2017 Chuck Dziuban Award

The Center for Distributed Learning (CDL) has awarded the sixth annual Chuck D. Dziuban Award for Excellence in Online Teaching to Kenneth L. Hanson, Ph.D., from the Judaic Studies Program, College of Arts and Humanities. The award presentation occurred during the Showcase event that concluded the spring section of CDL's faculty development program for online and blended teaching, IDL6543. Hanson received an iPad tablet and an invitation to attend the 2017 Online Learning Accelerate Conference in Orlando.

For more information about the award, eligibility and winners, visit: http://award.online.ucf.edu

(Left to right:) Lyman Brodie, Kenneth L. Hanson (winner), Rick Brunson, and Chuck Dziuban

Collective Excellence Award

A new award honoring a UCF team that has strengthened the university's impact was presented at Founder's Day to Chuck Dziuban and Marcella Bush from the Research Initiative of Teaching Effectiveness for their work with the Tangelo Park Project in Orlando. Dziuban, director of the initiative, and Bush, editor and research associate, were presented the Collective Excellence Award and $15,000 to expand their work.

For nearly 20 years, Dziuban and Bush have volunteered for the Tangelo Park Project as UCF liaisons, consultants and advisory board members, said Dale Whittaker, UCF provost and executive vice president.

Whittaker said the new award will recognize a team each year whose work exemplifies one of seven categories: powering partnerships, creating access, dreaming big, unleashing potential, harnessing scale, amplifying impact, or transforming lives.

Chuck Dziuban (center) receives the Collective Excellence Award from President John C. Hitt and Provost Dale Whittaker

IT2020

Cohort 2 Transition Update

The Cohort 2 transition team held its kickoff meeting on March 6 to begin the transition to UCF IT. The following individuals are representing their respective departments on the team:

- Thomas Christensen – Center for Distributed Learning
- Brian Graham – College of Graduate Studies
- Brian Strickland – College of Undergraduate Studies
- Cisco Espaillat – Office of Instructional Resources
- Shafaq Chaudhry – Office of Research and Commercialization
- Aaron Misiano – Regional Campuses
- Joel Lavoie – University Libraries

Cohort 2 will be meeting with many different areas of UCF IT in April and May to better understand the UCF IT structure. The information from these meetings will allow Cohort 2 IT leaders to begin formulating a road map for their transition. The transition of Cohort 1 IT personnel into UCF IT has been completed.

UCF IT Strategy and Planning Update

Under the direction of Aaron Streimish, the UCF IT Strategy and Planning department has been working with the IT Strategic Governance Committee to finalize the strategic drivers that will be used in the near future to evaluate and prioritize proposed IT projects. A committee has been established to develop and implement a work flow process for intake of project work, employing the strategic drivers, ensuring that future IT projects are closely aligned to the UCF Collective Impact Strategic Plan.

TOPkit Workshop

The Center for Distributed Learning (CDL) hosted the inaugural statewide Teaching Online Preparation Toolkit (TOPkit) Workshop March 22-23. Fifty-five participants from State University System and Florida College System institutions attended this intensive, two-day workshop based on the TOPkit.org toolkit for professionals who are responsible for faculty development for online teaching and learning.

Guest speakers included UWF's vice president of the Division of Research and Strategic Innovation, Pamela Northrup; CDL's associate vice president, Tom Cavanagh; and UCF's CIO and vice president for Information Technologies and Resources, Joel Hartman. Each participant left with a personal implementation plan for either building a new faculty development program or updating an existing program.

The Florida Virtual Campus funded the inaugural workshop, and the Council of Academic Vice Presidents has committed to funding the next four annual workshops in support of the State University System of Florida Board of Governors' 2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education. In addition to the annual workshop, this funding has also supported the design and development of the TOPkit.org site and its community of practice.

To date, 215 of over 2,000 unique visitors have registered on the site and more than 500 people from around the world have subscribed to the monthly TOPkit Digest.

(Left to right:) Pamela Northrup, FLVC; John Opper, FLVC; Tom Cavanagh, UCF; and Wendy Howard, UCF

New Multi-Factor Authentication Service

On April 19, the UCF IT Identity and Access Management (IAM) team introduced a new Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) service dedicated to protecting your personal information from cyber threats. MFA is a stronger authentication method that combines something you know (your myUCF login and password) with something you have in your possession (a smartphone app, phone number to call or text, or a temporary token).

The MFA service, which uses Duo Security, was first implemented in the myUCF portal and is required to view W-2 information, or change or update direct deposit information. Other myUCF pages will continue to work as they do today. Other important applications will be protected with multi-factor authentication in the near future. To quickly and simply configure this service on your NID account you will need to register using DUO's self-service portal available in myUCF. Self-registration and device management information is located at: http://cst.ucf.edu/multi-factor

UCF Mobile App Update

In spring 2017, the UCF Mobile app added several new features, including UCF Safe Ride and a redesigned Dining module. UCF Safe Ride gives students information and a direct link to use Uber at a discount on Friday and Saturday nights when within the vicinity of the main campus. The redesigned Dining module includes the operating hours of Student Union, Dining Services, and Knight's Plaza locations, with a real-time availability indicator.

In addition to Pegasus Palooza, Homecoming, and Study Union events held in the fall, the spring UCF Mobile app update incorporated Knight-Thon, Study Union, and spring commencement. The UCF Mobile app is the official mobile companion for these events and includes a schedule, relevant event information, timely communication through notifications, and social networking feeds. UCF Mobile "special events" appear in the app for a limited time and incorporate a multi-colored icon to distinguish the event from permanent app modules.

The UCF Mobile app piloted location-based notifications during the spring semester. These notifications use Bluetooth beacons to notify users of information and resources within 250 feet of their current location. The pilot included the Library, covering construction updates, iPad check out resources, and information about current exhibits. In the Technology Commons, beacons informed visitors with information about collaboration rooms, labs, and Student Support Desk services. A survey was available at each location to learn more about the user experience and the best way to use this technology. The use of this technology will be evaluated for possible permanent integration into the UCF Mobile app.

Value of Libraries Project

A number of student success initiatives collect and analyze student data to predict academic success, yet rarely are library services considered as an engagement or interaction point. In fall 2014, librarians at the John C. Hitt Library undertook a large-scale study to connect library usage data to student academic and demographic information to probe the relationship between student use of library services and academic success.

Usage data were collected on five library services at the John C. Hitt Library: face-to-face library instruction, online library instruction, study room use, and in-depth research consultations. Meghal Parikh, IKM analyst, pulled demographic and academic information for library users. Morgan Wang, director of data mining, and statistics graduate student Kanak Choudhury analyzed the data.

Analyses of interactions between fall 2014 and fall 2015 revealed that library users enjoyed an average end-of-semester GPA of 3.20 (N=273,137, SD=0.95) compared to library non-users, who averaged 3.05 (N=376,713, SD=1.05). The study also revealed a positive grade distribution outcome, with 48.18 percent of library users receiving A grades, compared to 42.61 percent of library non-users, and non-users receiving more B, C, D, and F grades.

Scores were further analyzed by course modality: face-to-face, mixed mode, or fully online, and the same finding was observed. Students who used one or more library services were found to be more likely to receive A grades than those who did not.

21st Century Library Project Update

R emarkable changes have taken place at the John C. Hitt Library since fall 2016. This summer will bring more change as progress continues on the 21st Century Library project.

The Automated Retrieval Center (ARC) on the Student Union side of the building is taking shape. The foundation is completed and the walls are going up. The first three robotic cranes have arrived for installation. Completion of the 5th floor Quiet Study Zone is expected by fall 2017. In the coming weeks, carpet will be installed and walls will be painted. When it opens in the late summer, 177 seats for individual, quiet research, reflection, and study will be available.

During the summer term, sprinkler installation in sections of 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors will continue. Each section will be closed as work proceeds. Sprinkler installation will be completed by July 31. Smaller areas on the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd floors will be closed for short periods during the summer to accommodate the installation of additional electrical outlets. Work locations will also be listed on the 21st Century Library page (see below).
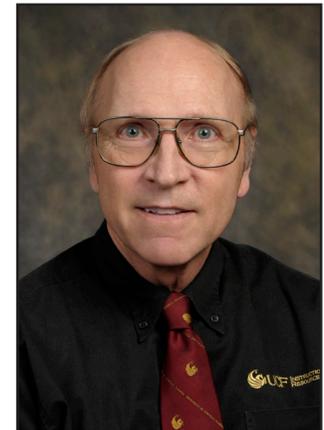
Work on the restrooms on the Student Union side of the building will continue through the summer. Upon completion, the restrooms will be upgraded and more accessible to all library visitors. Work on the elevators will begin in July 2017, one car at a time, ensuring that elevators will continue to be available. Each of the building's stairwells will be upgraded, starting early in summer 2017. They will be closed, one at a time. New railings and new flooring on the stairs will create a safer environment.

Please check the 21st Century Library page for updates throughout the summer, at: http://library.ucf.edu/21st

Signs in the building will also point out closures and noisy areas. Please let library employees know if we can help you during this time. We apologize for the noise, dust, and inconvenience, and look forward to welcoming you to improved library facilities!

Jon Findell Retirement

A fter 45 years of dedicated service to UCF, Jon Findell has retired from the Office of Instructional Resources. Over the years Findell has provided faculty and staff a level of customer service in the Faculty Multimedia Center that will be hard to replace. Findell started at UCF as a student and finished as an accomplished member of the UCF family. His contributions are too numerous to list, but many regard his most enduring gift to the UCF community is the amazing portraits he has taken of faculty and staff over the years. Everyone in OIR wish Jon well in his retirement.

Jon Findell

Kurogo Higher Ed Mobile Conference

U CF co-hosted the 2017 Kurogo Higher Ed Mobile Conference at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in April. Now in its fifth year, this leading mobile strategy conference brings together more than a hundred institutions to share best practices for increasing engagement and retention through mobile communication, innovation, and governance.

At the conference, out of nearly 200 higher-education institutions, the UCF Mobile app was nominated for four awards, which included: Best Special Purpose Module — Pegasus Palooza, Best Student Engagement App, Most Innovative App for Communication, and Best Use of the Special Modules Event — Homecoming.

IT&R Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce

Information Technologies and Resources has established a Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce to promote a globalized, competitive, and innovative workforce. Designed to address expressed needs in the IT&R division, the vision statement is "to better represent our diverse world by providing better solutions to our university community by being more inclusive and competitive."

Chaired by Yasmin Brady, the committee is made up of representatives from every unit in IT&R, with guidance from Karen Cobbs. Four subcommittees are being formed to address specific needs, such as:

- Research (headed by Patsy Moskal) — Will create a Climate Survey that will be sent to all IT&R employees.
- Training and Education (headed by Rebecca Stortstrom) — Will promote training opportunities and coordinate with Office of Diversity and Inclusion to schedule sessions specific to IT&R staff.
- Events (headed by Megan Haught) — Will collaborate with other campus units to promote events related to Diversity and Inclusion, and begin planning for specialized events for IT&R.
- Communications (headed by Elisabeth Greenwood) — Will be responsible for the committee web presence and promoting events to IT&R and the broader UCF community.

Horizon Report Video Competition

A video produced by the Center for Distributed Learning featuring UCF's Personalized Adaptive Learning Initiative received first prize at the 2017 Horizon Report Video Competition. The video was selected as the best institutional example of educational technology transforming teaching and learning. Personalized adaptive learning provides each student with an individualized learning experience by presenting them with custom learning paths through the course content based on their performance.

At UCF, adaptive learning has been piloted in the Colleges of Education and Human Performance, Engineering and Computer Science, Nursing, and Sciences. View the award-winning video on the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative website at: https://events.educause.edu/eli/annual-meeting/2017/agenda/2017-horizon-video-competition

Excellence in Librarianship Award

Jeanne Piascik, principal cataloger in the UCF libraries, was selected as the 2017 recipient of the Excellence in Librarianship Award. A major accomplishment of Piascik's this year was an inventory of the collection of the John C. Hitt Library. Coordinating efforts across four departments, Piascik assumed leadership for the project. She developed the workflow and processing standards and coordinated the project with Florida Virtual Campus. Nearly 900,000 volumes were barcoded and/or had holdings data corrected. The success of this project positions the Libraries well for the future ingestion of materials into the Automated Retrieval Center.

Piascik is an outstanding academic librarian, as evidenced by the many leadership roles she has held within the State University System of Florida. She has chaired or served on several statewide committees, and has made significant service contributions to the profession. She has given more than 15 invited presentations on a variety of relevant topics at the national and state level, and she is regularly invited to collaborate on programs or participate in panel discussions.

Joel Hartman presents the 2017 Excellence in Librarianship Award to Jeanne Piascik

UCF Information Technologies & Resources Websites

Center for Distributed Learning (CDL) **http://cdl.ucf.edu**
Information Technologies & Resources (IT&R) **http://itr.ucf.edu**
IT&R Business Center **http://bc.itr.ucf.edu**
Office of Instructional Resources (OIR) **http://oir.ucf.edu**
Space Planning, Analysis, and Administration (SPAA) **http://itr.ucf.edu/spaa**
UCF IT **http://it.ucf.edu**
University Libraries **http://library.ucf.edu**