

Editor's Note: The "Unplugged" series will be a regular feature spotlighting exceptional professors on campus.



Photo: David Steinhilber
Professor Thomas Gallant assists students after his "Cops and Robbers" class.

PROFESSOR Unplugged: Prof. Thomas Gallant

□ Gallant is a professor "ahead of his time."

Jeremy Rotigen

The Gator Times staff

Using overhead projectors and chalk dust are ancient history, at least to some teachers. The warm embrace of technology by one professor has introduced students to a new way of learning both in and out of the classroom.

Dr. Thomas W. Gallant has been a professor of Mediterranean history at the University of Florida since 1984. He has won the John Mottie Award for undergraduate teaching and had an essay published in The American Historical Review. The review, according to Gallant, is to historians what the Medical Journal is to health profession-

Part of Gallant's success in teaching courses from the integration of a multimedia CD-ROM that fortifies the material in class, and education has yet to be seen in most other classes.

Gallant is involved with the production of the multimedia software, which includes vital class material. It includes PowerPoint presentations, worksheets for discussion sections, study guides, along with pictures from class to help students, Gallant said.

The CD reformatted and went beyond what we went over in class and put students in an advantage because we were learning about yesterday using the technology of today, said Bessan Amman, a former student in one of Gallant's European history classes.

A famous class taught by Gallant is "Cops & Robbers" (EHN 4617), a study of crime, criminal justice and policing in Europe from around 1700-1900.

Mike Korn, a student currently enrolled in the course noted Gallant's enthusiasm about the subject.

He makes it fun and interesting," he said. When asked about the multimedia aspect

See GALLANT on PAGE 2

GALLANT from page 1

of the course, students responded with positive remarks.

The CD-ROM makes the class easier to prepare for," Korn said. Other classes taught by Gallant include Ancient Greece (EHN 3401), History of Europe from 1764-1848 (EHN 3204), Modern Balkans (EHN 4332) and Modern Greece (EHN 4405).

He is currently researching and writing the first of a trilogy on crime and punishment in Europe. The National Science and the H. F. Guggenheim foundations are funding the research.

Gallant received his doctorate from Cambridge University in England. He then continued work in a post-doctorate program until his arrival at UF in 1984.

"It was an honor to attend such a prestigious school," Gallant said of his experience at

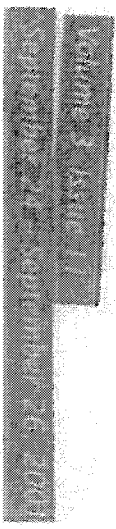
Cambridge. "I continued to study there in a post-doctorate program until Margaret Thatcher cut many programs, one of which was mine."

Published works by Gallant include "Modern Greece" and an article in The American Historical Review called "Honor, Masculinity and Ritual Knife Fighting in Nineteenth-Century Greece."

In his free time, Gallant enjoys training at the Gainesville Dojo and cooking with Asian styles.

Do you know of an exceptional professor that you would like to see featured? E-mail news@gatortimes.com with a nomination.

JEREMY ROTIGEN
news@gatortimes.com



Hispanic Heritage month in full swing

□ Fashion shows, talent shows, parties and educational programs are all rolled into one for Hispanic Heritage Month.

Jeremy Rottgen

The Gator Times staff

Hispanic Heritage Month gives all students and members of the community the opportunity to engage in and learn about Hispanic customs and traditions.

Sept. 15 marked the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month, with events taking place from Sept. 18 to Oct. 25.

The title for this year's Hispanic Heritage Month is "Latin Soul," and the motto is "Nuestras Presencia (Our Presence)."

The Hispanic Student Association has been putting together the events since early last summer. Elizabeth García, president of the

Hispanic Student Association, would like to promote the enlightening aspect of Hispanic Heritage Month so crucial to its existence.

"This gives Hispanic students and members of the community the chance to participate in traditional activities, and non-Hispanics enjoy it too," Carolina García Gonzalez said. González spoke about her life during the opening ceremony on Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. in the Reitz Union auditorium. González was born in Havana, Cuba, and immigrated with her family to the United States. She now lives in South Beach and writes mystery novels.

Stina Schoneck, public relations director of the Hispanic Student Association, encourages students to take advantage of the scheduled events.

"Hispanic Heritage Month is not just for Hispanic students," Schoneck said. "It's a great way to educate the student body and community."

The IDEAL Communication workshop in the Reitz Union and "Cultura," a convention fea-

turing multi-cultural exhibits, will be on Sept. 27.

Gator Nights will also be involved with Hispanic Heritage Month by having Comedy Night on Friday, Oct. 5 and will be showing "Before the Night Falls" in the Reitz Union Theatre from Sept. 26 to Oct. 1. On campus, "Stand and Deliver" will be shown throughout October on WUFT television.

"It's a really good opportunity because it provides education and entertainment for the community, students, faculty and staff," said James E. Scott, the vice president for the Division of Student Affairs. "In a large part, a university provides the opportunity to learn about different cultures and people of different backgrounds and experiences."

The Hispanic Student Association will be holding a Mr. and Miss Hispanic Student Association pageant in the Reitz Union's Rion Ballroom on Oct. 7 at 6 p.m.

For more information, go to the Hispanic Student Association's website: <http://goe.mfl.edu/~hsau>.

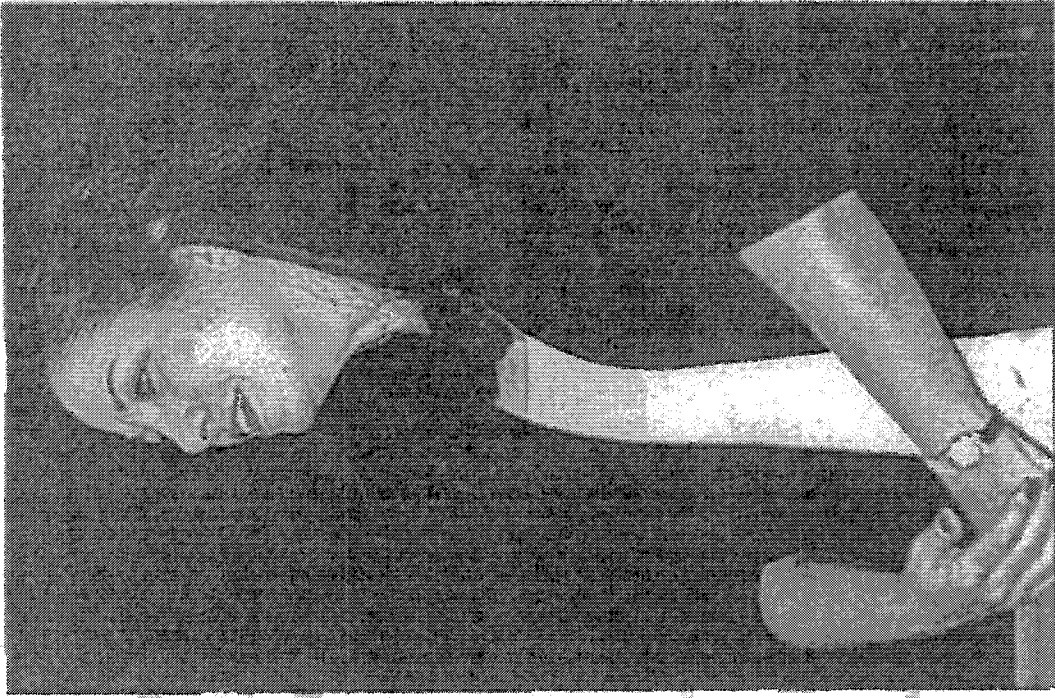


Photo: William C. Turner
Guest speaker and author Carolina García Gonzalez spoke last Tuesday night in the Reitz Union Theatre for the opening ceremony of Hispanic Heritage Month 2001.

HEALTH

Hearing loss growing

□ *The University of Florida Student Health Care Center offers hearing screenings.*

By **Jeremy Rottgen**

The Gator Times staff

Musicians and concertgoers may have never heard of International Noise Awareness Day on April 24, but making them aware may decide if they can hear anything at all in the future.

Many performances of high-powered amplifiers and screaming guitars take their toll on the ears of the performer as well as the audience. Local bars, including Eddie C's Rock n' Roll Lounge, have live bands playing three to five nights per week. Patrons and employees of similar establishments pay a price for being there.

"A lot of the waitresses here wear ear plugs, but I don't because I think they're too obstructive when receiving orders," said Misty Stace, an Eddie C's waitress.

Stace said she feels working in that environment is damaging to her ears. Yet, she chooses not to wear earplugs despite the obvious effects her job has on her hearing.

"When I go to sleep at night my ears ring a lot," Stace said. "I've just accepted the fact that hearing loss is inevitable."

While employees of concert venues are at risk, they do not take as much abuse as musicians do, who usually stand directly in front of amplifiers and monitors.

Rolling Buck 7, a local Gainesville band, performs a loud and heavy style of music. They perform and practice at least 10 times per month.

Guitarist Dan Nadonly is a proponent of wearing earplugs because of horror stories he said he heard about other rock musicians.

"I definitely advocate wearing earplugs," Nadonly said. "I've heard stories about Metallica's James Hetfield having to turn on the television at night just to go to sleep because of the ringing in his ears."

Patricia B. Kricos, an audiology professor at the University of Florida, has been practicing for 29 years in addition to teaching a class on adult audiologic rehabilitation.

"Whether it's a soldier in the military, a student at a Busta Rhymes concert or me with a jackhammer, proper protection should be used," Kricos said.

Earplugs are generally regarded as the best protection available. Conventional earplugs are satisfactory for people attending concerts as long as they are secured tightly in the ear.

For stage performances, an ear mold would best decrease ear-damaging noise.

Ear molds, which are more expensive than conventional earplugs, are specially made to fit the ear and filter out dangerous sounds while still allowing a musician to hear what is happening.

"Cotton balls do not attenuate sound," Kricos said. "It is the same as running water through one, it just goes right through it."

The standard set by the Occupational Safety and Health Association for work related noise is 90 decibels for eight hours, which is the equivalent to a running table saw.

Hearing damaged through years of exposure to high noise levels cannot be repaired with current medical technology despite claims that homemade remedies exist.

"Hairs in the ear get bent over and broken from loud noise and there is no way to regenerate or fix them," Kricos said.

One night at a loud concert may destroy about 30 of these delicate hairs, but when that number reaches into the thousands, severe

hearing problems can occur.

Different conditions associated with hearing loss have been identified, but there is little research in the cure of these ailments. The most frequent symptom is tinnitus, or a perceived ringing in the ears.

Alcohol, recreational drugs, nicotine and caffeine can aggravate tinnitus. Exercise, eating healthy foods, resting the head at an elevated level and going to a hearing specialist helps to avoid congestion.

"If you go to a concert one night and wake up the next morning with your ears still ringing, [then] you should be concerned," Kricos said. "If they are still ringing later that night, you should contact an ear specialist."

If any students feel they may have an advanced condition of tinnitus or a similar hearing ailment, they can get a hearing test in the Student Health Care Center's special clinic for \$15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"We have come a long way in the past 15 years or so, but we still have a long way to go," Kricos said.

Kathy Peck, executive director and co-founder of Hearing Education and Awareness for Rockers, was the bass player for the San Francisco punk band The Contractions before almost losing her hearing after a concert at the Oakland Coliseum.

Peck, along with Dr. Flash Gordon, established the HEAR headquarters in San Francisco in 1988. Since the organization's founding, many popular musicians, including Primus' Les Claypool and Pete Townshend of The Who have supported the group's efforts.

Products available for hearing protection can be found at most music stores, musician based catalogues, local pharmacies and local music stores.

JEREMY ROTTGEN

news@gatortimes.com

Students heard at SG elections

□ Fusion and Voice parties campaign for office in the Fall 2001 Student Senate election.

Jeremy Rottgen

The Gator Times staff

On Oct. 23 and 24, University of Florida students will cast their votes during the Fall 2001 Student Senate election.

Both the Fusion and Voice parties will campaign around Burlington Plaza and the Reitz Union prior to the election. The Fusion Party has been around since last spring while the Voice Party is new to UF this fall.

Fusion Party Chair Michelle Rosenthal stated the platforms and objectives for the Fusion Party.

"Our goals are to extend hours for the Southwest Recreational Center, improve academic policy, increase safety measures and listen to student's concerns," Rosenthal said.

In regards to academic policy, the Fusion Party intends to extend the drop/add period and change the policy on grade forgiveness.

Chair of the Executive Committee on Academic Policy is William McAllister. Fusion's goal is to give the students at UF more freedoms.

"Students are not granted enough freedom for their education at UF," McAllister said. "In contrast to other schools in the nation, UF has the shortest drop/add period and the hardest grade forgiveness policy."

The Fusion Party also hopes the city will annex a section of Alachua County to the City of Gainesville, which would extend the city limits to the 15,000 students who live there.

Natalie Hanan is the Student Government lobby director, and is in favor of the biggest annexation in Gainesville history.

"The annexation would protect long term bus routes, enable participation in city elections, lower utility bills and lower towing costs from \$90 to \$73," Hanan said.

The Voice Party places emphasis on students and encourages participation in Student Government. Its motto is "the silent majority speaks." Voice is running 26 candidates for Senate.

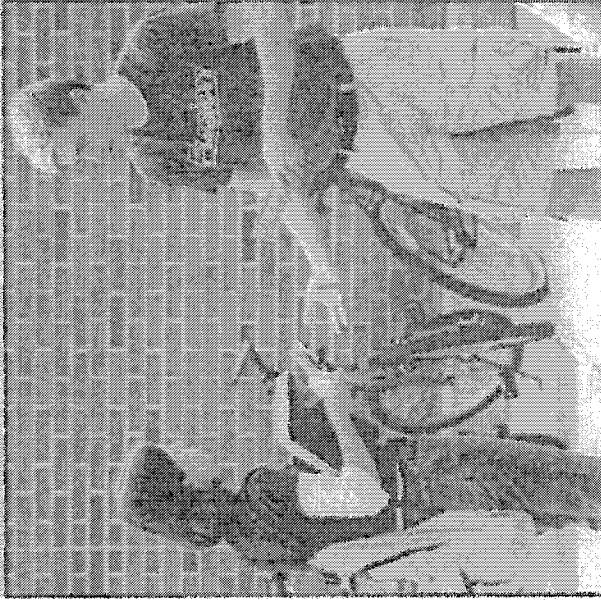
Voice's objectives are to make text

See ELECTION on PAGE 2



Photos: William C. Barrer

Voice Party representative Jose Lema (above) and Fusion Party Senator John Bailey (left) promote their respective parties' platforms around camp around on Friday afternoon.



Volume 15 Issue 19

October 27 - October 24, 2001

ELECTION

from page 1

books tax free to students, increase the satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade leniency, revise the organizational bill of rights, establish advisory councils, improve transportation and promote the annexation.

Advisory councils would serve as town-hall type settings where students could voice their opinions and reach out to international, freshmen and graduate students.

Voice Campaign Manager James Argento said, "The Voice Party is committed to improving the life of the student body on and off campus."

Voice Party Chair Ken Kerns is concerned about students' feelings and involvement with student government.

∴ "All students should get involved with the councils to, in turn, get involved with student government," Kerns said. "The 35,000 students who don't vote just don't realize how much student government affects them."

∴ The Voice Party also places an emphasis on student organizations. Kerns was part of the Board of College Council, which funds student organizations.

∴ "Everyone is fighting for nickels and dimes," said Kerns, who wishes to see more money go to all of the student organizations, not just certain ones.

∴ Students can make their voices heard by voting on Oct. 23 and 24. Polling locations are based on living area.

JEREMY ROTTGEN

news@gatortimes.com

CITY

34th Street wall gets a reprieve

□ A newly proposed ban on graffiti excludes the 34th Street wall.

By Jeremy Redgen
The Gainesville Times staff

Gainesville will soon make property owners responsible for removing graffiti on their property, excluding the 34th Street wall in the proposed ordinance.

An ordinance being prepared by the city will likely ban graffiti, making property owners responsible for its removal.

Commissioners say the ordinance is necessary to ensure the continued beautification of the city, but will not inhibit the use of the wall. The wall is owned by the Florida Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Warren Naiszen said the wall will not be included because of the tradition it has become for the university and city alike.

"It seems it has been adopted as a tradition for most of the community," he said. "We are trying to critique the ordinance to make it more clearly state its intended purpose and allow the community to continue to enjoy the wall."

Student Body President Marc Adler greatly supports the saving of the wall and relishes in its availability to students and city residents as a public forum.

"I think the wall is a valid place for students and the community to express themselves in an artistic fashion," Adler said.

Student Government is planning on sponsoring the wall since it is a part of tradition at UF and to make sure that it

WALL on page 5

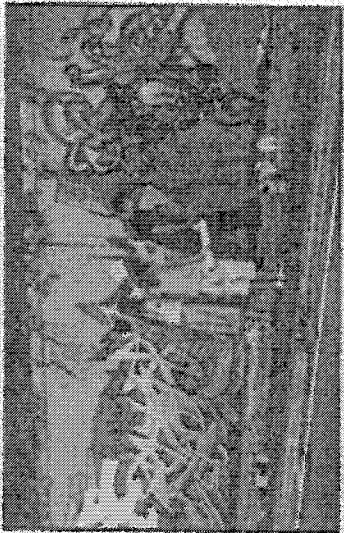


Photo: Jason Bruveman
A new ordinance requires property owners to remove graffiti from their property at their expense. The 34th Street wall is the only area excluded from this because of its well-known tradition.

WALL

Continued from page 1

continues to be so.

Student Lobby Director Natalie Haron said SG will help with the policies being drawn up by commissioners.

"The compromise between SG and the city will involve SG sponsorship of the 34th Street wall, education campaigns concerning safety and respect while painting the wall and other agreements between SG and the city," she said. "I am certain that as these discussions progress and a compromise is

reached that the students will be happy with the results."

Other recommendations, including the installation of a chain-link fence and a set time where painting would be allowed, are still in consideration.

UF student Hunter Beiderman said the wall is important to UF and Gainesville.

"The 34th Street wall serves as an outlet for many and a source of inspiration for others. Personally, I am a mural artist who uses the wall," Beiderman said. "Whatever the motivation, the wall is enjoyed by countless individuals throughout

our community."
Some new rules may apply to make the area better suited for wall painters and the community as a whole.

Possible changes include more lighting, parking in appropriate areas and an improved sidewalk. More musicians could be installed due to citizen complaints concerning the significant amount of trash found on-site.

FDOF could not be reached for comment.

JEREMYSCOTT@GAINESVILLETIMES.COM

news@gatorlink.com

FEATURE

The Later Gator is a helpful option

□ Late night bus service reduces worry.

By Jeremy Rottgen

The Gator Times staff

For students at the University of Florida, there is an easy and free alternative to drinking and driving.

If you drink, then let the Later Gator do the driving.

Rides on the Later Gator bus service truly are a unique experience. Pat Conness, a freshman in the Warrington College of Business Administration, said

"It's a peaceful and crazy experience and you meet all kinds of people. We love it," said Conness while boarding a Later Gator bus with roommate Nick La Rossa.

At 2 a.m., when the pubs and clubs of the Gainesville close, the Later Gator is alive with passengers, as people are loud and boisterous from the effects of alcohol.

"Most of our riders like it, and I like it too, because you hear a lot of stories and it's fun," said Later Gator bus driver John Randy.

Randy has been driving the Later Gator Bus route since the Fall semester of 2000. Despite the antics of some of the passengers, he enjoys both the atmosphere and people who ride.

"You put up with things that you wouldn't tolerate on a normal bus route. We do everything we possibly can to accommodate within reason," he said.

While riding the Later Gator beats walking,



Photo: William C. Tarver

University of Florida students hitch a ride with the Later Gator from downtown to campus on Friday night. The Later Gator bus program offers free rides to University of Florida students all across town from Thursday night through Saturday night.

using the bus service is an even better alternative to driving after drinking too much, especially with regard to avoiding potential car accidents.

"You see fender benders or worse every night because some people drive crazy at this time of night," Randy said.

Student Government sponsors later Gator and those whom supported getting funds to the RTS service praise its intent.

Student Lobby Director Natalie Hanan said the Later Gator program is a positive asset to Gainesville and the university.

"Later Gator is an excellent service for students to use after going out in Gainesville, Hanan said. "The service will continue at UF, so students can still have a good time and stay safe."

The Later Gator service not only benefits students who lack their own mode of transportation, but to students in search of that special someone.

"It's a great place to meet girls," said UF student Greg Patronik.

Best of all, the service is free to UF students with a Gator 1 card, the identification system of UF. To students who forgot their Gator 1 card, or to any others wanting to ride the Later Gator busses, the ride only costs \$1.

All routes end up at the Regional Transit System hub in downtown Gainesville, located conveniently next to the Downtown Plaza. The drop-off point is within walking distance to the majority of clubs and establishments.

While Later Gator busses provide convenient downtown access to students who live further away from campus, there still are some areas that do not receive the late night service. Later Gator bus service consists of three bus routes: Route A services the downtown area, Route B goes to Lexington Crossing, 3700 SW 27th St., and Route C takes riders as far as the Oaks Mall.

Later Gator A comes around every 10 minutes to the UF campus. Later Gator B goes to southwest Gainesville every 15 minutes and Later Gator C provides transportation to the Oaks Mall, by way of SW 20th and SW 62nd Avenue, approximately every 20 minutes.

"It's a good thing, but there should be more service to areas like Newberry Road and they should install beer tubs on each bus," said Later Gator passenger Shawn Wolowicz.

The new RTS service schedule can be found on RTS buses and at the J. Wayne Reitz Union information desk.

JEREMYROTTGEN
news@gatortimes.com