

GEORGIA COLLEGE UNIVERSITY

## Bright Ideas



For the past year, we're been actively searching for bright ideas to incorporate into our new strategic plan. We've met with students, faculty, staff and the leadership of our FACS Alumni Association. At each of these meetings, we've asked participants to consider the opportunities we have in the near future – the next three-to-five years; the more distant future—five-to-10 years; and as far out as 25 to 50 years! You may wonder how we can possibly consider what our college might look like in 50 years, but I believe we need to think as broadly as possible in these early planning stages. Later, after we've gathered all of these ideas and sorted through them, long-term themes and ideas will emerge that we'll incorporate into our formal strategic plan. We'll also have a wealth of additional information that we'll continue to glean ideas from.

Developing a strategic plan requires the support of all of our stakeholders. At this time, I'd like to invite you to join our planning team

by sending your thoughts and ideas about the College of Family and Consumer Sciences to <a href="strategic@fcs.uga.edu">strategic@fcs.uga.edu</a>. Tell us where you think we should be headed in the coming years. Are there new fields of study we should be considering? New areas of research or service? Our alumni are located around the globe, which means the FACS family extends far beyond Dawson Hall. What are you seeing, hearing and experiencing in your world that we should incorporate into our strategic plan?

We have several articles in this issue of FACS Magazine to help spark your bright ideas. Our cover stories focus on the research of two of our faculty members—Jung Sun Lee of the foods and nutrition department and Gene Brody of child and family development. Dr. Lee is still relatively new as a faculty member, having been here only three years. Dr. Brody has been here more than 30 years! Between them, they have a lot to say about what it's like to build and maintain a research program. What areas do you think we should consider for research in the future?

Our article titled, "Engage" provides a look at just a few of the many ways our students are learning. Some are learning in the halls of the Georgia General Assembly while others are traveling to destinations as near as New York City and as far away as Cambodia. We also have students learning in new ways in the classroom from long-time practitioners. What are your ideas for new ways of engaging our students? Are there other places in Georgia, in the United States, in the world where we should be sending our students for learning opportunities?

These are just a few of the stories you'll find in this issue. I hope that as you read each article that you'll pause for a minute and consider how it might turn into a bigger "bright idea" for our strategic plan. With alumni numbering some 14,000 individuals, I'm confident that your thoughts and ideas will contribute to our efforts to build the College of Family and Consumer Sciences into an even more dynamic and outstanding college.

Thank you for your continued support of FACS!

Sincerely, Laura D. Jolly

Laura D. Jolly, Dean



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# FACS Knowledge for Real Life

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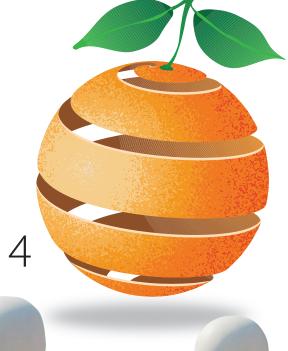
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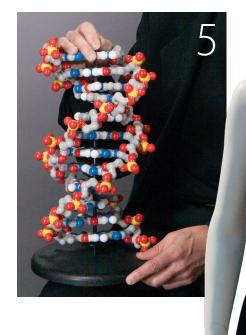
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## FDN researcher receives \$2.2 million grant to study vitamin D levels for children

**Rick Lewis** (Professor, Foods and Nutrition) has been awarded a \$2.2 million grant to explore the role vitamin D plays in children's health and the appropriate dose children should take as daily supplements in order to maintain healthy levels of vitamin D in their bloodstream.

The grant, awarded by the National Institutes of Health Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, comes on the heels of an Aug. 3 report in the journal *Pediatrics* showing 60 percent of children and adolescents had insufficient levels of vitamin D.

"The findings in *Pediatrics* confirmed what we have been seeing in our research," said Lewis. "In prior research we've conducted with female children and adolescents over the course of seven years, we've consistently found that they have lower levels of vitamin D than are recommended and that those levels drop as they grow older."

Although vitamin D has long been considered essential for bone health in individuals of all ages, research on the vitamin has primarily focused on its impact in older adults, Lewis said. Research on older adults also has shown links between vitamin D deficiencies and cancer, diabetes and obesity.

Although it's recommended that adults maintain a level of vitamin D in their blood stream that equates to 80 nanomoles per liter, the needs of children haven't been fully established. Currently, the Food and Nutrition Board at the Institute of Medicine recommends children under the age of 13 receive 200 international units daily, while the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children receive 400 international units.

The sun has always been considered a primary source of vitamin D because it causes the vitamin to be synthesized in the skin. However, for those with darker skin, those living in areas where the sun doesn't shine as frequently, and those who either wear sunblock or don't get out in the sun for other reasons, supplements have long been considered important in



ensuring individuals have enough vitamin D.

During the two-year study, Lewis and fellow UGA researchers Emma Laing, Dorothy Hausman and Dan Hall will team with researchers at Purdue University in providing varying doses of vitamin D supplements to boys and girls ranging in age from 9-13, ages deemed as being on the cusp of rapid growth periods. The group also will be evenly divided racially because research has consistently shown that African-American children tend to have lower levels of vitamin D than white children. One goal of the new study is to determine if African-American children and white children respond differently to oral supplements of vitamin D. Another collaborator on the project is Michael Kimlin of Queensland University of Technology in Australia, who will help in collecting sun exposure data for the study.

During the study, researchers will look at several biochemical measures of bone health, including calcium absorption, to determine the appropriate dose of vitamin D supplements children need to ensure that they grow up with strong, healthy bones.



#### Barrs Named "Tree Farmer of the Year"

**Earl** and **Wanda Barrs** (BSHE '74, Home Economics Education) have been named national "Tree Farmer of the Year" for 2009 for their sustainable forestry practices on "Gully Branch," their 1,500-acre property near Cochran.

"Earl and Wanda Barrs' story spans a century of American history," said Bob Simpson, senior vice president for the American Forest Foundation. "From the time Earl's great-grandfather settled the land after World War I, Gully Branch has continued as working woodlands. Earl's sustainable forestry practices and Wanda's gifts as an educator make them particularly deserving of this award."

## PhD Student Awarded Fulbright Scholarship

**Desiree Seponski** (PhD Student, Child and Family Development; MS '07, Child and Family Development) was one of 10 University of Georgia students awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for the 2009-2010 academic year. She will gather data for her dissertation, which focuses on creating culturally responsive family therapy protocols for Cambodian therapists and clients. Seponski spent 10 weeks in Cambodia this summer developing a pilot program for her research. Her major professor is **Denise Lewis** (Assistant Professor, Child and Family Development).

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program, created in 1946, is the largest international exchange program in the country.



#### **CFD Head Named**

Jay Mancini, who served as a professor of human development at Virginia Tech for the past 32 years, has been named head of the Department of Child and Family

Development and the Anne

Montgomery Haltiwanger Distinguished Professor.

"Jay was chosen as department head after an extensive nationwide search," according to FACS Dean Laura Jolly. "His extensive background, both nationally and internationally in scholarship, leadership and service will enable him to provide leadership on multiple fronts to the department."

"The child and family development department has a long history of making important contributions to the study of individuals, families, and communities, and I am pleased to be participating in continuing that tradition," Mancini said of his move to FACS.

Mancini, who served as department chair of the Virginia Tech Department of Family and Child Development from 1989-1996, also has an extensive research resume, including more than \$10 million in grants.

Most recently, he received a \$1.6 million grant from the U.S. Army and the U.S. Department of Agriculture for an evaluation study of youth and family resilience that focuses on military families.

"A college of family and consumer sciences is a perfect academic environment for doing the work that I do because basic and applied research are both valued," said Mancini of his move to FACS. "Moreover, the multidisciplinary culture in such a college provides the capacity to address the complexities of individual and social transformation."

Courtney Kupets (Senior, Housing), who has made gymnastics history in multiple categories, continued to rack up awards this summer, including being the first University of Georgia athlete to win the Honda-Broderick Cup as the nation's collegiate woman athlete of the year. The award recognizes not just athletic achievement but also academic success and community involvement. Kupets was chosen for the Honda-Broderick award in a vote by almost 1,000 NCAA schools and the board of directors of the Collegiate Women Sports Awards Program.



#### GETTING STARTED:

## **Jung Sun Lee**

By Denise Horton

ung Sun Lee's interest in food insecurity began with cat food—more specifically, with an article she read about older adults who were eating cat food because that was all they could afford. "This was very shocking to me," she recalls. "Before I came to the U.S. from Korea I didn't realize that those kinds of problems could even be happening in this country. But they are."

At the time, Lee (Assistant Professor, Foods and Nutrition) was a graduate student at Cornell University and just beginning her research in the field of community nutrition, and the article compelled her to focus her research on issues surrounding older adults and their "food insecurity"—a broad term that variously refers to people's lack of access to sufficient quantities of nutritious food, their having to dedicate an abnormally large percentage of their income to food, or their need to choose between an adequate food supply

and other necessities, such as medicine or housing.

"People should have the amounts and kinds of food to meet their basic needs," says Lee. "That should be everyone's human right."



As a graduate student, Lee analyzed large data sets to learn about food insecurity at the national level and in New York State. Since arriving at the College of Family and Consumer Sciences three years ago, she has shifted her focus to Georgia—"one of the poorest states," she points out, "where food-insecurity levels in general are higher than the national average"—while continuing to concentrate on senior citizens.

One of Lee's first successes came when her colleague **Mary Ann Johnson** (Bill and June Flatt Professor, Foods and Nutrition) invited her to join a project involving nutritional health assessment among older adults in Georgia who attend senior centers. Incorporating a food-insecurity survey developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture into Johnson's Nutrition and Health of Older Adults Study, Lee found that 12 percent of those surveyed at the Northeast Georgia senior centers were food-insecure, almost twice the national figure of 6.5 percent. Again working with Johnson, Lee extended the survey to a statewide sample of senior centers, finding that 20 percent of their older-adult attendees were food-insecure—nearly three times the national average.

Lee continued building her research program when she learned of the Performance Outcomes Measures Project (POMP) initiated by the U.S. Administration on Aging to measure the performance of aging services including the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program, which provides funding nationally for congregate meals, home-delivered meals, and other nutrition screening and health services. She obtained one grant from the Georgia Division of Aging Services for \$30,000



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# Gene Brody

hen **Gene Brody** (Regents' Professor Emeritus, Child and Family Development) began his career at the University of Georgia 33 years ago, the young assistant professor found that funding for research on child development was hard to come by.

Times have changed. In September, Brody was named principal investigator of a five-year, \$5.9 million Core Center of Excellence grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, bringing the total amount he currently oversees to about \$25 million. The new grant will allow Brody and his colleagues to address the ways in which genetic predispositions combine with family and community environments to forecast drug use, drug abuse and risky sexual behavior among children, adolescents and young adults.

But seated in his office at the Center for Family Research, which he founded and directs, Brody recalls his early days at UGA, when his primary task was to prove to then-department head Elizabeth Sheerer that she hadn't made a mistake in hiring him. "I had never been to the Deep South before," says the Los Angeles native, who completed his graduate studies at the University of Arizona. "And like all young professors, I was scared to death."

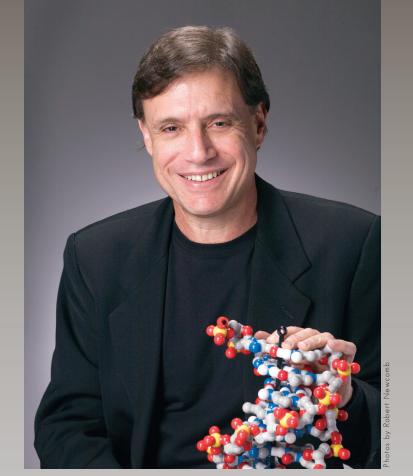
A few weeks after arriving, Sheerer called Brody into her office and spelled out the realities of academic life—if he was going to keep his job, he would have to do research and publish papers. Soon after, he approached Sheerer about obtaining a tape recorder for some of his research on parent-child interactions.

"She had a row of tape recorders against the wall that she used for a class. Pointing to one at the end, she said, 'That one's broken, but you can have it if you want.' I realized she couldn't part with the ones that worked and that if I wanted to do the kind of research that I thought was important, I was going to have to get my own resources."

#### Early Successes

In those early days, Brody would jump into his car between teaching classes and drive to Walton or Oglethorpe County to collect data in local schools. In addition, he was trying to build a research program at the Child Development Lab of the McPhaul Center that included videotaping the ways parents communicate with their children.

Brody remembers the first grant he ever received—\$80,000 from the Human Nutrition branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to spend two years studying whether food advertisements targeting children could actually result in their pestering their mothers to buy the sugary



cereals so frequently shown. His results, which showed that the ads did influence children as young as three, was included in research presented to Congress in support of legislation to ban food commercials aimed at young children.

As he continued to investigate the ways in which advertising influenced children's food preferences, Brody also began a new line of inquiry. "My research has always focused on parents and children, but in 1980 we began researching the importance of brothers and sisters," he says. "Relationships between siblings are important because they are usually the longest-lasting ones that a person has."

In particular, for the next few years, Brody focused on discovering the reasons why children in the same family are often so different from one another and the effects that parenting and parents' marital relationships have on their children's relationships with one another. This research revealed that personality and mental health differences between siblings are due to the influence of family "microenvironments" unique to each child, which explains why children in the same family can turn out so differently.

#### Family Collaborations

While conducting his research on siblings, Brody accepted a temporary position in the Office of the Vice President for Research. Among his other duties there, he was expected to travel the state of Georgia promoting the links between research and economic development. During one of those trips, Brody had an epiphany that has influenced his research ever since.

"I was in Southeast Georgia, talking to a group of African-American businessmen and local leaders," he recalls. "One

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# Englage By Denise Horton

Space aficionados associate the verb "engage" with astronauts and their backup team, who engage the mechanics of rockets that take the explorers into the heavens. But the word also has other, similarly propelling, implications. At the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, students are finding new ways to engage in learning that can be as close as their classroom or as far away as Cambodia. Here are just a few of their stories:

# Students explore diverse ways of learning

**LAURA BLAND** (BSFCS '06 Consumer Journalism; MPH '08, Public Health)

"I learned some realities about navigating state government," says Laura Bland, who served as a Legislative Aide for then-state Rep. Jane Kidd during the 2007 session of the Georgia General Assembly. "I saw how things get accomplished and what you shouldn't waste your time on," Bland recalls.

"I had been in 4-H and was a FACS Ambassador, so I knew how to speak to groups and individuals," she says. "But working at the State Capitol—learning how to talk to policy makers, legislators and other people in power who are very busy and may not want to be bothered—was some of the best experience I've ever had."

In her current position as a public health professional with the University of Georgia's Archway Partnership program, Bland encourages medical professionals to move to Washington County (where she is based), helps to develop Medicarerelated outreach and education programs for older adults, and explores ways to support and expand the local health care industry.

"One of my first jobs was to conduct a needs assessment, which included trying to meet with all of the doctors in our county," she says. Making those initial calls to overscheduled doctors was a bit intimidating for the 25-year-old Bland, but her Legislative Aide experience helped tremendously. And she expects it will continue to help her as she and county leaders identify health-related issues that have state-level implications.

Such experience is possible for other FACS students as well. Funding provided by the Ellard Legislative Aide Program allows them to spend a General Assembly session working for state representatives and senators from the Athens area as well as for the Women's Legislative Caucus. Since the program was established in 1983, more than 130 FACS students have served as Legislative Aides. FACS also has a Congressional Aide Program, which funds students' work in Congress or other federal-government offices in Washington, D.C.





## **JESSICA SCHWARTZ** (Senior) Fashion Merchandising

Jessica Schwartz's experience in the 2007 FACS London Tour showed her what she *didn't* want to do professionally. "I had always been interested in owning a small boutique, but working in one for my internship that summer steered me away from that goal," she says.

During the subsequent school year, Schwartz took courses in museum issues and the history of dress from **José Blanco** (Assistant Professor, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors). Those experiences led her to consider a career combining fashion and history—and to an internship at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

During nearly two months this past summer, Schwartz cataloged 150 of the museum's items. The project included documenting the measurements of each item and the textiles used, noting any damages, and, where indicated, researching and writing the stories behind the items. Much of that information is now part of a "public access description" on the museum's website.

Schwartz credits Blanco's classes with teaching her the basics of cataloging and working with textiles. During the museum-issues course, for example, students developed exhibitions using items from the college's Historic Costume Collection. The courses also helped Schwartz qualify for a position with more responsibility than most internships offer, she believes, and to stand out from the 100 applicants who had applied.

As she prepares for graduation in December, Schwartz has begun applying to graduate schools that offer historic-costume and art-history programs. And because she won't begin graduate study until fall 2010, she is also seeking museum-related jobs for the interim.

## **LAUREN BADGER** (Senior) Dietetics and Consumer Foods

On a warm fall day, Lauren Badger sits outside the Athens Community Council on Aging, interviewing some of the dozens of older adults taking part in a special farmers' market. These lower-income residents are involved in a U.S. Department of Agriculture-funded project that provides them with \$20 in coupons to buy fresh collard greens, peaches, tomatoes, and other produce. As they complete their purchases, Badger and FACS foods and nutrition graduate students question them about their nutritional habits and the impact that poverty has had on their ability to maintain their health.

Although she is an undergraduate, Badger is getting a head start on what graduate school might be like. "I had a class with **Dr.** (**Mary Ann**) **Johnson** in 2008 and worked with her and **Dr.** (**Dorothy**) **Hausman** that summer," she says. "That grew into a year-round position for me as an undergraduate research assistant."

In addition to working with graduate students at the farmers' market, Badger has joined them in providing nutrition-education and food-demonstration programs at senior centers throughout Northeast Georgia. These programs, funded by the Georgia Department of Human Services, include components on medication management and allow the students to spend time visiting with the older adults who attend the centers.

Badger will soon begin applying for internships that are required before graduates can take the registered dietitian's qualifying exam. "Most dietetics students do their internships in clinical settings," she says. "I don't want to do that. I really want to do community nutrition in low-income areas. These past two years have given me a terrific start on learning about that."





## **ALAINA GARRETT** (Senior) Dietetics **CAMILLE BLAIR** (Sophomore) FACS Education

Alaina Garrett and Camille Blair have good things to say about the "Leadership Honors Bootcamp" of Kappa Omicron Nu—an honor society that focuses on the human sciences—held last May in Washington, D.C.

During the weeklong event, Garrett and Blair joined with a dozen other undergraduates from family and consumer sciences programs across the United States and two facilitators. Not only did the boot camp help them cultivate their own styles of leadership, they also learned, among other things, how to read group dynamics, recognize when group members feel discounted, and work with participants who try to dominate meetings.

When they returned to Athens, Garrett and Blair quickly had an opportunity to put their new skills to use—at the annual Leadership FACS retreat, in which FACS Ambassadors and club leaders spend two days learning about the college and getting tips on managing their clubs. Garrett and Blair modified two of the retreat's activities, directly applying what they had learned at the boot camp, and generally have been finding themselves better able to work with the college's other leaders—and, when called for, to assume leadership themselves.

"I'm much more flexible in situations," Garrett says. "I can take a back seat or be the leader if I need to be."

Says Blair: "I have so much more confidence now. I used to be scared to say what I think. Now I feel like I speak up much more."

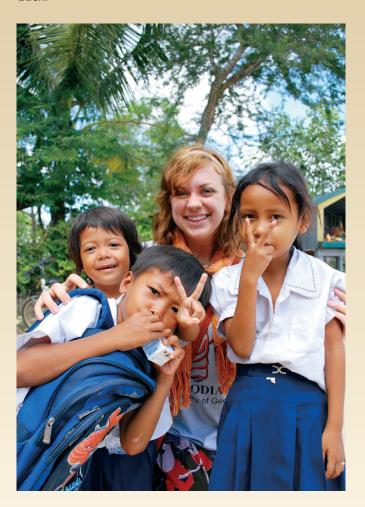
## MARY KERNODLE (Senior) Child and Family Development

When Mary Kernodle decided to take her first trip abroad, it was to the other side of the world—at first a "total sensory overload, but in a good way." Joining **Denise Lewis** (Assistant Professor, Child and Family Development) and six other students, Kernodle spent six weeks in Cambodia working with children in two Phnom Penh schools.

She welcomed the opportunity to be totally immersed in the Cambodian culture while also teaching English to the schools' students. "I was terrified to teach," Kernodle says, "but they were so happy to learn."

Prior to joining FACS as a child and family development major, Kernodle had been a pre-journalism student. "I love to write," she says, "but I realized I didn't want to write for a paycheck." Her trip to Cambodia further refined her professional goals. "It made me realize I'm not going to be happy in a career where I don't feel like I'm helping others."

It also made her realize that she wants to spend more time experiencing other cultures. "I know that if I attend graduate school I would want to live abroad for part of the time," she says. "Right now, I'm looking at what kinds of jobs I might do in Cambodia. I'd be interested in going back."



## **ERIC WILLIAMS** (Senior) Fashion Merchandising

NAFTA, CAFTA, the Free Trade Commission, spec sheets, and price points are just a few of the terms and concepts that came to life when Eric Williams took the Global Sourcing and Logistics course from Georgia Soft Goods Distinguished Professor **Charles Gilbert**. "It was such a hands-on class, which is what I like," says Williams. "And Professor Gilbert was very into what he taught and very into sharing his experiences."

The class began with the students brainstorming what item they would produce. (Past courses taught by Gilbert have included students' production of sweatpants, T-shirts, pajama shorts, and knit dresses.) "For the first couple of weeks we went through the same steps a commercial design team would go through," Williams says. For example, "We had to decide how to tie the season to the demographic of the consumer."

The result for the class was a "grandpa cardigan," featuring 1950s-style stripes on the arm and "Georgia" written in old-fashioned script on the sleeve.

Because the sweater would be made in China, Williams and his classmates had to be aware of international trade rules and agreements, including how much tax would be levied on their imported garments. There were also the details of the garment itself. "We had to make sure the shoulder length, arm length, and other particulars were correct," he recalls. "One of the samples was off-sized, and they also misspelled 'Georgia' on the sleeve."

Unlike many of his classmates, Williams plans to finish his degree in three years. Having arrived at UGA after six years as an interrogator with the U.S. Army, including a tour in Iraq, he is focused on realizing his dream—a career with a men's fashion magazine—as soon as possible. "Although this major is more geared toward being a buyer, it's given me a grasp of the dialog in fashion and how to research fashion," he says, adding that his classes helped him to land an advertising internship with *Details*, a magazine he has long admired.

"I'm glad this college encourages us to do things like internships," he says. "And I like that the department is smaller and everyone is so passionate about what they do."



For information on other items for sale, visit fcs.uga.edu/tmi

## Breast Cancer:

## Not Just Your Grandmother's Disease – One Researcher's Efforts to Increase Awareness Among Young Females

#### By Nicki Sauls

'm too young to worry about breast cancer" is the most common myth about the deadly disease and one that **Stephanie Burwell** (Assistant Professor, Child and Family Development) is spreading the word about.

Burwell has conducted several studies looking specifically at the impact breast cancer has on young women and their families. According to past research—young women (those age 50 and below) comprise roughly one-third of all breast cancer cases in the United States.

"Younger women often face more challenges after receiving a diagnosis of breast cancer for several reasons," Burwell says. "They tend to have more aggressive forms of cancer, which require more aggressive forms of treatment, and these treatments have major side effects that can impair their day-to-day function and quality of life."

As a post-doctoral fellow at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Burwell sought to learn about the overall quality of life for young women battling the disease. There, Burwell shadowed an oncologist and saw first-hand the impact that breast cancer has on patients and their families' lives from diagnosis through treatment and survivorship.

The longitudinal study was conducted over three years to see how the issues cancer patients often deal with, like depression and sexual dysfunction, changed over time for young women. Differing from research conducted with older women with cancer, the study found that both depression and sexual dysfunction decreased over the course of three years, compared to older women who continue to face both of these circumstances for up to a decade after diagnosis.

"The biggest challenge for young females dealing with breast cancer is ultimately the danger of having a life-threatening illness," says Burwell. "But what a lot of people don't realize is the increase in emotional issues like depression and sexual dysfunction that many aren't dealing with at this magnitude at their young age until their diagnosis."

According to researchers, many older women suffer with some form of sexual dysfunction and depression throughout the course of their life. Because the majority of younger women don't have these experiences they are more affected by them when it happens during treatment. Even though they've never had these emotional issues before diagnosis, Burwell's research showed that they had a quicker emotional recovery compared to older women.

"Many young women are concerned for their families, particularly those who have young children, and worry about what will happen to their family if they



die," says Burwell. "So after the prognosis decreases, so too do their emotional concerns on some level."

The "understudied and overlooked" defines the demographic that Burwell feels compelled to serve. Both young women and minority women aren't often studied in oncology research, thus many resources don't exist to serve these demographics, she says.

Funded by Merck Pharmaceutical, Burwell is beginning a two-year study that will look at breast cancer and cervical cancer knowledge and screening practices among rural African-American women in Georgia.

"Our goal is to look at cancers that affect minority women and to develop cancer prevention interventions that will have a public health impact," Burwell says.

Overall, minority women tend to have higher mortality rates and die more quickly—most likely because they are diagnosed at later stages of cancer, according to Burwell.

Working with Burwell on the study are **Gene Brody** (Regents' Professor Emeritus, Child and Family Development), director of the UGA Center for Family Research, and **Steven Kogan** (Assistant Professor, Child and Family Development).

"The Center for Family Research is so exceptional because they've established trust with rural African Americans across the state," Burwell says. "We're really excited about being able to gain a better understanding about African Americans' beliefs about breast and cervical cancer and screening—if we understand this then we can develop relevant prevention tools for the 'understudied and overlooked' and potentially reduce the number of cancer fatalities in the state of Georgia."

#### **Family and Consumer Sciences at The University of Georgia**

## HONOR ROLL OF DONORS 2008-2009

e proudly present to you our Honor Roll of Donors. Due to space restrictions, we are publicly honoring donations of \$50 and greater given between July 1, 2008, and June 30, 2009. Please know that gifts of all sizes are important to us and we remain appreciative and dedicated to using your gifts wisely as we invest in our students, our alumni and the FACS profession. If you would like for your name to be listed in a different way or prefer anonymity, we welcome those requests. Thank you!

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Louise (James) and Johnny E. Hyers ~

Dr. Russell Noel and Esther Ann James ~

Dr. Mary Ann Johnson and Terry J. Centner  $\sim$ 

During my studies, Miss Matilda Callaway and Dr. Florida Moore (now Gardner) were instrumental in my completing my degree. In recent years, Dr. Sharon Nickols gave me great support in a professional concern. Because of such great faculty, I give.

Dr. Betty Lane, MEd '56, Home Economics Education, Statesboro, GA

As a39-year-old first generation college student, I am honored to be chosen as the recipient of the Marian Wang Scholarship. I have made friendships with professors that I will value for the rest of my life. Their knowledge that they so unselfishly shared with me has opened up areas of interest in me that I never knew were there.

#### TaMara Myles, Senior, **Dietetics**

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Julian Lanier Morgan

J. Morgan Trading Company Jo Ann (Taylor) and Joe Morrison

The well-rounded education I received at FACS equipped me with the latest research techniques, leadership experiences and people skills to start this next chapter of my life after graduation. If it were not for the scholarships I received and student clubs I participated in, I would not be where I am today. I attribute much of my success to the generous donors of our College.

Lori K. Walker, BSFCS '09, Nutrition Science, Dietetics 2LT, U.S. Army Medical Specialist Corps, San Antonio, TX

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The reason my husband and I give is those were the best years of my life. Hopefully, you can continue to provide that same environment of learning and social life for years to come. I feel very strongly in the education of our state's young adults. The students of today are the success of Georgia tomorrow.

#### Vivion Young Palmer, BSHE '65, Clothing and Textiles, Saint Simons Island, GA

Wilbur and Susan Mull ~
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Kathryn (Butler) and Jack E. Murray
Muscle Ride, LLC
Edna (Dickey) Nation ~
William Rabun and Peggy Brown Neal
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My experiences in FACS have challenged me to leave my comfort zone. My favorite thing about FACS is the warm and nurturing environment provided by not just the professors, but also the staff and custodians. I really love that everyone—from faculty to advisors to custodians—always has a smile on their face. They greet you in class with a big smile, and they are so willing to help you.

Meg Petrie, Senior, Nutrition Science

Southeast District 4-H Fund

Southwest District GEAFCS

Rosemary (Dunn) and Frank E. Stancil Jr.

Dr. Sue Peck ~

I cannot thank you enough for hosting an incredible Leadership FACS retreat! I frequented similar events in high school and thought that upon entering the collegiate environment my "personality test" and "color group" days were over. BOY WAS I WRONG! I still have so much to learn about the complicated world of leadership. I have a newfound perspective on my role as a FACS leader within The Little Red Book organization now.

#### Kaki E. Read, Senior, Fashion Merchandising and Public Relations

Betty (Cox) and William R. Wingate ~ Robert and Carol Winthrop Marne Dena and Kenneth Perry Wise Gina Wise Cornelia Witte Marion A. Wolff Drs. Mary Margaret (Creagh) and Norman J. Wood Robert Lloyd Woodward Dr. David W. and Anette M. Wright Marilyn Ottis Yon Dr. Alva H. and Jim M. Youngner Dale David and Louise V. Zabel

#### **MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES**

The following companies matched employee contributions to the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

AT&T Foundation Atlanta Gas Light Company Bank of America Matching Gifts Program Chevron Humankind Coca-Cola Company Ernst & Young Foundation ExxonMobil Foundation General Electric Foundation Georgia Power Foundation, Inc. Johnson & Johnson Lockheed Martin Corporation Marathon Oil Foundation, Inc. Merck Company Foundation Southern Company Services, Inc. Unilever United States, Inc.

#### **FACS 100 LEGACIES & UGA** HERITAGE SOCIETY

These members have confirmed that they have given a planned gift to the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Anonymous

Dr. Renita (Jones) and Rob Anderson

Dr. Elizabeth L. Andress

Edwin John Armstrong

Drs. Jorge and Julia Atiles

Dr. Carolyn (Kiebler) Balkwell

Wanda (Taylor) and Earl D. Barrs

Jean (Griffeth) and Ray Bauerband

Lillian (Pace) Beckford

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Gloria (Conner) and Goebel D. Berry

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Drs. Lynda (Henley) and James C. Walters

Geraldine H. Williams

Paulette Williams

Drs. Mary Margaret (Creagh) and Norman J. Wood

It is never too early to make an estate plan. I am excited to think about how students in need could benefit from our gifts.

Renita Jones Anderson, PhD '94, Textile Sciences, Atlanta, GA

## FACS



Alumni News and Notes

#### 2009-2010 FACS Alumni Board

#### 1950s

Janice Denney Olson (BSHE '59, Home Economics Education) retired following careers as a home economist with Georgia Power, a flight attendant with Delta, and a counselor. She lives in Buford.

#### 1960s

Blitch Ann Bird (BSHE '69, Clothing and Textiles) has earned a master of accountancy degree from Georgia State University and currently works as certified public accountant and certified financial planner in financial sales for AXA Advisors.

**Carol Ash Bradley** (BSHE '68, Home Economics Education; MS '72, Home Economics) is a literacy coach and international baccalaureate



If you have news and information for FACS Facts send it to Susan Byus, Director of Alumni Relations and Student Leadership, at **sbyus@fcs.uga.edu** or call her at 706-542-3386.

For the latest information on all alumni events, please see our calendar at www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/calendar.



Front Row, L-R: Meredith Barrs Potter (BSFCS '04, Consumer Foods and Dietetics), FDN representative; Kristi Osborn Greer (BSFCS '00, Child and Family Development; MEd '05, Adult Education), president-elect; Millie Young Smith (BSFCS '03, Dietetics), FDN representative; and Susan Byus, (Director, Alumni Relations and Student Leadership) Second Row, L-R: Danny Stephens (MS '95, Child and Family Development), CFD representative; Renita Jones Anderson (PhD '94, Textile Sciences), TMI representative; Bonnie Stephens Petersen (BSHE '79, Consumer Economics and Home Management), HACE representative; and Stacey Robertson Cooke (BSFCS '01, Child and Family Development), CFD representative. Third Row, L-R: Ashley Branan Sheffield (BSFCS '04, Child and Family Development), secretary; **Judy Herrin** (BSHE '72, Clothing and Textiles), out-of-state representative; and FACS Dean Laura Jolly. Back Row, L-R: Theresa Glasheen, (BSFCS '06, Family and Consumer Sciences, MS '08, Child and Family Development), FACS Education representative; Catherine Hube Stockman, (BSFCS '91, Furnishings and Interiors), TMI representative; Lisa Gipson (BSFCS '95, Consumer Journalism; MEd '01, Adult Education), president; and **Don Bower**, (Professor Emeritus, Child and Family Development), CFD liaison. Not Pictured: Jennifer Barker Townsend (BSFCS '91, Home Economics and Journalism), past president; Emily Blalock, (MS '06, Textiles Merchandising and Interiors; Lecturer, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors), TMI liaison; Katrina Little Bowers (Director, Development Relations; BSHE '84, Consumer Economics); Tracey **Brigman**, (MS '92, Foods and Nutrition; Lecturer, Foods and Nutrition), FDN liaison; Cory Freeman (BSFCS '90, Housing), HACE representative; Ryan Kelly (BSFCS '98, Consumer Economics), College Relations Committee chair; Jennifer White (BSFCS '04, Child and Family Development; MEd '06, Early Childhood Education), vice-president for programs; and Gail Fulford Sims (BSHE '81, MEd '82, EdS '89, Home Economics Education), FACS Education representative.

coordinator for the Social Circle City Schools system.

Patsy Newton Bryan (BSHE '79, Consumer Economics and Home Management) has joined Signature Properties Group on St. Simons Island as a real estate agent.

Dorothy (Dot) Tappan Cofer (BSHE '60, Home Economics Education) recently received the McDuffie County Senior Volunteer of the Year award.

Eloise Sutton Pino (BSHE '64, Home Economics and Art) was featured in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution for her "nut roll" cookie recipe. She teaches decorative arts and porcelain painting and her work is showcased at the Smithsonian in the White House Collection.

Paulette Williams (BSHE '68, Dietetics and Institution Management; MEd '79, Adult Education) is a certified diabetes educator who is self-employed in Clayton.

#### **1970s**

Joyce Hoffman Daniel (BSHE '75, Fashion Merchandising; MEd '78, Home Economics Education) has opened the Joy Collection, a design business which specializes in heirloom christening gowns, in Greensboro.

Judy Tarr Gooch (MHE '76, Housing, Furnishings and Management) received Carson-Newman College's Distinguished Alumni award, which honors those whose lives have made a difference in their community and represent the ideals of truth, beauty and goodness. She lives in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Lynn Graham Hammond (BSHE '73; MEd '78; EdS '84, Home Economics Education) is owner and artist of the Principal's Palette Gallery and Gift Boutique in Winder

**Deborah Garrison Lowery** (BSHE '79, Home Economics and Journalism; MA '81, Journalism) is marketing manager for Cabot Creamery Cooperative in Johnson City, Tenn.

Clara Judith Parker (BSHE '73, General Home Economics; MEd '79, Home Economics Education) is a biologist for the



nterested in networking, socializing and receiving an update on the college all in the time it takes to have lunch? Then a FACS Break is for you! The Office of Alumni Relations is launching a new idea for getting alums together in their own hometown (or close to it). Modeled after the UGA Alumni Association's "Women of UGA" program, the FACS Break concept was created this summer at the FACS Alumni Board retreat. The goal is to offer "small bites" of information about the college while enabling alumni to make "Big Connections" for networking and socializing.

Our "breaks" have already been hosted by board members in Athens, Macon and Atlanta and we are looking to spread throughout the state and beyond.

If you're interested in receiving an invitation to a "break" or hosting one, we need your email address. In addition to being great connectors and time efficient, the beauty of the FACS breaks is that they are cost effective. Attendees pay for their own meal and no cost is incurred by producing and mailing an invitation.

Let's multiply our connectivity one FACS Break at time!



Remember to update your email address at

www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/update\_info.html.

## Let's Get Chilly!

The 2nd Annual Chilly Dawg 5K Run/ Walk will be held Saturday, Jan. 30, at Sandy Creek Park in Athens. The race will begin at 9 a.m. Last year, more than 400 runners turned out for the inaugural run and nearly \$5,000 was raised to support FACS programs. To register go to www.active.com. For guestions, email Susan Byus at sbyus@fcs.uga.edu, or call her at 706-542-3386.





USDA-Agricultural Research Service in Athens.

Candice Logue Phelan (BSHE '71, Child Development; MS '75, Child and Family Development) has retired from Lockheed Martin Corp. where she was corporate director of learning services and now lives in south Florida.

#### 1980s

**Lynette Berdanier** (MHE '85, Clothing, Textiles, Interiors and Furnishings; MS '94, Physiology) has co-authored the book *Case Studies in Physiology and Nutrition* with her mother, Carolyn. She lives in Athens.

**Michele Jones Ellington** (BSHE '89, Home Economics and Journalism) and her husband, James, are the parents of a baby boy, Hayes, born March 5. The family lives in Evans.

Susan Greene Lockwood (BSHE '86, Consumer Economics and Home Management; MEd '88, Guidance and Counseling) is a registered investment adviser and registered representative for EPS Advisors, a business consulting service in Anderson, S.C.

#### Sandra Crawford Moretz

(BSHE '89, Dietetics and Institution Management) is a clinical dietitian for Tift Regional Medical Center in Tifton.

Louise Daniel Robinson (MEd '89, Home Economics Education) retired after four years with Cooperative Extension and 29 years at Wayne County High School to begin a second



#### **Designing Dawgs Tour Governor's Mansion**

Georgia's First Lady Mary Perdue and Patricia McLean (BSHE '83, Furnishings and Interiors) pose for the camera during the Designing Dawgs tour of the Governor's Mansion in September. McLean, owner of Patricia McLean's Interiors, recently redecorated the mansion's ballroom and arranged for nearly 80 FACS alumni, faculty and students to tour the mansion. Shown with Mrs. Perdue is Mercy, the newest in a long line of boxers the family has owned.

career as a family and consumer sciences teacher at Martha Puckett Middle School in Jesup.

Merry Carol Bush Scott (BSHE '88; MEd '98, Home Economics Education) is a family and consumer sciences teacher at Stephens County Middle School in Toccoa.

Janice Alberta Heyl Tanner (BSHE '83, Consumer Economics and Home Management) is a senior enrollment counselor at the University of Phoenix in Charlotte, N.C.

**Christy Roland Terrell** (BSHE '84, Child and Family Development Early Childhood Education) is an external

affairs manager for Georgia Power in Buford.

Mary Martin Turner (BSHE '86, Home Economics Education; MEd '95, Early Childhood Education) is a pre-kindergarten teacher at Blackwell Elementary in Elberton.

Janet Devries Valente (BSHE '84, Home Economics Education; MS '86, Housing, Home Management and Consumer Economics; EdD '05, Adult Education) is a family and consumer sciences program development specialist with the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension.

Join the 215 Fans of "FACS UGA Alumni" on Facebook and receive information about our students, faculty,



staff and alumni. Who's receiving grants, awards, fellowships, winning championships, hosting speakers and much more. Updates are posted about once a week, so your wall won't be overrun.

To take a peek to see how it works go to http://www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/and see the stream of information posted.

Hope we'll be able to count you as a FAN!

#### 1990s

**Renita Jones Anderson** (PhD '94, Textile Sciences) and her husband, Rob, are the parents of a daughter, Chole Jane, born on Aug. 29.

**Neely Reddick Ciarcia** (BSFCS '98, Fashion Merchandising) is a sales director for Nikki-b and Katie Diamond Jewelry in New York City.

**Tracey Henderson Edwards** (BSFCS '97, Consumer Economics) is head coach for the junior varsity girls

basketball team and the assistant varsity girls coach for Arlington Christian School in Fairburn.

**Olandis Conte Gary** (BSFCS '99, Consumer Economics) is a program liaison specialist for the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, D.C.

**Gina Ginn Greenwood** (BSFCS '93, Furnishings and Interiors) has earned her law degree from the Mercer University School of Law and has joined the firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz. She lives in Atlanta.

**Suzanne Griffeth** (BSFCS '99, Consumer Economics) and her husband, Phillip, are the parents of a daughter, Carolyn Suzanne, born on June 1. The Griffeths also have two sons, Carson, age 6, and Will, age 3. Suzanne is a development officer with the College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

**Kimberly Towns Howard** (BSFCS '96, Child and Family Development- Early Childhood Education) is the lead teacher for three year olds at Tuckston United Methodist's Learning Center in Athens. She and husband, Brad, live in Hull with, Molly, 8, and Will, 3.

**Elizabeth Bagarozzi Hutcheson** (BSFCS '94, Furnishings and Interiors) and her husband, Teddy, are the parents of twin sons, Theodore Hutcheson IV (Dru), and Alexander Hutcheson (Alex) on July 30.

**Simone Therese Kelly** (BSHE '90, Home Economics and Journalism) has joined the governing board of Southwest Mental Health Center in San Antonio, Texas.

**Jessica Hardin Kilgallen** (BSFCS '99, Consumer Journalism) is an event coordinator for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

**George Danny Stevens** (MS '95, Child and Family Development) is a program manager for the Department of Human Resources in Athens.

#### **2000s**

**Christopher David Andrews** (BSFCS '08, Consumer Foods) is a research and development chef sales associate for Fire and Flavor in Athens.

**Cris Areskog** (BSFCS '04, Consumer Economics) is district manager for the Retail Merchandising Team in Mooresville, N.C.

**Nicholas Donald Barringer** (BSFCS '03, Dietetics) married Christina Hays on Feb. 12 in St. Lucia. The couple lives in Columbus.

**Rebecca Bengle** (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Food Insecurity and Cost-Related Medication Non-Adherence in a Population of Community-





Dwelling, Low-Income Older Adults in Georgia." Jung Sun Lee was her major professor.

**Mabry Blevins** (BSFCS '03, Child and Family Development- Early Childhood Education) and her husband, Chad, are the parents of a son, Benjamin James, born on July 11.

**Matthew Bottino** (BSFCS '04, Consumer Economics) is a field project control specialist for Fluor Maintenance Services

Maria Elizabeth Breen (BSFCS '07, Dietetics; MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Insulin-Like Growth Factor-I, 25-Hydroxyvitamin D, and Bone Mineral Accrual During Growth in Females." Rick Lewis was her major professor.

Julie Marie Buhrman (BSFCS '07, Dietetics; MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Response of Older Adults with a Previous Depression Diagnosis to an Intervention Aimed at Increasing

Health Promotion Behavior in Georgia Senior Centers." Mary Ann Johnson was her major professor.

Jessica Burge (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "The Effect of High Fructose Intakes in the Rat Diet on Serum Ghrelin and Receptor Expression in the Arcuate Nucleus." Silvia Giraudo was her major professor.

Patricia Catalano (BSFCS '05, Family and Consumer Sciences Education) is the research coordinator for "Good Eats," a food program that airs on the Food Network and is headquartered in Atlanta.

Christina Susann Catlett (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in spring 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Dietary and Health Characteristics of Older Adults Participating in Georgia Senior Centers." Mary Ann Johnson was her major professor.

**Xinying Cheng** - (MS '09, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. The title of her thesis is "Flame

Retardant Finishing of Cotton
Fleece Using Phosphorus
Containing Maleic Acid
Oligomers and Hydroxylfunctional Organophosphorus
Oligomers." Charles Yang was her
major professor.

Amelia Denise Clifford

(BSFCS '09, Family Financial Planning) is a staff planner for Centurion Advisory Group in Atlanta.

Alison Laura Clune (BSFCS '07, Dietetics; MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Prevalence and Predictors of Recommendations to Lose Weight in Overweight and Obese Older Adults in Georgia Senior Centers." Dorothy Hausman was her major professor.

**Andrea Cordy** (MS '08, Housing and Consumer Economics; BBA '04, Risk Management and Insurance) earned her master's degree in fall 2008. Joan Koonce was her major professor.

Amanda Catherine Crowe (BSFCS '06, Child and Family Development) is the business manager and bookkeeper for Post Properties in Tampa, Fla.

**Melissa Leigh Dally** (BSFCS '07, Child and Family Development) is a first grade teacher for the Social Circle City school district.

**Danielle Fields** (BSFCS '08, Child and Family Development) is a customer service representative for SheltAir Aviation Services in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Theresa Lynn Glasheen (BSFCS '06, Family and Consumer Sciences Education; MS '08, Child and Family Development) was named 2009 Rookie of the Year for Woodstock Middle School. The award recognizes positive attitude, professionalism and dedication in a new hire. She teaches Family and Consumer Sciences.

**Megan Leigh Gould** (BSFCS '06, Consumer Economics) is assistant property manager for Bell Partners in Alpharetta.

**Emily Katherine Honan** (BSFCS '08, Child and Family Development) is a wish coordinator for the Children's Wish Foundation in Atlanta.

Anne Corinne Huggins (BSFCS '04, Child and Family Development) is a graduate student fellow at the University of Miami, Fla., where she is pursuing a doctoral degree in educational research measurement and evaluation.

Jenny Hwang (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition; BS '05, Biology) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Zinc Deficiency and Exercise: Effects on the Protein Composition of Lipid Rafts." Arthur Grider was her major professor.

#### **Save the Date:**

January 30, 2010 Chilly Dawg 5K Run/Walk

Sandy Creek Park Athens, Georgia

February 20, 2010 33rd Annual FACS Alumni Awards Luncheon

11:30 a.m. Registration; Noon Lunch Athens Country Club

For the latest information on all alumni events, please see our calendar at www.fcs.uga. edu/alumni/calendar

## **CFD Alumni Gathering**

Harshita Jagannathan (MS '09, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Livability of Wages in the Indian Apparel Industry Post MFA Quota Abolition: A Manager's Prospective." Jan Hathcote was her major professor.

**Christina Crane Karstedt** (BSFCS '09, Dietetics) is a dietetic intern for the Medical College of Georgia's University Hospital in Augusta.

**Kelly Kennedy** (MS '08, Child and Family Development) earned her master's degree in fall 2008. Her thesis is titled, "Sexual Dysfunction in Young Women with Breast Cancer." Stephanie Burwell was her major professor.

Rohan Khatavkar (MS '09, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) earned his master's degree in summer 2009. His thesis is titled, "Application of Six Sigma in Retail Supply Chain to Improve Profitability." Jan Hathcote was his major professor.

**Lauren Ashley Kirchner** (BSFCS '08, Child and Family Development) is editorial assistant for the Journal of Marriage and Family at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

**Heidi Marie Knoblock** (BSFCS '09, Dietetics) is a teacher in Houston, Texas.

Melissa Scott Kozak (MS '08, Child and Family Development) earned her master's degree in fall 2008. Her thesis is titled, "Negotiating Social Interactions in an American Early Education Classroom: The Case of a Bicultural and Bilingual Toddler." Mariana Souto-Manning was her major professor.

**Margaret Ellen Kozinsky** (BSFCS '05, Consumer Foods) is head event manager for Trumps Catering in Athens.

Antoinette Marie Landor (MS '09, Child and Family Development) earned her master's degree in spring 2009. Her thesis is titled, "The Influence of Religiosity on Adolescent Risky Sexual Behavior." Leslie Gordon Simons was her major professor.



Members of the Child and Family Development Alumni community gathered at the McPhaul Child Development Lab on Saturday, April 18, to hear from David Thoms, the Diamond Dogs' 2nd baseman and CFD student, Don Bower, CFD professor emeritus, and Dean Laura Jolly. They also toured the CDL and shared a picnic lunch. Julie Till Patterson (BSFCS '00, MEd '05) sang the national anthem to open the game and everyone enjoyed cheering UGA's Diamond Dogs to victory over Arkansas.





Kalli Jean Lewis (MS '09, Child and Family Development) earned her master's degree in spring 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Exploring Support Systems of Fathers of Children with Chronic Medical Conditions." Charlotte Wallinga was her major professor.

**Matthew Christopher Littlefield** (BSFCS '07, Housing) is marketing coordinator for State Farm Insurance in Tyrone.

Manveer Mann (MS '09, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Bell Bottoms to Slim Fit: A Retrospective of Fashion Trends and Women's Pants." Jan Hathcote was her major professor.

Lindsay Elizabeth Marshall (MS '08, Child and Family Development) earned her master's degree in fall 2008. Her thesis is titled, "Everything I Know I Learned in Preschool: A Look at How Three-to-Five Year-Olds Categorize Foods into Food Groups." David Wright was her major professor.

**Megan Marie McAllister** (BSFCS '07, Consumer Economics) is an assistant softball coach for Wingate University in Wingate, N.C.

**Rebecca Jane McKemie** (MS '08, Foods and Nutrition) works as clinical dietitian for Archbold Memorial Hospital in Thomasville.

Shannon Janaye Miller (MS '07; PhD '08, Child and Family Development) earned her doctoral degree in fall 2008. The title of her dissertation is "Coming Out to Family and Community: Narratives of African American Lesbians." Lynda Walters was her major professor.

**Brooke Elizabeth Nation** (BSFCS '01, Child and Family Development Early Childhood Education Pre-Kindergarten; MEd '05, English Education) is a teacher for the Decatur school system.

**Erika Escoe Nelson** (BSFCS '00, Consumer Journalism) is president and owner of Sports and More, a Danielsville business specializing in screen printing, vinyl signs and monogramming.

Ruth Carol Neustifter (PhD '09, Child and Family Development) earned her doctoral degree in spring 2009. The title of her dissertation is "Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence in Nonviolent Romantic Relationships." Denise Lewis was her major professor. Neustifter is a sexual well-being and domestic violence expert in a private consulting practice in Maryland.

**Steven Robert Oxford** (BSFCS '05, Consumer Economics) is an assistant branch manager for Athens First Bank and Trust in Athens.

Harrison Kyle Palmer (BSFCS '06, Consumer Economics and Housing) is an associate director for GVA Advantis, a commercial real estate business, in Atlanta.

**Kellie Lorraine Palmer** (BSFCS '03, Consumer Journalism) is the business development director for Carnegie Hill Radiology in New York City.

Julie Till Patterson (BSFCS '00, Child and Family Development Early Childhood Education Pre Kindergarten; MEd '05, English Education) is homeschooling her children after having taught kindergarten for seven years. She also volunteers as story time facilitator at the Oconee County Library, and is serving as vice president of development on the FACS Alumni Board.

#### **FACS Swim Dawgs Set Records**

**Troy Prinsloo** (Junior, Housing) won the national title in the 1,650-yard freestyle and came in fifth in the 500-yard freestyle at the NCAA National Championships in March. Prinsloo owns Georgia's fastest time in the 1,000-yard freestyle, second fastest in the 500-yard and 1,650-yard freestyle, and 10th fastest in the 400-yard individual medley. Prinsloo represented South Africa in the 2008 Beijing Olympics in the 1,500-meter freestyle.

**Neil Versfeld** (Senior, Housing) won the national championship in the 200-yard breaststroke, swimming the fastest time in history for the event in 1:51.40 at the NCAA National Championships in March. Versfeld placed ninth in the 2008 Beijing Olympics in the 200-meter breaststroke for South Africa.



# Getting Fired Up and Ready for 2010

t's that time of year again. The years go by so fast, don't they? I celebrate my high school 20th-year reunion next year—does that mean I'm getting old? ... (Hold your answer, please.)

Regardless, it does mean that it's been 20 years, since I first walked the halls of Dawson as a UGA student. Looking back, I am grateful for that solid foundation and influence to embark on a path of life-long learning and growing.



I love fall! I enjoy winding down the year because it gives me a chance to reflect on the things I accomplished this year and the things I just didn't get done. A new year gives us all a fresh start to set some goals for next year.

I'm setting out to make it, "My Best Year Ever." Doesn't that sound good? So, how will 2010 be different than any other year? It took 2009 to get a jumpstart . . . last January, I had a clear picture in my mind and had every intention to spend time casting a bigger vision for my life—what is the legacy I want to leave behind?

I set out last January to better define my personal mission and life vision. It's been a great step, but I am realizing that it's not a one-time event. It's more like a journey to reflect, write down, and refine my life vision and purpose statements. So, I am ready for 2010.

I wanted to share with you a few things that were helpful this year:

- 1. Take a personal retreat. Get away and think about your life vision and create a life plan. You deserve it! (Recommendation: http://experience.buildingchampions.com/);
- 2. Read books that uplift, encourage, and offer a fresh and new perspective;
- 3. Try a 90-day plan approach. Breaking down the year into four, 90-day plans focuses you on what's most important;
- 4. Be transparent and share what you are learning with a friend;
- 5. Get involved with our college. We've got a bright future for our college with dedicated leadership by faculty, staff, alumni and students.

I hope to see you at an upcoming FACS event! We've got a lot to choose from with the Chilly Dawg 5K, a FACS Break, or the Alumni Awards Luncheon—it will be great to connect.

Hope 2010 will be your best year ever, too!

Lisa Gipson

President

FACS Alumni Association

(Lisa is Manager, Learning and Development, for Chick-fil-A)

Dawn Marie Penn (MS '03, Foods and Nutrition; PhD '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her doctoral degree in summer 2009. The title of her dissertation is, "Obesity-related Comorbidities, Disability, Physical Inactivity, and Food Insecurity in Georgia Senior Centers." Mary Ann Johnson was her major professor.

**Glen Kirk Phares** (BSFCS '04, Consumer Economics and Housing) works as a sales manager in Marietta for Ettain Group, an information technology company.

Kathryn Nicole Porter (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition; BSEd '06, Exercise and Sport Science) earned her master's degree in spring 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Improved Physical Function and Physical Activity in Depressed and Non-Depressed Older Adults Following a Community-Based Intervention in Georgia Senior Centers." Mary Ann Johnson was her major professor.

Lindsey Brooke Proctor (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in spring 2009. Her thesis is titled, "Maternal Nutrient Restriction: Consequences on the Offspring." Silvia Giraudo was her major professor.

**Michael David Sabrin** (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned his master's degree in summer 2009. His thesis is titled, "Characterization of Acorn Meal." Ruthann Swanson was his major professor.

Isabell Juliane Scherer (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition; BS '07, Biology) earned her master's degree in spring 2009. Her thesis is titled, "The Effect of Corticosterone on Stress-Induced Weight Loss and Stress Related Neuropeptide mRNA Expression in the Limbic System." Ruth Harris was her major professor.

**Jody Leigh Schultz** (BSFCS' 03, Fashion Merchandising) works as forecasting analyst for H.C. Brill, a global bakery supplies and food ingredients company in Atlanta.

**Bobbee Newman Seldin** (MS '09, Child and Family Development) earned her master's degree in summer

2009. Her thesis is titled, "The Nature of Parent-Adolescent Communication About Sex and Relationships." Ted Futris was her major professor.

Darby Thompson Sewell (BSFCS '00; MEd '01, Family and Consumer Sciences Education) and her husband, Jeffrey, are the parents of a son, John Wesley, born July 10. Sewell is the dean of human sciences at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.

Luciana Cunha Silva (MS '07; PhD '09, Child and Family Development; BS '04, Psychology; AB '04, Sociology) earned her doctoral degree in summer 2009. The title of her dissertation is "What's Different Becomes Normal: A Phenomenological Investigation of Relational Identity and Cultural Negotiation in Intercultural Relationships." David Wright was her major professor.

Stephanie J. Sinnett (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "The Ability of the Nutrition Screening Initiative (NSI) DETERMINE Checklist to Evaluate the Nutrition Risk Status of Older Georgians." Jung Sun Lee was her major professor.

Melissa Ann Spegal (BSFCS '08, Child and Family Development) is a physician's assistant at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, S.C.

**John Michael Stump** (BSFCS '08, Consumer Economics) is a territory sales manager for All Tek Seal and Packing in Buford.

Ji Hyun Sung (PhD '08, Child and Family Development) earned her doctoral degree in fall 2008. The title of her dissertation is "Individual Differences in 4 Year Olds' Theory of Mind: Contributions of the Pragmatic Functions of Collaborative Mother-Child Communication." Hui-Chin Hsu was her major professor.

**Krystyna Szczechowski** (BSFCS '09, Consumer Journalism) works as a marketing specialist for the Humane Society of South Mississippi in Gulfport, Miss.

**Abby Demott Tankersley** 

(BSFCS '05, Family and Consumer Sciences Education; MEd '06, Occupational Studies) serves as department head for the connections team as well as CTSO representative for the Jackson County math-science partnership leadership team.

**Emily Jane Tomayko** (BSFCS '05, Dietetics) received the American Heart Association predoctoral fellowship and serves as chair-elect for the ASN student interest group while completing her studies at the University of Illinois in Urbana, Ill.

Martha Kathleen Turner (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition) earned her master's degree in summer 2009. Her thesis is titled, "The Anthocyanins Malvidin and Peonidin Increase the Activity of Antioxidant Enzymes." Joan Fischer was her major professor.

**Kristin Joanna Wade** (BSFCS '08, Fashion Merchandising) is a sales assistant for Magic Moments in Norcross.

**Lori Katherine Walker** (BSFCS '09, Nutrition Science and Dietetics) is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Medical Specialist Corps.

**Katie Yarbrough Walton** (BSFCS '03, Furnishings and Interiors) is owner of Flair Interiors in Marietta.

**Terilyn Renee Walton** (BSFCS '05, Child and Family Development) is a program coordinator for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.

Marie Willcoxon (BSFCS '06, Child and Family Development) is a gymnastics preschool coach and optional team director for All American Gymnastics in Savannah.

Lisa Zak-Hunter (MS '08, Child and Family Development) earned her master's degree in fall 2008. Her thesis is titled, "The Initiation of Couple Relationship Discussions Among Young Women with Breast Cancer." Stephanie Burwell was her major professor.

Melissa Donnelly Zornes (BSFCS '04, Child and Family Development) is a general manager for Gap. ■

#### in memoriam

Georgia Medora Adams (BSHE '42) September 22, 2005

Juanita Williams Adams (BSHE '55) June 5, 2009

Jane Reynolds Allbright (BSHE '59) April 1, 2009

Harryette Brookner Altman (BSHE '72) June 23, 2006

Sarah B. Ashcraft (BSHE '41) July 18, 2009

Lillian Pace Beckford (BSHE '48) April 26, 2009

Janie Spence Bullard (BSHE '42) November 5, 2008

Rachel Cantrell (BSHE '44) July 1, 2009

Gladys Mitchell Clayton (MED '75) April 10, 2008

Mary Bruce Clendening (TMI Faculty Member) March 21, 2009

Audrey Evans Cooper (BSHE '40) February 5, 2009

Anne Mary Evans Corbett (BSHE '38) April 15, 2009

Caroline Smith Crawley (BSHE '41) December 27, 2005

Jeannine Brooks Davis (BSHE '50) July 24, 2008 Margaret P. Dodd (BSHE '36) July 27, 2008

Patricia Cheney Fackler (BSHE '47) September 27, 2009

Martha Brown Fields (BSHE '48) April 1, 2008

Dorothy Daniel Foshee (BSHE '39) March 9, 2009

Elizabeth Thomson Fudge (BSHE '42) April 3, 2009

Mary Nell Green (BSHE '43) April 27, 2009

Jane Leake Gulley (BSHE '39) September 17, 2009

Patricia Gleason Hammer (BSHE '49) August 16, 2004

Marie McHatton Hanson-Miller (BSHE '32) March 20, 2009

Elizabeth Chappell Hartsfield (BSHE '37) May 21, 2009

Martha McRae Hastings (BSHE '38) December 19, 2007

Elizabeth L. Headley (BSHE '50) May 7, 2009

Mary Jenkins Higgins (MED '68; EDS '71) July 24, 2007

Ruth Waller Hill (BSHE '39) June 14, 2009 Cammie Maynard Hinton (BSHE '34) July 31, 2009

Maxine Smith Hirshburg (BSHE '44) December 30, 2007

Emily Brown James (BSHE '39) May 28, 2009

Faye Ivey Johnson (BSHE' 47) April 28, 2009

Carolyn Miller Lackey (BSHE '68; MED '84; EDS '99) July 20, 2007

Martha E. Lee (BSHE '39; MED '74) December 17, 2008

Carolyn Mixon Lewis (BSHE '43; MED '70) March 29, 2008

Jo Marie Lombard (MED '02) April 27, 2009

Dirk Phillip Magwitz (Matriculate '09) April 15, 2009

Louise Beasley McIntosh (BSHE '41) December 7, 2006

Rubye Maddox Meeks (BSHE '40) October 9, 2001

Marie McHatton Hanson Miller (AB '31, BSHE '32, MA '35) March 20, 2009

Shirley A. Noland (BSHE '37) February 14, 2009

Mattie Will Rosenkrans (BSHE '43) June 9, 2009 Cleo Worley Roughton (MHE '54) February 15, 2009

Sue Booker Shelden (MS '72) May 27, 2007

Doris Grossman Shlaer (BSHE '37) December 17, 2005

Sara Nicholson Siniard (BSHE '39; MED '69) March 29, 2009

Kathryn Dubberly Smith (MED '60) September 27, 2009

Elizabeth Montgomery Stephens (BSHE '35) May 21, 2009

Montyne S. Stolz (BSHE '57) August 10, 2009

Charlene Broome Strickland (BSHE '42; MED '69) July 12, 2009

Ruth Jackson Strother (BSHE '50; MED '73) August 19, 2009

Jay Robert Weinberger (BSFCS '92) September 5, 2009

Marion S. Whitehead (BSHE '39) May 4, 2009

Penelope Brewton Whitley (BSHE '70) January 15, 2009

# IN THE

#### FACULTY & STAFF

Jorge Atiles (Associate Dean, Outreach and Extension) has been promoted to the position of professor in the Department of Housing and Consumer Economics.

Maria Breen (MS '09, Foods and Nutrition; BSFCS '07, Dietetics) was awarded the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research Outstanding Young Investigator Award for 2009. She received the award for the abstract submission of her thesis work, "25(OH) D, Insulin-Like Growth Factor-I and Bone Mineral Accrual During Growth." She currently is working for **Rick Lewis** (Professor, Foods and Nutrition) on a project focusing on vitamin D.

Joan Koonce (Associate Professor, and Financial Planning Specialist, Housing and Consumer Economics) has written "Integrity in a Box of Chocolates: Consuming Life's Hardships One Bite at a Time. The book focuses on the obstacles Koonce overcame—poverty, incest, discrimination, alcohol and drug addiction and more—to attend college, including earning a PhD, and maintain hope, determination and faith. The book is published by Tate Publishing.

Megan Lee (Assistant Professor, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) is one of seven University of Georgia faculty chosen as a 2009-2010 Service Learning Fellow. The year-long program provides selected faculty members to develop new ways to integrate service learning into their



Pat Smith, who prepares meals for the Child Development Lab at the McPhaul Center, was the keynote speaker at this year's Campaign for Charities kickoff at the University of Georgia. Speaking to nearly 200 of the university's top administrators, including President Michael Adams (Right), she told of the support the Athens Land Trust provided her in buying a home. FACS Dean Laura Jolly is serving as honorary chair of the Campaign for Charities.

teaching, research and public service work. The fellowship includes a \$2,500 award.

Rick Lewis (Professor, Foods and Nutrition) has been selected as a 2009-2010 Senior Teaching Fellow by the UGA Center for Teaching and Learning. The fellowship provides funding for senior faculty members to develop new instructional projects, as well as to meet on a monthly basis with other faculty members for in-depth discussions related to teaching.

**Diann Moorman** (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer

Economics) has been selected as a 2009-2011 Lilly Teaching Fellow. The fellowships are limited to faculty members who are in their first three years of a tenure-track position and who have demonstrated a passion for and commitment to excellence in teaching.

**Sharon Nickols** (Janette M. Barber Distinguished Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics) has been awarded the 2009 Distinguished Research Award by the Kansas State University College of Human Ecology.

**Dawn Schueneman** (Instructor, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) and her husband, Wade, are the parents of Luke Arthur, born Aug. 5.

**Cheryl Williams** (Special Events Coordinator) retired Aug. 31 after 21 years of service to the College of Family and Consumer Sciences and a total of 27 years of service to the University of Georgia. She was also the winner of the 2009 Nettie Marie Nickols Outstanding Staff Award.

#### STUDENTS

**Traci Jarrett** (Senior, Family and Consumer Sciences Education) has been elected as the student unit first vice chair for the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

**Linsey Johnson** (Junior, Family and Consumer Sciences Education) was named student unit chair elect for the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Deanna Kamal (BSFCS '09, Furnishings and Interiors) and Sara McCullough (BSFCS '09, Furnishings and Interiors) were among the highest scorers in the 2009 student bath design competition sponsored by the National Kitchen and Bath Association. In addition, NKBA presented the University of Georgia an Excellence in Education award because of the strength of the work submitted. Jaya Rose (Lecturer, Textiles, Merchandising and Interiors) oversees the kitchen and bath courses.

Megan Shepard (Master's Student, Family Financial Planning) has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Arthur Caple Foundation to attend the National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators annual conference. This is the second straight year that a UGA student has won the foundation's most prestigious scholarship.

Other winners include **Alden Mergenthal** (Senior, Family Financial Planning), **Katie Reeves** (Senior, Family Financial Planning), and **Kristin Smith** (Senior, Family Financial Planning). Scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate academic excellence and an understanding of the issues facing public sector retirement plans.

# Fnew faculty<sup>5</sup>



Steven Kogan, assistant professor in the Department of Child and Family Development, earned his PhD in child and family development with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy from the University of Georgia in 1999. His research interests include family-centered prevention programming for rural African Americans, gene-environment interaction, and African-American men's HIV-related behavior. He will be teaching graduate level courses on grant writing and prevention science.

#### DISTINGUISHED FELLOW

**Brenda Cude**, (Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics) has been named a Distinguished Fellow by the American Council on Consumer Interests.

Distinguished Fellows are recognized leaders in the consumer field who have contributed significantly to ACCI and have displayed high standards of professional and ethical conduct throughout their careers.

Cude's research focuses on how consumers acquire and use information before making buying decisions. Most recently, she has studied the quality and



quantity of information online. Cude also represents the consumer perspective in policy discussions to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

As an instructor, Cude teaches concepts and practices of consumer protection, consumer policy and online consumer behavior. In 2008, she was named a UGA Senior Teaching Fellow and inducted into the UGA Teaching Academy. She also directs the Georgia Peer Financial Counseling Program and is associate director for personal financial literacy in the UGA Center for Economic Education.

Cude is research director for the UGA Housing and Demographics Research Center and serves on the board of directors of the Insurance Marketplace Standards Association and the Journal of Consumer Affairs Editorial Board. She also is a member of the Journal of Consumer Education Editorial Board.

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### Extension Faculty and Alumni Win Awards

ollege of Family and Consumer Sciences faculty and alumni were big winners at this year's National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences meeting:

A team led by **Pamela Turner** (Assistant Professor and Extension Housing Specialist) won the national award for environmental education for their program: Every Drop Counts: Conserve Water at Home.

A team led by **Gail Hanula** (Public Service Associate and Extension Nutrition-EFNEP Specialist; BSHE '82, Home Economics Education; MHE '83, Foods and Nutrition; EdS '84, Home Economics Education) placed first nationally for educational curriculum for their program, Food Talk.

A team led by **Ted Futris** (Assistant Professor and Family Life Specialist) received first place nationally in educational publications and the Living Well Award for their Guide for New Parents.

Susan Culpepper (FACS Extension Agent, Douglas County; BSHE '86, Fashion Merchandising), Janet Hollingsworth (FACS Extension Agent, Appling County; BSHE '82, Fashion Merchandising), and Susan Howington (FACS Extension Agent, Henry County) each received a Distinguished Service Award for the southern region. This award recognizes individuals who have been with Cooperative Extension for at least 10 years for their leadership, outstanding programs and personal and professional growth.

Jan Baggarly (Public Service Associate, Northwest District; MEd '78, Clothing and Textiles; BSHE '74, Home Economics Education) and her team won the southern region food safety award for their Operation EATERY program. Baggarly also led a team that placed second in the southern region for internet education technology for the Walk Georgia program.

**Becky Chenhall** (Radon Educator, FACS Extension) and **Jorge Atiles** (Associate Dean, Outreach and Extension) won the community partnership award for the southern region for their radon education program.

**Marnie Deckle** (Public Service Assistant, Candler County) placed third in the southern region for written press releases.

The conference was organized by **Rhea Bentley** (FACS Extension Agent, Muscogee County), who serves as vice president for professional development for NEAFCS.

Dawgs with the Dean



Satisfying the midterm snack attacks of FACS students, FACS College Ambassadors and alumni served more than 360 hot dogs, two gallons of chili and dozens of soft drinks to students and employees in October during the annual Dawgs with the Dean event held on the front steps of Dawson Hall.

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Leadership FACS Retreat



College Ambassadors and student club leaders joined FACS faculty, staff and alumni for the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Leadership FACS Retreat at Camp Kiwanis in Danielsville to learn about networking, communication, management and team building skills.



## Let It Snow

bawson Hall was
shrouded in snow, along
with the rest of UGA,
after 6 ½ inches fell on
March 1. The snow was
the most the area has
received since 1987, when
7.1 inches of the fluffy
stuff fell.

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## Lee continued from page 4

and another from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service for \$35,000 to expand the Georgia Advanced POMP Continuation Study.

Prior to her involvement, the POMP study had looked retrospectively at the meals programs' participants. Lee introduced several innovative approaches including a prospective study design. Instead of just assessing those who had participated in the programs previously, or were involved currently, the study also embraced those on waiting lists for meal programs.

Lee's findings were profound: Overall 52 percent of older Georgians requesting meals services between July and early November 2008, when the economic crisis had deepened across the nation, were food-insecure. In particular, up to 59 percent of those on waiting lists for home-delivered meals—the most vulnerable subgroup due to poorer socioeconomic, nutritional and functional health status and few community supports—were food-insecure.

#### **Toward Eliminating the Problem**

As a community-nutrition researcher, understanding the breadth of the problem is just the first step for Lee. Now she is moving forward with multiple research projects designed to illuminate both the causes and consequences of food insecurity in older adults. For help with that research, she is reaching out to colleagues in other UGA departments.

For research on the struggles and barriers older Georgians face in their community in finding affordable nutritious foods, Lee teamed up with researchers in the UGA geography department while using Geographic Information Systems. In one study, they compared the cost of food found in supermarkets, grocery stores, and convenience stores by mapping food availability and the cost of a weekly menu based on the USDA's Thrifty Food Plan. While the cost of buying the foods listed in the plan should be around \$140 per week for a family of four, the pilot research in Athens-Clarke County showed that the average cost of those same foods would range from \$197 at a supermarket to \$211 at grocery stores to \$253 at convenience stores.

Tied tightly to food insecurity are health-care issues. To begin addressing those links, Lee is working with Johnson and **Vibha Bhargava** (Assistant Professor, Housing and Consumer Economics), who researches the economics of health care decision-making. The three colleagues have received funding that will enable them to merge information from Medicaid and Medicare databases with Georgia Advanced POMP Continuation study data. This will allow them to assess how people's use of health care services, and thus their health status, may change when they join federally funded meal programs.



Lee helps a client select healthy produce at a Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.

Lee dreams of finding ways of ultimately ending food insecurity, and she is already pursuing that goal in Northeast Georgia. For example, working with Johnson she has helped implement the federal Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program to several of the state's counties. When USDA-certified farmers set up at local senior centers, low-income older adults are allowed to pick out \$20 worth of fresh produce, with the farmers being paid through the federal program.

She is also working with other researchers on programs that would link already-available or new resources with those who are food-insecure. For example, Lee and colleagues have submitted a grant to help create a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable food system in Northeast Georgia.

Lee is under no illusion that she will single-handedly assure the nation's community-nutrition needs, much less address all of the underlying social issues. "I cannot change the whole economic system," says Lee, "but as far as my capacity will allow I can try to find some of the best pathways."



## We Need Your Bright Ideas!

It's time to develop our next strategic plan and we want your input. Where do you see the College of Family and Consumer Sciences in the next three years, 10 years, 50 years?

What do you see as our opportunities and challenges? Send your Bright Ideas for a Bright Future to **strategic@fcs.uga.edu**.

## Brody continued from page 5

person asked me, 'What do you do when you're not doing this?' I explained some of my research and he said, 'What do you know about our families?'"

At that time, very few studies focused on rural African-American families, and those that had been conducted were narrow in scope and negative in their findings, says Brody. To help fill the breach, he wrote a proposal to the Spencer Foundation of Chicago that not only was fruitful in its own right but also served as the beginning of a 22-year research program that has evolved from basic to applied research and back to basic research again.

"We have had more than 2,000 families participate in our studies," he says, crediting the staff and graduate students who have worked with the families for maintaining positive relationships. "We have followed many of them for 15 to 20 years, and 90 percent of the families have remained in our studies."

One of the defining characteristics of Brody's research is that it has always been conducted in collaboration with focus groups made up of rural African-American youth, parents, teachers and community leaders. Collaboration with groups being studied is rare, but Brody says he knew that his research would never be successful unless he established strong relationships with the communities.

The overriding question, he says, has been always been: "Why do some children whose families experience environmental and socioeconomic distress do well anyway?"

#### **Practical Uses**

For more than a dozen years, Brody and his team worked to identify those things that help children overcome unfavorable odds. Some of the important factors lay in parents' childrearing practices, including high levels of vigilance combined with high levels of warmth and involvement, as well as teaching children ways to deal with discrimination.

But while Brody published his research and continued to gain grants to expand his studies, he wasn't quite satisfied. "I've always asked 'So what?" he says. "So what if I had this finding and wrote that paper? It wasn't good enough." Brody set about turning his findings into a program that could help children who might not otherwise beat the odds.

With funding from three National Institutes of Health programs, Brody developed the Strong African American Families program, tested it in randomized trials, and then shared it with communities throughout the nation. Already the program is being used in Denver, Richmond, Va., and Atlanta. Within the coming months, FACS Cooperative Extension agents in Georgia will be learning how to use the program in their counties.

In the newest wrinkle on his research, Brody is examining how genetics may affect children's behavior.



Brody credits his staff for ensuring the research continues to move forward.

"We began this work about five years ago," he says, "looking at whether children's environments, including the prevention programs in which they take part, could override genetic risk." The team's initial findings show that the types of parenting programs Brody has established can, in fact, help to override the influence of genes that are linked to substance use and conduct problems, resulting in children who behave very much like those who don't have such genetic predispositions. "Just as genes influence development, parenting can influence genes," concludes Brody, adding that children's experiences elsewhere in their families, and in their communities and schools, may turn genes on or off as well.

#### Passion, Performance, and a Good Team

When he gives presentations to groups around the country, Brody always finishes by showing a slide of his entire staff, giving the 25 full-time and 130 part-time workers credit for ensuring that the research continues to move forward.

"These are the people who recruit and retain participants, provide the prevention programs, collect, organize and analyze the data, and oversee all of the business work that has to be done to satisfy NIH budgeting requirements," he says, giving kudos especially to Anita Brown, who serves as associate director of the Center for Family Research. "Anita is definitely the glue that holds the center together."

Although winning multiple grants is every researcher's dream, Brody makes it clear that managing both the budgets and the day-to-day work of a grant, plus planning for the next one, is never easy. "Every one of the programs has taught me things that have benefited the next program," he says.

For young researchers, Brody emphasizes that funding agencies tend to believe that "the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior." In other words, "Show them that you can deliver on the investment you want them make in you by establishing a productive research program before you submit that first grant."

Most important, however, is truly caring about the research. "First and foremost, address something that you are passionate about," he says. "Your passion will carry you forward, both in good times and bad." ■



is Director of
Development for the
College of Family and
Consumer Sciences. For
more information on
how to give a current
or deferred gift,
please contact Katrina
at 706-542-4946, by
email at kbowers@fcs.
uga.edu, or write to
her at FACS, 224
Dawson Hall, UGA,
Athens, GA 30602.

#### Remembering Dr. Rhoden...

n my visits with alumni and friends there is a common denominator in our conversations.

No program, physical facility or college life experience makes the lasting impact on an individual as much as a faculty or staff member who took the time to invest personally in a student. Who from FACS influenced you the most?

While we could answer the question with many

names, one that is a constant answer, especially from alumni in the 1980s, is Dr. Jane Rhoden. Dr. Rhoden served as assistant to the dean from 1981-1993 and served as an advisor to home economics and journalism and consumer journalism students.

Dr. Rhoden spent countless hours ensuring that the students of the College of Family and Consumer Sciences were both pursuing a quality degree program and participating in other activities to enrich their classroom experience. Dr. Rhoden hosted gatherings in her home, arranged field trips to expose students to career opportunities and served as the faculty sponsor for clubs within the college.

Sadly, Dr. Rhoden passed away on July 4, 2007, but her memory within the College of Family and Consumer Sciences continues. To recognize her legacy, Dr. Rhoden's former students and colleagues have created the Jane Rhoden Student Academic Support Fund to support the out-of-classroom activities of undergraduate students in the consumer journalism major in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences. A \$25,000 endowment will provide annual support for faculty members to host student gatherings, connect alumni with students, provide travel stipends for students attending conferences or workshops, assist consumer journalism students in pursuing career-enrichment activities, or provide funds to host speakers relevant to the major.

Among the endowments we have in FACS, it is most fitting to have Dr. Rhoden's name on a perpetual fund. Thus, her legacy can continue to touch students far into the future. Her family is involved and appreciative of this effort and we invite you to be a part of celebrating and remembering this special lady. You may send a donation in her memory to our office or give online: <a href="www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/gifts">www.fcs.uga.edu/alumni/gifts</a> (when you have the chance to designate, please type in: Jane Rhoden Fund).

Please join Dr. Jane Rhoden's colleagues and friends in making this endowment a reality. We feel this is the ultimate recognition for her service and a job well done!

"I'm so glad this memorial has been established. Jane gave so much of her life to FACS and its students. She believed so strongly that educating the "total" student was important...and so do I!"—Maxanne Courson Woolf, BSHE '60

"Dr. Rhoden didn't just tell us what classes to take. She got to know us – our hopes – our dreams for the future. She encouraged us to apply for scholarships, internships, and student leadership positions. Dr. Rhoden opened her home and made us feel special – we were family." – Tammy Tate Gilland, BSHE '88

"Dr. Rhoden was a mentor in the truest sense. She took incredible interest in her students, beyond their course work. She made sure that her students received a well-rounded experience at UGA." –Jennifer Barker Townsend, BSFCS '91





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**Carmen Tarbush** (Senior, FACS Education) gets a hug from **Amanda Foley** (Senior, FACS Education) prior to the 2009 University of Georgia Homecoming Parade. Carmen was one of five UGA Homecoming Queen finalists, while Amanda is a member of the UGA Redcoat Marching Band flagline.