

Pinnacle

FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

SUMMER 2009

MAGAZINE

10,000th
student
graduates

Music students
share talents
with children

Get the 411 on
climate change

Florida Gulf Coast University

10,000th Student Fellowship Award

Florida Gulf Coast University is pleased to recognize

Danielle Lail

As the University's 10,000th graduate.

In recognition, Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation, Inc. is pleased to present

Danielle Lail

With a full-tuition fellowship toward a Public Administration (M.P.A.) degree.

This fellowship includes in-state graduate tuition for 42 credit hours.

The fellowship must be redeemed by fall 2014.

This certificate is non-transferable.



William G. Brinson, Ph.D.
William G. Brinson, Ph.D.
President



FLORIDA
GULF COAST
UNIVERSITY

FGCU stays course in turbulent budget times

Florida Gulf Coast University remains a healthy and growing institution as we prepare to start our 13th academic year.

Although the Florida Legislature reduced funding for state universities for the third time in less than three years, FGCU fared better than early projections. It was an extremely challenging year for legislators and the Governor given the state's unprecedented decline in revenue collections due to the economic crisis.

FGCU felt the impact – deeply. The legislature reduced funds for our operating budget by \$7.3 million, a 15.8 percent cut from last year. Infrastructure was funded at \$5.2 million, rather than the \$7 million we'd requested, and a \$12-million request for a new health sciences building was funded at \$3 million.

Federal stimulus money totaling \$3.5 million and a 15 percent tuition increase, which will generate another \$4 million, will help offset the cuts somewhat, but it does not make us whole and we face the prospect of still more cuts during the 2009-2010 year.

Where does that leave us?

Let me start by saying that we are not in crisis here. We are managing this budget in a way that will continue to allow us to grow in a quality manner.

The impact of budget cuts over the past 2½ years has slowed our growth, causing us to delay introducing some new academic programs, but it hasn't stopped it.

We continue to develop the core academic programs that are characteristic of a comprehensive university. We don't have all of them yet – but we will in time.

On a more positive note, we are not operating under a freshman enrollment freeze for the new year. Last year, we had to limit freshman admissions to our 2007 levels, which meant admitting 1,850 students, but turning away more than 200 who were qualified to enroll. This year, we will welcome 2,025 freshmen. That's progress, although it still leaves us with a waiting list for the fall semester.

To accommodate our growing enrollment, we continue to expand the campus as well. Our new classroom and laboratory facility – Academic Building 7 – should open by the end of the calendar year. Our third parking garage is under construction. Another freshman residence hall will be ready for the start of the school year and we will break ground on a performing arts building this summer.


Our solar power field should be operational by late September or early October, supplying 15 percent to 20 percent of the energy needed to operate the campus.

We will use the health sciences building funding we received this year to continue to plan and design the building, with the expectation the legislature will fund its construction during the next session.

In these challenging budget times, FGCU has risen to the occasion, reducing spending across the University, holding vacant unfilled positions, cutting back on professional development travel, and achieving savings in utility costs, including raising the temperature in our buildings.

We continue to look for additional ways to reduce expenses without sacrificing quality.

All of us – administration, faculty, staff and students – are redoubling our commitment to protecting our core enterprise, that of delivering a high quality affordable education. We're going to have to keep working smart to address the serious budget challenges, but I am confident the dedication and hard work on which FGCU was founded will take us to even brighter days ahead.



Wilson G. Bradshaw, Ph.D.
President
Florida Gulf Coast University



ED CLEMENT



BOB KLEIN

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On the cover:
Danielle Lail is
FGCU's 10,000th
graduate.
Photo by Garth Francis

GARTH FRANCIS



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GARTH FRANCIS

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new athletic director

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Ken Kavanagh

GARTH FRANCIS



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EDITOR'S CORNER

Now it's your turn

Ever since we launched Pinnacle Magazine in the winter of 2007, this space has featured my musings and observations. As the magazine continues to evolve, I'd like to change that.

Starting with the fall issue, which will publish in October, I'm hoping you'll feel inclined to share your perspectives as well. Feedback from readers can play a critical role in shaping the content of a magazine.

Pinnacle is a multi-purpose publication, aimed at covering topics of interest to alumni, donors, the FGCU community and the community at large. That's a diverse audience, to be sure.

In deciding what to cover in each issue, we strive to include news and features that touch on the interests of each of those groups, with an eye toward new developments. In other words, we don't write a story about a program simply because it exists; we write one because there's something new and noteworthy to report.

Considering that most who receive this magazine have a direct connection to the University, I'm willing to bet you have opinions and insights that would be of interest to other readers. Do you have a fond recollection of something that happened at FGCU? Was there a professor who was influential in your life that you've been meaning to thank? Or perhaps you have something to say concerning a story that appears in this issue.

Most of the letters I receive express pleasure with a story or the overall magazine. But there's an occasional question or criticism as well.

Keven McNamara, for example, recently wrote: "I have one child at FGCU and a second slated to start FGCU in the fall. I have enjoyed reading the Pinnacle, however, would like to see coverage of all the sports. You included four pages of material on athletics, however there was no mention of the swimming and diving team and their success."

"As a parent I would like to see more coverage in the University, alumni and local press on all the athletes, but especially this group of female athletes."

Our policy is to report on all the teams that play during the portion of the year in which a particular issue is published.

It turns out that the swimming and diving team won a number of top awards in its second season, but the announcement occurred after we went to press with the spring issue of Pinnacle. So a story appears in this issue. You can read about the team's impressive performance – and see a photo of Karmin McNamara, who was named Conference Diver of the Year – on page 26.

I hope you'll find the content of this issue relevant and interesting and that you'll be moved to add your voice to the mix.

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Karen Feldman
Pinnacle Editor



ED CLEMENT

Long-time ombudsman retires – again

Retirement didn't take the first time Charles McKinney tried it. After two decades at the University of California, Santa Barbara, he retired, but it wasn't long before Florida Gulf Coast University's first president, Roy McTarnaghan, convinced him to give it one more try.

McKinney agreed to become the University's seventh employee, at a time when FGCU had no name or location.

He spent the next 15 years helping to nurture FGCU's growing body of faculty, staff and students as University Ombudsman. In June, he began retirement anew.



Students, staff and faculty found their way to Charles McKinney's office when they needed a sympathetic ear and sage counsel.

"As I go around the community, I see the impact Charles McKinney has had on Southwest Florida," says FGCU President Wilson G. Bradshaw. "He is a model to all of us. The expectation that Charles has lived up to so well is that we are a part of, and not apart from, the community."

As ombudsman, McKinney's role was to serve as a confidential, independent and neutral party to help all members of the University resolve conflicts.

"I discovered in this role that, for the most part, when people come to see an advocate or an ombudsman, they are looking for a place to talk,



Charles McKinney

where somebody will listen to them," McKinney says. "I was fortunate to have a very comfortable sofa in my office and I would have people relax themselves. It was a great experience."

His ability to empathize with and advise those who sought his counsel came, in part, from his own struggles.

McKinney grew up in Pine Bluff, Ark., one of 13 children whose father made a living as a minister and shoe repairman. When times were especially tough, George McKinney would pull some of the children out of school to pick cotton for a few weeks. When they complained about 10-hour days spent at back-breaking work for \$2.50 each, their father would remind them of the value of an education.

Charles McKinney went on to earn a full scholarship to the University of Arkansas, graduating with a degree in business administration. He then enrolled in a business program at the University of Washington, where his first roommate quickly moved out and professors questioned his decision to get a graduate degree in business, an untraditional career path for blacks at the time.

After working as a systems analyst for Boeing for three years, he was laid off. When he immediately saw an ad for a systems analyst,

McKinney took action, contacting the President's Commission on Government Contracts and the Urban League, among other groups. Two weeks later, he had his job back.

The experience left him distrustful of the company, however, and he went back to school, earning a master's degree in school administration at Lincoln University and becoming the university's registrar and director of admissions.

He later earned his doctorate of education from the University of Missouri and spent 19 years at the University of California, Santa Barbara, in various capacities, ending as director of academic support services in 1994.

That's the job he started with at FGCU that same year, well before the University opened its doors. When they did open in 1997, he became director of educational services, equal opportunity/diversity programs and campus ombudsman, the post he held until his retirement in June.

Besides his work in that capacity, he served on numerous University committees and on the boards of community organizations such as the American Red Cross of Lee County, Fort Myers Christian School and the Dr. Ella Piper Social Service Center.

He drew on all of his life experiences to succeed.

"Business taught me principles in interpersonal skills, how to delegate, communicate ideas effectively and how to hold individuals accountable," he says. "Despite challenges, I learned that with a certain amount of determination, you can achieve your goal."



FGCU's three presidents pay tribute to Charles McKinney at his retirement party. From left, founding President Roy McTarnaghan, current President Wilson G. Bradshaw, McKinney, and second President William C. Merwin.

A night at a homeless shelter drives home powerful lessons

Editor's note: During an April conference of the Society of Professional Journalists in Hollywood, Fla., 25 journalism students from five Florida universities spent 24 hours at a homeless shelter, chronicling the lives of its residents for the Homeless Voice, a paper published by and for the homeless. FGCU Assistant Professor Lyn Millner assigned Pam Geiser, an FGCU senior communication major, an audio report of a wedding. Here is Geiser's account.

By Pam Geiser

None of the students has spent a night in a homeless shelter before. The only thing of which they are certain is that it will be full of challenges and surprises.

At 5 p.m. on a Saturday, the student reporters arrive at the sprawling tan and brick building, its windows secured with imposing black steel bars.

The shelter houses 150 men and women of all ages. The students meet with residents and learn their stories: One young man is a nursing student who doesn't earn enough to live on his own. There's a former insurance executive who lost his job and his home. Other residents struggle with mental illness, drug addiction or disease.

But hope resides here as well. On this night, there's cause for celebration: residents Crystal Vogelsang and Shawn Anderson are getting married.

Armed with notepads, cameras, video equipment and tape recorders, the students interview the 45-year-old bride in a small, crowded bathroom that serves as her dressing room. In the emerald dress she purchased at Kmart, her face alight with joy, Vogelsang explains that the couple met at the shelter five months earlier. They quickly fell in love.



FGCU student Pam Geiser interviews Shawn Anderson, who is homeless.

"I've waited my whole life for him," she says. "He's the one who God chose. I'm very happy."

Meanwhile, Anderson, 37, paces around the open-air garage. He speaks about the promising nursing career he had and destroyed through prolonged cocaine abuse.

But whatever regrets he has vanish when the students ask about his bride-to-be. He breaks into a broad smile, lets out a nervous giggle and says, "I wanna be with her all the rest of my life."

It's the first marriage for both, and they know they face challenges. Anderson still wrestles with his addiction; Vogelsang has AIDS. They have little income and no home, but they rejoice in having found each other.

The wedding party heads to a nearby park for the ceremony. A two-piece band playing near the bubbling fountains breaks into an impromptu version of "Here Comes the

Bride" as the group approaches.

Shelter director Sean Cononie conducts the short ceremony.

"In marriage we say it's for poorer or richer," he tells them. "You two are poor, but you're rich in another way, and that's this romance."

After exchanging vows, the couple heads off for a two-day honeymoon at a nearby hotel, funded by sales of the Homeless Voice.

The journalism students return to the shelter to a makeshift newsroom

and set to work capturing in print, audio and video the powerful scenes they witnessed. It's 4 a.m. before the emotionally drained group is done.

"All of us just got lost in what we were doing," says Millner. "We forgot ourselves."

But none will forget the experience or the people who let them into their lives that humid April night.

Read more student accounts of the shelter and those who seek refuge there at www.spjchapters.org/southflorida/homeless.



Despite the hardships they face, Crystal Vogelsang and Shawn Anderson happily tie the knot.

FGCU seniors blaze trail for challenged riders



Putting the finishing touches on the lily pad tire squeeze are, from left, Margaret Giffin, Vanessa Durkin, Melissa Whitescarver and Gina Straub. The women not only designed a sensory trail for Special Equestrians but built it, too. This station helps riders with color identification, planning and following directions.

By Karen Feldman

Four Florida Gulf Coast University students could have fulfilled the requirements of their senior

seminar by researching and writing a paper.

Instead, they took their ideas beyond theory, creating a tangible and invaluable facility that will help those with handicaps learn important life skills for years to come.

The four College of Health Professions

students – Vanessa Durkin, a human performance major; Margaret Giffin, a health science major; and two nursing students, Gina Straub and Melissa Whitescarver – began their senior project by examining a list of 30 ideas submitted by local groups in need of assistance. Assistant Professor Tina Gelpi served as the project mentor.

There were plenty of worthwhile projects, but the Special Equestrians' request to design a sensory integration trail proved most appealing.

"It was the top choice for all four of us," says Durkin.

The not-for-profit Special Equestrians program offers therapeutic riding at its Fort Myers facility, serving mentally and physically challenged people ages 2 to 60 from Charlotte, Glades, Hendry and Lee counties.

With trained volunteers guiding the horses, riders complete a series of activities designed to help them improve balance, posture, hand-eye coordination and many other skills.

The group works with about 50 riders a week who have conditions such as cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, autism, stroke, mental retardation and multiple sclerosis.

The students' mission: Design a trail with features that engage all the senses, something Special Equestrians has wanted for years but hadn't the manpower or expertise to create.

The students met with the group's leaders and researched similar facilities around the country. The team found an excellent course developed by an Alabama program, says Durkin, and drew on those ideas along with their own to design activities that would help the Fort Myers riders build the skills they needed.

Over three months, they devised 12 stations, including a beanbag toss, which helps with tactile, visual and gross motor skills; a bridge with a ramp that assists riders with balancing skills and hearing as the horses' hooves hit the wooden surface; and a wind chime station, where riders strike the chimes' steel pipes, helping them work on hand-eye coordination, hearing and seeing.

Throughout the trail are sound posts – bells that ring and knockers that make various sounds. Riders must reach for the item and produce the sound, which helps improve balance, grasping, stretching, hand-eye coordination and linking their movements with the creation of sound.

The group could have handed over the design and walked away.

"Our assignment was to come up with the list and plan it, but we wanted to make this happen," Durkin says.

They were deter-

mined to construct the course they'd designed. Special Equestrians raised money through its annual Taste of Love event, and the students provided the manpower. They enlisted the help of engineer Bob Murray of Hole Montes, who created an aerial view of the property on which they could map out the trail, and made the technical drawings for each station (see below).

Next, they gathered 25 volunteers to build it, enlisting Durkin's fellow Publix employees as well as several FGCU students, family members and significant others. Publix donated breakfast and lunch.

They began at 8 a.m. on a Saturday morning and, seven hours later, they had built and installed all the stations.

"When we showed up there were two empty pastures," says Durkin. "At the end of the day it was so colorful, everything was painted in primary colors. It was an awesome success."

Countless riders will benefit from their efforts.

"Our riders will now have the opportunity to explore their five senses on horseback in an exciting setting," says Jan Fifer, the group's president. "It offers them new ways to develop their senses. The limited games we play in the arena are wonderful and are the base of

"Our riders will now have the opportunity to explore their five senses on horseback in an exciting setting."

– Jan Fifer

our program. But now they'll get to get out and walk up and down a giant hill and go through our car wash and have plastic things brush their faces."

With so many sensory features, they can work on skills they could not develop before and have fun at the same time.

Riders were expected to start using the course in June or July after volunteers desensitized the horses to

the new objects.

The trail offers an added benefit.

"It will not only help the riders, it will make the horses happier," Fifer says. "They get so sick of just walking around the arena."

She says the group was amazed by the FGCU students' dedication.

"Special Equestrians will never forget this group of seniors who could have taken the easy route and handed us a piece of paper with instructions on how to build this sensory integration trail," Fifer says. "This is all we hoped for at the beginning of the project. These women turned a 10-hour project into a labor of love."



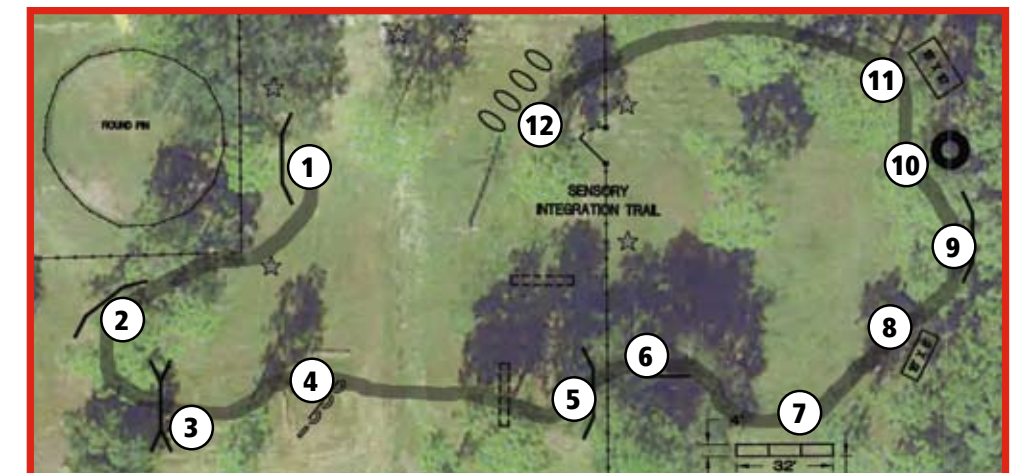
Station 2: The beanbag toss helps riders improve visual, tactile and gross motor skills.



Station 4: The dragon jump requires the horse to walk over the tires, helping riders improve balance and visual skills.



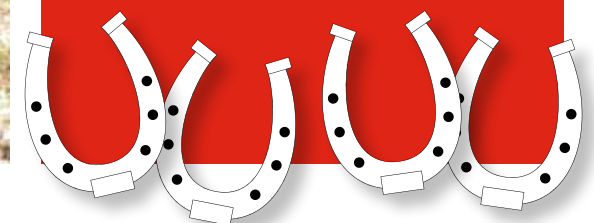
Station 5: At the object permanence station, riders insert balls in the correct size holes.



Station 7: Volunteers Mark Willoughby, left, and FGCU engineering students Cyndee McVeigh and David Bryant construct the walking sensation station, which requires the horses to walk on a variety of surfaces so riders experience sensory changes as they move from sand to pea gravel to mulch.

To find out more about Special Equestrians, visit www.specialequestrians.net or call (239) 226-1221.

Non-profit organizations interested in submitting proposals for College of Health Professions senior projects may contact Assistant Professor Tina Gelpi at tgelpi@fgcu.edu or (239) 590-7551.



Sound instruction aims to inspire youngsters to scale greater musical, academic heights

Story by
Chris Wadsworth
Photos by Garth Francis



Omar Ruiz-Lopez guides Jenno in a plucking technique.

Eight children march into the room single-file, taking their positions in front of child-sized violins and carefully lifting them to their shoulders.

Instructors adjust their tiny fingers to just the right positions on the fingerboards, the silence broken only by an occasional ping as the 4- and 5-year-old musicians test the strings.

The air of professionalism breaks for a second as one tyke runs his bow across his upper lip, perhaps going after a sudden itch. It's a classic kid move no matter how classical the subject matter.

Welcome to the twice-weekly violin lessons conducted at the Guadalupe Center in Immokalee. The teachers are undergraduates at Florida Gulf Coast University's Bower School of Music who are sharing their passion and knowledge



with 48 children who attend the center.

"I used to listen to my dad play old traditional folk music on his Spanish guitar," says Omar Ruiz-Lopez, a 22-year-old junior from Panama and Puerto Rico. "I would sit right close and listen to him and there was a warmth that emanated from the strings and touched me inside."

Ruiz-Lopez, an FGCU music education major, specializes in the viola, but also plays the violin. The Guadalupe program gives him hands-on classroom experience working with children.

"They are listening. They are rapt and then to watch them express themselves. It's one of the most gratifying feelings to know that you have made a positive change in a child," he says.

At this young age, the budding musicians aren't learning to read music. Instead, their instructors use word and rhythm patterns to guide them, teaching them basic mechanics, such as the proper way to hold and use the bow and to pluck the strings, a technique called pizzicato.

"Al-li-ga-tor A-A-A-A," the teachers call out as the children pluck the A string.

In March, the child violinists gave their first impromptu concert for a group of 50 visiting donors and dignitaries.

The instructors picked a 5-year-old girl to play a solo.

"She was afraid at first," says Samuel Chadwick, 20, an FGCU sophomore music education major and one of the three violin instructors. "She was tentative, but once she started, she did it perfectly. Since then, she has been one of our best students. She found a new confidence and realized she could do it."

The informal recital was a revelation for the spectators, too.

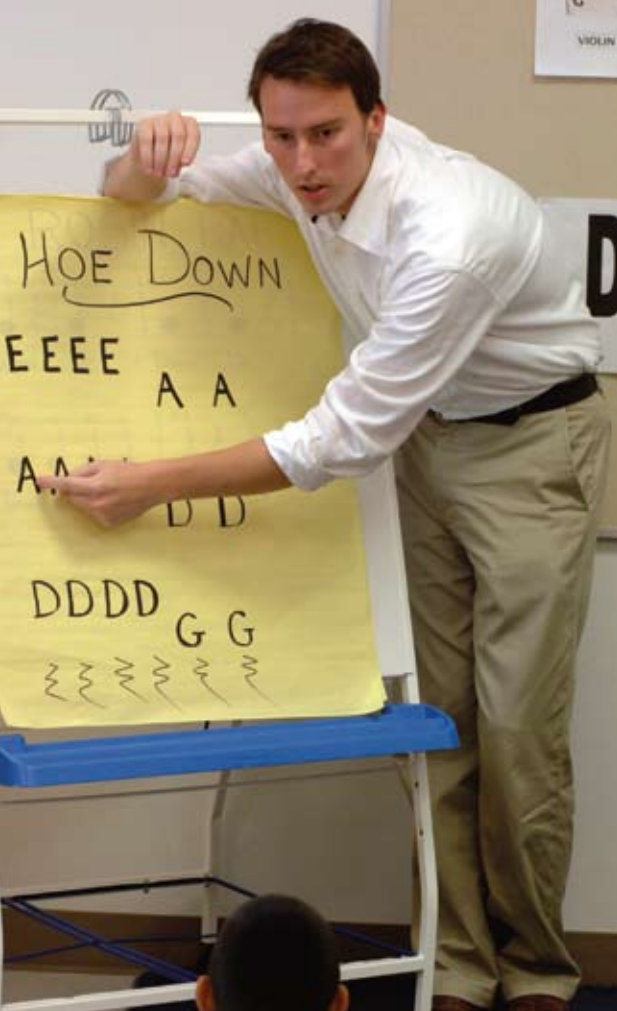
"They were amazed," says Barbara Oppenheim, the Guadalupe Center's executive director. "There were several people that it brought tears to their eyes – the fact that this type of enrichment is available for the children."

All of the children who attend the



TOP: Child violinists pay close attention during a music class at Guadalupe Center.

BELOW: Judy Evans encourages Alicia as she bows "Hoe Down."



Samuel Chadwick reviews musical notes during a violin class.



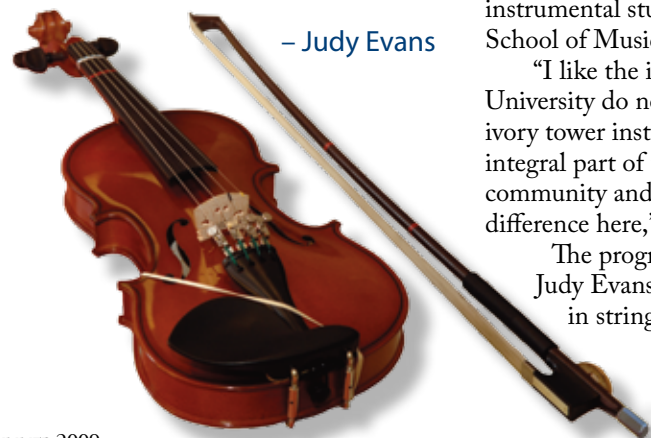
At ages 4 and 5, children learn best by associating words and rhythm. Here Julissa works on "Al-li-ga-tor."



Judy Evans and Omar Ruiz-Lopez repair a bow during violin class.

"We're introducing them to music, but probably even more important are the academic benefits."

– Judy Evans



Guadalupe Center come from families with low incomes, with 87 percent qualifying for free or reduced-price lunches. For most, music lessons would be out of the question without a program such as this.

"It's an important message," says Oppenheim. "Our children are capable of doing anything the children in Naples are capable of – if the opportunity is provided."

There are benefits for the University, too, says Associate Professor Rod Chesnutt, who is the head of instrumental studies at the Bower School of Music.

"I like the idea that we as a University do not consider ourselves an ivory tower institution, that we are an integral part of the Southwest Florida community and that we can make a difference here," he says.

The program is the brainchild of Judy Evans, an adjunct instructor in string instruments at the

Bower School of Music. She spent 36 years as an orchestra teacher in Collier and Broward counties, then began working with underprivileged children in Orlando schools after retirement. A friend told her the Guadalupe Center could use such a program – and the rest is harmonious history.

The project is a collaboration of the Bower School of Music, the Guadalupe Center and the Lucie Jenny McCarthy Music Foundation.

The benefits of the violin program, which began in 2008, reach far beyond the ability to play an instrument.

"We're introducing them to music, but probably even more important are the academic benefits," Evans says. "The language and math skills the children learn through music put them at an advantage."

A large body of research exists showing that children exposed to music do better at academics, she says. That's one of the reasons she hopes to expand

the program to other schools.

While the fledgling program's worth can't be statistically measured yet, Oppenheim says positive changes are obvious.

"Originally, it was a challenge for both the students from FGCU and the children," she says. "The children weren't used to someone else giving them direction and they were not focused. Their interest level wasn't sustained for a long period of time. Now, having gone through the year, they are really able to focus their attention on tasks much better and we have seen it carry over into other (academic) areas."

The children have grown attached to the FGCU students as well.

"The teachers are really nice," says 5-year-old Jonathan. "Omar is kind of crazy, but he's nice, too."

The three FGCU student teachers – Ruiz-Lopez, Chadwick and sophomore Roland Forti – are learning, too,

gaining hands-on instructional experience while they are still undergraduates.

"The biggest thing I am learning is how to communicate ideas to children," says Chadwick, who played in the orchestra at Lely High School in Naples. "We found out it's mostly about pace and tempo. If you want to keep them engaged, you have to keep everything at a good pace and keep their attention."

Oppenheim is impressed with the FGCU students' efforts.

"They have been terrific," she says. "They have patience, patience, patience. They interact very nicely with the children and I think they have grown a great deal during the year in handling the children. I think they have a sense of pride that the children have done so well."

– Chris Wadsworth is a freelance writer based in Southwest Florida.



Avery practices her pizzicato technique.



Monumental milepost

University graduates 10,000th student

College graduation, the culmination of a lifetime of education, is a momentous occasion in the life of any student. In Danielle Lail's case, however, it was an historic moment as well as she became the 10,000th student to graduate from Florida Gulf Coast University.

A communication major who moved to Cape Coral four years ago from Syracuse, N.Y., she received a full-tuition fellowship toward a master's degree in public administration from the FGCU Foundation, as well as lifetime membership from the Alumni Association and a commemorative gift from President Wilson G. Bradshaw.

Lail, 23, says she was surprised upon learning that she was the 10,000th graduate.

"I was excited about it then I learned that the Foundation was going to pay for my tuition and got even more excited," she says. "I think it's an amazing opportunity and I'm really honored to be a part of FGCU's history."

While attending college, she's also worked at Bonefish Grill.

She hopes to begin her master's degree in the fall, plans to stay in Southwest Florida, an area she's come to love, and would like to work for a public relations firm when she's finished with her education.

Lail says that her education included more than what she learned as a communication major specializing in public relations with a minor in interdisciplinary studies.



Danielle Lail flips her tassel from right to left to symbolize her status as a graduate.

"I think it's an amazing opportunity and I'm really honored to be a part of FGCU's history."

— Danielle Lail

"I learned that being involved in the community is a big part of life," she says. "I didn't realize until my senior seminar that you need to be part of the community, that it doesn't work unless everyone is doing their part."

According to Bradshaw, "Danielle Lail symbolizes the 10,000 graduates FGCU proudly calls alumni, the central achievement of this state university in Southwest Florida. As a thriving young institution of 12 years, FGCU has reached this benchmark of 10,000 graduates, more than 55 percent of whom remain in the region as educators, business leaders, scientists, municipal and civic leaders, resort and hospitality managers, engineers, artists and musicians."



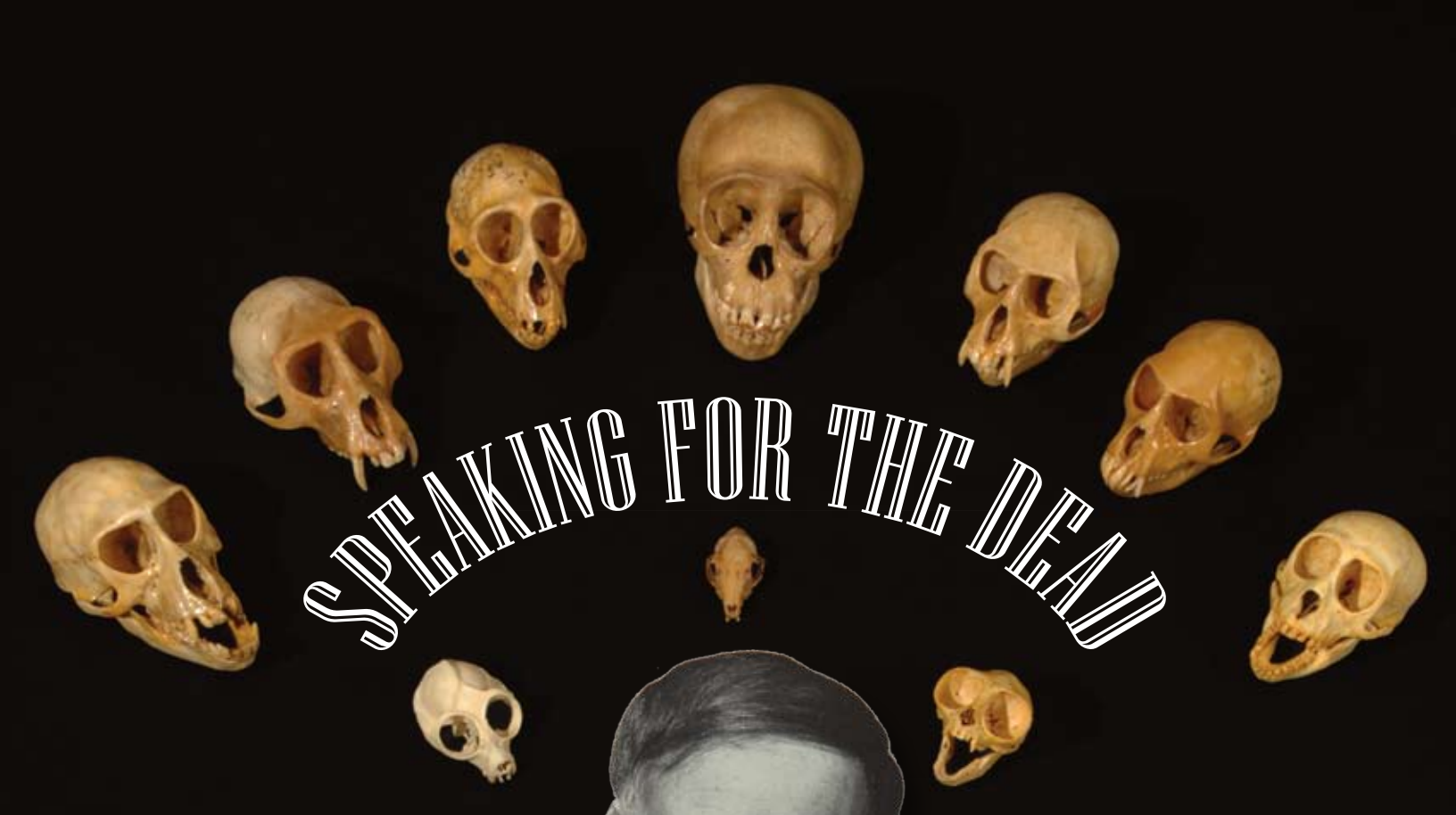
Sharing an historic moment are, from left, Donna Price Henry, FGCU dean of the College of Arts & Sciences; Wilson G. Bradshaw, FGCU president; and Danielle Lail, FGCU's 10,000th graduate, at the commencement ceremony May 3.



Michael Rollo, FGCU vice president for Student Affairs, and Hudson Rodgers, FGCU associate provost and associate vice president, congratulate graduates.

At right, FGCU faculty dressed in their academic regalia form a colorful processional during the May commencement.





Renowned anthropologist helped revolutionize forensic science

Story by Karen Feldman
Photos by Garth Francis

In his storied career, William R. Maples came to know some of history's most famous and infamous characters as well as anonymous people to whom he gave names and voice.

Through his exacting investigations, the groundbreaking forensic anthropologist assisted the departed in yielding clues to who they were and how they died.

"They have tales to tell us, even though they are dead," he wrote in his book, "Dead Men Do Tell Tales: The Strange and Fascinating Cases of a Forensic Anthropologist," co-written with Michael Browning. "It is up to me ... to catch their mute cries and



William R. Maples

whispers, and to interpret them for the living."

Maples spent the majority of his career at the University of Florida in Gainesville, where he rose to become chairman of the anthropology department and eventually founded the forensic center that bears his name. He also served as curator of the Florida Museum of Natural History. In the process, he played a major role

in reinventing the field of forensic anthropology and inspired countless students to follow in his path.

Among those students was Heather Walsh-Haney, now an assistant professor in FGCU's Division of Justice Studies, who became a close friend of Maples and his wife. Because of that friendship, FGCU holds an extensive collection of his research, including primate bones and skulls he acquired while working in Africa and reams of papers and photos chronicling many investigations in which he took part.

Maples became a much-sought-after expert on forensics, assisting law enforcement agencies and scientists around the world in close to 1,200 cases. He was instrumental in identifying Czar Nicholas II and family, who were killed by the Bolsheviks in 1918. He participated in an investigation of Zachary Taylor's death that determined that arsenic had not killed the country's 12th president. He took part in a probe for new evidence in the killing of civil rights activist Medgar Evers and was able to reconstruct the sword fight that killed explorer Francisco Pizarro by examining his remains.

After working with the U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory, he testified before Congress, helping to reform and improve the laboratory's methods of identifying military personnel killed in battle. And, while battling brain cancer, he worked to identify victims of the May 1996 ValuJet crash in the Everglades.

Maples died in 1997 at the age of 59.

His widow, Margaret Maples-Gilliland, donated an extensive collection of his material to FGCU to ensure that it was preserved, in hopes that it might excite students about science and help educate future generations.

"It shows science can be extremely interesting and maybe it will turn on students to want to get into some aspect of science," she says. "There are all sorts of interesting aspects that some kids have never even thought about. This will help give them a broader view of the range of things they can do."

"THEY HAVE TALES TO TELL US, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE DEAD."

— William R. Maples

The boxes that sit on shelves in the climate-controlled confines of the FGCU Archives are like treasure chests and just as intriguing to explore.

One is filled with photographs of John Merrick, known as the Elephant Man because of severe disfigurements caused by neurofibromatosis. Maples used a technique called superimposition to match high-resolution television images of Merrick's remains with a bust that depicts him prior to his death in 1890, making it possible to clearly see the relationship between the skeletal growths and Merrick's distorted outward appearance.

Other boxes hold papers, photos and newspaper clippings from his trips to Russia, when he supervised a team that identified the assassinated czar and his family. Still another holds voluminous journals written during his time

Cranium of a savannah monkey

as a manager of a primate research station in Kenya. It was there that he collected the various skulls and bones that Walsh-Haney's students use to study and compare anatomical features.

There are dozens of slides from the salvage operation of the ValuJet crash, showing the pieces of debris, people meticulously combing the Everglades for more of them and the huge structure in which everything was catalogued and analyzed. His wife, who accompanied him on many of his travels, took most of the shots. Walsh-Haney, a student at the time, worked with him on the salvage effort.

Still other boxes hold his personal correspondence and photos, which help researchers understand Maples' perspective and how that might influence his work.

Andy Waters, '08, who earned a master's degree in criminal forensic studies, spent a whole summer cataloging the 40 boxes full of Maples' material. Now a civilian special agent who works on criminal, fraud and counterintelligence cases for the U.S. Air Force, he says Maples inspired him.

"Ever since I read about Dr. Maples, I associated with his type of work ethic, the attention to detail," Waters says. "He sees things through meticulously. That's something I do as well."

It seems fitting that Maples' body of work should end up in Fort Myers. Between Walsh-Haney's presence and the fact that Maples had been good friends with a former medical examiner here, it's a place he loved and, according

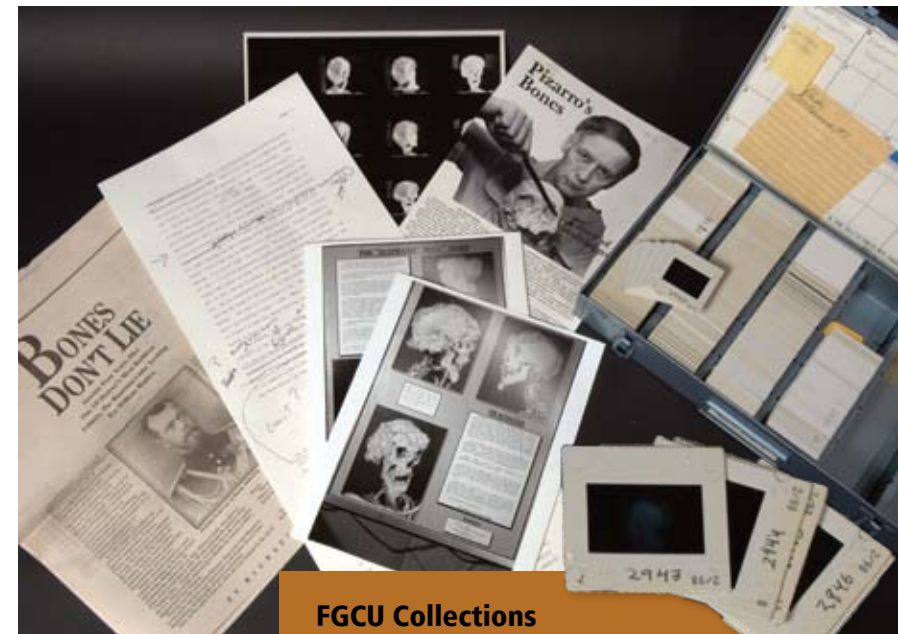
to his wife, was where he planned to retire someday.

For Walsh-Haney, having these materials here provides her with a way to honor her mentor and continue his work.

"Having his collection here is a chance for me to highlight Dr. Maples so people don't forget him or his life's work," she says.



Skeleton of a squirrel monkey



FGCU Collections

This is the third in a series of stories that will appear in subsequent issues of Pinnacle about collections in the possession of the FGCU Archives. For more information about the University's collections, contact Rebecca Donlan, assistant director, at (239) 590-7641, or rdonlan@fgcu.edu.

Clearing the air

Scientists race to find causes, cures for climate change

By Anne Hartley

Imagine you are a physician treating a patient running a low-grade fever. A lab test suggests a course of treatment, but to rule out other causes, you consult with medical colleagues, read published studies, order more tests and use the results to arrive at a diagnosis and treatment.

Still, the patient's temperature climbs. There's no time to wait for a new treatment that's more effective, less costly or free of side effects. In an effort to stop the condition from worsening, you use the best available science to prescribe a treatment and watch for signs of improvement, ready to change course if the patient's condition deteriorates or a more promising treatment becomes available.

This scenario comes close to

describing current events on Earth. The planet is the patient. The ailment: Rising concentrations of gases in Earth's atmosphere are trapping heat and warming the lower atmosphere and the planet surface, a condition called the greenhouse effect. Emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane increased 70 percent between

1970 and 2004. Scientists have determined that atmospheric concentrations of these gases are higher today than in the past 650,000 years. Research points to human activity, including the destruction of tropical rainforests and the use of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas, as major causes.

Earth's physicians are policymakers who use the best available science to diagnose the problem and prescribe treatments aimed at reducing damage. Meanwhile, they remain vigilant for new symptoms, seeking to better understand the problem and develop more effective ways to combat it.

Growing body of evidence

Scientists assess the latest research developments regarding climate change

every 6 or 7 years for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Representatives of 100 member countries must approve the assessments, which indicates the high level of consensus that exists regarding the content. The most recent reports concluded that there is a greater than 90 percent probability that human-produced greenhouse gases have caused much of the increase in Earth's temperatures over the past 50 years.

When the eminent economist, Rajendra Pachauri, accepted the Nobel Peace Prize on behalf of the IPCC in 2007, he said the panel's conclusions "can be seen as a clarion call for the protection of the Earth as it faces the widespread impacts of climate change."

The panel's conclusions are based on computer model simulations as well as a large body of published observations and experimental discoveries. The earliest impacts were detected at high latitudes and high elevations. Climate warming causes ice to melt at the poles and on mountaintops. As glaciers disappear, so does vital fresh water.

There are secondary impacts as well. An increase in greenhouse warming in the Arctic melts the frozen soil, destabilizing forests, roads and homes. Milder winters allow insect populations to flourish, making trees susceptible to disease. Dying forests and

In the near future, Floridians are expected to experience more extreme weather conditions, including droughts and floods.

In Florida, as sea level rises, saltwater intrudes into freshwater aquifers, reducing drinking water supplies. If sea level rises faster than mangroves can migrate inland, valuable shoreline protection will be lost, accelerating beach erosion and making communities more vulnerable to hurricane damage. In the near future, Floridians are expected to experience more extreme weather conditions, including droughts and floods.

Spreading the word

Despite the growing body of scientific evidence that climate change is accelerating and affecting Earth, misconceptions and skepticism remain.

One common misconception is that weather and climate are the same. Weather is a short-term phenomenon, such as a mild winter or a drought year. Climate change is temperature averaged over at least three decades.

Another misconception is that climate warming is solely due to natural factors. Research shows that human activity plays a huge part. Total incoming sunlight varies as Earth orbits around the sun, and as the planet

thawed soils release more carbon dioxide and methane into the atmosphere, accelerating the greenhouse effect.

And as ice melts, more of the Earth's land surface is exposed, which allows Earth to absorb more sunlight, heating the planet more quickly.

Closer to the equator, warmer, more acidic ocean waters are bleaching coral reefs.

Learn more about climate change

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Working Group 1 Report on "The Physical Science Basis" frequently asked questions: www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/wg1/ar4-wg1-faqs.pdf
- NASA Global Climate Change site: <http://climate.jpl.nasa.gov/>
- National Academies of Science reports on climate change-related topics: <http://dels.nas.edu/climatechange/>
- "The Rough Guide to Climate Change," second edition, by Robert Henson (Rough Guides, 2008)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change site: <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>



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Plexiglass chambers at Kennedy Space Center allow researchers to gauge effects of climate change by exposing plots of scrub oaks to carbon-enriched air.



©istockphoto.com/ArtBoyMB



tilts and wobbles relative to the sun. These orbital changes regulate Earth's 100,000-year climate cycles, known as ice ages. Because the planet's surface is warming at a time when natural factors would be expected to cool Earth's climate, scientists concluded that greenhouse gases are the primary cause of recent warming trends.

One reason scientists, and increasingly government leaders and concerned citizens, are calling for action is that greenhouse gases remain in the atmosphere from decades to centuries.

Greenhouse-gas emission is like water filling a bathtub. Even after the faucet is turned off, the bathtub



FGCU Associate Professor Ai Ning Loh and marine science students collect water and sediment samples in Estero Bay for carbon and nutrient analyses.

Probing ocean's depths for clues

Understanding how oceans store and release carbon is a critical piece of the climate change puzzle.

Oceans absorb carbon from carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas, as it dissolves in the water or is used up through photosynthesis by marine plants. (Photosynthesis occurs when plants use carbon dioxide, sunlight and nutrients to make food). After the carbon is absorbed in the ocean, it's either stored or released back into the air.



As ocean temperatures increase because of global warming, carbon dioxide doesn't dissolve as well so more is released into the atmosphere, which further contributes to global warming. Carbon absorbed by marine plants and stored as organic matter (large collections of carbon-based chemicals) takes longer to be released back into the atmosphere. The respiration of marine plants and animals releases some stored carbon, as does the decomposition of organic matter by bacteria. Using a technique called carbon-dating, we can determine how long organic

matter has been stored in the oceans.

Our research shows that organic matter in oceans comprises many chemicals and that different forms of organic matter decompose at varying rates, with some remaining stored in the oceans for thousands of years.

Most of this organic matter is produced in oceans, however, some is transported from land. Because oceans are inextricably linked to highly populated coastal areas such as Southwest Florida, our research seeks to understand where organic matter comes from, what it's made of and how it is stored and consumed in estuaries and oceans. This will allow us to better determine the oceans' carbon storage capacity in a warming world. Longer-term storage would suggest the oceans could aid in reducing global warming. More importantly, this information would improve the accuracy of climate prediction models.

We are also studying how the local environment has responded to past climatic conditions. By understanding these systems, both current and historical, we will be better able to form sound policies governing our estuaries and coastal oceans to more effectively combat global warming.

— Ai Ning Loh, FGCU associate professor of marine science

remains full indefinitely. We can open the drain to empty the bathtub faster, for example, by changing forestry and agricultural practices so more carbon dioxide is taken up from the atmosphere and stored in plants and soil. But if the faucet continues gushing, opening the drain won't empty the tub. The fastest way to empty the tub is to open the drain and shut off the faucet completely — by conserving energy and switching to renewable energy sources such as solar and wind power.

Leaders of developed nations increasingly agree that delaying action until the planet is significantly warmer — until the patient is in critical condition — will be much more costly than investing in new energy sources now.



There is a greater than 90 percent probability that human-produced greenhouse gases have caused much of the increase in Earth's temperatures over the past 50 years.

Because of climate risks and limited supplies of fossil fuels in much of the world, many leaders believe shifting to new energy sources is vital to promoting economic growth, stabilizing the planet and promoting peace.

Facing the challenges

Close to 200 countries, including the United States, have ratified the United Nations Framework Climate Change Convention, an agreement to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations. The countries meet annually to discuss how to achieve their goals.

The greatest challenges to reaching an agreement may lie with rapidly

(continued on page 20)

Sea change looms large

Global warming influences sea level as well as climate. As the atmosphere warms, melting glaciers and thermal expansion of sea water increase ocean volume. Consequently, sea-level rise has accelerated in the past 200 years, particularly in recent decades, up from roughly 2 inches per century to almost a foot.

Beyond the hazards of flooding, rising seas may also change the coast's shape, or geomorphology. Our research explores how rising sea levels affect the configuration of Southwest Florida's coast and the ecology of estuaries, bodies of water critical to marine life. By looking at the history recorded in sediment cores — which preserve environmental changes in layers — we can reconstruct coastal geomorphology dating back 5,000 years, which helps predict future changes.

Our research shows the development of barrier islands and oyster reefs create estuaries. If sediments are deposited along the coast faster than sea level rises, barrier islands form that entrap bay waters, creating brackish water estuaries, while the islands provide storm protection for the mainland.



FGCU Professor Michael Savarese uses a sediment core to document barrier island development for a research project that explores how climate change influences the shape of Southwest Florida's coast. Students Justin Barthle and Rehannon Ketover stand ready to assist.

Similarly, oysters build reefs that rest above the water's surface at low tide, provided they grow more rapidly than sea levels rise. The reefs become foundations for red mangrove trees and eventually develop into mangrove-forested islands, such as the Ten Thousand Islands southeast of Marco Island. They also help create estuaries.

The history of oyster reef and barrier island development suggests these structures can withstand modest rises in sea level, but if the current accelerated rate continues, it's likely both will stop forming, which could endanger estuaries.

In undeveloped portions of Southwest Florida, particularly southeast of Naples, freshwater wetlands give way to brackish water marshes and finally mangrove forests before the outer coast is reached. The distribution of these habitats is dramatically affected by accelerated sea-level rise. By mapping historic and current habitats across these wetlands, coupled with sediment coring results, we have demonstrated that mangroves are migrating great distances landward at an alarming rate, reconfiguring freshwater wetland and upland habitats.

Some grassy marshes are transforming to mangrove forests while others fail to do so and become tidal ponds. We have documented the merger of many small tidal ponds through time, creating expansive interior bays with inadequate marine and freshwater mixing, creating poor conditions for marine life.

If sea levels continue to rise at an accelerated rate, Southwest Florida is likely to lose the estuarine ecology and the coastal geomorphology upon which our economy and quality of life depend. Similar and possibly more severe impacts are likely for coastal communities planet-wide.

— Michael Savarese, FGCU professor of marine sciences

Rooting out the role plants play

Scientists have conducted hundreds of experiments in the past few decades to determine how higher carbon dioxide concentrations will affect ecosystem processes, such as the growth of plants.

Plants absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and use it along with sunlight and water to make carbohydrates, the chemical building blocks of plant tissue. Researchers want to know if plants are able to absorb and store enough carbon dioxide to slow the rate at which this key contributor to climate change increases in the atmosphere.

My research focuses on unfertilized ecosystems, such as Florida scrub oak forest. Smithsonian Experimental



Anne Hartley

Research Center scientists began this research at the Kennedy Space Center in 1996. After 11 years of exposing forest plots to doubled atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations, the level predicted for the year 2050, plants produced 67 percent more tissue above ground than those not exposed to additional carbon dioxide.

When I joined the project in 2005, I investigated what was happening below ground, attempting to determine whether nutrients, such as nitrogen, leak into the atmosphere faster in carbon-dioxide-enriched conditions. We found very low losses of nitrogen gases emitted from these forest soils. Most of the nitrogen was taken up from the soil and stored in new plant tissue.

Although above-ground plant tissue

growth was far greater in elevated carbon dioxide after 11 years, annual production of plant tissue decreased over the course of the experiment because of dwindling soil nutrients. Also, below-ground processes reduced the amount of carbon stored in the forest.

Like humans, plants and microbes release carbon dioxide back to the atmosphere through respiration. In this experiment, respiration returned a significant amount of carbon to the atmosphere. While increased plant growth shows the ecosystem is capable of taking up and storing more carbon, that's offset by below-ground processes that lower the storage potential.

The lesson from this and similar studies in unfertilized ecosystems is that plants cannot be counted on to slow the rate at which carbon dioxide increases in the atmosphere. Other measures — including reducing industrial emissions — are needed to lower atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations.

— Anne Hartley

Storing carbon in wetlands

Wetlands will play a critical role in climate change because they serve as major reservoirs for carbon.

My students and I are investigating how carbon storage in wetlands around Florida Gulf Coast University is impacted by development, changes in water levels and climate.

Carbon storage starts when plants photosynthesize, taking in carbon dioxide, also known as greenhouse gas, from the atmosphere and converting it to chemical energy that is stored in their leaves, stems and roots. As plants and animals use this stored energy for food, carbon dioxide is released into the atmosphere through respiration. This is the same process that occurs when humans exhale. All plants and animals respire. The balance between photosynthesis and respiration determines how much carbon is stored in an ecosystem.

In wetland ecosystems, most of the carbon stored in plant tissues ends up in the soils, which are often flooded for significant portions of the year, limiting the ability of organisms to consume it. As a result, relatively small amounts of carbon are released into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide.

The comparatively high rates of photosynthesis and low rates of respiration mean that energy in the form of carbon accumulates in wetland soils, making them important reservoirs of carbon in the context of climate change.

We seek to determine whether climate



FGCU Assistant Professor Brian Bovard and junior Sarah Larsen use an infrared gas analyzer to monitor carbon dioxide and water vapor uptake and losses from soils, stems and leaves.

change and human development are altering this balance in the region's wetlands.

Since about 1800, roughly two-thirds of Florida's wetlands have been drained or filled. If temperatures rise or wetland soils dry up as a result of human development or climate change, we expect carbon losses from wetland soils to increase, which could potentially accelerate global warming.

Conversely, if Florida's wetlands

continue to store carbon as they have historically, they will help to slow climate warming. Understanding how these systems will respond in the future is important so they can be managed in a way that will not exacerbate climate change and might help slow its progress.

— Brian Bovard, FGCU assistant professor of marine and ecological sciences

(continued from page 18)

developing nations. China, for example, is reluctant to cut greenhouse gas emission because the government's main goal right now is to develop its economy and raise the standard of living. Leaders of developing nations want to know why they should be denied an opportunity to develop using fossil fuels when industrialized countries were allowed to do so. For the benefit of generations to come, world leaders will need to commit to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and enact policies to promote investment in

renewable energy.

In the United States, it's primarily states and communities that are taking the lead.

At Florida Gulf Coast University, for example, the solar array under construction will supply 15 percent of the University's energy needs when it becomes operational later this year.

Environmental faculty are investigating changes in inland, coastal and marine environments related to sea level rise, climate change and doubled atmospheric carbon dioxide concentrations.

In classrooms, labs and in the field,

faculty are living up to the University's guiding principles, "instilling in students an environmental consciousness that balances their economic and social aspirations with the imperative for ecological sustainability."

This imperative requires that we take full responsibility for how we use natural resources to leave a rich legacy for future generations.

— Anne Hartley is an FGCU associate professor in the Department of Marine and Ecological Studies and program leader of environmental studies.



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Funding for Employee Technical Skill Training may be available through Workforce Development. Call for more information.

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Ken Kavanagh

New director sees bright future for FGCU athletics

Ken Kavanagh has been named Florida Gulf Coast University's new athletic director. He assumed his new post on June 15.

He came to FGCU from Peoria, Ill., where he was the athletic director at Bradley University. His previous experience includes senior associate athletic director and assistant athletic director at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and positions at the University of Notre Dame and Yale University.

Kavanagh earned his master of business administration from the University of Notre Dame, and a bachelor's degree from Boston College. He's married and has four children. He recently shared his first impressions about his new job with Pinnacle Editor Karen Feldman.

What attracted you to FGCU?

It was a combination of the right time and the right spot for my family. Our daughter just finished high school so making the move now works out well. The challenges and opportunities that exist at FGCU are both professionally and personally exciting. From the time I was first exposed to FGCU last November when Bradley played

here, to when I was nominated for the position, I kept hearing more positive things about the University. It wasn't just that FGCU has good teams. It was the quality of life, the administration, working for an individual like President (Wilson G.) Bradshaw. People I hold in great esteem were using words like "hidden gem," "gold mine" and "tremendous potential." That, combined with our visits here, made our family feel it would be a good fit.

What most excites you about the job?

The challenge of taking the program to the next level from where (former Athletic Director) Carl (McAloose) and the administration grew it to get into the NCAA. We'd love to be considered a flagship program within the Atlantic Sun Conference as we continue to mature as a Division I team.

What are the biggest challenges?

The main one is to get through the current economic situation. FGCU went through a tremendous growth period, but things have changed. We'll have to be patient. We'll probably have to take growth at a slower pace, but we need to remember that it's a marathon,

not a sprint. My role as A.D. is to lead and explain that we have to work to get where we want to go.

So that means no football for a while?

I love football, but there's a time and place for everything. Right now unless the Board of Trustees and President tell me that's the direction we're going, we're going to work on the 14 teams we have, maximize them and keep our eye on the ball.

What will be the biggest adjustment for you and your family?

The distance from family and friends. My wife is from a close-knit farm family in northern Illinois. It will be hard to be so far away although we expect to see a lot of them during the winter. Leaving friends is hard, but it should hurt when you leave a community. If it doesn't hurt, you have no roots there. A lot of our friends have had to leave Peoria and go someplace else for their careers. We've been blessed that we haven't had to do it for 13 years. That's part of life, but if you make good friends, they're friends for life. We'll all make new friends in Southwest Florida, but we won't lose our old ones."

Eagles capture conference title again

The Florida Gulf Coast University baseball team has triumphed in its first two years of Division I play, capturing the Atlantic Sun Conference championship in consecutive seasons.

This year, the team finished with a 36-18 overall record and a 23-7 record in A-Sun play. Since entering Division I two seasons ago, FGCU is 74-33 overall and 45-18 in the A-Sun.

"We had a great year," Coach Dave Tollett says. "Winning the conference in our first two years is a great accomplishment. This was the first time that a team has repeated as champions in the A-Sun."

Perhaps the sweetest win this season came against the University of Florida. The Eagles recorded 20 hits as a team, stomping the Gators 17-5 in Gainesville.

FGCU Athletic Director Ken Kavanagh calls the baseball team's performance – and that of the women's volleyball team, which won its second conference championship earlier in the year – "remarkable achievements. It's a testament to the coaching staff, the athletes involved, Carl (McAloose, the former athletic director) and the administration. It shows FGCU was ready to hit the ground running and compete at the Division I level and have success."

Because FGCU is in its transition period into Division I, its teams have not yet been eligible for post-season play, but the rules allow two teams to be "fast-tracked," which means that both the baseball and volleyball teams will be eligible next year.

Kavanagh says he's excited about what that means for both teams and the University as a whole. It could include hosting NCAA tournaments.

"I'd like to make NCAA tournaments events we have every year," he says.

Even without post-season competition, the Eagles have plenty of which to be proud.

Tollett was named A-Sun Coach of the Year for the second consecutive season.

"Being named the coach of year is a great honor," Tollett says. "This honor is a reflection of what our team and coaches have accomplished this year. I consider this a team award."

DENNIS SENDER



FGCU coach Dave Tollett, left, with umpire.

In addition, four Eagle players made the All-Atlantic Sun First team. Sophomores Chris Sale, Tim Roberson and Zach Maxfield joined senior Josh Upchurch on the All-Atlantic team. Maxfield led the A-Sun with 20 home runs while Roberson finished right behind him with 19 dingers.

Sale compiled a 2.74 earned run average in 89.1 innings while Upchurch led the team in runs scored and stolen bases.

Sophomore Stephen Wickens earned a spot on the All-Atlantic Sun Second Team. Freshman Jason Forjet was named to the Atlantic Sun All-Freshman Team.

Besides beating the Gators, FGCU also defeated other in-state rivals including the University of South Florida, the University of Central Florida, Florida Atlantic University and Florida International University.

"We had a great year.
Winning the
conference in our
first two years is a great
accomplishment."
— Dave Tollett

CHRIS PERRY



HEADED EVER HIGHER

Eagles prove tough competitors in second Division I season

By Carl Bleich

On land and in the water, Florida Gulf Coast University's Eagles showed they had the stuff of which Division I teams are made.

The baseball team captured the Atlantic Sun Conference championship for the second year in a row (story on page 23). The women's swimming and diving team won a host of top honors, including the Coastal Collegiate Swimming Association Swimming and Diving Championships (story on page 26). And the softball team's 47-9 record placed it among the top 23 teams in the country.

The University's new athletic director, Ken Kavanagh, is impressed with the performance of the Eagle teams this year and says he's not alone.

"The respect that other institutions have for our program is significant," he says. "And it isn't just within the A-Sun. It's spread to others that have played our teams in Division I."

He expects the teams to reach even greater heights in coming years and believes that FGCU's reputation as a tough competitor will continue to grow as a result.

Here's a look at how the 2009 spring semester ended for the respective Eagle sports teams.

SOFTBALL

The softball team garnered national attention this year. FGCU finished the season with a 47-9 record, ranked No. 23 in the country, according to the Ultimate College Softball Poll.

As a team, FGCU had a .351 batting average, the best in the nation. "FGCU softball had a fantastic second season in Division I," Coach



Jessica Carter

Dave Deiros said. "Our record was one of the best in the country and we had some very big wins against some of the premier programs. Our hitting continues to be at the forefront – we featured one of the top offenses in fastpitch softball."

This year's A-Sun runner-up team was led by senior Cheyenne Jenks, who was named A-Sun Conference Player of the Year by a unanimous vote. She hit .473 for the season to go along with 23 home runs, 73 runs batted in (tying her A-Sun record) and 61 runs scored. She was one of 25 finalists for the 2009 USA Softball Player of the Year. In late May, Jenks signed on with the Chicago Bandits of the Professional Softball League.

Jenks, Jessica Carter, Courtney Platt and Lauran Ziegler made the all-conference First Team while Jessica Paez made the second.

FGCU beat four teams that finished the season ranked among the 25 best teams in the country and beat eight teams that qualified for the 2009 NCAA Tournament.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

The women's tennis team put together an impressive run of victories in mid-March,



Courtney Platt



Eva Sambrano

winning five consecutive matches in nine days, including three Atlantic Sun Conference wins.

The team finished with a 6-16 record and 3-7 A-Sun record under first-year coach Jennifer Gabou.

"I am extremely proud of the work ethic and tradition that was established in the 2009 season," Gabou said. "The team learned this season that hard work always pays off."

The hard work put in by juniors Eva Sambrano and Priscilla Villemond clearly paid off. Both players were named second team all conference.

The team will have five newcomers in the fall and Gabou planned to spend much of the summer working with the returning team members to prepare for the 2009-2010 season.

MEN'S TENNIS

This was one of the toughest years in men's tennis coach J. Webb Horton's career.

It wasn't that his team didn't perform well; it was that often it didn't get the chance to.



Thibaud Aime

"We were decimated with injuries this year," Horton said. "In all my years of coaching I have never had a year with as many injuries as we had this year."

The Eagles finished the season with a 5-14 record and a 1-9 Atlantic Sun Conference record.

A bright spot for the team this year was the play of junior Thibaud Aime. He finished 8-7 overall in singles matches and 5-4 in conference matches. He was named Atlantic Sun All-Conference Second Team in the No. 1 position.

Horton was particularly thrilled with Aime's win over Ivan Salec of Radford, who was ranked No. 61 in the nation at the time.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Junior Jessica Paulmann led a balanced FGCU effort April 13-15 at the Atlantic Sun Conference Championship tournament in Deland.

The team finished fifth overall and Paulmann completed the tournament with a 3-round score of 232, good enough for a tie for 18th place overall.

Sophomore sisters Katerina Toomalatai and Kastania Toomalatai each shot a 233, while Laura Lindsey and Malin Becker each shot a 238.

FGCU coach Brittany Bertilson expected the team to finish in the top half of the conference, which they did.

She says she expects the top five players from this year's team to return and expects to sign two or three freshmen to add into the mix.

"With recruiting as one of my top priorities this season, I will sign a couple of very talented young ladies to join the team next season," Bertilson says. "Look for the FGCU women's golf team to be a top contender in the A-Sun Conference next season."

MEN'S GOLF

The men's golf team completed its season by participating in its first Atlantic Sun Conference Championship tournament.



Brandon Pena

The golfers finished fifth out of 11 teams with a three-round score of 882 (290-289-303), just 15 strokes behind conference champion Campbell.

Sophomore Daniel Mazziotta, who shot a three over par (219) on the weekend, rounded out the tournament as the highest Eagle as he took 11th-place overall. Freshman Brandon Pena finished with a three-round score of 221, winning a spot on the A-Sun All-Freshmen Team.

"I thought that the team had a fairly successful year," FGCU Assistant Coach Brent Jensen said. "We just need to play at that high level more consistently. I plan on trying to get our schedule as tough as possible (next year) because we need to keep pushing ourselves against the best teams we can play."

Mazziotta and freshman Alex Medinis advanced out of a U.S. Open Local qualifier during the second week of May. Mazziotta took medalist honors as he fired a one-under par 71 at Old Corkscrew Golf Club in Estero. Medinis finished with a 73.

— Carl Bleich is an FGCU student and freelance writer who lives in Fort Myers.



Leah Daniel



Taylor Cooke

Women swimmers, divers leave competition in their wake

The FGCU women's swimming and diving team capped a stellar season by winning the Coastal Collegiate Swimming Association Swimming and Diving Championships. The Lady Eagles ran away with the team competition, defeating second-place Georgia Southern by 181 points.

The team also brought home every possible piece of hardware from the conference meet. Coach Neal Studd won Women's Coach of the Year while Assistant Coach Patricia Stringham was named Women's Diving Coach of the Year.

Freshman Victoria Cadge was named Rookie Female of the meet as well as Conference Swimmer of the

Year. Sophomore Karmin McNamara earned the Conference Diver of the Year title.

"The 2009 swimming and diving season was really for me a perfect season," Studd says. "I don't think I could expect more from my second-year team than we achieved both in and out of the classroom."

The team compiled an 11-4 record during the regular season and did not lose a meet inside the CCSA conference.

Teammates and coaches voted Leah Daniel Swimmer of the Year while Gabrielle Shaw won Diver of the Year. Taylor Cooke won the Coach's Award, given to the team member who gives unselfishly to the team and represents FGCU in a positive manner.

The team had a combined grade point average of 3.48 and received the Eagle

Team Spirit Award for most spirited sports team at FGCU athletic events.

— Carl Bleich



Karmin McNamara



Victoria Cadge

Sports Calendar



Tuesday, Aug. 18

Men's Soccer vs. Florida Southern (Exhibition)
FGCU Soccer Complex

Saturday, Aug. 22

Men's Soccer vs. Eckerd College (Exhibition)
6 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Friday, Sept. 4

Women's Soccer vs. Tennessee-Martin (Embassy Suites Kick-Off Classic)
7 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Saturday, Sept. 5

Men's Soccer vs. University of South Florida
7:30 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Sunday, Sept. 6

Women's Soccer vs. Army (Embassy Suites Kick-Off Classic)
1 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Thursday, Sept. 10

Women's Soccer vs. Palm Beach Atlantic
7 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Sunday, Sept. 13

Women's Soccer vs. Austin Peay State
Noon, FGCU Soccer Complex

Friday, Sept. 18

Volleyball vs. Belmont*
5 p.m., Alico Arena

Saturday, Sept. 19

Volleyball vs. Lipscomb*
3 p.m., Alico Arena

Saturday, Sept. 26

Women's Swimming & Diving (Blue/Green Scrimmage)
10 a.m., FGCU Aquatics Center

Saturday, Oct. 3

Women's Soccer vs. Campbell*
1 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Thursday, Oct. 8

Volleyball vs. Mercer*
7 p.m., Alico Arena

Friday, Oct. 9

Women's Soccer vs. Jacksonville*
5 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Men's Soccer vs. Belmont*

7 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Saturday, Oct. 10

Volleyball vs. Kennesaw State*
3 p.m., Alico Arena

Sunday, Oct. 11

Men's Golf - FGCU Men's Invitational
West Bay Beach & Golf Club, Estero

Women's Soccer vs. UNF*

11:30 a.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Men's Soccer vs. Lipscomb*

2 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Tuesday, Oct. 13

Volleyball vs. Stetson*
6 p.m., Alico Arena

Friday, Oct. 16

Volleyball vs. North Florida*
7 p.m., Alico Arena

Saturday, Oct. 17

Women's Swimming & Diving vs. Miami/Florida State
11 a.m., FGCU Aquatics Center

Volleyball vs. Jacksonville*

3 p.m., Alico Arena

Thursday, Oct. 22

Men's Soccer vs. Mercer*
7 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Friday, Oct. 23

Women's Soccer vs. ETSU*
7 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Saturday, Oct. 24

Men's Cross Country - FGCU Invitational
8 a.m., Fort Myers

Women's Cross Country - FGCU Invitational

8:40 a.m., Fort Myers

Men's Soccer vs. Campbell*

7 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Sunday, Oct. 25

Women's Golf - 32nd Annual FIU Pat Bradley Invitational, Fort Myers

Women's Soccer vs. USC Upstate*

1 p.m., FGCU Soccer Complex

Friday, Oct. 30

Women's Swimming & Diving vs. Florida Atlantic/Tampa
6 p.m., FGCU Aquatics Center

Volleyball vs. East Tennessee State*

7 p.m., Alico Arena

Saturday, Oct. 31

Volleyball vs. Campbell*
5 p.m., Alico Arena

*A-Sun Conference Game

Score more sports

Keep up with all the Eagle teams at www.fgcuathletics.com.

Hockey clubs place second in nation



They may live and train in the subtropics, but Florida Gulf Coast University's hockey clubs know their way around the ice. They proved that this spring when both teams went to their respective national championships and finished second overall.

The hockey club is an officially recognized student organization and a non-varsity sport.

There were 154 teams in Division II. FGCU's Division II team, which had a 34-3 record last season, went on to beat the University of Connecticut, Michigan State University and Siena College to get to the championship game. The team lost 5-2 to defending champion Davenport University.

The Division III team lost 3-2 to Saginaw Valley State University. There are 160 teams in Division III.

Coach Bob Brinkworth was selected as the Division II American Collegiate Hockey Association Coach of the Year and will coach the Division II Select All-Star Team on a European tour in December and January.

Bret Galbraith was named a First Team All-American player and Kevin Mixon won a spot on the Second Team.

Beyond their athletic acumen, nine players from the two teams were named Academic All-Americans. That's the most of any of the 400 schools in the American Collegiate Hockey Association, says David Kakkuri, adviser to the clubs and director of the Center for Leadership & Innovation in the Lutgert College of Business at FGCU.

Local hockey fans will be happy to know that FGCU will host the Division III National Championship Tournament at Germain Arena next year.

Check it out

Find out more at www.fgcuicehockey.com

Engineer lives his American dream and helps students achieve theirs, too

Story by Karen Feldman
Photos by James Greco

Jovan Zepceviski knows first-hand the immense value of a good education and marketable skills in building a successful life.

It's what helped him leave behind his communist homeland of Yugoslavia and create a free and successful life as a civil engineer and contractor in the United States.

And it's why he chose to support Florida Gulf Coast University's engineering program with donations that will fund scholarships and assist in equipping Holmes Hall, the recently built home of the U.A. Whitaker School of Engineering.

"The more education, the better for everybody, not just the kids who get educated but everybody around them," he says.

Zepceviski recently pledged \$200,000 to name the Zep Construction Suite on the first floor of Holmes Hall. The University will apply to the state for dollar-for-dollar matching funds, bringing the value of the gift to \$400,000. The suite that bears his name includes a teaching laboratory and a studio classroom. The money will be used to purchase scientific equipment for Holmes Hall.

He pledged another \$100,000 to establish the Jovan Zepceviski Engineering Scholarship Fund. FGCU will apply for 50 percent in matching funds, making the gift worth \$150,000. Scholarships will be awarded to civil engineering majors in their junior or senior years who demonstrate financial need and have GPAs of 3.3 or more.

Through these gifts, the school is able to furnish more scholarships to promising engineering students and supply them with the tools they need to learn.



"The more education, the better for everybody, not just the kids who get educated but everybody around them."

— Jovan Zepceviski

"Both of these opportunities will make for a stronger civil engineering program," says Robert O'Neill, chair of the school's Department of Environmental and Civil Engineering.

Zepceviski made yet another donation. After finding out that the program did not have a utility golf cart with which to transport materials into the field for survey classes, he purchased one and had it delivered to Holmes Hall.

"I'm in a position to help," he says. "It's good for the kids because they are the ones who are going to carry this country

forward. I hope they do more than we did."

Today, Zepceviski owns and operates Zep Construction, Inc. in Fort Myers. It's worlds away from his youth, which was spent in what's now known as the Republic of Macedonia, formerly part of Yugoslavia. He went to school there, dedicating himself to a career in engineering. Upon graduation, a government-run agency that operated dams and other water-control structures named him the country's best young engineer that year and hired him.

Despite what seemed like a promising start in his homeland, Zepceviski yearned for a life of freedom.

That led to a job as engineer for the city of Lorain, Ohio. Zepceviski got his first chance to work for himself when he bid on a small bridge job in Ohio. He took a leave of absence, hired a couple of other men, and built it, then returned to his city position.

Knowing he wanted to strike out on his own, Zepceviski earned his Professional Engineer license, then signed on with a company hired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to build one of the biggest pump stations on Lake Okeechobee in Clewiston. It took two years to finish the job and, by then, he was ready to go independent.

In 1973, he formed Zep Construction and got his first job – to build a small bridge and seawall for the Fort Myers Golf Course along McGregor Boulevard. His company continues to operate from its Fort Myers base to this day.

Over 36 years, he's worked on many bridges and other structures throughout Florida, most recently the high-profile overpass job on Interstate 75 in Estero.

He loves what he's doing and where he's doing it.

"It's exciting to get up every morning and try to solve problems, to try to make new things. I'm blessed to be in this kind of business," he says. "I never could have accomplished everything I have if I hadn't come to the United States."

Because of his success, he's been able to help his children, other family members and many other young people pay for college. Now he's ready to help

other aspiring young engineers build successful careers, too.

"Mr. Zepceviski provides an excellent example to students of how far one can go in spite of challenging beginnings and of how important it is to help others along the way," says Susan Blanchard, founding director of the U.A. Whitaker School of Engineering. "The U.A. Whitaker School of Engineering and its civil engineering program are very fortunate to have this generous supporter among our benefactors."



LEFT: Jovan Zepceviski examines a Casagrande cup, a device used to determine the liquid limit of fine-grained sand.

ABOVE: When he learned the engineering program needed a golf cart, Jovan Zepceviski purchased and donated one, turning over the keys to Susan Blanchard, founding director of the U.A. Whitaker School of Engineering.

"I always dreamed of coming to the United States, to a free country with so much opportunity," he says.

He subsequently obtained a visa to study in Great Britain, but instead landed a job there, then moved to Belfast, Ireland for 18 months, where he divided his time between working and learning English.

Then he applied for a visa to enter the United States.

"They wanted civil structural engineers in the United States then so it luckily came right through," he says. "I got my green card in the mail and a week later, I left my old car at the airport and came here."

He entered the United States with \$100 in his pocket. To preserve his resources, he ate frugally and slept at the YMCA in New York City where the nightly rate was \$1. Nonetheless, he was almost out of money when he landed a job as part of a team building a bridge in Chester, Pa.

How to help

Opportunities for named spaces at Holmes Hall remain, as well as the need for scholarships. Contact Susan Blanchard at (239) 590-7390 or Linda Lehtomaa at (239) 590-1071 for details.

Naples resident makes 13 consecutive annual gifts

Every year since Florida Gulf Coast University opened in 1997, Naples resident Jean Benson made a year-end gift of support.

Her generous gifts of cash or appreciated stocks helped one of the country's newest universities become one of its fastest-growing as well.

"I want to support FGCU annually, for it is a shining asset in Southwest Florida," Benson said in 2005.

A long-time resident of The Glenview at Pelican Bay, she died March 27.

Most of Benson's gifts were directed to scholarships, establishing two endowed funds, the Mrs. Keith S. Benson Scholarship Fund and the Jean S. Benson Scholarship Fund. Since the academic year 1999-2000, these scholarships have benefited 95 students. The funds will continue to produce



Jean Benson

scholarships in her name in perpetuity.

"Mrs. Benson was interested in lifelong learning and encouraged faculty participation in The Glenview's active

lecture program," says Steve Magiera, vice president for Advancement and executive director for the FGCU Foundation. "She visited campus whenever Glenview residents toured FGCU to see and hear about the University's growth and research, and encouraged others to take an interest in our students.

"She was a gracious and elegant lady. She will be missed by those of us who knew her and remembered forever for her generosity to FGCU students."

Gifts to FGCU provide vital support for academic and co-curricular programs, scholarships and athletics. These gifts complement state funds and provide students with enhanced academic opportunities.

For information about gift planning, contact Pete Lefferts, director of Planned Giving, at (239) 590-1077. To make a gift, contact the FGCU Foundation at (239) 590-1067.

Iraq veteran grateful for Schoen scholarship

When William Schoen created an endowed scholarship for veterans, Hunter Chatters was the kind of recipient he had in mind.

Schoen, chairman of The Schoen Foundation, created the scholarship for veterans pursuing business degrees at Florida Gulf Coast University because

of his own experience as a Marine and his gratitude for the scholarships he received that helped him further his education.

Chatters, the first recipient of The Schoen Foundation Veteran's Scholarship, is proud to be a veteran and looks forward to the day when he can proudly call himself a college graduate as well.

"I had the opportunity recently to meet with Hunter Chatters when he visited me at my office," Schoen says. "Hunter is an example of a young man who served in our military at a time of war and who has distinguished himself. It is truly a pleasure for The Schoen Foundation to assist in Hunter's education at Florida Gulf Coast University through the scholarship program we established to serve individuals who have served on active duty in our military."

According to Chatters, attending college "would not have been possible

without the help of organizations such as The Schoen Foundation and the assistance I received from the United States of America. It really makes me proud to be a veteran."

Chatters, who grew up in Bonita Springs and Belleview, enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and spent a year stationed at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota, where winter temperatures plummeted to minus 40 degrees (minus 60 with the wind chill factor).

He was then shipped off to a combat zone in Iraq, where temperatures routinely exceeded 100 degrees. After his tour there, he finished out his enlistment in Minot.

"I take great pride in the fact that I am a veteran and served in a time of war," he says.

While in the Air Force, he completed an associate's degree in financial management. He is pursuing a bachelor's degree at FGCU.



Hunter Chatters and William Schoen



This 27-foot Grady White boat will help marine scientists explore area waters. From left: Darlene McCloud, FGCU director of Major Gifts; donors Betty and Jerry Mason; Bob Wasno, FGCU coordinator of Marine Education and Outreach; and Aswani Volety, FGCU chairman of Marine and Ecological Studies.

Masons donate boat for marine science program

Jerry and Betty Masons' recent gift of a boat will aid Florida Gulf Coast University marine scientists and students in their research into conditions such as red tide blooms, salt water intrusion and climate change.

The Masons, who are part-time Bonita Springs residents, recently donated their 27-foot Grady White boat to the University for use by the marine science program.

"We hope this boat will help the University advance the research and study of some of the environmental issues confronting Southwest Florida," says Jerry Mason. "We look forward to its active use by the marine science department."

The boat, which is docked at FGCU's Norm and Nancy Vester Marine & Environmental Science Research Field Station in Bonita Springs, will help to enhance marine research by allowing teams of faculty, staff and students to venture into deeper area waters on scientific excursions.

The Masons are from Kalamazoo, Mich., where they still maintain a home. Jerry Mason is the former president of Air Engineering and Conditioning Company in Kalamazoo. Elizabeth Upjohn Mason is the former president of Upjohn National Leasing Company.

Up north, Jerry Mason served as a director of First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Kalamazoo and a past chair of the Borgess Medical Center board.

Betty Mason has served as chair of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, trustee of Kalamazoo College, chair of the Borgess Foundation Board and as an appointee to the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs.

Wanderlust gala has Midas touch

Wanderlust 2009 served as more than a fundraiser for Florida Gulf Coast University's resort and hospitality management program: It was also a real-life training ground for its students.

The program's signature event attracted roughly 430 people to the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort & Spa for an evening of fine food and tantalizing auction packages.

With a King Midas theme, the event raised \$95,000, which will be used to purchase additional equipment for the program's new building, Herbert J. Sugden Hall, and will benefit the Wanderlust Scholarship Fund.

"It certainly was an event with a Midas touch," says Sherie Brezina, director of the resort and hospitality management program. "It was a golden moment in every way."

This year, 65 event management students participated in the planning and implementation of the gala with Wanderlust committee members and Eventz Inc., she says. That's more than twice the number involved in last year's event and still more are expected to take part as the event management concentration grows.

The students participated in the initial meetings to decide the theme and helped with the marketing, designing the programs, soliciting auction packages, creating and installing decorations, registering guests and serving as bid spotters during the auction.

Of that group as many as 15 will return as seniors and will help teach the younger students how it's done.

"It's a great event," says Brezina. "As I watch the students grow and develop, it's rewarding in a way that has nothing to do with money, but with students preparing themselves to get out and have a professional career in hospitality. The students love taking part in the event and the guests love the student involvement."



TOP: Event management students played important roles in planning and producing this year's Wanderlust fundraising event.

BELOW: The Hyatt Regency ballroom had a golden glow for this year's Wanderlust.

Couple's bequest benefits scholarship funds

Lillian and Clay Clukies of Fort Myers left a bequest of \$77,951 to Florida Gulf Coast University that will benefit scholarships and WGCU public media.

Their gift included \$39,451 for the FGCU General Scholarship Fund, \$37,500 to FGCU First Generation scholarships and \$1,000 to WGCU public media. The First Generation bequest is matched by the state, resulting in an additional \$37,500 contribution to that fund.

The couple moved to Fort Myers in 1976 to live near Clay's two brothers. Prior to that, they lived in Elmont, N.Y., where Clay painted houses and Lillian worked as a women's sportswear supervisor for Abraham and Strauss

department stores.

Their niece, Susan Clare, says the brothers had widely divergent political views and always argued about politics, while their wives kept out of the fray. The one thing they all agreed on, however, was the importance of education and the value of Florida's newest state university, FGCU, which was being built in Estero.

The Clukies' gifts have opened doors to higher education for dedicated students who might not otherwise be able to attend FGCU. The FGCU Foundation is grateful to Lillian and Clay Clukies for their visionary generosity.

Gifts to First Generation scholarships are matched by the state. The

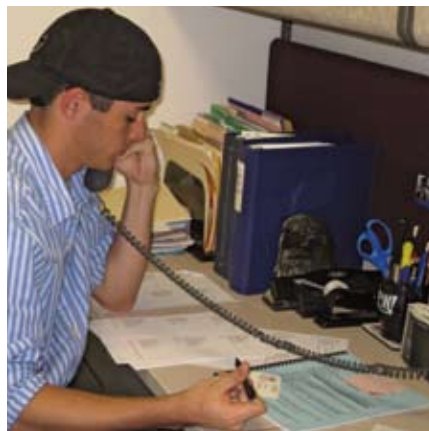
scholarships are awarded to Florida students who need financial assistance and whose parents have not earned college degrees at the baccalaureate level. In 2008-09, thanks to generous community support, 370 students received \$1,000 First Generation awards to help pay their college tuitions.

Community support also enabled the Foundation to award more than \$1.6 million in scholarships of all kinds last year.

Leave a legacy

Find out how to make a bequest or gift by calling Judie Cassidy at (239) 590-1058.

Alumni phone-a-thon affords chance to reconnect



Sophomores Nathan Diaz, top, and Keith Green, below, reach out to alumni during the annual phone-a-thon.

Every spring, Florida Gulf Coast University alumni volunteers and students join forces to reach out to the University's growing body of graduates during the alumni phone-a-thon.

Conducted by the Office of Annual Giving, one obvious objective is to raise money, but the campaign has another important goal: reconnecting alumni with their alma mater.

This year, 15 alumni and students contacted 4,000 alumni during the fourth annual effort.

"The phone-a-thon campaign is the best way to get in touch with a large number of alumni," says Linda Guer-rine, FGCU director of Annual Giving. "Given our current economy, we feel it is vital to connect with our alumni and let them know that we are here to help them weather the storm."

Callers were trained to remind alumni of the benefits of staying connected to campus, especially departments such as Career Development Services, which offers guidance and employment opportunities.

The phone-a-thon is a small, in-house operation that relies on a working database, dependable callers, thorough training and careful planning.

Callers contact graduates they might know or with whom they might have something in common, such as class year or major.

"The alumni that I spoke to shared how the campus and community looked when they were here, and I would end up telling them about so many things that have been added since their graduation," says Brittani Earl, a junior majoring in criminal forensics and criminal justice.

Matt Visaggio, an Alumni Association board member, says he enjoyed making calls because "participating in the phone-a-thon gave me an opportunity to support FGCU and regain contact with some of the great people I met while attending the University."

Calling all alumni

Stay in touch by calling (239) 590-1062. Get the latest FGCU news or donate via FGCU's secure Web site at <http://giving.fgcu.edu>.

ALUMNI



Laura Holquist credits the knowledge she gained at FGCU with helping her rise to president of Allete Properties, Inc.

Laura Holquist honored as 2009 Alumna of Distinction

Story by Lindsey Touchette/Photos by James Greco

Before Florida Gulf Coast University had a name or campus, Laura Holquist played a role in its development and growth.

As an employee of Allete Properties, Inc., a real estate investment and management firm, Holquist was involved in the early stages of University planning as officials considered potential campus sites in the early 1990s. She went on to become a student, then alumna and now serves on various FGCU advisory boards.

For her professional accomplishments and her service to FGCU, Holquist was named the 2009 Alumna of Distinction, becoming the sixth recipient of the award.

Each year the Alumni Association's Board of Directors honors a distinguished graduate who serves the University and the community, and also excels in his or her profession.

"It is a real honor to be recognized for this award, and I am humbled to have been selected," says Holquist. "I am very appreciative to have received this great recognition."

Holquist was nominated by Lutgert College of Business Dean Richard Pegnetter and Associate Dean J. Howard Finch.

"Laura is a truly impressive business leader who brings great pride to our Executive MBA program, her fellow graduates and the Lutgert College of Business," Pegnetter says.

A 2000 Executive MBA graduate, Holquist is a real estate broker and a certified public accountant. She earned

"FGCU provided me with the opportunities I needed to advance my career."

— Laura Holquist

a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Wisconsin. Employed by Allete Properties since 1991, she has risen from senior business analyst to chief financial officer, senior vice president and, in 2001, to president. She has also been recognized as an authority on land development.

While serving as Allete's chief financial officer, she enrolled in the EMBA program to enhance her skills. Within a year of graduating, she became Allete's president.

"FGCU provided me with the opportunities I needed to advance my career," she says. "Without my continued education I'm not sure I would have been promoted to where I am today."

Holquist's expertise on land development and planning make her highly sought after for many councils and boards. Former state House of Representatives Speaker Marco Rubio appointed her to the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida. Governors Jeb Bush and Charlie Crist named her to the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. She also has served as regional chair for Leadership Florida and was a member of the Trust for Public Lands Calusa Advisory Council.

She believes both she and the community benefit from her service.

"Participation allows me to use my expertise for public service," says Holquist. "It also provides me with an opportunity to learn from other developers through review of their projects, and keeps me informed of current government regulations and emerging issues."

As a lifetime member of the FGCU Alumni Association, Holquist maintains ties with the University through participation on the Lutgert College of Business Advisory Council, support of the Lutgert College of Business endowment fund, and as a member of the FGCU Foundation Board of Directors. Under her leadership as president, Allete Properties, Inc. has supported the University through its endowment of the Allete Faculty Lounge in Lutgert Hall.

Holquist is thankful for the relationships she has forged as a result of her involvement with FGCU. From the connections she shares with the rest of her EMBA graduating class to relationships she's built with University leaders, she believes her life and career have been enriched by FGCU.

— Lindsey Touchette
is the FGCU director of
Alumni Relations.



Art alumni balance desire to create with need to earn income as each fashions a *canvas of life*

By John Francis

The demands of marriage and parenthood pulled Megan Kissinger ('05) away from college when she was midway to her degree. After her two children had reached school age, the Fort Myers woman returned to college even though she thought she was too old to earn a degree.

But classes with drawing and painting instructor Carl Schwartz changed her mind – and her life.

"I am the painter I am because of Carl Schwartz," she says. "He convinced me I really needed to get a degree. His technique made my artistic ability soar."

Like many who graduated from Florida Gulf Coast University with art degrees, Kissinger pursues her passion while also eking out a livelihood. She works as an illustrator, painter and sculptor and also teaches art classes.

"To make a living, you have to be versatile," she says.

That versatility was on full display in a recent exhibition on campus called "The Formers: Current Works from FGCU Art Graduates."

Former Gallery Director Scott Snyder conceived of the show as a celebration of alumni continuing to pursue their artistic dreams. Interim Director Anica Sturdivant made it happen.

"Pulling this exhibition together was a tremendous joy for me," Sturdivant says.



vant says. "It has been a reunion with old friends and a discovery of where their diverging paths have taken them."

The "Formers" have taken different routes to get where they are today, but several of the artists featured in the exhibit said their University experience steered them in the right direction. Professors such as Morgan T. Paine, Patricia Fay and Mary Voytek encouraged them artistically, while classes like "Professional Practices in Art" taught them practical necessities like documentation and marketing.

"The faculty gave me a lot of guidance," says Briana Harmening ('05). "They pushed me and said 'You've got

"What I learned at FGCU was that art doesn't have to sell something or be pretty. They released me from the client and said 'You can make anything you want.'"

– Jeffrey Scott Lewis, '04

talent — you should keep doing it.' The professors have a lot of range."

She's among the FGCU grads who are continuing their art education. Harmening is working toward a Master of Fine Arts degree at the University of Tennessee in Nashville.

Although she's enrolled in a

painting and drawing program, Harmening's latest work explores a wider range of interests kindled throughout her art education. Lately, she has been hand-stitching quilts that tell stories and videotaping performance art in which she inhabits a character named Ilene based on her quirky Tennessee relatives.

"My work is really autobiographic and narrative," she says. "My performance work deals a lot with 'women's work' and Southern culture."

An unexpected turn

Like Harmening, Elodie Cotton ('06) of Fort Myers, has veered somewhat from the path on which she began. She'd intended to major in business until an academic adviser nudged her toward art, which she had loved since childhood.

Now, when she arrives home from her pay-the-bills job as a decorative painter and faux finisher, she turns on her creative side, producing colorful acrylic paintings inspired by the Caribbean landscape.

"When you come home at night you think, 'Do you really want to paint some more?'" she said. "But I have to. That's when I get to be an artist."

"The Formers" exhibit provided a showcase for graduates who are following their true passions and making art, she says.

"It's great to have, even if you can't do it all the time," she said. "It's taking you to another world."

The world of nature also inspires much of Kissinger's work. Her drawings and paintings of Florida wildlife have a traditional hand-worked feel, but she also uses computer technology to enhance images. A common thread weaves through her work.

"The main thing I'm trying to reach is the wildness, something untouchable by people," she says. "It's hard to capture that ethereal quality in nature."

Urban landscapes

While Kissinger immerses herself in the Florida wilderness, other alumni

artists have plunged into an urban art scene. Christopher M. Brown ('08) and girlfriend Jamie Brock ('08) moved to Minnesota last year, jumping into the thriving Northeast Minneapolis Arts District. Once the territory of factory-working immigrants, the urban quarter now hosts hundreds of studios, galleries and performance spaces as well as resident artists like Brown.

"It's an inspiring area to be in," Brown says. "We moved here to continue our art careers. It's a large community of artists helping each other."

Brown was preparing to open his first solo show in Minneapolis in June. He juggles work as a custom residential painter with creative outlets in mixed-media art, watercolor, oil pastel, acrylic painting and performance art involving poetry, music, sculpture and animated video.

Despite the grind of making a living while pursuing his artistic goals, Brown's strong work ethic helps him balance everything.

"I'm so used to working toward something and not having much down time," he says. "It's just in me to be productive. My way of being productive is through art and music."

Brown says being an artist involves far more than sitting around and painting.



"To make a living, you have to be versatile."

– Megan Kissinger, '05

"It's more than just making art," he says. "Going to FGCU gave me the tools to make my art the highest quality possible and to be able to sell it. I'm realizing the things teachers said, how true they are. You have to work hard to make it happen."

Weaving life into art

Jeffrey Scott Lewis ('04) has made it happen.

After becoming a widower with



"When you come home at night you think, 'Do you really want to paint some more?' But I have to. That's when I get to be an artist."

— Elodie Cotton, '06

young children, Lewis began to ponder gender roles in life and art. The result was "Women's Work," a series of torn and painted canvas weavings that received local media attention.

"As I weave the painted strips of canvas together to create patterns, I envision the way men and women weave themselves together to create relationships," he writes on his Web site, jeffreyscottlewis.com. "The overlapping and intertwining of personalities makes us stronger as a group. The

masculine and feminine dodge and meet in the fabric of society."

Although Lewis had a successful career in display art that included four years with Walt Disney Co., his perspective on art turned more intellectual when he enrolled at FGCU at age 40.

"I think of my work in an academic way, which is what FGCU gave me," he says. "What I learned at FGCU was that art doesn't have to sell something or be pretty. They released me from the

client and said 'You can make anything you want.'"

The Fort Myers artist has had four solo shows in Naples and Fort Myers and won several grants, including one from the Creative Capital Foundation, a New York-based nonprofit that supports artists.

"I'm on track to where I want to be — except I'm not rich," Lewis says.

— John Francis is a freelancer based in Lee County.



"The faculty gave me a lot of guidance. They pushed me and said 'You've got talent — you should keep doing it.'"

— Brien Harmening, '05

Alumni art on the Web

- **Brien Harmening:** Her performance-art character, Ilene, is featured in videos on YouTube.com. Search for "Ilene's Trip Home."
- **Jeffrey Scott Lewis:** jeffreyscottlewis.com
- **Megan Kissinger:** megankissinger.com

Class Notes

■ Weddings, engagements and births



Dino Bogie and Erin Cicinelli

Erin Cicinelli, '07 (Master's, Curriculum and Instruction), and **Dino Bogie**, '06 (Computer Information Systems), were married Oct. 25 at Riverside Church in Fort Myers. They celebrated their marriage with 140 of their closest family and friends at the Estero Country Club at The Vines. Erin teaches English at PACE Center for Girls in Immokalee and is a teacher consultant for the National Writing Project at FGCU. Dino is an airport firefighter at the Sarasota/Bradenton Airport and plans to pursue a degree in fire science. They live in Estero.

Briana Diercks, '06 (Psychology), and Neal Hockett were married March 21 at Cardinal Mooney High School Chapel in Sarasota. Family and friends celebrated their marriage at University Park Country Club. The couple honeymooned in Lake Tahoe.

Rachel DiSalvo, '05 (Communication), and **Jeff Faramo**, '04 (Marketing), were married April 11 at Glenview



Jeff and Rachel Faramo

Mansion in Rockville, MD.

Kristie Paar, '07 (Legal Studies), and **Devin Mace**, '08 (Legal Studies), were married Feb. 14. They have been accepted into Ave Maria School of Law.

Catherine Mummert, '05 (Master's, Business Administration), and Jonathan Mummert announced the birth of their son, Owen, in November. Catherine is the credit officer at Bank of Naples. Jonathan is pursuing a master's degree in business administration and works for Allen Systems Group.

■ Newsmakers

'98 Crystal Drake, (Secondary Education), has graduated from Leadership Hendry and Glades Counties, Inc. She is working on her master's degree in public administration with a concentration in environmental policy at FGCU.



Jennifer and Rich Sparrow and family

Jennifer Sparrow, (Master's, Curriculum and Instruction), and **Rich Sparrow**, '08 (Accounting), have relocated to Blacksburg, VA. Jennifer is the director of emerging technologies

and new ventures for Virginia Tech University. Rich is working in information technology acquisitions.

'99 Mirta Silvia Torres, (Elementary Education), has been awarded a Golden Apple. She is a third-grade teacher at Spring Creek Elementary in Bonita Springs.

'02 Kathleen Moya, (Theatre), is the public relations coordinator for Lee County Electric Cooperative. She previously worked as a reporter at WGCU Public Media, where she met Brad Taylor, a broadcast engineer. The couple married on Feb. 22, 2008, and honeymooned in Jamaica.

'03 Todd Johnston, (Marketing), has been promoted to area manager at Gartner, Inc. As a student, he was a founding member of Sig Ep fraternity.



Todd Johnston

Melissa Layner, (Master's, Curriculum and Instruction), is the assistant principal for curriculum at East Lee High School in Lee County.

'04 Suzanne Decopain, (Liberal Studies), has graduated from the Florida Coastal School of Law.



Suzanne Decopain

'05 Tracy Colleran, (Marketing), has been named an ambassador for the Dough in the Morning Chapter of Busi-

ness Network International. She will mentor a new chapter while making new networking contacts. Tracy is also a member of Goal Setters, a Naples-based chapter through which she promotes her professional organizing company, Straighten Up, Inc.

Kelly G. McCarthy, (Master's, Curriculum and Instruction), was honored with a \$300 award of merit prize at National Art Encounter 2009, a juried fine art exhibition at The von Liebig Art Center in Naples. Her photograph, "Dunnellon 2," was among 60 pieces chosen for the exhibition from more than 260 applicants and was one of eight winners. Kelly is the director of communications at FGCU.



Kelly G. McCarthy

'06 David Cox, (Management), is a sales representative for Florida Rock Industry/Vulcan Materials. He married **Ashley Jones**, '06 (Nursing), in November 2006. She is a registered nurse at Winter Haven Hospital. They live in Lake Alfred, FL.



Nick Gulick

Nick Gulick, (Accounting), is co-owner of Off Kilter, a production/advertising company in Sarasota. The company's clients include local restaurants and night clubs as well as national video game franchises. Off Kilter shoots television commercials

that air throughout Florida and television shows that range from cooking programs to "This Week in Sarasota."

'07 Jesse Bouchard, (Marketing), has been promoted to college unit director at Northwestern Mutual. He has received certification in long-term care and completed Dale Carnegie training. Jesse is also studying for his stockbroker's license.

Debra Hornick, (Master's, Reading Education), has been awarded a Golden Apple. She is a second-grade teacher at Tice Elementary in Fort Myers.

Kristi Lester, (Communication), is the public information officer apprentice for the Collier County Sheriff's Office. She is pursuing a master's degree in public administration at Hodges University. Kristi and her son, Davee, live in Naples.

'08 Christopher Betts, (Management), is a financial representative at Northwestern Mutual in Ames, IA. He is associated with The Ames Group and the Erhard Financial Group of Des Moines. Christopher provides guidance and innovative solutions to clients with a variety of financial needs and goals.

Adam Borchardt, (Finance), has completed the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries Retirement Plan Fundamentals, Part 1. He is employed by Pension Planners Inc., a third-party administration firm for pension plans. Adam is a pension administrator for profit sharing and 401(k) retirement plans.

Joy Donahue, (Management), is the community relations coordinator for the Fort Myers Miracle baseball team.

Corrie Edwards, (Communication), has been named the communications and marketing manager for the Northern Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce. She is responsible for

the development of marketing materials and communication with chamber membership, the media and general public, as well as all media relations.

Jennifer Gallmeier, (Communication), joined RFB Communications Group, Inc. in February as an account coordinator. She assists in the planning, coordination and implementation of public and media relations campaigns for national, regional and local clients. She lives in Tampa.

■ In memoriam

Florida Gulf Coast University expresses sympathy to the family and friends of the following alumnus:

Fred Halsworth, '00 (Environmental Studies), died Feb. 25. He was a wildlife biologist at Dexter Bender & Associates of Port Charlotte. He enjoyed scuba diving in the Florida Keys. Fred was a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Reach out

Alumni are encouraged to share their news about new jobs, promotions, relocations, weddings, births and other milestones.

Send items to alumnirelations@fgcu.edu or mail to Office of Alumni Relations, Florida Gulf Coast University, 10501 FGCU Blvd. South, Fort Myers, FL 33965-6565.



Corrie Edwards



Jennifer Gallmeier

Alumni chair spells out goals for term

My fellow Eagles,

It is with great honor that I recently assumed the position of chair of the FGCU Alumni Association Board of Directors. As a 1999 graduate (back when we had only two academic buildings and a miniature library!), I jumped at the chance to serve on the board starting in 2005. I look forward to working with you during my two-year term as we continue to grow our programs and benefits.

To that end, we are introducing a new alumni insurance program. We've partnered with Marsh CampusConnexions, one of the country's leading providers of alumni insurance programs. Eagle alumni can access exclusive insurance programs through our new alumni benefits Web site (fgcualumniservices.com). The programs offered include: discounted auto and homeowner insurance through the Liberty Mutual Group Savings Plus program, long-term care, short-term medical and dental plans. I encourage you to visit the site to learn how to take advantage of the competitive group rates.

Over the next two years, we plan to expand program offerings while also striving to increase significantly our membership ranks. Our goal is for every FGCU graduate to join the Alumni Association.

We also want to increase alumni giving to the University. Even in these troubled economic times, we want alumni to remember the critical role FGCU played in furthering their education and increasing their employment opportunities. One of the primary ways we give back to the University is through generous financial donations. Giving opportunities abound at FGCU and no donation is ever too small!

The Alumni Association has accomplished a great deal in a short time and I believe there are exciting times ahead. During the past two years under Cynthia Bennett's excellent leadership, our noteworthy undertakings included hosting our first reunion weekend, implementing a group travel program, graduating our 10,000th alumnus and increasing communication among alumni through social networking. We have created a firm foundation for our Association, which I look forward to seeing expand and flourish.

From one Eagle to another,

James N. Robinson, '99
Chair, FGCU Alumni Association Board of Directors



James Robinson

Alumni Board of Directors elects new members

As the FGCU Alumni Association begins its fifth year, its board of directors recently elected three new members who bring diverse talents to the organization. The 19-member board works to promote pride in, and involvement with, the University among FGCU's 10,000 alumni. The new members are:

Harry Casimir, '05, Annual Joint

Member, is the director of operations for Atilus, LLC, a web development and Internet marketing firm. Casimir earned his bachelor's degree in computer information systems. He and his wife, Esther, '06, recently celebrated the arrival of a potential future Eagle, Ethan Benjamin. Casimir volunteers with the Small Business Development Center and



Harry Casimir

Literacy Volunteers of Lee County.

"I hope through my involvement on the board I will be able to assist in the area of technologies as they relate to increasing the efficiency and availability of the Alumni Association to all alumni," he says.

Melissa Felice, '05, is the director of development for North Collier Hospital Healthcare System.

She earned her bachelor's degree in human services from FGCU in 2003 and completed her Master's of Social

Work in 2005. As a student, Felice presented at Research Day and served as the vice president of the Master's of Social Work student organization. She remains active with organizations such as the National Association of Social Workers, Society for Social Work Leaders in HealthCare, American Association of University Women and as co-chair of the Collier County Habitat for Humanity campaign.

"The countless skills gained from my time at FGCU have helped me to become a change agent in my community," she says. "Because of this, I believe



Melissa Felice

it is important to give back to FGCU."

Brad Piepenbrink, '08, is the legislative aide to state Sen. Garrett Richter. He earned his bachelor's degree in communication and was an active student leader, serving as FGCU Student Government president, Senate president and president of Sigma Phi Epsilon.

"I have a unique viewpoint due to my leadership roles at the University as a student that I believe can add to the board as we continue to build our membership and depth of the association," he says.

Piepenbrink hopes to increase visibility of alumni in the community and to "build on the student experience and community atmosphere that is exclusive to FGCU, continuing the experiences on to alumni."

In addition to the three new board members, six members have been selected for additional terms. They are: Paul Allen, Cynthia Bennett, Carlos Cavenago, Vikki McConnell, Penny Mourer and Melissa White.

For information on nominating or becoming a board member, visit www.fgcu.edu/alumni.



Brad Piepenbrink

The FGCU Alumni Association invites you to save the date ...

Sept 26 • 6 p.m. • Beacon Bowl (Naples, FL)

Have a ball bowling for a good cause with fellow Eagles as we raise money to benefit current students in pursuit of their education. Register a team of five or sign up as an individual for an evening of glow bowling, fun, and food.

Event Details
\$25 adults/\$15 children (7 and under)
Includes: 2 hours of bowling, shoes, buffet, beverages and FGCU giveaways.

Register online at www.fgcu.edu/alumni



Rules of Etiquette 101

Alumni and current FGCU students learned the finer points of well-mannered dining during a four-course dinner presided over by protocol expert Nonnie Owens. Communication alums Peter Lechler, '07, Mitch Kuhn, '08, and Danielle Ruh, '08, were among the participants.



Art alums show their stuff

More than 20 alumni artists displayed their works in the first alumni art exhibition at the FGCU Art Gallery. The Alumni Association partnered with the gallery to host the opening reception, where guests could catch up with friends and faculty, view the array of works and sample wine and cheese from 55° Cool Wine and Cheese. From left: Michael Gibson; Casey Gibson, '05 (Marketing); Vanessa Clarke, '02 (Elementary Education); Vikki McConnell, '04 (Master's, Social Work); Molly Grubbs, '02 (Psychology); Matt Grubbs; and Lindsey Touchette, '05 (Communication).



Revved up and ready

More than 5,000 fans turned out at Hammond Stadium to cheer on the Eagle baseball team when it took on the University of Florida Gators on April 21. FGCU alumni got into the spirit at a pre-game tailgate party. From left: Danielle Palumbo, '06 (Elementary Education); Andrew Kunkle, '02 (Computer Information Systems); and Angela Hodge, '04 (Communication).



Cool night at Germain

Alumni spent some time networking at Beef O'Brady's then headed to Germain Arena to watch the Florida Everblades take the ice against the Charlotte Checkers. From left: Kevin Gaffney, '01 (Accounting); Chase Estes-Gaffney; Amy Gaffney, '02 (Master's, Elementary Education); and Aidan Gaffney.

Alumni Association Happenings

Aug 3: Self-defense class 6 p.m., Griffin's Martial Arts Center, LLC, 4150 Hancock Bridge Parkway, North Fort Myers. Learn the latest self-defense techniques and safety tips in the company of fellow alumni and friends of all ages. This is an interactive class; loose, athletic wear is recommended. Bring a friend, relative or co-worker for this free class. Space is limited so register today.

Aug 15: Celebrate Summer in Full Swing: Tampa Bay Rays Game 7 p.m., Tropicana Field, One Tropicana Drive, St. Petersburg. Join fellow FGCU alumni for an exciting evening of baseball as the Tampa Bay Rays play the Toronto Blue Jays. Arrive with four or more passengers and receive free parking

at Tropicana Field. Stay after the game for a live concert with the B-52s. Cost: Tickets are available at a discounted rate of \$36 (\$70 value) and include lower box seats, a Tampa Bay Rays hat and drink specials in the Brew House Pub post game.

Sept 10: Eagle Networking Night: Law Reception 6-9 p.m., FGCU main campus. Find out what life in the legal field is all about while networking with friends. FGCU alumni who are practicing attorneys will take part in a panel discussion that covers what to expect from applying to law school through career opportunities. Alumni, students and friends interested in the legal profession are invited to attend this free event.

Sept 14: Law School Fair 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Student Union Ballroom, main campus. FGCU alumni and students are invited to visit with recruiters from more than 30 law schools from around the country. Admission is free.

Sept 14: Alumni Board of Directors Meeting 5:30 p.m., Student Union Room 214, main campus.

Sept 26: Dollars for FGCU Scholars 6 p.m., Beacon Bowl, 5400 Tamiami Trail, Naples. The Alumni Association will host its third annual Dollars for FGCU Scholars fund raiser. Have a ball bowling for a good cause with fellow Eagles while raising money

to benefit current students pursuing their degrees. Register a team of five or sign up as an individual for an evening of glow bowling, fun, food and Eagle giveaways. Companies interested in sponsoring a lane may call (239) 590-1087. Cost: \$25 per adult, \$15 for children younger than 7.

Check us out

For the latest news on upcoming events and to register, visit www.fgcu.edu/alumni. Details are available by contacting Kim Williams, coordinator of alumni programming, at alumnirelations@fgcu.edu or (239) 590-1087.

PROFESSIONAL BRIEFS

Entries to Professional Briefs are compiled from the PERFORMANCE E-newsletter of professional accomplishments. FGCU faculty and staff are encouraged to submit their outstanding accomplishments at www.fgcu.edu/CRM/form1.asp

Newsletter – Volume 7,
Issues 6-8

Awards or Recognitions

Valerie Alker, WGPU-FM, 2009 Regional Edward R. Murrow Award, Radio-Television News Directors Association, April 9.

John Davis, WGPU-FM, 2009 Regional Edward R. Murrow Award, Radio-Television News Directors Association, April 9.

Barbara Linstrom, Lynne Howard-Frazer, Libby Boren McMillan, WGPU-TV, Telly Awards, 30th annual National Telly Awards, March 20.

Sandra Pavelka, Public Affairs, Ph.D., editor, International Journal of Restorative Justice, Feb. 25.

Karen Royal, Resort & Hospitality Management, finalist, Administrative Professional of the Year, International Association of Administrative Professionals, April 1.

Halcyon St. Hill, College of Health Professions Dean's Office, Ed.D., M.S., M.T. (ASCP), adviser, Point of Care Testing & Quality Management Procedures: Systematic Approaches to Reducing Errors at Point of Care, Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute, March 11.



Halcyon St. Hill

Tunde Szecci, College of Education Dean's Office, 2009 Advisor of the Year (Student Chapter Advisor), Association for Childhood Education International, March 20.

Amy Tardif, WGPU-TV, 2009 Regional Edward R. Murrow Award, Radio-Television News Directors Association, April 9.

Book Publication

David Collier, Jim Evans, College of Business, Computer Information Systems and Decision Sciences, Ph.D. "OM," Cengage Learning, South-Western, Mason,

Ohio, pp. 380.

Bob Diotalevi, William Statsky and **Pamela McCoy** Linquist, College of Professional Studies, Justice Studies, J.D. "The Florida Paralegal," Cengage Learning, New York, p. 544.

John Domino, Rachel Cooke, College of Education Dean's Office, M.L.S., M.A., Ed.D., "Mentoring To-Go," Divine Intervention Publishing of Southwest Florida, Fort Myers, p. 120.

Charlie Mesloh, Mark Henych and **Ross Wolf**, College of Professional Studies, Justice Studies, Ph.D. "TASER® Conducted Electrical Weapons: Physiology, Pathology and Law," Springer, New York, NY, pp. 23-40.

Edward Wimberley, College of Arts and Sciences, Marine and Ecological Sciences, Ph.D., "Nested Ecology: The Place of Humans in the Ecological Hierarchy," Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, MD, p. 245.

Grant Awards

Walter Rodriguez, College of Business, Computer Information Systems and Decision Sciences, Ph.D., \$30,000, Career Learning Company, eCertification-Lab: A Virtual Resource for Certification Information and Processing, May 1-April 30.

Professional Presentations

Margaret B. Bogan, Michael D. Bogan, College of Education, Graduate Studies, Ph.D., photo exhibit, "Traditions of the Florida Creek Indians," Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Dec. 8-April 8.

Doug Carothers, Ronald Taylor, Edward Ziegler, College of Education, Undergraduate Studies, Ed.D., "Response to Intervention and Portfolio Assessment: Are They Compatible?" Council for Exceptional Children, Seattle, WA, April 1-4.

Patricia Cocomma, College of Professional Studies, Social Work, Ed.D., L.C.S.W., "Ethical Considerations in a Clinical Practice," Social Work: Purpose and Possibility, NASW – South Carolina Chapter Annual State Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC, March 24.

Rachel Cooke, Danielle Rosenthal, Library Services, M.A., M.L.S., "Undergraduate History Student



Rachel Cooke

Papers: The Effect of Library Instruction on Citation Quality," Florida Conference of Historians, Florida Gulf Coast University, Fort Myers, Feb. 27-28.

Lisa Crayton, College of Education, Undergraduate Studies, Ph.D., "Bilingualism and Cultural Assimilation: A Guatemalan Family Portrait," 32nd annual Sunshine State TESOL Conference, Miami, April 16-18.

Sara Dustin, College of Arts & Sciences, Language and Literature, M.A., "Designing Web 2.0 Resources for the University Classroom," national conference, College English Association, Pittsburgh, PA, March 26-28.

Elizabeth Elliott, College of Education, Undergraduate Studies, Ph.D., "Keeping the Ps in line with the Qs," The Q Factor - Quality Early Childhood Education, Manatee Community College - Manatee Early Learning, Bradenton, March 28.

Shelby Gilbert, College of Education, Curriculum and Instruction, Ed.D., "Nativity Status and Mathematics Achievement Among Black Students in the United States," 72nd annual meeting, Southern Sociological Society, New Orleans, LA, April 1-4; "The Impact of Mathematics Education Reform on the Mathematics Achievement of African-American Students in the United States," 53rd annual conference, Comparative and International Education Society, Teachers College, Columbia University, Charleston, SC, March 22-26.



Shelby Gilbert

Shelby Gilbert, Marvin P. Dawkins, Ph.D., University of Miami; **Lawrence Morehouse**, Ph.D., Florida Education Fund; **Charles Jackson**, Florida Education Fund; College of Education, Curriculum and Instruction, Ed.D., "The McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program: A Successful Model in Producing Ph.D.s Among African Americans," annual conference, American Association of Blacks in Higher Education, Atlanta, GA, March 25-28.

Carolynne Gischel, Karolyn King-Peery, Lynn K Wilder, Heather Collins, College of Education, College of Education Dean's Office, Ed.D., "Simple as A.B.C. and 1,2,3: Teaching Parents to Use Positive Behavior Supports," sixth international conference, Association of Positive Behavior Support, Jacksonville, March 26.

Dennis Hunt, Debra Chapa, Ph.D., A.C.N.P.-B.C., **Sharon Rothwell**, R.N., M.S.N., **Mary Lewis**, Ed.D., M.B.A., M.S.N., A.R.N.P., College of Health

Professions, Physical Therapy & Human Performance, "Depression in Patients with Heart Failure (HF): Prevalence, Pathophysiological Mechanisms and Treatments," fourth annual Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Conference, Lee Memorial Hospital, Fort Myers, April 15.

Susan Kohler, Marci Greene, Ed.D., College of Education, College of Education Dean's Office, M.Ed., "Evaluate and Enhance Your Program: Right Questions, Right Response, Right Results," 19th annual National Association for Alternative Certification Conference, San Antonio, TX, Jan. 28-31.

Susan Kohler, Peg Sullivan, Director, SERVS, College of Education, College of Education Dean's Office, M.Ed. Special Education, "Support, Sustain and Retain New Teachers," Effective Pathways to Teaching: A Time for Change, National Council for Alternative Certification, Washington, April 5-7.

Tanya Kunberger, College of Business, School of Engineering, Ph.D., "Incorporating Microscopic Analysis and Visual Classification into Soil Mechanics in an Integrated Lecture Lab Environment," International Foundation Congress and Equipment Expo 2009, Geo Institute of ASCE, ADSC, and PDCA, Orlando, March 15-19.

Barry Lipton, College of Professional Studies, Justice Studies, D.D.S., "Forensic Odontology," Young Forensic Scientists Forum, American Academy of Forensic Science, Denver, Feb. 17; "Dentistry and Mass Disasters," FEMORS Training, University of Florida, Orlando, March 27; "Missing and Unidentified Persons," FDLE Regional Training, FDLE/FBI, Tampa, March 12.

Elsbeth McCulloch, AMTS Dean's Office, "Bringing the Cloud Home: Using Web Widgets in Learning Management Systems," Florida Distance Learning Consortium, Tallahassee, Feb. 27.

Elsbeth McCulloch; RuthAnn Balla, Miami-Dade State College; **Vicki Westergard**, St. Petersburg State College; **Wilma Hodges**, Seminole Community College; AMTS Dean's Office, "ANGEL Southeast Users Group: Creating a Virtual Conference," Florida Distance Learning Consortium, Tallahassee, Feb. 27.

Charlie Mesloh, Komaal Collie, Justice Studies, Ph.D., "Police Dogs as Less Lethal Weapons: A Quantitative Analysis of Effectiveness, 46th annual conference, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Boston, MA, March 10-13.

Charlie Mesloh, Ross Wolf, College of Professional Studies, Justice Studies, Ph.D., "Perceptions of the Effectiveness of K9 Units on University Campuses," 46th

English professor embraces dual roles as blogademic

Douglas Harrison leads a double life. As a Florida Gulf Coast University assistant professor, he teaches courses in American literature and culture, composition and journalism. As a blogger, he writes and edits www.averyfineline.com, a site devoted to Southern gospel music and culture.

His observations about his experiences as a self-described “blogademic” recently earned him the National Education Association’s 2008 Award for Excellence in the Academy, which recognizes outstanding research and publication by a new scholar. His winning essay, “Scholarly Voice and Professional Identity in the Internet Age,” appeared in the NEA’s scholarly journal, *Thought & Action*.



Douglas Harrison

The work chronicles the development of his academic and cyber lives in a society that often views them as polar opposites in terms of content, language and literary worth. Although reticent about discussing his blogging with academic colleagues at first, he’s now comfortable in both worlds and believes each enhances the other.

“I’m not under any illusion it’s going to make me cooler or hipper with students,” he says, “but it helps keep me current with the times and media shaping their lives.”

Harrison strives to imbue his students with a similar appreciation of the medium.

He has students write blogs in many of his classes and he teaches an advanced creative writing course called “Styles and Ways of Blogging,” in which students create blogs and study blogging as a cultural phenomenon. (For the uninitiated, blog is a contraction for Web log, a site typically maintained by a person who produces periodic commentaries, subject-specific essays or videos.)

Blogging helps transform them from passive consumers absorbing information to “active participants in learning and the creation of knowledge,” he says. “It puts them at the center of the learning process

In his own words

“As a blogging academic, I am as comfortable in a sweater with elbow patches as I am in pajamas and bedhead. The trouble starts when I imagine some of the people who know me as the guy in elbow patches catching a glimpse of me in my pjs and the fright-night hair I wake up with in the morning. For academics accustomed to carefully controlled rhetorical situations and ethical appeals ... blogging forces us to surrender a great deal of control – much more than we are used to giving up as teachers and scholars.”

- Douglas Harrison, “Scholarly Voice and Professional Identity in the Internet Age,” *Thought & Action*, National Education Association, fall 2008. For the full article, visit www2.nea.org/he/heta08/images/2008Harrison.pdf

rather than on the margins.”

It’s a way of taking a writing form with which this generation feels comfortable, he says, “and giving them a bit more shape and focus so they can begin to see digital technology as more than just a way to make dinner dates or chat with people.”

Harrison began blogging about 5 years ago when he was a graduate student seeking distraction from his dissertation about the psychology of the American religious experience.

Having grown up immersed in evangelical music and religious culture in the Missouri Ozarks, he says writing about it “helped me maintain a connection to the part of the world I’d left behind half a lifetime ago.”

Some of the credit for his award-winning article belongs to FGCU, where he says he’s been able to explore his dual passions in ways “that may not have been as readily available to me in more traditional institutions.”

He believes it’s made him a more effective teacher.

“As someone who teaches writing and talks about literary style and voice, regularly writing and publishing in these different voices helps reinforce for me in practical ways the ideas I talk about in the classroom,” Harrison says. “I hope that gives me an ability to speak with relevance and credibility that I might not otherwise have with students, demonstrating that there’s a connection between the ordinary world and language encountered in blogs, and what an academic and scholar does.”

annual conference, Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Boston, MA, March 10-13.

Eric Otto, Maria Roca, College of Arts and Sciences, Communication and Philosophy, Ph.D., “Girls’ Work: The Eco-Heroine in the Films of Hayao Miyazaki,” international conference, International Association for the Fantastic in the Arts, Orlando, March 19.

Sandra Pavelka, College of Professional Studies, Public Affairs, Ph.D., “Exploring the Dark Matter of Juvenile Justice: Case Closing Outcomes to Create a Better Understanding of Our World,” National Conference on Juvenile Justice, American Prosecutors Research Institute, Orlando, March 12-14.

J. Michael Rollo, Wayne Griffin, Vice President’s Office - Student Affairs, Ph.D., “The Troubled, Disturbing, and Disruptive: Behavioral and Collaborative

Assessment Models,” American College Personnel Association National Convention-2009, ACPA-College Student Educators International, Washington, DC, March 29.

Tunde Szecsi, V. Thirimurthy, M. Salakaja, G. Potter, College of Education, College of Business Dean’s Office, “Using Children’s Literature to Help Children Construct Understandings about Diversity: A Four Culture Perspective,” annual conference, Association for Childhood Education International, Chicago, March 18-21.

Tunde Szecsi, College of Education, College of Education Dean’s Office, “Unheard Voices of Minority Teacher Candidates in Teacher Education Programs,” annual conference, Association for Childhood Education International, Chicago, March 18-21; “Fostering Cultural

and Linguistic Competencies Through Cross-Cultural Email Correspondence: An Innovative Approach in Teacher Education,” International Certificate Annual Conference, ICC International Language Network, Florence, Italy, March 27-29.

David Thurmaier, College of Arts and Sciences, Bower School of Music, Ph.D., “A Figment of His Imagination: Elliott Carter on Charles Ives and Musical Borrowing,” Society for American Music Annual Conference, Denver, March 21.

Elia Vazquez-Montilla, Elizabeth M. Elliott, Undergraduate Studies, Ph.D., “Puppets, Portfolios and Presentations:



David Thurmaier

Teaching Tools for Advancing Young Children’s Development,” Children and the Crossroads: Educating All to Move Forward, Association for Childhood Education International, Chicago, March 18-21.

Publications

Michelle Angeletti, College of Health Professions, Health Sciences, M.S.W., Ph.D., “Breastfeeding Support in Emergencies: Policy Implications for Humanitarian Relief Agencies,” *Journal of Emergency Management*, quarterly, pp. 39-44.

Doug Carothers, Margarita Bianco, Lydia Smiley, College of Education, Undergraduate Studies, Ed.D., “Gifted Students With Asperger Syndrome: Strategies for Strength-Based Programming,” *Intervention in School and Clinic*, quarterly, pp. 206-215.

David Collier, Kurt Hozak, College of Business, Computer Information Systems and Decision Sciences, Ph.D., “RFID as an Enabler of Improved Manufacturing Performance,” *Decision Sciences*, monthly, pp. 859-881.



David Collier

David Collier, H. Zhou, D. D Wilson, College of Business, Computer Information Systems and Decision Sciences, Ph.D., “The Relationship of Strategic Business Alignment and Enterprise Information Management in Achieving Better Business Performance,” *Enterprise Information Systems*, monthly, pp. 219-237.

David Collier, T.A. Clottey, M. Stodnick, College of Business, Computer Information Systems and Decision Sciences, Ph.D., “Drivers of Customer Loyalty in a Retail Store Environment,” *Journal of Service Science*, quarterly, pp. 35-47.

John Cox, College of Arts and Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, “Lost Worlds: Genocide and Diego Rivera’s ‘Tenochtitlán’,” “Evoking Genocide: Scholars and Activists Describe the Works

that Shaped their Lives,” Adam Jones, ed., *Key Publishing*, pp. 8-10.

John Cox, Immanuel Ness, Social and Behavioral Sciences, “Socialism vs. Nationalism in Inter-War Germany,” *International Encyclopedia of Revolution and Protest: 1500 to Present*, pp. 1373-1381.

Lisa Crayton, Jongson Wee, College of Education, Undergraduate Studies, Ph.D., “Beyond Bedtime Story Reading: Captive Audience,” *Reading Today*, monthly, p. 32.

Karen Eastwood, Monika Renard, College of Business, Management, Ph.D., “Training the Trainers: Parlate Italiano? An Experiential Exercise in International Human Resources,” *International Business & Economics Research Journal*, quarterly, pp. 1-9.

Nicola Foote, College of Arts and Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Ph.D., “Review of Sex in Revolution: Gender, Politics and Power in Modern Mexico,” *Canadian Journal of History*, quarterly, pp. 575-78.

Steve Fraser, William W. Jennings and Brian C. Payne, College of Business, Finance and Accounting, Ph.D.,

“Do Health Care Investments Hedge Health Care Liabilities?” *The Journal of Investing*, quarterly, pp. 69-74.

Anna Goebel, Tom A. Ranker, Paul S. Corn, Richard G. Olmstead, College of Arts and Sciences, Biological Sciences, Ph.D., “Mitochondrial DNA evolution in the Anaxyrus boreas species group,” *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*, monthly, pp. 209-225.

Charlie Mesloh, Komaal Collie, Brandon Wargo, Christopher Berry, College of Professional Studies, Justice Studies, Ph.D., “A Pilot Study of Kinetic Energy Transfer Based Upon Police Baton Designs,” *Law Enforcement Executive Forum*, quarterly, pp. 119-126.

Eric Otto, College of Arts and Sciences, Humanities and Arts, Ph.D., “Environmental Science Fiction” and “Gearhart, Sally Miller,” *Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy*, pp. 99-102 and 135-136.



Anna Goebel

Tunde Szecsi, College of Education, College of Education Dean’s Office, “Integration of diversity standards in the teacher preparation programs,” *Pedagoguskepzes*, quarterly, pp. 97-107 (in Hungarian).

Tunde Szecsi, I. Miklosne, College of Education, College of Education Dean’s Office, “The door is locked, only love has the key: Hungarian children speak up for children worldwide,” in L.Staley & E. Zygmunt-Fillwalk (Eds.), *Empowering children’s global citizenship*, <http://egc.iweb.bsu.edu/itunesu/itunesu.html>.

Glenn Thompson, Ann M. Thompson, College of Arts and Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Ph.D., “Experimental evidence that the serotonin transporter mediates serotonin accumulation in LSO neurons of the post-natal mouse,” *Brain Research*, monthly, pp. 60-68.

Ara Volkan, C. Andrews, Ph.D. (College of Business); **J. Brown** (graduate student); **J. Riley** (graduate student); **C. Todd** (graduate student), College of Business, Finance and Accounting, “FAS 141(R): Global Convergence and Massive Changes in M&A Accounting,” *Journal of Business and Economics Research*, monthly, pp. 125-135.

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"Doctor Faustus"

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Oct. 28-Nov. 28
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Not satisfied with his wealth of knowledge and his high social standing, Faustus sells his soul to the devil for pleasures more magnificent than mortal boundaries allow. Marlowe's classic dark tale of flying too close to the sun is re-imagined in FGCU's intimate studio performance.

Art Exhibits

Kent Anderson Butler – Video Installations and Projections

Sept. 3-Oct. 9
Opening reception with the artist: 5-7 p.m. Sept. 3

Purvis Young – Souls Grown Deep, A Gift from the Rubell Family Collection

Oct. 22-Nov. 20
Opening reception: 5-7 p.m., Oct. 22

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Contact Anica Sturdivant, interim gallery director,
at (239) 590-7199 or asturdiv@fgcu.edu.

Bower School of Music

Guest Artist Recital

Charles Stegeman, violin, accompanied by Michael Baron, piano
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10
Student Union Ballroom

Faculty Chamber Concert

Aaron Hilbun, oboe; Kirsten Bendixen-Mahoney, horn;
Michael Baron, piano
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16
Student Union Ballroom

Guest Artist Recital

Sharon Mabry, mezzo-soprano
7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 12
Student Union Ballroom

Wind Orchestra/Symphony Orchestra Concert

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20
Student Union Ballroom

Darnell Faculty Artist Recital

accompanied by Michael Baron, piano
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 29
Student Union Ballroom

Founding professor, Roy Mumme, dies

Roy Mumme, a groundbreaking educator in Southwest Florida, died at home in his sleep June 18. He was 84.

A founding faculty member at Florida Gulf Coast University, he also played a major role in educating Southwest Florida students for more than two decades as director of the University of South Florida at Fort Myers. At the time of his USF appointment, the regional campus consisted of an office in downtown Fort Myers.

Mumme was among the community leaders who helped pave the way for the creation of a comprehensive university in Southwest Florida and became a founding faculty member when FGCU opened in 1997.

By the time he retired in 2003, he had worked a combined 37 years at USF and FGCU, and had earned professor emeritus status. In 2006, FGCU conferred on him the honorary degree, Doctor of Laws.

Mumme embraced the value of higher education and public service through his distinguished record of scholarship, service and education. He is widely recognized for his energetic and vigorous pursuit of access to higher education in Southwest Florida.

Those who knew him considered him a true Renaissance man – pioneer, professor, poet, sports enthusiast, artist and lover of metaphors. He was well known for bestowing upon colleagues clever limericks accompanied by original drawings and was an ardent FGCU Eagles fan.

Mumme is survived by his wife of 42 years, Susan, their two sons, Brian and David, as well as two children from a previous marriage, Ron and Patricia. The family asks that memorial gifts be in the form of donations to the Roy I. Mumme Scholarship Fund at FGCU.



Roy McTarnaghan, FGCU founding president and Roy Mumme during an event in FGCU's early days.

Colloquium travel goes green with buses

When Annette Snapp became the University Colloquium coordinator last August, she discovered that students were driving independently to field trips.

Both students and faculty wanted a more sustainable means of transportation so Snapp arranged for bus service, which began last spring.

The result is a substantial reduction in the University's carbon footprint.

According to Audubon of Florida, by the end of the year, using buses in place of cars will result in a reduction of 45 tons of carbon emissions and eliminate 105,984 road miles.

"Everyone is happy – students, faculty, and our field trip destinations where student cars used to fill their parking areas," says Snapp.

JAMES GRECO



International Week



18th Annual Founder's Cup Golf Tournament

Monday, October 12, 2009



11:30 AM Lunch
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