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Honors and Awards

UF professor, PIE Center Director honored as national leader in agricultural communications



Ricky Telg, director of the UF/IFAS PIE Center and a UF professor, received the Association for Communication Excellence (ACE) Fellow award, its highest honor, in recognition of his 30 years of teaching, research, and leadership in agricultural

communications.

Read more [here](#).

Academic News and Happenings

Faculty Senate Meeting

Please join us tomorrow at the August 20th Faculty Senate meeting and President Bell's State of the University Address in the J. Wayne Reitz Union, Rion Ballroom East, 3rd Floor, at 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

View the [agenda](#).

Access the [live stream](#).

Pathways to Excellence



The Provost's Office, the Office of Research, and the Center for Teaching Excellence invite you to join the Pathways to Excellence program, a 14-week experience designed to provide new faculty with a foundational understanding of the teaching and research landscapes at UF.

Deadline August 21, 2026 at 11:59 AM

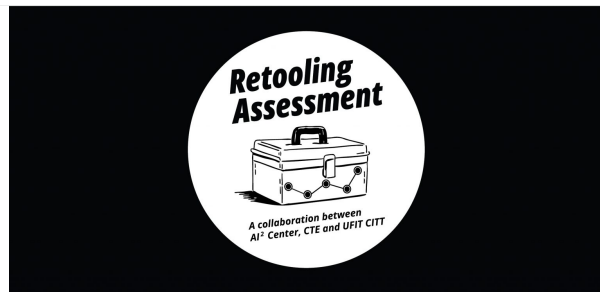
Register [here](#).

Inspired Teaching



Sign up for the monthly newsletter from the Center for Teaching Excellence [here](#).

Tech Byte: Designing AI- Resilient Assessments



Faculty and instructional support staff are invited to a virtual Tech Byte on designing assessments that make learning visible in an AI-enabled world. Join the discussion on Thursday, Aug. 27, from 9-10 a.m. [Register here.](#)

Participants will review frameworks and AI chat prompts that help evaluate the AI resilience of your assessments, engage students in responsible AI use that supports ownership of their learning and align assignment design with meaningful, real-world learning outcomes.

This is the first event in a collaborative initiative focused on Retooling Assessments facilitated by the Center for Teaching Excellence and UFIT's AI2 Center and Center for Instructional Technology and Training.

[Registration Link](#)

Free SPSS training for faculty and graduate students

Faculty, staff, graduate students and postdoctoral candidates can now register for UFIT's online, self-paced SPSS training course. The course features seven modules that teach participants how to use SPSS Statistics software through hands-on exercises and real-world applications.

The registration deadline is Friday, Aug. 28, at 5 p.m.

Register [here.](#)

Exploration of Embodiment Symposium & Research Mixer

Join UF faculty, students, and local community collaborators across multiple fields to explore how knowledge, creativity and wellness emerge through nature and the body. The symposium at Emerson Alumni Hall will highlight this summer's Creative B Catalyst Grant projects and includes a research mixer for attendees to share works-in-progress, exchange ideas and connect across disciplines.

Learn more about the August 28th event [here.](#)

Join UF Gulf Scholars for Our Gulf, Our Future: Voices from Cedar Key



Join UF Gulf Scholars and the Southeastern Coastal Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (SCCAHS) on **Tuesday, September 1 from 5:30–7:30 p.m.** in the Pugh Hall Ocora for a documentary screening and panel discussion exploring hurricane recovery and community resilience in Cedar Key.

Hear firsthand from Cedar Key residents, Extension professionals, and local business owners as they share their experiences preparing for and rebuilding after major storms.

This free event is open to the public, followed by a reception, with a livestream available for those unable to attend in person.

[Learn more about this upcoming event!](#)

Art + Mindfulness @ the Harn: Grounding, a mindful yoga practice with Kim Holton



Cultivate a sense of steadiness and presence at the start of the semester through gentle, accessible yoga. Suitable for all experience levels, this 45-minute practice offers guided movement, breath awareness, and a body scan before engaging with the museum and its collections in a 15-minute art spotlight tour.

Wear comfortable clothes for movement and bring a mat if you have one. A limited number of mats will be available to borrow.

No registration is required. <https://harn.ufl.edu/event/art-mindfulness-6/>

Academic Artifact

Unusual, meaningful, revelatory, mysterious and just plain weird things turn up in professors' offices. *Academic Artifact* will spotlight those objects and the stories behind them.

This week's artifact ...



"Genghis Khan Passport" **Lisa McElwee-White** **Distinguished Professor, Chemistry**

This conference gift—for giving a plenary lecture at a conference in Mongolia—is a replica of the passports carried by the emissaries of Genghis Khan.

The originals were solid gold and carried the inscription "*I come from the great Khan. Listen to me or die.*"

I saw an original in a museum in Ulaanbaatar. I keep the replica in my office as a reminder to students that great communications are short and to the point.

Professor McElwee-White earned a sweet Office of the Provost portable lantern for her submission. Care to shine a light on your own academic artifact? Simply complete this brief [Qualtrics](#). If your artifact is selected for publication, we'll send you your own lantern.

Secrets of the Swamp

Give it up for **Dr. Luis Álvarez-Castro**, professor and chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies!

Dr. Álvarez-Castro was the first of dozens of players to correctly identify the pool and Tom Petty song discussed in last week's *Secrets* as Glen Springs Pool and "Dreamville."

Take a moment to listen as Petty [sings](#) ...

"...Riding with my mama to Glen Springs Pool
The water was cold, my lips were blue
There was rock 'n' roll across the dial
When I think of her, it makes me smile..."

Naming Names

"The Cicerones," UF's student ambassadors founded in 1968, was coined by ____.

- A. A university wide steering committee
- B. The ex-boyfriend of one of the student founders
- C. The winner of a UFSG contest to name the group
- D. A member of a visiting delegation from a Greek university

"Lake Alice" is named after ____.

- A. An alligator nicknamed Alice who lived there in the 1920s
- B. U.S. President Roosevelt's famously rebellious daughter
- C. A popular member of the first class of UF women in 1947
- D. Unknown (and UF's best-kept secret)

Husband and wife _____ and _____ have the unusual distinction of namesake residence halls at UF and FSU.

- A. Harold and Emily Hume
- B. Albert and Jennie Murphree
- C. Robert and Silvia Beaty
- D. Henry Holland Buckman and Sarah Caruthers Allison Buckman

Be the first to email ahover@ufl.edu the correct answers to be crowned this week's winner of the coveted Provost's Pen and UF travel mug.

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