

Research Matters

A Monthly Publication of RAE

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Notes from Beneath the Blue Awning

Whew!

It's been quite the end to the Spring term and 2022-23 academic year!

It was great seeing so many of you at various events celebrating UWF accomplishments and the graduation of our 100th Commencement ceremony. Amongst all of those events, UWF joined the American Security Project on April 24, 2023 to host a stop of the National Climate Security Tour in which a panel of experts discussed how climate resilience efforts throughout Northwest Florida affect military readiness and community preparedness.



I am indebted to the expert and informative views shared by UWF professors **Dr. Brian Crisher** and **Dr. Haris Alibašić**; director of the UWF Aylstock, Witkin, Kreis & Overholtz Center for Leadership **Capt. Tim Kinsella**, U.S. Navy (Ret.); and UWF alumna Laurie Murphy, president of the Stormwater Training Center, who all joined regional and national experts to discuss a timely and important issue in front of dozens of regional community members and leaders. If you were not able to join us at the Museum of Commerce, you can read a full review of this event and watch a recording of the panel discussion and Q&A at the ASP **Event Recap**.

RAE is seeing some comings and goings that I wanted to share with you:

- **Donna Frazee** is retiring from RAE. Over the past 19-plus years, Donna has been instrumental in tracking and reporting financial administration of innumerable grants and contracts, as well as the University's sponsored research expenditures. We are thankful for her service and will soon share details on an opportunity to wish her well.
- Our inaugural research integrity coordinator, **Dr. Janny Crespo-Grow**, has accepted an offer to become an export control analyst at another Florida

university. Janny has made a huge impact in a (relatively) short time and leaves the UWF Research Integrity Office in good hands as we search for her replacement.

- It's not all outbound here. I am thrilled to announce that **Ivan Zarate Rosas** joins RAE as a business manager to support financial tracking of grants and contracts. Ivan brings experience from Florida state agencies and other universities, and we are excited to welcome him to fill the role vacated by **Tony Templeton**, who left RAE to join the UWF Controller's Office.

Whether you are staying close to home or traveling abroad*, I hope that the summer provides each of you with the opportunity to delve more deeply into your scholarly, creative, and research activities.

Matt Schwartz
Professor and AVP of Research Administration

* p.s. Remember that Florida regulations require that all employment-related international travel by University faculty and research staff must be reviewed and approved before the travel starts. For more information, check out the **Employee Travel Guidance** page and **International Travel Support Request** desk.

New publications

The Office of Research Administration and Engagement congratulates the following researchers on their new publications:

- Dr. Denice Curtis for her article, "An Assessment of the Impact of Formal and Informal Messages about COVID-19 on the Knowledge and Practices for Prevention and Control among Rural and Urban Communities in Ecuador," in the International Journal of Population Studies.
- Rafael De Sa Lowande and **Dr. Hakki Sevil** for their article, "**Feasibility of Visual Question Answering (VQA) for Post-Disaster Damage Detection Using Aerial Footage**," in Applied Sciences.
- **Dr. Byron Havard**, Dr. Megan Podsiad, and **Dr. Karen Valaitis** for their article "**Peer Assessment Collaboration Evaluation: An Innovative Assessment Tool for Online Learning Environments**," in TechTrends.
- Dr. Haris Alibašić for his article, "**Hyper-engaged Citizenry, Negative Governance and Resilience: Impediments to Sustainable Energy Projects in the United States**," in Energy Research & Social Science.
- Dr. Jacques Perry and Hakki Sevil for their article, "**A Multi-Agent Adaptation of the Rule-based Wumpus World Game**," in the International Journal of Artificial Intelligence and Soft Computing.

If you or your students have a new publication you'd like to see highlighted here, please email Jeffrey Cassady at jcassady@uwf.edu and include the names of the researchers, the name of the article, the journal in which the article appears, and a link to the article or an abstract. Additionally, please identify any authors who are University of West Florida students, faculty members, or staff members.

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