

UF Further Strengthens Academic and Student Programs

The University of Findlay continues to expand and further strengthen academic and student programs. The number of full-time faculty has increased 25 percent in the last five years. The academic profile of entering freshmen classes is higher each year.

Enrollment in science-based programs continues to increase. The first doctor of pharmacy degrees were awarded at the commencement on May 1. The first doctor of physical therapy degrees will be awarded next year.

The budget for the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, is projected to be balanced.

Capital improvement projects in progress or planned for the summer amount to \$4.5 million.

The English and western equestrian teams competed for national championships during the first week of May. The western team is the 2009 national champion.

The above information and actions were part of a meeting of The University of Findlay Board of Trustees on April 29 and 30. Thirty-six regular trustees and four special trustees attended the meeting. Dr. Katherine Fell, president-elect, attended the meeting as an observer.

“We had a good meeting,” said Dr. C. Richard Beckett, chairman

of the board. “Trustees are pleased with the progress and direction of the University. We are systematically strengthening the academic, teaching and student programs, while improving finances. The University is adding exciting new educational features which will serve well long into the future.”



Dr. C. Richard Beckett

Large Class Graduates May 1 from Findlay

More than 850 students graduated from The University of Findlay during spring commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 1.

More than 340 graduate degrees were awarded, including 49 doctor of pharmacy degrees. These were the first graduates of the College of Pharmacy, which was established in 2004. A hooding ceremony for pharmacy graduating students was held earlier in the day.

“I was excited to be the first doctor of pharmacy graduate from UF. This is a huge milestone not only for me, but also for the University and the pharmacy program at UF,” said Allison Alexander, the

first to walk across the stage at commencement. “... I am glad to be a part of such a great achievement.”

Brigadier General Patrick Finnegan, dean of Academic Board at West Point and president-elect at Longwood University, delivered the commencement address. He reminded graduates to honor and thank those who have supported them, and he encouraged them to remember to do things for others to help build “a better, more caring world.” He issued a challenge to graduates, saying, “If those who have had the opportunity to receive a quality education do not dedicate

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A. Risser Lee

Pharmacy Students Experience Real-Life Scenarios in Assessment

Recently, fifth-year pharmacy students completed the OSCE, an Objective Structured Clinical Examination, to help them prepare for their clinical rotations.

According to Laura Perry, Pharm.D., assistant professor of pharmacy practice, OSCEs are used by medical schools to assess a student's ability to think critically and to solve problems quickly. "Performance tests are the best method to evaluate problem-based learning, the basis for the course associated with this exam," she said.

Goals of this type of assessment include improving communication skills and clinical decision making.

Students complete five 20-minute stations, which are staffed by "actors" who role-play as patients and other health care providers. UF uses community members, faculty and staff members and family members of faculty as actors in the scenarios.

One station involves the student counseling a patient on a new medication. Another requires the student to complete an over-the-counter medication consultation. The student must get background information and a list of other medications the patient is taking and counsel on the spot.

A third station involves patient care consultations. Pharmacists are increasingly working in physicians' offices to help patients with chronic illnesses such as diabetes. In the OSCE scenario, the student has a medical chart and assesses the patient using the chart and through conversation with the patient. The student must write recommendations to the physician to improve the patient's medication regimen.

The final two stations involve phone calls to faculty members who role-play as a physician and a health care provider. The student must review a hospital drug order

and identify various problems with the order. After determining a plan of action, the student must call the physician and suggest a different recommendation than what was originally ordered. The student also must receive a phone call from a second health care provider with a question about a drug side effect or drug use and respond back with a follow-up phone call.

Students are assessed not only on their knowledge of the material but also on their ability to evaluate a situation, utilize resources that are available to them and communicate effectively with patients who may be hearing impaired, legally blind or of a different ethnicity than the student.

"The exam helps students understand the importance of added value to the profession," said Perry. "We try to help them understand the value a pharmacist can add in each situation."

Employees Recognized for Service to UF

The University hosted its annual employee recognition dinner April 23, recognizing many employees for their years of service to the University.

Shiv K. Gupta was honored for having completed 40 years of service. Anne Albert, Penny L. Gerde-man, Mary K. Huber and Richard A. Smith were honored for having completed 30 years of service.

Those honored for 25 years of service include:

- Paula R. Babcock
- Stephen F. Brown
- Judith M. Cook
- Craig E. Gunnett
- Terri J. LaRocco
- Elaine M. Markon
- Judith McCrory

- Carole L. Spurgeon

Those honored for 20 years of service include:

- Carla L. Dee
- Natalie Fittro
- David E. Foster
- Tony G. Goedde
- Robin R. Koehler
- Mairi B. Meredith
- Lora Rettig
- Barbara J. VanDermark

Those honored for 15 years of service include:

- Cynthia A. Fry
- Gregory F. Hass
- Elizabeth Raker



Dr. DeBow Freed presents a gift to Shiv Gupta, who was honored for having completed 40 years of service to UF.

- Jackie Stephenson

An additional 23 people were recognized for having given 10 years of service.

Commencement Activities on Campus



Faculty and staff members Dr. Rahman Dyer, Dee Dee Spraw and Jodi Young pause for a quick photo during Dr. and Mrs. Freed's reception for students and their families.



Allison Alexander receives a doctoral hood from Dr. Patrick Malone and Dr. John Stanovich during the College of Pharmacy's doctoral hooding ceremony prior to commencement ceremonies.



A graduate, heels in hand, waits for the processional to begin.



Beth Stewart congratulates Audra Dundore before the ceremony.



Theresa Schroeder smiles as she accepts a congratulatory handshake from Dr. DeBow Freed.



Ryan Radebaugh, who earned a master's degree in TESOL and bilingual education, and Dr. Jennifer Fennema-Bloom celebrate his achievement following the Arch Ceremony.

Freed Honored for Seven Years' Service

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themselves in some way to serving others, who will?"

Following the address, Dr. DeBow Freed, the 16th president of The University of Findlay, was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters for his seven years' service to the institution.

Dr. C. Richard Beckett, chair of the board of trustees, recognized him for his devotion to students and the institution, noting, "He has led the University to fiscal strength and administrative stability."

The University's traditional Arch Ceremony immediately followed commencement at the Griffith Memorial Arch in front of Old Main.



Dr. DeBow Freed, center, receives an honorary doctor of humane letters in honor of his seven years' service to UF.

A. Risser Lee

Findlay Recognized as a Promise Place for Youth by America's Promise Alliance

The University of Findlay recently was recognized as a Promise Place with America's Promise Alliance. The Promise Place designation identifies the University as an organization that provides five developmental resources, as identified by America's Promise Alliance, that young people need for success in life.

The five resources, or promises, include caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, an effective education and opportunities to help others.

According to the America's Promise website, youth who receive four of the five promises are twice as likely to get A's, twice as likely to avoid violence and 40 percent more likely to volunteer than youth who do not.

The University of Findlay delivers on the five promises in a variety of ways. Students often develop

strong relationships with faculty members both in and out of the classroom. While in the classroom, students find challenging learning environments, and out of the classroom, faculty members have an open-door policy.

The Findlay campus is a safe place for students, as demonstrated by a low crime rate on and around campus. The University provides emotional support through the Counseling Center, Campus Ministry and the Student Office of Advocacy and Retention. A physically healthy environment is promoted through intramural sports, a student cardio center and balanced meal options in campus dining facilities.

Opportunities for students to help others begin with the freshman year of college. Each first-year student completes a three-hour

service project, coordinated by UF's Campus Compact, in the community during orientation weekend. Following that experience, students have opportunities to help as tutors in the Academic Support Center, volunteer in the community and serve as leaders in campus organizations.

The University joins other non-profit agencies in the community with this distinction, including Hancock County Help Me Grow, Hancock County ADAMHS Board, Findlay Area Youth for Christ, Camp Fire USA Northwest Ohio Council, Findlay City Schools, the Alternative Opportunity Center/Hancock County Educational Service Center, and the Findlay/Hancock County Community Foundation.

FYI is published by the Office of Public Information. Send story ideas to Brianna Patterson, public relations officer, at pattersonb@findlay.edu or call 419-434-4345.

If you know someone who has done something "worth noting," on campus or within the community, send the information to pattersonb@findlay.edu.