



# LIFETIMES

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October 2019

See the LIFETimes in stunning color: [life.ucf.edu](http://life.ucf.edu)

The LIFETimes is the monthly newsletter for LIFE at UCF members. All/any comments and submissions of interest to our LIFE members are welcome! If you'd like to write once, or have a burning desire for an ongoing column, please contact us!



on board

This month in LIFE on board, we highlight LIFE Vice-President, Jack McGuire.

## Jack McGuire

LIFE Vice-President, Jack McGuire began his UCF "life" in 1972 when the university's name was still Florida

Technical University (FTU). As a new faculty member, Jack helped found the Clinical Psychology Master's program, one of UCF's first graduate programs. After doing so, Jack became nationally known due to research that helped to understand ethical decision making in the clinical profession and the role of confidentiality as a key component of the therapeutic relationship.

Jack was born in New Jersey where at 14, he moved, with his parents, to St. Petersburg, Florida. Upon completion of high school, he attended Eckerd College. Graduate School found Jack heading north to the University of Minnesota and then to the George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, earning a Ph.D in Psychology. Following that, he worked in New Jersey as a Post-doctoral Senior Psychologist at Somerset County Guidance Center.

Jack met his wife, Sharon, at Eckerd College when they both volunteered to assist the Eckerd Counseling Center, administering placement exams for incoming Freshmen....and the rest, as they say, is history.

They have three children; the oldest, Erin, lives in Park Ridge outside of Chicago with his wife and two daughters. He is a trader at the Chicago Board of Trade. Jack and Sharon's middle child is Kelly who lives in Winter Park and is a 3rd grade teacher at Dommerich Elementary in Maitland. She and her husband have two boys and fortunately live five minutes from them. Their youngest is Heather who is a banker and lives in Wellington in South Florida. She and her husband have a boy and girl.

Jack and Sharon took their whole family to Ireland to celebrate their 50th anniversary. (For the whole story, see spotLIFE in the October 2018, LIFETimes, on our website [life.ucf.edu](http://life.ucf.edu).)

Jack and Sharon joined LIFE in 2012 post-retirement after 42 years at UCF. Asked to join the Board immediately as a replacement for someone who had unexpectedly left, Jack has remained on the LIFE board since then and now serves as our Vice-President as well as chair of the Curriculum Committee where he has been instrumental in securing speakers from the UCF community, especially within the College of Sciences, where he worked as an Associate Dean for 12 years.

When not serving the needs of LIFE, Jack and Sharon go to their vacation home in North Carolina where they enjoy a plethora of outdoor activities.



It is VERY IMPORTANT to take 2 minutes to fill out the evaluation form that is sent to members at the end of each Tuesday session!

The Curriculum committee actively uses the evaluation data to help select future speakers, especially those we want to have present to LIFE again. They have worked hard to put together a great Fall program and are now working on the Spring 2020 schedule. Your help and feedback is greatly appreciated.

Look elsewhere in this month's newsletter for more information and a breakdown of our weekly sessions!

# COSNEWS

## Professor Emeritus Takes To The Skies For 80th Birthday

Posted: August 29th, 2019 · Filled under: Faculty News, Psychology, Top News, UCF News ·



A former chair of the Department of Psychology and expert in gerontology took to the skies Wednesday to prove his point that age is just a number.

Dick Tucker, Ph.D, celebrated this 70th birthday by tandem skydiving. For his 80th birthday this week, he chose hang gliding.

For about 15 minutes, Tucker circled peacefully above rural Polk County, soaking in the sights and reflecting on a full life. Tucker started in the Department of Psychology at then - Florida Technological University in 1972. Toward the end of his career, he specialized in teaching and researching the effects of aging and related diseases.



A firm belief in the importance of lifelong learning led him to found the Learning Institute For Elders at UCF, or LIFE. The organization taps into the wealth of faculty expertise at UCF for weekly classes. “I count LIFE as one of my greatest achievements,” Tucker said. “I really want seniors to enjoy life for as long as they can and retain that sense of wonder.”

Tucker has also assisted in the development of Legacy Pointe, an active adult community under construction just outside the main campus. The facility provides seniors the ability to gradually choose the level of care they need, from independent living to skilled nursing, while enjoying the benefits of living on the perimeter of a major university.

“There are a lot of stereotypes linked with aging, but there’s so much more to retirement than a rocking chair,” Tucker said.

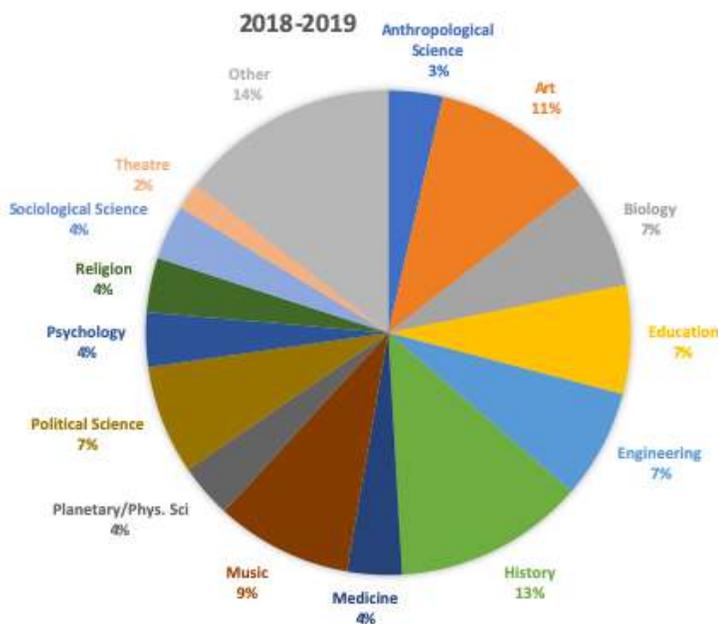
**To see a video of Dick in flight, on your phone, tablet or computer, type; [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com); former professor takes to the skies. It is a wonderful and incredible video! Happy (late) Birthday, Dick!!!!**



# MEETING MINUTES

The Curriculum Committee was very proud of our offerings last year. We offered 66 total programs between Fall 2018, Spring and Summer 2019. The LIFE Partnership Agreement with UCF and LIFE’s Strategic Plan outline the primary mission and goals of the Curriculum Committee. These include 3 primary directives:

- Offer a broad-base, diverse set of programs for the membership
  - Offer at least 50% of the programs utilizing UCF faculty
  - Provide an opportunity for members to evaluate the programs
- The newly established criteria for “Broad & Diverse” is that at least 10 distinct disciplines will be represented each Fall and Spring semester. For each of the Fall and Spring 2018-2019 terms (28 & 27 presentations), programs reflected 12 different disciplines each semester with no discipline represented more than 4 times. During the Summer term 2019, 8 different disciplines were represented across the 11 programs offered. The pie chart depicts the distribution of programs by disciplines for Fall & Spring.



55 programs were presented during the Fall and Spring 2018-2019 terms, 65% [35 presenters] were presented by UCF faculty. LIFE members are given the opportunity to evaluate every presentation using an on-line evaluation tool. The Curriculum Committee calculates two measures from the 5 questions posed on the evaluation tool: 1. Enjoyment Rating; 2. Total Value Rating. The Average “Enjoyment: rating was 78% across the 55 programs. 27 of the 55 programs had Enjoyment ratings at or above 85%. We did have a couple of duds, but all in all the membership seemed to greatly enjoy the programs we presented. Summer sessions were rated even higher with the Average Total Value rating at 89%.

\*Thanks to Student Assistant, Rebecca Underhill, for creating the pie chart.

The meeting was called to order and the May 2019 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved. Executive Director, Leslie Collin, addressed three (3) initiatives:

- (1) establish a Hospitality Committee to greet members and answer questions;
- (2) investigate using Social Media options and
- (3) work with the Membership Committee to streamline/enhance registration processes.

Treasurer, Ann Barretta, reviewed the financial report, showing a surplus. Members donated \$3451.96 that will be applied to Scholarship Reserves and \$11,000 in surplus will be placed in Technology Reserves with the balance in General Reserves.

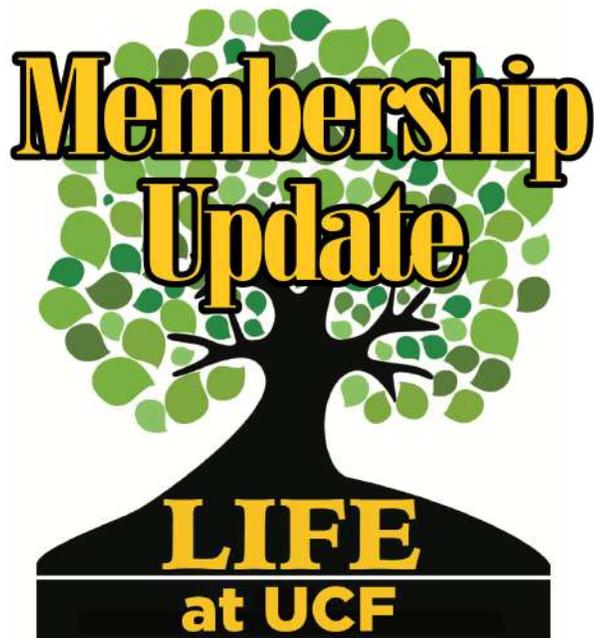
Mike Agor volunteered to chair the Appreciation Awards Committee.

A financial review has been completed and the Finance Committee will review the findings and take appropriate action where necessary.

The new website is up and running; Palm Tree Tech Center donated its time to improve the website. Website training and data management update continue.

New Business - A motion was unanimously approved to form a sub-committee chaired by Leslie Collin and Jack McGuire that would investigate the feasibility of increasing LIFE membership to at least 1000 members by 2021, primarily retaining (but not limited to) the current LIFE at UCF model of weekly lectures at the UCF Student Union or other UCF campus facilities. The Curriculum Committee reviewed its progress against The LIFE Strategic Plan Goal 3 Maintain a High-Quality Lifelong Learning Program for the Membership in accordance with the Partnership Agreement with UCF. Overall, all objectives were being met or exceeded. The topics covered a wide variety of disciplines with about 50% of the sessions presented by UCF faculty. Approximately 23-35% of session attendees provided feedback showing the sessions favorability rating of over 75%. 2 minor changes to the Strategic Plan Goal 3 were approved.

The next LIFE Board meeting is October 7.



**Welcome Back!**

Please take time to introduce yourself to the 165 new LIFE members. Our current membership is 812.

Please verify that your UCF Student ID has not expired.

If you have any questions, please stop by the membership desk or look for a Hospitality Member identified by a badge.

**CHANGE COMING** for next year's renewal process. **We need to complete the renewal process by the end of April to meet UCF guidelines.**

Each year, the Membership Committee sends multiple emails and calls members who have not renewed; this additional effort takes lots of time and substantially lengthens our renewal period until June or July. Next year, we **will** be limiting these extra efforts to contact members who have not renewed. Don't let your membership lapse! Renew as soon as the renewal window opens in February.

**We need your help! Please register by the end of April.**

If you are not receiving at least two emails, each week, one before the session and a review email after, tell a member of the Membership Committee or Hospitality Committee, so we can remedy the situation.

Email is the **ONLY** method we use to contact our members on a regular basis!



Even though Hurricane Dorian pushed back the start of our sessions, we are now off to a wonderful beginning. We are hoping the scheduled speakers will be able to present in the spring!

Our speakers sometime give us new descriptions for their

presentations, or occasionally, there is a room change for our Tuesday morning session. The website and the weekly e-blasts contain the most up-to-date information. I encourage you to check our website often. It will show the most current curriculum schedule.

I want to extend a special welcome to our new Student Assistant, Rebecca Underhill! Rebecca is a junior and is studying Psychology. She grew up here in Oviedo. Rebecca has worked with me all summer and will be a great asset to our organization. She is joined by Sam Davis who returned from an amazing summer where she interned in Singapore and New York City. You will be seeing them at the welcome desk and during the question and answer portion of our program. Please say hello and welcome them to LIFE!

As I listen to the announcements before our classes begin, I can't help but think about the amazing opportunity LIFE members have to be a part of the UCF community. You don't have to just be a Tuesday student! Art, music, theatre and so much more are available to you every day of the week. For UCF events, you can also go to [events.ucf.edu](http://events.ucf.edu) for more information. Take advantage of the additional opportunities your LIFE membership provides! Special thank you to our curriculum committee and membership committee for all their hard work in getting everything ready for our new year! If you are looking to get involved on one of our LIFE committees, come see me after class or during the break or you can email me directly at [Leslie.Collin@ucf.edu](mailto:Leslie.Collin@ucf.edu).



As LIFE students circle surface lots/garages in search of a parking spot, it is easy to ask if UCF parking could be worse. The answer is, “Yes!” Few paved lots existed the first day of classes in 1968. Parking on dirt/sand fields turned mucky in the rain and was home to snakes or other nefarious creatures. Sand also impacted sports as tennis matches were put on hold when sand from adjacent lots blew across courts.

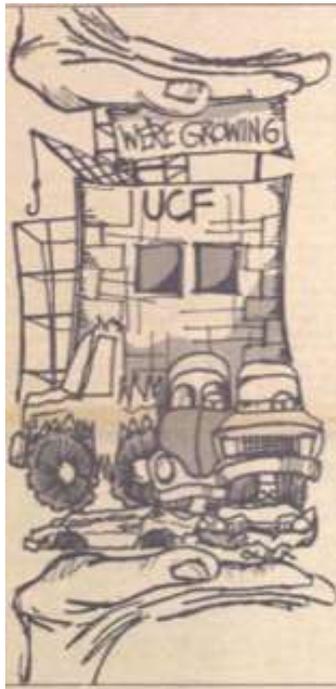
April 11, 1969, five months after opening, UCF’s student newspaper published its first letter to the editor on parking problems. Editorials, cartoons & articles followed, documenting fruitless searches for a parking space and funding difficulties of adding parking. Drivers followed folks to their cars, disappointed when it became obvious the student was only retrieving a book or lunch. A fraternity compared class schedules coordinating departure and arrival times so one brother could meet another just as he vacated a space. Some students turned a negative to a positive by parking far from class as a way to stay fit.

Over the years, student groups took action. In 1972, the *Kappa Sigma* Fraternity held a petition drive asking for more parking. They accompanied President Millican to a Board of Regents meeting and made a presentation. Funding for parking was given to multiple state universities; UCF was not one of them. 1989, *Knights Requesting Ample Parking* (KRAP) planned a “park in” protest. In 1994, the SGA scheduled a fundraising “*Parking Lot Party*” at Lake Claire. 100 kegs of beer,

music, Rosie O’Grady’s *Hot Air Balloon* and a movie, *Flashdance*, were promised. A Central Florida wind and rain storm swept through during set up. With the movie screen blown down and organizers ankle deep in water, the party was canceled.

Dirt/sand parking persisted with the largest lot extending from the north side of the Student Union to Gemini Boulevard. The capacity of this lot was substantial. However, after a Florida rain storm, the lot became a boggy mess causing parkers to need goulashes. There was a failed experiment to cover a small dirt lot with a HUGE mat. The trial lasted less than a month.

The benefit of garages was recognized in 1972. It was 1998 when the first garage opened. More followed, and in 2007 parking availability expanded greatly with development of the UCF Athletics Village and new UCF Arena north of Orion Blvd. Four garages were built around the campus. In 2014 a new garage was built and the C Garage was expanded.



Fast forward to today. UCF has ten garages, a myriad of paved lots, off site (free) parking in the adjacent Research Park. Day parking can be purchased while using an app and another app tells current garage occupancy (see last month’s newsletter for information on the app). There are reserved spaces for expectant mothers. The parking crunch continues necessitating grass/sand parking around the softball field and near the Wayne Densch Center for Student - Athlete Leadership. Hope users have goulashes.



I spit in a tube! Guess you can figure there is a story here...somewhere!

For years, I have enjoyed working on [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) looking for stories of my ancestors. About three years ago I decided to take a DNA test just to see if I was correct in searching Wales for my ancestors; and for fun to see if anyone else on Ancestry might be related to me. The test is very simple....you spit into a tube and mail it. I received my results via email a few weeks later. Wales was a match; I found a few distant relatives.

Two years ago, in March, I received a bombshell email from a 52 year old man, named Mike who was searching for his mother. He had also spit into a tube; his results telling him that I was his cousin. He told me his mom's name was Margaret and asked if I knew her.

I have a cousin named Maggie, 10 years older than me who lives in California. I vaguely remembered a story I had heard when I was a kid....her ex-husband kidnapped her two year old son and she never saw him again. I wasn't even sure if that story was true, so I wondered how to proceed. Maggie, has a younger sister, Merry, whom I decided to call since I didn't want to tell Maggie before I knew the truth and risk getting her hopes up and quite possibly set her up for heartbreak.

YES, the story was true! Merry told Maggie and Maggie called me, ecstatic! She gave me permission to tell Mike

that yes indeed, I knew his mother and to give him her phone number. I was thinking, "Wow, what a happy ending....this would make a great ANCESTRY DNA commercial.".....except he didn't call. Days went by, Maggie texting to see if I knew anything; weeks went by, Maggie no longer texting quite so frequently, months went by, we spoke hardly at all.

And then, three months after I heard from Mike the first time, I heard from him again. He had gotten cold feet and wasn't sure after 50 years if he should follow through. However, by the time I received that email, he had already called his MOM!

For the next few weeks they spoke every evening, for several hours, getting to know each other. And then on October 27, 2018 (my birthday of all days), Mike flew to California from Seattle to meet his mom. They called me to share their happiness and to say thanks.

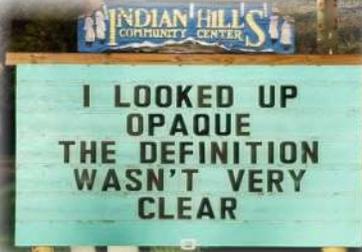
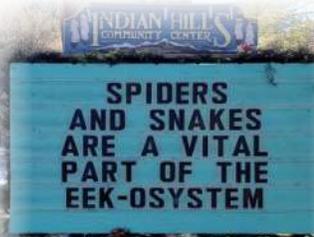
This past May, on Mother's Day, my 75 year old cousin, Maggie, spent the day with her son, her grandson, and her newly born GREAT GRANDSON! A huge understatement to say Maggie's best Mother's Day ever!

They still continue to talk on the phone and are making more plans to spend time together.

My cousin who spent 50 years wondering what had happened to her son so many years ago, is now enjoying her three new roles, all because I spit in a tube!



I got called "pretty" today. Well...the whole statement was, "You're pretty annoying," but I only concentrate on the positive things.



# OUC Solar Farm

Recently, 34 LIFE members were treated to a tour of the OUC Solar Farm on Gardenia in Orlando. Rubin York of the Emerging Tecnologies department led us through a slide presentation of the various solar sites throughout Central Florida. He also answered questions put forth by our members. After the presentation we went outside to see a floating solar field in an adjacent lake. Some of us enjoyed watching the gauge on a panel that went up and down as the clouds skimmed by, sometimes hiding the sun. An enlightening and "energizing" time was experienced by all.



## Did YOU know

LIFE Experiential Learning trips are for MEMBERS only!

It is a benefit of membership.

Often our trips have limited availability.

When guests are brought, a member may be forced to miss the opportunity and/or the guest might have to be asked to leave since capacity has been reached.

## Now YOU know

"At age 20, we worry about what others think of us. At age 40, we don't care what they think of us. At age 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all." Ann Landers (1918-2002)



**UPCOMING**  
for more information on future events go to  
**life.ucf.edu**

### LECTURES

**10/22** Advances in Neonatology & Florida Soup;  
Putting HIStory on the Table

**10/24 SPECIAL! UCF Downtown: Thursday**  
Community Engagement...Building Relationships for  
Social Benefits & Outcomes

**10/29** Catching a Buzz & Playing with Fire:  
Advancing Urban Ecology at the UCF Arboretum &  
Anthropology of the Undead

**11/05** My Heroes from the Holocaust: Honoring Their  
Legacy & IDEAS for Us and Fleet Farming at UCF

**11/12 Veterans Day - Greetings:** You are hereby  
ordered to report for induction into the Armed Forces  
of the United States & StratEx - A Scuba-like system  
for Stratospheric Exploration

**11/19** The Naked & the Dead: Ritual Sacrifice at the  
Dawn of the Maya Civilization & Serenity Garden at  
Wekiva State Park

**11/26** "Are We there Yet?" Human Space Exploration  
& General George C. Marshall, The Forgotten  
American Hero

### EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

To participate in any of the trips, you must go  
on the website and sign up under the  
"Experiential Learning" tab. Trips open for  
registration about 2 weeks before the event.

**Wednesday, October 16:**

Buddhist Temple COST: free, donations accepted

Meeting time: 10:45am.

Location: 6555 Hofner Ave, Orlando

**Coming in November!**

Keep checking the LIFE website for information  
about participation in a community service project  
at the Second Harvest Food Bank!



### The Best of Portugal: From the Age of Discovery to Today

Join fellow members for a memorable trip to  
Portugal next Spring! This is an exclusive learning  
adventure for members of LIFE at UCF from  
May 16 - May 25, 2020.

For more information go to  
[life.ucf.edu](http://life.ucf.edu) and click on the  
"Activities and Events" tab and then the  
"Experiential Learning" tab



We have a history of helping many children enjoy a  
Merry Christmas.

On either date, bring unwrapped toys to the  
LIFE meeting!

**TWO DAYS THIS YEAR!**