

## Students Assist in Economic Development

This semester, students in a retail management class taught by Chris Ward, Ed.D., assistant professor of business, conducted a feasibility study for the Findlay-Hancock County Alliance, an organization that includes the Findlay-Hancock County Chamber of Commerce, the Findlay-Hancock County Community Development Foundation and the Hancock County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

“Tony Iriti, director of Findlay Hancock County Economic Development, approached me prior to the semester to see if a class could do market research on bringing a hotel into the Findlay area. With

Marathon Petroleum’s headquarters now in Findlay, there will be an influx of suppliers and other people coming to Findlay,” said Ward.

The students worked in teams to gather primary and secondary data. The report will be given to Iriti and used as a potential promotional piece to prospective hotel chains.

“Having worked with Dr. Ward on several other projects, I thought this would be a great experience for her students,” said Iriti. “The students learn a great deal by actually creating a report for a real situation rather than a fictitious client. They had to gather the pertinent data, organize it and draw conclusions.”

The class worked on the project on and off over the course of about two months.

“Working for a client in the community provides the students the opportunity to work with multiple private and public sector organizations,” said Ward. “This is a win for the students, the University and the community. In this economic environment, it takes collaboration to make your community prosper ...”

Now in the final review stages of the report process, Iriti says he is “very satisfied” with the students’ research and efforts.

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## Oiler Enterprises Encourages Entrepreneurs

The University offers students the unique opportunity to plan, start and manage their own businesses through Oiler Enterprises.

David Emsweller, vice president for student services, initiated the discussion about creating Oiler Enterprises in spring 2010. Oiler Enterprises gained the administration’s approval in spring 2011 and opened its first business, The Rig, in September.

According to Paula Wolper, Oiler Enterprises director, the entrepreneurial program gives students opportunities to gain real-world experiences running businesses while also adding more options for students to work on campus in a

full range of positions.

Wolper says that many schools, such as Harvard, Princeton and Cornell, have operated student-run business programs.

These businesses, such as laundry services, software design and others, coincide directly with what students are learning in the classroom and offer an abundance of career benefits.

“The student managers of Oiler Enterprises businesses make all of



*Shoayb Bascal hands a take-out order to Vinh Hang while Brandon Moran, a manager at The Rig, observes.*

the decisions regarding when to open, who to hire, what to buy and how the business will proceed,” said

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# New Study Abroad Options Available to English Equestrian Students

The University, through two new initiatives, will offer English equestrian students several opportunities to study abroad with top-level trainers and riders in the industry.

UF recently established a new study abroad program, Passport to International Equestrian Studies, and signed a memorandum of understanding with the Aachen School of Course Design (ASCD) in Germany.

Findlay's Passport to International Equestrian Studies will send English equestrian students to countries such as Bermuda, Germany and Poland, where they will work with professionals, many of whom are world champions and Olympic medalists.

The agreement with ASCD – separate from the Passport program – will create a two-way partner-

ship that not only allows UF instructors to be guest lecturers in Germany but also will bring ASCD instructors to Findlay for workshops. UF students will be encouraged to participate in the workshops, which range from two to 10 days, both domestically and abroad.

In addition to workshop participation, UF students are encouraged to submit entries in ASCD's thesis competition, which takes place each year. Any equine-focused research project – undergradu-



English equestrian student Laurie Schiele rides Py at the Child Equestrian Complex.

A. Rüsser Lee

ate, graduate or doctoral level – is eligible. Each entry is reviewed, and the three finalists are invited to a ceremony that takes place during the Aachen Grand Prix Week in July. Cash prizes are awarded.

## Lacrosse Team Will Be D-II Next Year

For the first time, a women's lacrosse program recently was established at Findlay.

"As always, we're constantly looking to improve our department," said Steven Rackley, director of athletics. "It benefits us to help comply with Title IX and provide additional opportunities for women's athletics. It gives us another spring spectator sport that I really think people will want to see, and being on the forefront by having a lacrosse team will also be important to our community. This is new here."

Massachusetts native Julia Duffy, head coach of women's lacrosse, says the new-to-campus sport incorporates elements of other games.

"We play with 12 players on the field at a time, 11 field players and a goalie," said Duffy. "Our field is a little bit longer and wider than a football field. We throw and catch

the ball with a crosse, or what most people call a lacrosse stick ... Offense and defense are very similar to basketball. We play man-to-man and zone defenses, and on offense we run plays that, a lot of times, are very similar to basketball plays."

The team has 15 players and is recognized as a club sport on campus. Next year, it will transition to an intercollegiate, Division II program.

Currently, there are three other women's lacrosse teams in the GLIAC.

"Part of the reason I chose to work at the University was because I knew they understood what it was



Jenah Eastep and Emily Dinda practice with the lacrosse team as Coach Julia Duffy provides guidance.

H. Wurm

going to take to start a new program," said Duffy. "It takes a lot of work ... It is going to take a year or two, but I'm hoping that we can get ourselves into the top 20 of Division II lacrosse before my first set of recruits graduates from UF."

By Hannah Wurm

# Singing and Dancing on Campus



Dr. Micheal F. Anders directs the 90-voice Concert-Chorale during its performance of "The Light of Christmas" on Nov. 20.



Circle K hosts a dance marathon on Nov. 19 to raise funds and awareness for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

E. Shaffer

## Students Assist in Economic Development

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"They have done a great job of capturing the community picture and relating it to a specific need, in this case, the need for additional hotel space," said Iriti.

Ward says the Findlay-Hancock County Alliance serves as a valuable resource for the University to provide students with opportunities for experiential learning in business and other fields.

"We continue to work with Findlay-Hancock County Alliance on a number of projects. The op-

portunities have spread to other areas like biology and physics where (professors in those departments) understand the relevance of The University of Findlay as a resource to the community ...," said Ward. "The business area can conduct the marketing research or provide financial projections, but testing materials or other tasks that need to be done are a good fit for the sciences."

Both Iriti and Ward stressed the mutually beneficial professional relationship between The University of Findlay and the Findlay community.

"Partnering with UF students is beneficial to businesses because creating reports of this nature is very time consuming and costly. Businesses would have to contract with someone," said Iriti. "UF students have the ability to work with a client from the private sector, learn how a project of this kind comes together and can turn this work in for class credit. There is no better kind of learning than experiential learning."

*By Hannah Wurm*

## Oiler Enterprises Encourages Entrepreneurs

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Wolper. "These are experiences that cannot be duplicated in most job experiences."

But the process of planning and starting a business will give students more than just a boost to their résumés.

"Having been a manager or developer of any student-run business will truly give them the opportunity to experience the joys and challenges of starting or managing a business," says Wolper.

Hospitality management students involved with The Rig, a casual-themed restaurant, have already experienced these joys and challenges. On a daily basis, the students manage employees, make purchasing decisions, supervise, market and evaluate their success.

Though the first business opened was a restaurant, Oiler Enterprises is open to any business idea from students of all majors.

The board of Oiler Enterprises hopes to have another business

started within one year. Wolper encourages students to start thinking about possible businesses that can meet student needs or the needs of the community at large.

"We expect that Oiler Enterprises businesses will increase the services available to students on campus," says Wolper.

Students interested in learning more about starting a business may contact Paula Wolper at [pwolper@findlay.edu](mailto:pwolper@findlay.edu) or (419) 434-4625.

*By Katie Baumgart*

# Master of Athletic Training Program Receives 10-Year Approval from CAATE

The University of Findlay's master of athletic training program recently received a 10-year continuation of accreditation approval from the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).

Graduates of an accredited program are permitted to sit for the Board of Certification Inc. (BOC) exam. Passage of the exam is required to become a certified athletic trainer (ATC), a requirement in most states to practice as an athletic trainer.

"UF does a great job of preparing athletic trainers for successful future practice by balancing a solid theoretical framework with extensive clinical experiences," said Sue Stevens, director of the athletic

training program. "Students who graduate have not only the knowledge but also have experience applying that knowledge in a variety of clinical experiences needed to be successful as an athletic trainer."

CAATE will review the University's program again in 2021.

The American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM), and the National Athletic Trainers'



UF students get hands-on training working with student-athletes on campus.

A. Risser Lee

Association Inc. (NATA), cooperate to sponsor the CAATE and to collaboratively develop the Standards for Entry-Level Athletic Training Educational Programs.

## Walters-Powell Earns Phi Alpha Award

The national social work honor society, Phi Alpha, recently awarded Robin Walters-Powell, assistant professor and chair of the social work program, the Phi Alpha Outstanding Advisor of the Year Award for her dedication and service.

Members of UF's Eta Theta Chapter of Phi Alpha submitted an application for this award. Walters-Powell is the first adviser of the year recognized by Phi Alpha.

"I feel very honored to receive this award," says Walters-Powell. "I appreciate that my students took the time to nominate me for this, as I am sure that there are many other deserving advisers across the U.S."

Phi Alpha recognizes outstanding social work students and provides philanthropic service to others. UF's chapter is focusing its efforts toward helping the Lupus Foundation of Northwest Ohio this year.

"It is a nice way to bridge the program to the University and the greater community," says Walters-Powell. "My role as adviser is to support students in their efforts and provide the resources they need to complete their service roles."

But members of the Eta Theta Chapter of Phi Alpha at UF feel that Walters-Powell goes above and beyond in her role as adviser.

Their application highlighted her eagerness to encourage her chapter

to be active in community service. Students said they view her as a role model in the field of social work.

"I am very dedicated to making the most of the students' experiences here at UF and am happy to have the opportunity to be able to advise an honor society and clubs here on campus, such as this."

By Katie Baumgart



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