources of FSU to the broader community. Over 18 classes were offered to 326 members of the program during the past year. Classes were taught by university faculty covering a range of topics including economics, history, music, science and literature. Special noon lectures included distinguished guests such as Alex Sink, Lt. General Bob Milligan (Director the State Board of Administration), and Norman Thagard. The program also included field trips, a writers group, a book club and Claude Pepper
cultural events. The program continues to attract new members each month, and is expected to reach a goal of 500 members within the next two years.

The Pepper Institute welcomed two new Associates this year. Jason Barabas, Associate Professor of Political Science, and Miles Taylor, Assistant Professor of Sociology. Professor Barabas studies how citizens learn about policy issues from the mass media and interpersonal deliberation as well as public attitudes toward privatization in America. He teaches several courses in the College’s Masters in Public Health program, and several of his recent papers are on issues related to the Medicare and Social Security programs in the United States.

Professor Taylor focuses on physical and mental health among older adults, including functional impairment, chronic disease, and mortality. Other interests include marital and family relationships across the life course, including the enduring relationship of marital quality and health and the effects of grandparents in the lives of adolescents.

We regret the departure of Institute Director David Macpherson. David has accepted an Eminent Scholar position at Trinity University. John Reynolds, Professor of Sociology, will become the new Director. Dean Rasmussen said that “David has been a highly productive member of the faculty. He has been outstanding in teaching, research, and service and we very much appreciate his contributions to the College and FSU. I am delighted that John Reynolds has agreed to direct the Center; he is a worthy successor to David.”

LeRoy Collins Institute

Studies Florida State-Local Relationships

The LeRoy Collins Institute has received funding from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund ($225,000) and the Florida League of Cities ($25,000) to conduct a major research project on state and local fiscal and governmental trends in Florida. Work began on January 2009.

The three-year research will examine trends and future scenarios in state-local relationships in Florida including the effect of state laws and constitutional provisions on local spending and on revenues over time. It will also compare Florida with other states, particularly large Southern states, and assess trends in that context.

Carol S. Weissert, LeRoy Collins Eminent Scholar Chair, professor of political science, and director of the LeRoy Collins Institute, is the principal investigator. COSS researchers include Robert Eger, Richard Feiock, David Matkin, and Lance DeHaven Smith from the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy. Researchers from the Center for Demography and Population Health and graduate students from the Askew School and the Department of Political Science are also participating.

This study builds on earlier work conducted by Weissert and David Denslow, economics professor at the University of Florida, for the Collins Institute. The research, entitled Tough Choices: Shaping Florida’s Future, has been updated three times since its original release in 2005 and has been widely disseminated and cited by the media, interest groups, and state officials.

The mission of the LeRoy Collins Institute is to perpetuate the leadership of Governor LeRoy Collins by developing and promoting bold, visionary public policy that will empower and uplift Floridians for generations to come. The Institute is located within the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy at FSU and works in affiliation and collaboration with the State University System of Florida. COSSPP Dean David Rasmussen is a member of the Collins Institute board. More information on the Collins Institute and its research may be found at http://collinsinstitute.fsu.edu/.
Three student organizations are closely aligned with the College of Social Sciences & Public Policy: the student chapter of the National Association of Business Economists, the World Affairs Program and the Global Peace Exchange. These organizations provide our undergraduates with outstanding leadership opportunities that include representing the group in the University and the broader community, recruiting members, organizing activities to keep members engaged, and finding the money to maintain their operations.

Student government and the Office of Student Affairs provide some support. Our student groups require funds for support of their social events, travel to conferences, and other program activities. Your gifts to the College’s Annual Fund make a key contribution to these groups as we help sustain these organizations.

There is growing recognition that the international study helps students make their way in this increasingly global economy. Many recruiters from major corporations report that they favor candidates who have undergone this broadening experience. This past year the Annual Fund provided nine scholarships to study in the Czech Republic, China, Russia, Turkey as well as at the London Study Center.
Development Highlights

Despite a year dominated by economic difficulties and uncertainty that took its toll on investors and donors alike, the Economics Department received three major multi-year commitments of current support funds, two from BB&T Charitable Foundation and one from the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation, with a combined total of $3 million that will enable the department to significantly expand its teaching of free enterprise economics at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. As a result of these commitments, total giving to the College for the period 7/1/08 thru 6/30/09 was $4,029,074, an increase of $801,055 (24%) over the 2007-2008 total of $3,228,019.

The above numbers fail to adequately convey the direct impact and benefit to our students, faculty and programs which private support provides. Our students are and will continue to be the primary beneficiary of private support to the College, especially Annual Fund gifts that are spent during the current fiscal year. All gifts, regardless of size, do matter when they are combined to help make wonderful things happen and help motivate a young person to change themselves and their world.

To each of our 2008-2009 donors and supporters as well as those who have supported the College in past years, thank you very much for your continued interest and generous support. We remain most grateful for and most appreciative of all your wonderful efforts on behalf of our students, our faculty and the College.

Other 2008-2009 fundraising highlights included:

- The Jessie Ball DuPont Fund in Jacksonville, Florida awarded the LeRoy Collins Institute a 3-year $255,000 grant to fund the next phase of its ongoing study regarding resource allocation decisions and issues between state and local governments within the State of Florida and the impact they have on both levels of government.
- The Economics Department received a 4-year $86,000 award from the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation to help fund graduate fellowships for two Ph.D. students.
- Eileen and Tom Culligan added $43,412 to the endowment principal for the Culligan Scholarship for International Studies Endowment Fund, thereby increasing the endowment balance over the $100,000 level and thus making their fund eligible for special State of Florida matching funds.
- Stavros Eminent Scholar in Economics Dr. Jim Gwartney and his wife Amy made a $30,000 pledge commitment to establish and fund the James & Amy Gwartney Scholarship Fund to help support graduate students in economics.
- The Center for Demography and Population Health received an unrestricted gift of $10,000 from Demography alum William DeGrove.
- The College of Social Sciences & Public Policy and the College of Business jointly hosted a festive November reception recognizing BB&T for their generous support of new programs in Free Enterprise and Economic Education; these programs are the first steps in a $7 million initiative under the leadership of the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation that will propel the FSU Economics Department into the national spotlight as one of the premier programs in teaching free enterprise economics.
In 1977 The Florida State University Foundation established The Presidents Club to recognize an exceptional group of donors who earned a place of distinction and honor through their outstanding response to the University’s need for private support. The College of Social Sciences & Public Policy gratefully honors the following donors whose generosity ensures the continued growth and excellence of the College’s academic programs. Please note that this listing of President’s Club members is based upon cumulative lifetime giving to the College of Social Sciences & Public Policy and does not reflect gifts to other academic units of the University.

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- Claude Pepper Foundation, Inc.
- John H. Quinn and Hallie Quinn (deceased)
- Frances L. and Gus A. Stavros

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**2008-2009 Donor Recognition**

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**College of Social Sciences & Public Policy**

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Again this year we remain most grateful to and most appreciative of the many alumni, friends and organizations who made charitable gifts during the 2008-2009 fiscal year to help support the College of Social Sciences & Public Policy. To each of you we say thank you very much for your continued interest and generous support. This list includes the names of all those who made outright gifts, deferred pledges, pledge commitments, pledge payments, stock transfers, real estate gifts or corporate matching gifts received by the College during the period July 1, 2008 thru June 30, 2009. Gifts and pledges received after June 30, 2009 will be listed in the College’s 2010 Annual Report.

Please know that your gift or pledge is very important to us. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you find that your name has been misspelled, omitted or incorrectly listed, please contact Jesse Colvin at 850-644-1920/e-mail: jcolvin@foundation.fsu.edu so that we can correct our records.

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* Garnet level member (contributed between $2,500-$4,999)
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Homecoming Celebr

Join us for a reception honoring the 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients, Victor and John Holcomb.

When: Friday October 30
3:30 – 5:00 pm

Where: DeVoe L. Moore Conference Room 150 Bellamy
GAME DAY

All-College Alumni Tailgate:

A Festival of Colleges

When: Saturday October 31
Three hours before kickoff

Where: Between Doak Campbell Stadium and Dick Houser Baseball Stadium

Cost: $5.00 charge, children 5 and under free.
A cash bar will be available.

Alumni association members will receive a drink ticket for one complimentary drink.