from officials of state agencies, others

our staff charged with the responsibility of writing the various regulations that affect you. They don’t know all the aspects of your business.

“I have learned a lot (here) that I didn’t know before. But you people have a responsibility to meet with staff and explain it to them, just the way other industries do.

“It seems to me this can be done through the Florida Golf Council. You certainly have a qualified leader in Bobby Brantley. It sounds like you just have to get behind him with the resources needed to get the job done.”

— Tom Benefield

president, Florida GCSA

with the resources needed to get the job done.”

To make the Council more effective, the board of directors voted unanimously during the summit to establish regional chapters throughout the state.

Those interested in joining the Florida Golf Council, or helping establish regional chapters, should call 904-803-5755 or 407-688-4900.

Nancy Oliver is director of communications of the Florida Golf Council.

Architects course

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development. But I’m confident the students left with a practical understanding of the business.”

The three-credit course — Programming, Financing and Construction of Sports Facilities — drew a cross-section of master’s degree students. The class included two engineers, two history majors, business, mathematics, English and accounting majors.

Pate said their common goal was to manage in sport. Two, in particular, aim to work in management in golf. Others are interested in operating sports facilities or in being athletic directors. George, helping a group of three who decided to tackle course design as their semester project.

“In past years we’ve had groups of three do course projects on clubhouses and amenities,” Pate said. “This year the entire group was interested in golf. I’ve known Lester George for awhile and spoke with him about it. We decided to do something different and unique.”

The “unique” approach led to a class that went from classroom instruction to in-the-field work.

The Royal Virginia Golf Club in Hadensville, Va., a co-design of George and Pulley, was in the growing stage.

The students received topographical maps of the site, routed and designed their own courses, and presented their layouts for class critique.

“A couple of holes I thought were better than Lester’s,” Pate joked.

Pate said starting the lecture series was “a critical decision. We like to give the students a variety. But I’m glad we went ahead with it... It will definitely enhance our program by adding another dimension to the curriculum.”

A teacher by nature, George said he especially enjoyed talking about the career he loves.

He said it helped that “the students were extremely sharp. They knew more than I thought about facility planning. Their questions opened a lot of discussion about other amenities like the clubhouse, lodging and conference facilities.”

George said having an actual golf course site available made the course solid.

Would he like to do it again?

“I’d love it,” he said.