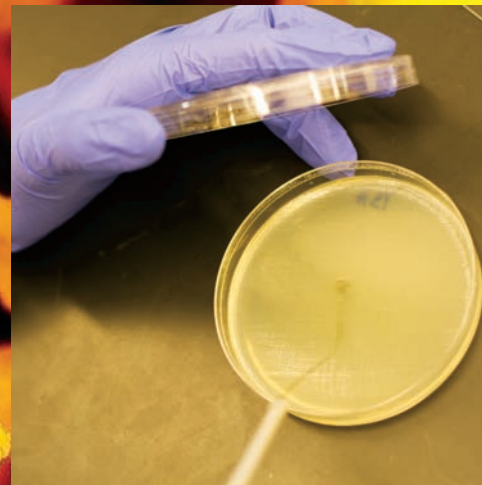


# SOUTHERN NEWS

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE  
VOLUME 59 • ISSUE 1 • SPRING 2014



## GREAT EXPLORATIONS:

The sciences take center stage  
at Florida Southern

## BUILDING HISTORY:

The Sharp Family Tourism & Education  
Center launches a new era of tourism



## A letter *from the president*



It's appropriate that this issue comes to you in spring, a time of renewal and growth, as Florida Southern College is in the midst of a remarkable renaissance. New programs, new people, and new construction contribute to a spirit of excitement and momentum that can be felt in every corner of campus.

One of the most significant developments this year was the grand opening of the Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center in October. This spectacular facility serves as the visitors' center for our renowned collection of Frank Lloyd Wright-designed buildings, a collection that now boasts a thirteenth structure based on an original Wright design, the Usonian House. It is a stunning example of his work, and already it has attracted attention and acclaim from tourists and architecture enthusiasts around the world. The photos and article that appear inside this issue will give you just a glimpse of the Sharp Center, but to truly experience it, you must come and visit!

Another construction project that is well underway goes hand in hand with a new emphasis on the performing arts at FSC: the Wynee Warden Dance Studio will be completed later this year, and it will be a wonderful home for our new program in dance. Already, we have launched a new musical theater major that will benefit from the studio's vibrant rehearsal space. I invite you to read on to learn more about this new major, its dynamic leader, and early successes.

Our cover story explores another new program launched this year, a major in marine biology, as well as the ongoing efforts and accomplishments of students, faculty, and alumni in the sciences. Ensuring that the United States' science and technology industries remain at the forefront of our global economy is a prominent trend in higher education today, and this in-depth article reports on several ways in which Florida Southern is meeting this need.

Florida Southern is a whirlwind of activity these days, with more on the horizon. With these exciting additions, we remain committed to our founding mission of preparing students through pervasive excellence in our engaged learning model to make important and consequential contributions to their careers, their communities, and, indeed, the world. I hope you enjoy this issue and will continue to support the efforts to make Florida Southern one of the most outstanding private colleges in the nation.

Sincerely,

Anne B. Kerr, Ph.D.

President

**On the cover:** *Camellia in Spring* by Matthew Cicanese '12. Explore more works showcasing the vibrant and intricate world of nature at the microscopic level at [www.cicanesephotography.com](http://www.cicanesephotography.com). Inset images, clockwise from top left: Alumna Lateita Moore '99; Junior Trey Iakovidis studies Gordian worms under the microscope; Assistant Professor of Chemistry Jason Montgomery instructs students in the use of an infrared spectrometer; and a first-year student employs a petri dish in the quest for the next antibiotic.

# SOUTHERN NEWS

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

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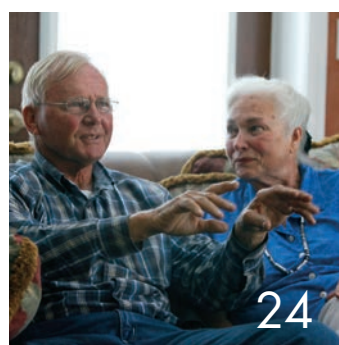
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The image shows the interior of a Usonian House, featuring a warm, wood-paneled ceiling and walls. The room is furnished with a long wooden table in the foreground, a wooden chair with a red seat, and a wooden bench. A large map is laid out on the table. In the background, there are wooden shelves with various items, a red vase with a plant, and a wooden table with chairs. The overall atmosphere is cozy and rustic.

*The Beautiful Fruit  
of Our Labor*

Florida Southern ushers in a new era of cultural tourism with the launch of the Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center.

*by Cary McMullen*

*Interior living room of the Usonian House  
Photo by Michael Lowry*



*In a landmark event in architectural history,* Florida Southern College opened the Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center, adding the thirteenth Frank Lloyd Wright structure to its world-renowned campus. Based on an original Wright design, the Usonian House is the centerpiece of the Sharp Center, which will welcome an expected 100,000 annual visitors to campus.

The Sharp Center was formally dedicated at a ceremony in October that included alumni, students, faculty, FSC trustees, and community dignitaries. FSC President Anne Kerr declared in her remarks, “Tonight, excellence in education and innovation in American architecture come together.”

Thanking dignitaries from the City of Lakeland, Polk County, and the State of Florida, Dr. Kerr noted that their efforts to secure the necessary funding were integral to the project’s success.

The Sharp Center will serve as the welcome center for visitors to FSC’s famous Wright-designed west campus, which was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2012. FSC Trustee Dr. Robert Sharp ’61 and his wife, Peggy, gave the naming gift for the center. Dr. Sharp retired as chairman of the board of The Auto Club Group, the second largest AAA club in North America.

In his remarks at the dedication, Dr. Sharp said, “It is a true landmark for our campus. When I think about the wonderful opportunities this center will offer to the City of Lakeland and Florida Southern, I think we are going to see 120,000 annual visitors here.”

The Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center sits on the newly renamed Frank Lloyd Wright Way, formerly McDonald Street, across from the Sarah D. and L. Kirk McKay Archives Center. In addition to the Usonian House, the center includes the Ruthven Family Plaza; a specially commissioned bronze statue of Wright; a custom-designed fountain in the style of Wright; and the GEICO Gift Shop, housed in a refurbished American Craftsman home.

The 1,330-square-foot Usonian House is the first Frank Lloyd Wright design to be built on the original site for the original client since 1966. It was designed in 1939 as a simple, low-cost home with a distinctly American character, and it was intended for faculty housing, although it was never built. The striking one-story building has many signature Wright features—cantilevered wooden beams, interlocking “textile”

blocks inset with nearly 6,000 squares of colored glass, and expanses of floor-to-ceiling glass doors that make the beauty of nature an element of the home.

Under the direction of restoration architect and Wright scholar Jeff Baker of Mesick Cohen Wilson Baker of Albany, N.Y., Wright’s Usonian design was built using modern techniques, including improved textile blocks. Although the plans were slightly modified to meet current building codes, they are otherwise faithful to Wright’s architectural plan, making the Sharp Center a new window into Wright’s genius.

In his remarks at the dedication ceremony, Baker eloquently praised the leadership of the College for having the vision and determination to complete the Usonian House.

“While it is no small miracle that this house is finished, the real miracle is that it was even started,” he said.

The Sharp Center features reproductions of furniture that Wright designed for use in the Usonian homes and a screening room, funded by Bill and Kathy Pou, for a 20-minute documentary film commissioned by the College about Wright’s architecture at FSC. The film includes rarely seen footage of former FSC President Ludd Spivey recounting how he first contacted Wright. The center is open from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, and docents are on duty to conduct tours and provide visitors with information about the campus.

The center also includes a remarkable and rare photograph of Wright by internationally acclaimed portrait photographer Yousuf Karsh. Through the efforts of FSC Trustee Robert Puterbaugh and his wife, Malena, the photograph was donated by Karsh’s widow, Estrellita Karsh. Mr. Puterbaugh presented the photograph at a reception prior to the dedication ceremony. He said when Mrs. Karsh learned about the Usonian House, she decided to gift the photograph of Wright—which was on loan to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston—to the College.

Both Dr. Kerr and Jeff Baker also acknowledged the work of Rodda Construction Inc., of Lakeland, the primary contractor for the project, and the artisans who had painstakingly made the molds for the textile blocks, the glass insets, and the custom cabinetry and furniture.

“It has been a long road, longer than any predicted, but we have persevered, and this is the tangible and beautiful fruit of our labors,” Baker said.



## Frank Lloyd Wright Statue Presides over Sharp Center

As if conveying the blessing of the great architect over his work, a full-sized bronze statue of Frank Lloyd Wright stands on a pedestal in the Ruthven Family Plaza—funded by Trustee Joe Ruthven and his wife, Judy—gazing toward the Florida Southern campus. The statue was commissioned through an effort led by FSC Trustee Dr. Sarah D. McKay and unveiled at the dedication of the center on October 31.

The sculpture was executed by celebrated artists Don Haugen and Teena Stern, the same team that created the endearing statues of children reading—a gift from philanthropists Hal and Marjorie Roberts—that grace the entrance to FSC’s private elementary school for gifted children with dyslexia, the Roberts Academy. This new piece portrays Wright, wearing his signature porkpie hat, in a jaunty pose, resting on his cane with a hand on his hip and an amused expression on his face. It is only the second life-sized statue of Wright known to exist.

In remarks at the Sharp Center dedication ceremony, Dr. McKay said she was inspired by the Roberts Academy statues to have one commemorating Wright and organized a financial campaign.

“Forty-eight people made this possible, so thank you, thank you, thank you. It has been an interesting experience, and I’m most grateful,” she said.

Already the statue has proven to be a popular photo spot. Many of the tourists who come to see the Usonian House and the Wright-designed campus pause to have their photo taken next to the sculpture.

## GEICO Gift Shop Showcases Wright Merchandise

Merchandise related to Frank Lloyd Wright has long been popular with tourists who visit Florida Southern. The construction of the Usonian House offered the College an opportunity to expand the quality and variety of merchandise available to visitors and campus constituencies, and the perfect venue for a new gift shop sat right next door.

Thanks to a generous gift from GEICO, an American Craftsman bungalow, built around 1930, was purchased and renovated, creating a spacious and beautiful gift shop on the west side of the Ruthven Family Plaza. Reflecting a traditional design of the Arts and Crafts movement, it was one of thousands of homes offered for sale by Sears through mail order between 1908 and 1939.

The GEICO Gift Shop is a 1,470-square-foot house that originally had two bedrooms and one bath. After renovation, it has an open interior



*George Rogers, regional vice president for GEICO and FSC trustee, makes the first purchase in the GEICO Gift Shop—a Frank Lloyd Wright necktie.*

for merchandise display, a sales kiosk, and public restrooms.

GEICO Regional Vice President and FSC Trustee George Rogers made the ceremonial first purchase at the gift shop, and FSC President Anne Kerr thanked him and GEICO for making the gift shop possible.

“We love it. It’s a wonderful complement to Wright’s architecture and a hallmark of the beautiful Lake Morton Historic District,” she said.

“GEICO is very pleased and proud to be on site at FSC, sponsoring the GEICO Gift Shop at the Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center. The center is a spectacular focal point to the wonderful Frank Lloyd Wright architecture represented across the beautiful campus,” said Rogers. “The placement of the center, the workmanship, and integrity of the architectural design are truly magnificent, and we could not be more pleased to be a part of this expansion. We sincerely thank the College and the Sharp family for allowing us the privilege to associate GEICO with this important educational and fun destination.”

The merchandise for sale in the shop, according to Mark Tlachac, director of the Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center, is all inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright designs. Among the items for sale are jewelry and clothing, decorative art such as vases and statues, and furnishings such as lamps and place mats, with several items that are exclusive to Florida Southern. Proceeds from the sales will be used to maintain and refurbish Wright architecture at FSC.

*In addition to setting the stage for the life-size bronze of Wright, Ruthven Family Plaza also features a Wright-style fountain that was custom designed by Supervising Architect Jeff Baker for this site.*





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*Clockwise from top: (1) The ribbon is cut! Left to right: Bill Pou, former Lakeland Mayor Gow Fields, Robert Sharp '61, Peggy Sharp, Board Chairman Bob Fryer '70, Trustee Marcene Christoverson, Polk County Commissioner Melony Bell, Architect Jeff Baker, Dr. Anne Kerr, Trustee George Rogers, Trustee Sarah D. McKay, Trustee Bishop Bob Fannin '58, and Trustee Joe Ruthven. (2) Jeff Baker delivers words of inspiration and celebration. (3) Judy and Joe Ruthven enjoy the pre-dedication reception held at the Polk Museum of Art. (4) Malena and Robert Puterbaugh stand proudly with the Karsh portrait. (5) Robert Sharp addresses the audience during the dedication ceremony.*



4



3



## Dr. Brad Hollingshead: Helping Students Make Connections

The transition from high school to college can leave even talented students struggling to make sense of what they are learning. Brad Hollingshead, Ph.D., is here to help.

Dr. Hollingshead was appointed dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and comes to FSC from Medaille College in Buffalo, N.Y., where he was dean for foundational learning and assessment.

His skills and experience as an academic leader are expected to advance FSC's long-term goal of raising its standards of academic achievement and burnishing its reputation as a nationally renowned college. Dr. Hollingshead is particularly interested in improving the experience of first-year students through strategies such as learning communities and interdisciplinary coursework.

For Dr. Hollingshead, what goes on outside the classroom may be just as important as instruction to help students mature in their thinking.

"I place a lot of emphasis on creating engaged, transformative learning experiences in the first year. In high school, what you learn is fragmented. It's very important to me that when students come to college, they make connections among all skill sets and knowledge across courses," Dr. Hollingshead said.

FSC Provost Kyle Fedler, Ph.D., said Dr. Hollingshead's emphasis

on integrative education will enhance the College's educational method of engaged learning.

"Brad is constantly exploring how coursework, experiential learning, and student life experiences work together to provide students with a cohesive set of skills, knowledge, and perspectives that will serve them well upon graduation," Dr. Fedler said.

Dr. Hollingshead was drawn to FSC as a chance to build upon a strong foundation.

"Florida Southern stood out as a place with a great tradition in the arts and sciences," he said. "I look forward to helping the school build on that tradition to create a School of Arts and Sciences that is among the best in the nation."



## Dr. Loretta Reinhart: Nursing Is about Caring



Drawing on her years of experience, Loretta Reinhart, Ph.D., observes that in the practice of nursing, there are some constants.

"The main pieces haven't changed. It's about caring for people. We are so close to people when life starts and ends. I've always tried to convey that to my students and faculty," she says.

Dr. Reinhart is the new dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences at FSC, assuming her duties in mid-summer. She had just retired as dean and professor of nursing at Malone University in Canton,

Ohio, and she and her husband moved to Estero, in Southwest Florida, but it proved to be a short retirement. She was asked by FSC Provost Kyle Fedler, Ph.D., to take over after Dr. John Welton was recruited to start a statewide nursing research collaborative at the University of Colorado, Denver.

Dr. Reinhart brings to her new position more than 40 years of experience as an educator and a practicing nurse. She served at Malone University from 1991 to 2012 as dean and professor and was a professor of nursing at Olivet Nazarene University in Kankakee, Ill., from 1979 to 1991. Her experience also includes years as a practicing nurse at hospitals in Ohio and Illinois.

"We are very fortunate to have Dr. Reinhart, who brings such experience in health education to Florida Southern," said Dr. Fedler. "She is ideally suited to lead the School of Nursing and Health Sciences as it continues to grow in size and in the scope of its offerings."





## An Update from the Mocs ROTC Battalion



*By Lt. Col. Scott LaRonde, U.S. Army,  
Professor of Military Science*

Greetings from the Moccasin Battalion! Florida Southern College has a rich history with its Army ROTC program, and the Moccasin Battalion continues to provide outstanding leaders for the United States Army, Army Reserve, and Florida Army National Guard. Our May 2013 graduating class was no exception, doubling the national average of Distinguished Military Graduates.

Our current group of seniors performed very well at last summer's Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC), as they were ranked second highest among ROTC programs at private colleges in the Southeastern United States.

We are proud that two of our cadets who will graduate in April were named Distinguished Military Graduates, a distinction awarded to the

top twenty percent of graduating Army ROTC seniors nationwide. Cadet Lt. Col. James Flores, our battalion commander, will be assigned to Army military intelligence upon graduation, and Cadet Stephanie Thacker will go to flight school on her way to becoming an aviation officer.

Cadet Lt. Col. Flores fought with the 101st Airborne Division in Afghanistan prior to coming to FSC on the Army's Green to Gold program. James and his team are working diligently to uphold the great reputation of our



*Cadets Julie McCabe (left) and Desirea Roberts (right) pause for a quick reunion while at LDAC in Washington State last summer.*

ROTC program. They are training this year's junior class for their LDAC experience as LDAC moves from Joint Base Lewis McChord, Wash., to Fort Knox, Ky.

*Cadet Christopher Everts rappels down a wall during a training exercise.*



In addition, Cadet Captain and FSC senior Jake Benoit worked diligently to prepare this year's Ranger Challenge Team to compete in the 6<sup>th</sup> Army ROTC Brigade Competition at Camp Blanding, Fla. Last year's team finished eighth out of 38 teams, and we are hoping to build on that team's success. The winner of this year's competition will travel to West Point to compete against other teams from across the United States, the United Kingdom, and other countries.

The cadets hosted several events this year, including the Tough Turkey 5K run around Lake Hollingsworth in November and the Charles Rubado '04 Memorial Golf Scramble in March.

We are excited that the FSC administration recently made a commitment to the growth of the Army ROTC program from 45 to 100 cadets over the next five years. Now is an exciting time to be a part of both the Moccasin Battalion and Florida Southern College, and we are looking forward to the continued growth and success of the program.

Go Mocs!



## Music Department Earns NASM Accreditation

Florida Southern College's music department has reached a pinnacle in its standing among college and university departments of music. The National Association of Schools of Music, the oldest and most prestigious arts accrediting agency in the country, has granted accreditation to the FSC Department of Music.

With the accreditation, FSC joins almost 650 of the best schools of music in the nation, said Associate Professor of Music and Department Chair Paula Parsché '71. NASM accreditation is looked for and expected by prospective top-level students and their families, and it will help the department continue to attract the best and most talented music students, she said.

"We demonstrated that we subscribe to the rigorous standards of NASM and that Florida Southern is the kind of institution that supports the arts," she said.

NASM sets standards for academic work, performances, and institutional support of the program. The music department had to meet benchmarks for curriculum, proficiency of student performances, facilities, faculty credentials, and level of faculty skill in performing.



*The string section of the Florida Southern College Symphony Orchestra performs at the 2013 Christmas Gala.*

"One of the things that pleased us so much as a faculty was that the examiners said we were one of the most amazing examples of high-level performance they had seen at any school. And we received a commendation for that," Professor Parsché said.

## FSC Announces Its First Doctoral Program

Florida Southern College is taking a leap forward in its pursuit of academic excellence this year by launching its first doctoral program. The College will welcome the first students in the new Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.) program when classes begin on campus this summer.

The Ed.D. program, which was approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and School Commission on Colleges last year, is designed for teachers and administrators in K-12 schools who want to prepare for educational leadership positions, such as principal or superintendent, or to teach at the college level.

FSC President Anne Kerr said the Ed.D. program will further raise the College's national reputation while helping to address the problems facing America's education system.

"The Ed.D. is the culmination of our efforts to enhance education at all levels in our region. We believe it's appropriate that our first doctoral degree will be in such a critical field," she said.

Tedder said the program will stand out among others, offering both traditional classroom and online courses—a combination designed



*Dean Tracey Tedder and Dr. Steven Petrie '74*

to provide both personal attention to students and convenience for working educators. The program will admit 15 to 18 students per cohort, and a number of impressive candidates have already applied, she said.

Assistant Professor of Education Steven Petrie '74, will be the coordinator of the program.

# Florida Southern Welcomes Record-Breaking Class

Steamy weather didn't dampen the spirits of incoming freshmen and their families as the largest and most academically high-achieving class in Florida Southern history arrived on campus on August 17. The new students were welcomed by President Anne Kerr, members of the faculty and administration, and returning student volunteers.

Among the 640 freshmen and transfer students arriving to begin their collegiate careers at FSC were a pilot on the U.S. Olympic Bobsled Team, 15 high school valedictorians, a Gates Millennium Scholar, a Disney Dreamer and Doer, accomplished musicians, nationally ranked water skiers, world travelers, mission volunteers, and many others who have astonishing talents.

"I am thrilled that so many talented students have chosen Florida Southern as the college where they will pursue their dreams. The new freshman class joins a vibrant academic community, and I look forward to watching this class work hard to achieve their individual educational dreams," said Dr. Kerr. "Our world-class faculty and talented staff stand ready to challenge them as they prepare to make significant contributions to the world."

Members of the Class of 2017, the College's largest freshman class, represent 38 states and 29 countries. Also joining the academic community are 19 new faculty members that include professors for the College's two newest majors: marine biology and musical theater.

The College redesigned the move-in process this year to make check-in smoother. Volunteers offered "concierge" service, allowing students and their families to drop off their belongings, which were then delivered to the students' rooms while the students registered. Check-in tents, outfitted with snacks and cold beverages, were stationed near residence halls, and volunteers stood ready to help unload and transport belongings. Associate Dean of Student Solutions Shari Szabo '83 said it resulted in one of the easiest move-ins ever at FSC.

"It went very smoothly," she said. "Our move-in teams and resident assistants did a great job."

Commenting on the opening of the school year, Dr. Kerr stated, "It is always wonderful and inspiring to greet new students and to see how eager they are to begin their educational journey with us. It is a special joy to see our entire community—returning students, faculty, administrators, and staff—come together to help our first-year students move in to their new home away from home and begin to transition to their life as members of the Florida Southern family. This is indeed one of the most exhilarating and, for me, gratifying times of the school year."



## Multi-Generational Mocs

A testament to the ongoing quality of an FSC education, 1 in 10 members of this year's incoming class are legacies—the son or daughter of alumni, faculty, or staff. The Legacy Luncheon was held in the Thrift Center on Aug. 17 to welcome new legacy students and welcome back their alumni parents. This year, 30 freshmen (pictured above) attended the luncheon, including Joseph Alter, son of National Alumni Board President Laurie '80 and Dr. Denny '80 Alter.



## Construction Begins on Wynee Warden Dance Studio

The elegance of *pliés*, pirouettes, and *ronds de jambe* are coming soon to the Florida Southern campus with construction well underway on the Wynee Warden Dance Studio, a state-of-the-art facility for new dance classes to be added to the College's curriculum.

Ground was broken in May 2013 for the 4,700-square-foot studio, which will be a key part of the College's expansion of its fine arts program. The College began a new dance program in the fall along with a new major in musical theater. The building is expected to be finished this summer.

At the groundbreaking ceremony, FSC President Anne Kerr said the facility "launches a new era in the arts at Florida Southern."

"Having dance at Florida Southern has been a dream of mine for a long time," she said. "The focus of our Festival of Fine Arts has shifted to featuring performances by our students, and now we can do that with dance."



The studio is named for Mrs. Winifred "Wynee" Warden of Orlando, a philanthropist and benefactor, who gave the naming gift for the building through her family's Bert W. Martin Foundation. She has supported several important projects on campus, including the new Wynee Warden Tennis Center; the renovation of the College student cafeteria, Wynee's Bistro; Tûtû's Cyber Café in the Roux Library; and the Warden Admissions Center.

Ballerina Christina Martin '08, a member of the company of the Florida Dance Theatre in Lakeland, presented Mrs. Warden with a bouquet. Dr. Kerr called Mrs. Warden "a wonderful friend of Florida Southern who has a life-long passion for dance" and noted that she was a serious student of dance. "Wynee has the posture and grace of a dancer, although she has not performed for many years," she said.

**A major feature of the building will be the high glass half-rotunda facing Lake Hollingsworth that will allow natural light to illuminate the dance floor.**

The Wynee Warden Dance Studio was designed by Mike Murphey of the Lakeland firm Wallis Murphey Boyington Architects, Inc., and is being constructed by Marcobay Construction Inc., also of Lakeland. In addition to instructional and rehearsal space, the building will house faculty offices and dressing rooms.

A major feature of the building will be the high glass half-rotunda facing Lake Hollingsworth that will allow natural light to illuminate the dance floor. The building's style will complement the campus's historic Frank Lloyd Wright-designed buildings and the recently added buildings designed by renowned New York architect Robert A.M. Stern.



*Ballerina Christina Martin '08 of the Florida Dance Theatre presents a bouquet to Wynee Warden at the luncheon marking the groundbreaking for the Wynee Warden Dance Studio. At left is Mrs. Warden's son, Andy Warden, representing the Bert W. Martin Foundation.*



## Leaders among Leaders

### *ODK is named a Presidential Circle*

The Florida Southern Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa has been named a Presidential Circle—the highest level of distinction—for the 2012–2013 academic year. FSC’s circle was one of just two named a Presidential Circle out of more than 365 circles nationwide.

FSC’s circle attained Presidential status by maintaining its rank as a Superior Circle for two years and Circle of Distinction status for three consecutive years before that. To become a Circle of Distinction, a circle must take an active leadership role on its campus, organizing high-profile events that demonstrate service and scholarship, said Larry Burke ’83, associate professor of music and faculty secretary for the FSC circle.

“This is primarily a credit to the nature of our students. Often, honor society membership is just a token recognition of achievement, but

ODK, especially here at FSC, is a more actively involved group. I am very proud to be associated with these leaders among leaders,” remarked Professor Burke.

Each year, the FSC circle chooses a Circle Leader of the Year to represent it on the national level. This year’s selection, Hannah Weldon, was one of five finalists for the National Leader of the Year. In 2008, FSC’s Christina Martin ’09 won the National Leader of the Year award.

The FSC circle, now in its 62<sup>nd</sup> year, has long been recognized as one of the more outstanding circles in Omicron Delta Kappa, said Dr. Robert H. Tate, vice president for advancement at FSC and former faculty secretary for the FSC circle.

ODK is dedicated to encouraging student achievement in five areas: creative and

performing arts, campus and community service, scholarship, athletics, and mass media or journalism. Membership is limited to juniors and seniors who must have a grade-point average in the top 35 percent of the student body and demonstrate leadership in at least two of the five areas. No more than three percent of the student body may be selected each year.



*Members of Omicron Delta Kappa, 2012–2013*



## Preservation Praise

Historic Lakeland, a nonprofit group that promotes the city’s architectural heritage, has recognized Florida Southern College with a Historic Preservation Award for renovations to its Theatre-in-the-Round. Originally completed in 1952, it is the only theater-in-the-round ever designed by Wright. Lynn Hollis ’57 and the late Mark Hollis spearheaded efforts to renovate the space. Mr. Hollis is shown here performing his own one-man show, *Barabbas*, at the theater’s re-dedication event in 2012.



# New Musical Theater Program Debuts

Call it the *Glee* phenomenon. For at least a dozen years now, more and more young people have been drawn to the magic of theatrical performance that combines acting, singing and dancing, which means Florida Southern College has started its new Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre program at just the right time.



The cast of *Sweeney Todd* performs in a 2012 production.

While the style has evolved from the familiar show tunes of Rodgers and Hammerstein to the contemporary anthems of *Rent*, musical theater is undergoing a renaissance, Associate Professor of Theatre Arts and Department of Theatre Arts Chair James Beck said.

“Students come in knowing all about the latest shows—shows I’m not even familiar with,” he said. “They all want to be in a show.”

It’s what Kortney Adcock wants. In just her first semester, the freshman musical theater major from Panama City, Fla., has appeared in two productions.

“The idea of being one of the students to help start the new musical theater major is very exciting,” she said.

FSC’s musical theater program was launched at the start of the fall semester with 11 students and a new faculty member, Christi Roll, whose specialty is musical theater (see box, p. 13). Already, the College has expanded the number of staged musicals in its performance schedule from one to two, giving Florida Southern’s

already strong theater arts department more visibility in the local theater scene and students more performance opportunities.

Dr. Roll provided the musical direction for the first musical in the schedule, *Next to Normal*. With provocative lyrics and a thrilling score, *Next to Normal* explores how one suburban household copes with crisis and mental illness.

“What I like about the score is that it has a great combination of instruments. And the subject matter is so important. It makes you reflect on your own life, and that’s good theater,” Dr. Roll said.

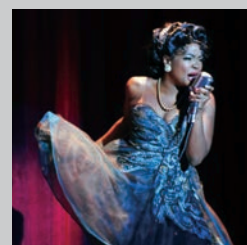
The department’s schedule for the remainder of the year includes the musical *The Wedding Singer* and the classical drama *Electra*.

Shane Fischetti, a freshman from Phillipsburg, N.J., attended a performing arts high school and auditioned for the theater programs at six colleges before choosing FSC.

“When I came here, I fell in love with the school. At the auditions for the others schools, you weren’t even a name, just a number. When I talked to the professors here, I knew I wanted to come. The bachelor of fine arts program was what attracted me. There are not a lot of BFA programs in musical theater,” he said.

For Professor Beck, the musical theater program is the fulfillment of a longtime goal and will help the College significantly toward achieving another one of his goals: to make the program—and its theatrical productions—more widely known.

*Editor’s note: FSC uses the traditional “-re” spelling of theater in formal program titles such as Department of Theatre Arts; the modern American “-er” spelling is used in general reference.*



**Trista Dollison ’06**, a vocalist and graduate of FSC’s music program, is making a name for herself and Florida Southern College in musical theater. Her credits include a successful run in the ensemble of *The Lion King* on Broadway; an off-Broadway production of Ryan Scott Oliver’s *Darling*;

*Hairspray* at the Flat Rock Playhouse in North Carolina; and *The Buddy Holly Story* (pictured above) at Maine’s Ogunquit Playhouse. Last summer, Dollison starred in the New York Musical Theatre Festival production of *STAND TALL*, followed by a successful turn as Lorell in the Maine State Music Theatre production of *Dreamgirls*. Most recently she appeared in the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary performance of *Avenue Q* as a member of the ensemble and understudy for star Gary Coleman.



## Winter Graduates Urged to Have Pluck, Passion, and Compassion

Have pluck, passion, and compassion to pursue your path in life, urged publisher Andrew Corty in his message to graduates at Winter Commencement on December 14.

Corty, president and publisher of *Florida Trend*, a statewide business magazine read by business executives, government officials, and civic trend-setters, gave the commencement address, which drew an overflow crowd to Branscomb Auditorium.

“Be confident, and seize the ring. Shyness doesn’t help. Wondering if you’re good enough doesn’t help.... People in positions of power admire pluck,” he said. “With luck, pluck, and passion, there’s no doubt you will be successful. And have compassion. Kindness and grace do pay off in the end.”

The College granted degrees to 189 graduates, including 136 bachelor’s degrees and 53 master’s degrees. Of the undergraduates, 43 graduated with honors, including 18 who graduated *summa cum laude*.

Juliana Cardona Mejia, a *summa cum laude* graduate in political science from Medellin, Colombia, represented the senior class as Senior Speaker. Cardona’s accomplishments include producing an oral history of the conflict in her native country, as well as participating in Model United Nations and Model Senate and volunteering with organizations locally and internationally. Cardona said she was thankful that Florida Southern had helped her discover “what makes me come alive.”

“It is up to us to make a better world, and it starts now. I dedicate this to you, our families, and the sacrifices you made for our education. I dedicate this to our mentors, who had the patience to guide us. And I dedicate this to the accomplishments we will achieve,” she said.

FSC President Anne Kerr awarded the President’s Scholar medal to Matthew C. Buck of Mount Carmel, Ill., a *summa cum laude* graduate with a B.S. in accounting. Buck’s achievements include membership in Beta Alpha Psi and Omicron Delta Kappa and volunteer service to Give Kids the World. Buck also played on the men’s tennis team.



Above: Dr. Kerr bestows the President's Scholar medal upon Matthew C. Buck.  
Below: Andrew Corty delivers the commencement address.



## For Christi Roll, There's No Business Like Show Business

For any student who wants a career in musical theater, Christi Roll has some tough advice.

“You have to be self-motivated. You have to wake up early and work hard. Most of all, you have to love the theater,” she said.

Dr. Roll, the new assistant professor of musical theater, knows from experience. She is an Actors Equity member and veteran of more than a dozen stage roles, including one as a soloist off-Broadway, and she was a finalist in the BBC’s Voice of Musical Theatre International Competition in Cardiff, Wales.

She also spent two years as the musical director for theatrical productions for Norwegian Cruise Lines, working on such shows as *I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change* and *Pippin*.

A graduate of New York University, she earned her master of fine arts and doctor of education degrees from Columbia University Teachers College. Before coming to FSC, she taught for five years at Emory and Henry College in Virginia and was attracted to the newly created position at Florida Southern because of the opportunity it presented.

“I like being involved in building a new program, especially a bachelor of fine arts. Traditionally, the BFA is a professional degree with more intensive training, coupled with one-on-one attention, as opposed to a B.A., which has a broader scope” she said. “I really like to know my students.”

Department of Theatre Arts Chair James Beck praised Dr. Roll’s qualifications to design and build the musical theater program, saying, “She has a strong music and singing background, teaching experience and great professional credentials. She’s just as dynamic as can be,” he said.

Worldwide, musical theater is evolving. Dr. Roll admits she’s a traditionalist, but the current trend is toward rock-oriented shows.

“I love Rodgers and Hammerstein. My generation was influenced by spectacular musicals like *Les Misérables* and *Phantom of the Opera*,” she said. “But if you mention older composers like Cole Porter to students now, they just roll their eyes.”



## Beloved Teacher & Artist: Robert MacDonald (1930–2013)



Robert MacLaurin MacDonald, who left an indelible mark on Florida Southern College as a teacher, artist, and impresario, died September 7 in Lakeland. He had suffered from declining health in recent years.

Mentor to a generation of piano students at Florida Southern College, Professor MacDonald joined the Department of Music in 1964, and for the next 47 years he

served as professor of piano studies, chairman of the department, and artist-in-residence. He was known for his command of his instrument and for his gentlemanly Southern manners and charm.

Although renowned as a teacher, he was himself a pianist of note, having performed with orchestras in Europe and America and in solo recitals, including one in Carnegie Hall's recital hall. He gave an annual recital at FSC through 2007, which was always a much-anticipated and well-attended event.

Soon after arriving at Florida Southern, Professor MacDonald took over direction of the Festival of Fine Arts and expanded it, bringing some of the most important orchestras, opera and ballet troupes, and vocal and instrumental performers in the world to the campus. Civic leaders in Lakeland, including former Imperial Symphony Orchestra Executive Director and Florida Arts Council President Beth Mason, praised Professor MacDonald for elevating the cultural life of the county.

“There is not a cultural arts discipline in the Polk County community that has not been a beneficiary of Robert MacDonald’s influence. The Imperial Symphony Orchestra anticipated a full house when Professor MacDonald shared the stage with a piano concerto performance,” she said. “However, he will be best remembered in the role he played as a catalyst for the aspiring young performing artists in the community. His success as an accomplished teacher and pianist will be recognized for years to come.”

Professor MacDonald was a native of South Carolina. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he earned a bachelor of arts from the University of

North Carolina and a master of arts from the University of Indiana. He continued his studies at the prestigious Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien in Vienna and made his concert debut there in 1957. A six-year concert career followed, including tours throughout Europe for the U.S. Department of State, before he joined FSC.

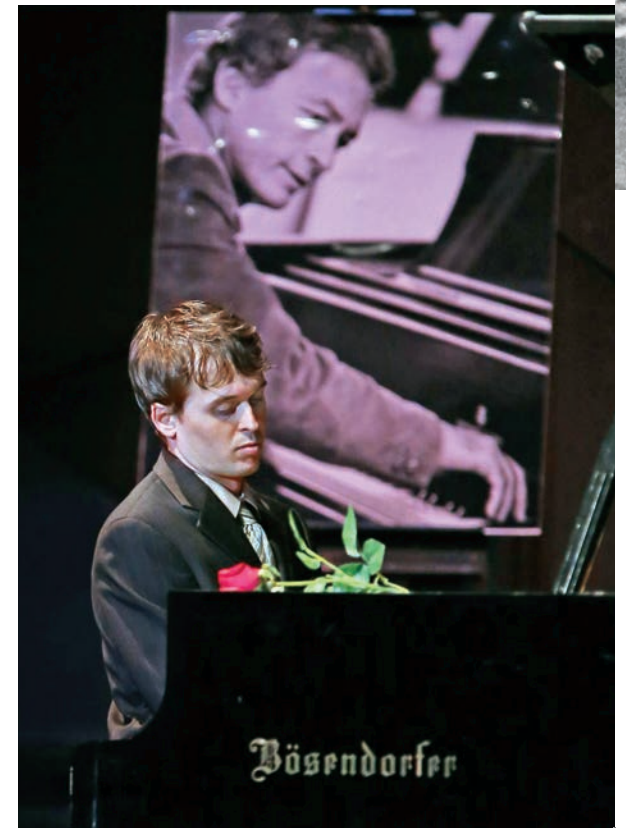
In announcing Professor MacDonald’s death to the faculty, administration, and students, FSC President Anne Kerr said, “Throughout Professor MacDonald’s 47 years of highly distinguished service to Florida Southern, he mentored hundreds of talented students and delighted audiences across the nation and abroad with amazing performances that showcased his world-renowned talent as a concert pianist. The College was greatly blessed to have benefited from Professor MacDonald’s gifts for musical performance and exemplary teaching, and remains ever grateful for his tireless leadership of our Festival of Fine Arts that brought performers of international renown to the stage of Branscomb Auditorium each season. His enormous contributions to our music department and the Arts have forever enriched our lives, our College, and the Lakeland community.”

Tributes and messages of condolence poured into FSC across social media. The College hosted a memorial concert celebrating Professor MacDonald’s life and career in February that included performances by his colleagues; his daughter, Sona, and grandson, Skye MacDonald; and former students Andrew Boss ’11, Andy Liu, and John Willard Utuk ’07.

Professor MacDonald is survived by his wife, Ingrid, whom he met in Vienna and with whom he regularly performed; a daughter, Sona MacDonald, a singer and actress in Vienna; a brother, Donald, of Edinburgh, Scotland; grandson Skye, and several nieces and nephews.

Memorial donations may be given to the Robert MacDonald Music Scholarship at Florida Southern.

*Former student Andrew Boss ’11 performs at the tribute concert. Photo courtesy of Pierre Ducharme and the The Ledger.*







## *A Gentle Scholar Remembered: Dr. José Martínez (1924–2014)*

It is emblematic of the character of Dr. José R. Martínez, professor emeritus of Spanish and French and former chairman of the Department of Modern Languages at FSC, that although he was in many ways a Renaissance man—fluent in three languages, and an expert in art and literature—he did not flaunt it.

“He was a very humble man,” says his wife, Dr. Rosita Martínez, adjunct professor of Spanish at FSC and former dean of Humanities at Valencia Community College. “He was a living dictionary, but you would never know it.”



José Martínez, who died September 4, 2013, in Lakeland, served on the FSC faculty from 1965 until his retirement in 1994. He was known and loved by his students for his kindness and patience, and he was admired by his colleagues for introducing new techniques into the teaching of foreign languages.

Dr. Martínez’s parents were from Spain. They emigrated to Cuba, where their only son was born. When he was orphaned at the age of 11, his godmother stepped in to raise him. Throughout his youth, his natural brilliance as a scholar shone through, leading him to earn a doctoral degree from the University of Havana.

After arriving in the United States with their young family and few resources, Dr. Martínez and his wife went on to earn advanced degrees. He earned a master’s degree from Middlebury College, a Ph.D. from The Florida State University, and a Fulbright Scholarship before arriving at Florida Southern College. His dissertation was on the use of audio-visual technology in language education, and he later studied the Dartmouth Intensive Language Program under its founder, John Rassias. Dr. Martínez introduced these methods into the modern language department at FSC, requiring his students to give presentations to the class and raising the level of proficiency demanded of them. He also was the faculty organizer of the campus chapter of Sigma Delta Pi, the honor society for the study of Spanish language and culture.

“He was a thoroughly pleasant colleague and an extraordinarily efficient department chairman. It was always a joy to work with him,” said Dr. Ben F. Wade, former vice president and dean of the College.

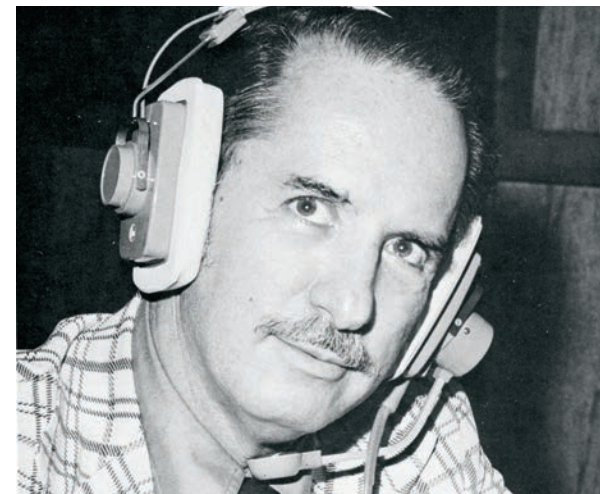
He imbued his classes with art, music, and literature along with language to present a full cultural experience to his students. “He loved modern art,” recalls Rosita Martínez. “We went to every museum you can imagine, in Spain, of course, but also Central Europe, India, Nepal, and Asia.”

Dr. Martínez was widely recognized for his work as a dedicated teacher, receiving the Outstanding Faculty Award in 1983 from the FSC Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa honor society and was honored by the Florida Foreign Language Association as Spanish Teacher of the Year in 1986.

But perhaps an even greater testimonial to his legacy was his relationship with students. “No student of his ever lacked for personal interest. He genuinely cared about each one,” Dr. Wade says.

Rosita Martínez recalls that one semester a student’s father died, and Dr. Martínez showed such concern that he became like a surrogate father to the young woman. “She wrote him regularly and even wrote him a letter asking his advice about getting married,” she remembers, “and he wrote her back giving his guidance.”

Dr. Martínez was preceded in death by his son, Dr. José S. “Pepe” Martínez ’76. He is survived by his wife, Rosita; two daughters, Nena Martínez of Tallahassee and Dr. Charilyn Angel Ramos Martínez-Ramos of Miami; and six grandchildren.



SEARCHING FOR  
*Knowledge*

THE FUTURE OF SCIENCE  
AT FSC IS BRIGHT

*by Cary McMullen*





**I**n a laboratory in the Polk County Science Building, Professors Nancy Morvillo and Brittany Gasper are keeping close watch over the students in the Biology 1500 lab class. About 25 freshmen are testing samples of bacterial cultures to determine the structure of their cells. It's an early phase of a research project that might someday yield a new antibiotic.

Two floors up, Dr. Jason Montgomery is leading students in his Physical Chemistry laboratory class through an experiment using an infrared spectrometer. The students combine two chemicals and place the resulting gas in the spectrometer. Using the numerical results, the students will use complex thermodynamic equations to calculate the molecular structure and properties of the gas.

Meanwhile, in the campus greenhouse, horticulture student Adam Caple is experimenting with three new species of *Dracaena* plants to determine ideal soil and fertilizer combinations. The plants were discovered in Mauritius a few years ago by FSC adjunct professor John Griffis and imported to the U.S. Caple's findings could assist commercial nurseries in Hawaii and Florida on the best growing techniques for the *Dracaena*, which are popular as house plants.

The science program at FSC—including the Departments of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, Mathematics and Computer Science, and Horticulture—is growing in both numbers and reputation. About a fourth of the record-high 640 first-year students that entered Florida Southern fall 2013 declared a science major.

The biology department counted 341 entering students in the biology, biochemistry, and environmental studies programs. That ranks it a close second behind business administration as the largest major on the FSC campus. The numbers promise to grow, thanks to excitement over the new marine biology major added this year (see story on page 22).

“As we continue to attract students with outstanding academic credentials, we find that many of them are in the sciences,” said Provost Kyle Fedler. “The sciences are a major part of the College’s future, and these departments are among our strongest programs. They have a great mix of experienced professors and some terrific young professors.”

*Assistant Professor of Chemistry An-Phong Le, Ph.D., creates a dazzling chemical light show using food dye.*

## Clinical Research in the Classroom

While Florida Southern is primarily a teaching college rather than a research university, a surprising amount of research goes on at FSC. Under the College’s engaged learning curriculum, undergraduate students are expected to conduct research projects, and they are given ample opportunity to assist their professors in significant research.

Associate Provost of Experiential Education Mary Crowe helps professors and students find research opportunities, as well as the grants that fund them. She said that the research efforts at FSC expand general scientific knowledge and serve the College’s primary educational goals.

“Undergraduates not only learn content, but also develop critical thinking skills when they engage in these research projects. So we don’t have to be a research institution to practice that kind of activity. We have accomplished faculty leading significant projects,” she said.

Assistant Professor of Biology Gabriel Langford is pursuing one such initiative. He received a prestigious Research Opportunity Award from the National Science Foundation that enabled him and two undergraduate students to conduct research on a group of parasites known as Gordian worms earlier this year (see article on p. 21).

An exciting new initiative will boost those opportunities even further. Thanks to Dr. Gasper and Dr. Nancy Morvillo, Nelson C. White Professor of Life Sciences and chair of the Department of Biology, FSC was invited to join a consortium of 24 institutions in partnership with The Center for Scientific Teaching at Yale University in the Small World Initiative, which involves undergraduates conducting original research in the search for new antibiotics.

“The students isolate microorganisms that produce compounds with antibiotic properties,” Dr. Morvillo said. “The hope is that they will find a promising candidate and pass it on to a biotech company. It demonstrates that you don’t have to be a high-tech university to do this research. It can be done in our laboratory.”

This work could one day result in new antibiotics or other drug therapies and it is being carried out in a freshman biology laboratory classes. Christina Casella, a freshman biology major from Orlando, became excited as soon as she learned about the initiative. She said the experiments to cultivate and identify the specimens educated her



## Freshmen Lead the Search for the Next Antibiotic

The development of drug-resistant bacteria is a serious medical issue, and biological researchers are trying to address it by looking for the next generation of antibiotics. Despite the potential impact of such a discovery, the experiments to cultivate and test such compounds are rather basic and a good introductory exercise for budding researchers.

Thanks to the efforts of Assistant Professor of Biology Brittany Gasper, FSC was invited to join a consortium of 24 institutions in partnership with The Center for Scientific Teaching at Yale University in the Small World Initiative, which teaches students the principles of introductory biology by engaging them in a research project that examines antibiotic-producing microbes obtained from ordinary soil.

According to the website of the Small World Initiative, the development of new antibiotics has slowed because pharmaceutical companies have shifted research away from infectious disease and toward more lucrative drugs for chronic conditions, leading to a shrinking arsenal of effective antibiotics. The initiative connects this crisis to undergraduate research.

In FSC's Biology 1500 lab class for freshmen, under the guidance of Dr. Gasper and Professor Nancy Morvillo, students collected soil samples from around campus and placed them in different media to see what bacteria would grow. The students then took samples of the bacteria and tested them to see if they produce substances that would kill other bacteria.

Of almost two dozen soil samples, 18 bacterial cultures indicated some antibacterial properties. The next step for students will be to try to isolate the compounds being produced. Eventually, the bacteria that are producing the compounds will be sent to a Yale laboratory for DNA sequencing.

"Dr. Morvillo and Dr. Gasper suspected that we would find some antibiotic compounds," said freshman Christina Casella. "It's possible some of them could be used as medicine someday. I'm very excited!"

Morvillo said she is happy with the results so far. "We are definitely expanding this program next year," she said.

about the rigor and precision required in biological science.

"I'm learning a lot about how to perform experiments—the procedures, the need to avoid contamination, how to document the results," she said. "I think it's amazing. I'm so happy to be part of this study. It has completely broadened my knowledge about antibiotics. It makes me want to continue to participate in it."

That kind of excitement is exactly what professors and administrators hope for—an engagement that will lead to more productive learning and better preparation for postgraduate study and careers.

"It does wonders for students. They do better in later courses. It gives them a purpose for learning instead of what goes on in standard lab courses," Dr. Gasper said. "It helps them take ownership of the lab work. It's their bacteria. They grew it."



*Chemistry students Grace Beggs, Jennifer Yudichak, and Weh Pin Teh, under the supervision of Assistant Professor of Chemistry Jason Montgomery (right), use an infrared spectrometer to analyze the structure of compounds.*

### Side-by-Side Work with Professors

Grace Beggs, a junior chemistry major, gave a poster presentation at last summer's American Chemical Society conference on the results of a research project on the creation of new compounds known as metal-organic frameworks, under the guidance of Dr. Carmen Gauthier, Jessie Ball duPont Professor of Chemistry and chair of the Department of Chemistry and Physics. Beggs has continued her research this year, hoping to publish a paper in a peer-reviewed journal, a major accomplishment for an undergraduate. She credits Gauthier for allowing her to develop the research.

"The advantage of working with professors one-on-one is that you have the freedom to make the project your own. You're able to make your own decisions instead of carrying out someone else's ideas," Beggs said.

Fellow chemistry student Jennifer Yudichak agreed.



“FSC has exceeded my expectations. It’s very rigorous, and the interaction with professors is the biggest advantage. It’s great to have someone who cares about what you’re doing and wants you to succeed,” she said.

Students at FSC have access to a wide range of equipment. For example, the chemistry labs have six different spectrometers, including nuclear magnetic resonance and atomic absorption spectrometers, liquid and gas chromatographs, and a microwave reactor, among other instruments.

The laboratories were recently redesigned to fit changes to the curriculum, Dr. Gauthier said.

“The way we teach chemistry is now more conceptual, moving from easy to more difficult. We redesigned the labs to be more project-oriented so students get a sense of what scientists do. For example, if they’re working with food dyes in drinks, they have to design an experiment and test the results,” she said.

### Real-World Preparation

All FSC chemistry students are required to do research, and every Friday they must present their findings to the faculty. This discipline has prepared students for graduate school and for professions where presentations are required, Dr. Gauthier said.

“I heard from a student who got a job where she had to make research presentations to managers. She said she didn’t like making presentations while she was here but thanked me for making her do it because it was great preparation for her job,” Dr. Gauthier said.

Graduates from FSC science departments claim a very high success rate for graduate school acceptance and top-quality jobs. Many biology students are on a track for medical, dental, or veterinary schools. Thanks to an arrangement between FSC and the Morsani School of Medicine at the University of South Florida, qualified freshmen entering FSC who are accepted into the program and meet the qualifications throughout their academic careers are guaranteed entry into USF’s medical school after three years at FSC, allowing them to obtain a B.S. and MD degree in seven years.

In the past ten years, 38 biology graduates have earned medical degrees. In addition, about 25 chemistry graduates from the past 15 years have completed or are working on medical, dental, or Ph.D. degrees. About 75 percent of chemistry graduates continue their studies in chemistry, medical school, or related health sciences, Dr. Gauthier said, with many others working as chemists in corporate or government positions.

FSC also has a cooperative arrangement with Duke University through which students interested in pursuing a graduate degree in environmental studies can obtain a bachelor’s and a master’s degree

FSC students have engaged in dozens of other fascinating research projects in recent months. Among them:

- Jared Goodwin, Dan Mendence, and Chris Yanichko analyzed the effects of plasticizing compounds like phthalates—found in dozens of common plastic items like bottled water—on the tissues of the Cuban tree frog, under the guidance of Assistant Professor of Biology Brittany Gasper. The research has implications for environmental policy.
- Food chemistry is a field that has a far-reaching applications. Jennifer Yudichak conducted experiments that analyzed the distribution of allicin, the active compound in garlic, in cooked meat, under the direction of Assistant Professor of Chemistry An-Phong Le, Ph.D. She gave a poster presentation on the results at last year’s American Chemical Society meeting in New Orleans.
- Ryan Petit, working with Assistant Professor of Chemistry Jason Montgomery, experimented with extremely small arrays known as nano-frustums, which have applications as sensors or optics. Petit and Montgomery co-authored a paper which was presented at the last American Chemical Society meeting.

in a total of five years.

Alison Tamasi ’10 is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Missouri and holds a fellowship in nuclear forensics at Los Alamos National Laboratory (see article on p. 20). She said a key to her success in graduate school was learning at FSC what research is actually like.

“Experiments never work perfectly. So I was able to handle those disappointments,” she said. “And in graduate school, I already knew the things I wanted in a mentor, because I had great mentors at FSC.”

Tamasi accomplished a rare feat at FSC, earning degrees in both chemistry and biology in just three years. She said she could not have done it at many other schools.

“Even though I didn’t know what I wanted to do, my professors were able to point me in a certain direction until I figured it out. They took a personal interest in me. At a state school, I would have just been a number,” she said.



## Nuclear Sleuth: Alison Tamasi '10

If you want a cutting-edge job, try the one Alison Tamasi '10 has.

“It’s *CSI* for nukes,” she quips.

Tamasi holds a National Nuclear Forensics Fellowship from the Department of Homeland Security and works as a nuclear chemist at the prestigious Los Alamos National Laboratory, the site in New Mexico where America’s first atomic bomb was developed. She helps determine the unique nuclear signatures and attributes of fissionable material, mostly enriched uranium.

This kind of work, which can require a security clearance, has enormous implications for law enforcement and military anti-terrorism efforts.

“Between 1992 and 2007, there were approximately 20 interdictions of weapon-useable material. It’s not that uncommon,” she says. “We help determine who had it, where they got it, and how close they were to turning it into a bomb.”

Tamasi became interested in nuclear chemistry after Jessie Ball duPont Professor of Chemistry Carmen Gauthier recommended that she apply for a summer internship at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, N.Y., which is run by the U.S. Department of Energy.

She is now finishing her Ph.D. at the University of Missouri while completing her fellowship at Los Alamos and plans to pursue a career in research.



## A Green Internship for Jennifer Yudichak

Jennifer Yudichak, a chemistry and math double major, landed an internship this summer with a new mining company, JDC Phosphate in nearby Fort Meade, which is using an innovative method to reduce hazardous mine waste.

The method, called IHP, or improved hard process, differs from the old “wet” mining methods that produce huge “stacks,” or open pits, filled with dangerous phosphogypsum sludge.

“IHP produces an acid that is much purer and can be recovered and used in fertilizer, food products, and so on, with no phosphogypsum stacks. Also, you can use a lower-grade ore, so it yields eight times more usable product,” Yudichak explains.

Yudichak’s internship involved testing ratios of phosphate to aggregate materials, such as sand, from other regions of the world to determine whether the process could be exported to places such as Australia and India. Although she completed her internship in August, she has continued her research in the labs at FSC.

# Pursuing the Gordian Worm

## *Dr. Gabriel Langford Wins NSF Grant*

The study of parasites is not particularly glamorous, admits Assistant Professor of Biology Gabriel Langford. Because parasites often live in the digestive tracts of their hosts, finding them involves dissections that can sound pretty repulsive to a non-scientist.

“My wife sometimes has to elbow me when I’m describing what I do,” Dr. Langford jokes.

But Dr. Langford’s research is paying dividends both in contributing to scientific knowledge and in supporting engaged learning at FSC. Last spring, he received a Research Opportunity Award from the prestigious National Science Foundation that enabled him and two undergraduate students, juniors Jasmine Childress and Trey Iakovidis, to conduct original research on a group of parasites known as Gordian worms (*phylum Nematomorpha*).

Dr. Langford and his team of undergraduates collected snails and other aquatic invertebrates to search for new species of Gordian worms and determine their distribution in Central Florida streams. Dr. Langford believes that his team has discovered a new species of worm in dragonfly larvae from Central Florida lakes.

Like most parasites, Gordian worms have a complex life cycle and an intimate relationship with their hosts. Research aims to discover unknown species and understand how their behavior may play important roles in ecosystems. Dr. Langford notes that the presence or absence of parasites in local lakes and streams appears to be an indicator of ecological health.

“They are frequently overlooked reservoirs of biodiversity, and they have some interesting adaptations,” he says. “Gordian worms have been shown to alter the behavior of their hosts, including causing their host, such as a cricket, to commit suicide by jumping into a pool of water so that the worm can emerge to reproduce. Not a lot of research has been conducted on *Nematomorpha* in Florida. The grant is a tremendous help in conducting valuable research with undergraduates.”

Dr. Langford is the first faculty member at FSC to receive an NSF Research Opportunity Award, which is provided to faculty members at schools like FSC that are primarily teaching institutions to foster collaborations with research universities. He applied for the grant



*Dr. Gabriel Langford (center) with biology students Jasmine Childress and Trey Iakovidis are up to their knees in research as they look for invertebrate specimens in a Central Florida pond.*

with a colleague in parasitology, Oklahoma State University Assistant Professor Matt Bolek. The grant enabled Dr. Langford and his undergraduate team to travel to Oklahoma State, where they worked with Dr. Bolek in his research laboratory.

The lab at Oklahoma State included a scanning electron microscope, which

revealed astonishing details about the worms that couldn’t be seen under standard lab microscopes. It was a rare opportunity for undergraduates to use an important research tool.

The NSF grant has already yielded several benefits for FSC. Dr. Langford has incorporated his research into his Parasitology course, giving students an opportunity to learn about these fascinating creatures. The grant also allowed Dr. Bolek to visit FSC for several days last fall to lead special seminars for faculty and students.



*Jasmine Childress and Dr. Gabriel Langford examine the specimens they have collected in the FSC biology lab.*

The grant also enabled Dr. Langford and his students to produce two papers disseminating their findings at meetings of the Southeastern Society of Parasitologists and the American Society of Parasitologists this year. Receiving research credit as co-authors of the papers is an unusual opportunity for undergraduates, they noted, and will be a big help in reaching their career goals. Iakovidis is planning to attend medical school, and Childress intends to pursue a Ph.D. in biology.

**“Gordian worms have been shown to alter the behavior of their hosts, including causing their host...to commit suicide...”**



## Dr. Bryan Franks, “Shark Guy,” Launches Marine Biology Program

Whenever Bryan Franks went fishing with his father as a boy and they caught a shark, he didn’t want to throw it back. He wanted to study it. “A lot of young kids have a fascination with sharks. I never grew out of it,” he says.

Dr. Franks is an assistant professor of marine biology, the College’s first faculty member in this new major offered to students as of fall 2013. Known around campus as “the shark guy” for his particular field of study, Dr. Franks spent three years as managing director of the Bimini Biological Field Station in the Bahamas, where he studied almost every species of shark except for the great white.

“I mostly studied their physiology and their role in the marine ecosystem, with the goal of conserving these animals,” he says.

Dr. Franks came to Florida Southern out of a desire to teach, and the opportunity to start a new program was irresistible.

“Being a small school, we can offer an innovative curriculum. I’d like to tailor the program to what the students need,” he says.

Research is a major part of the discipline of marine biology, and Dr. Franks plans to incorporate both on-campus and field research into the program. Because of Lakeland’s central location, students can study the organisms and ecology of the Gulf or the Atlantic, and Dr. Franks intends to take students to marine laboratories, including the Bimini Biological Field Station, to conduct research.

“Being able to take them out into the field to see how these scientific principles work is very effective. I hope to get a few projects going in the Gulf, like a shark population assessment. There’s a blacktip shark nursery off the coast, and we could follow movement patterns and track these animals. We could study their diet, trying to determine essential fish habitats,” Dr. Franks says.

Junior Dayna Hunn and other FSC students accompanied Dr. Franks to Bimini during fall break in October for a week of observation and lectures on shark anatomy and behavior. The experience included hanging onto a line pulled by a boat while sharks were being fed nearby.

“That was pretty intense. I didn’t tell my parents about it until later,” she jokes.

Hunn was interested in marine biology even before the new major was launched, and she eagerly applied to be one of Dr. Franks’ first students. She hasn’t been disappointed.

“He’s a great teacher and definitely knows his subject. I’ve learned a lot already,” says Hunn, who plans to pursue a research career in marine biology.

Dr. Franks recounts several other research possibilities, some that could be carried out on campus, but he also has his sights set on equipment and facilities that would let the program really take off.

“I’d love to get a small bay boat, about 18 to 20 feet, that we could take into the Gulf. And a small facility on the Gulf to do classes and research would be perfect. That would put us a cut above,” he says. “There are a lot of opportunities here.”



*Students Dayna Hunn (left) and Sarah Martinez prepare to tag a lemon shark under the supervision of Assistant Professor of Marine Biology Bryan Franks (right) at the Bimini Biological Field Station in the Bahamas.*





## Applied Science Is the Right Fit for Latetia Moore '99

Some scientists pursue pure research not knowing how the results will be applied to people's lives. Latetia Moore '99 found a niche that lets her connect research more directly with the health and well-being of people.

Dr. Moore is an epidemiologic intelligence service officer with the Division of Nutrition of the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. She conducts and disseminates research about the effect of the sociological environment on diet and health.

"It's the right fit for me. I get to do the science I love. It's really an honor to take masses of data and translate it into something people can use to support healthy behaviors," she says.

Dr. Moore was a biology and chemistry double major at FSC with a minor in math. She had intended to become a veterinarian but discovered that she loved laboratory research.

"I loved the hands-on opportunity labs offered. And being a chemistry and biology major, I got to try a variety of things," she says.

After graduating, Dr. Moore worked as a quality control chemist for a beverage manufacturer, then as a hematologist at a blood bank. She realized that helping others was her passion, and she went on to earn a master's degree in public health and a Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of Michigan. At the CDC, she works at the intersection of

science and public policy, publishing research, addressing conferences, and serving clients that include state and local health departments and nonprofits.

"If these agencies are proposing new initiatives to make sure people are living in healthy environments, we help determine whether they are supported by data," she says.

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**"What you really need in my job is to think through things rather than regurgitate them...I learned that at Florida Southern."**

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In one recent major study commissioned by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health and Human Services, Dr. Moore and others examined why healthy food is lacking in underserved areas and whether funding is warranted to address the problem.

Dr. Moore says that her studies at FSC developed the research skills she needs to conduct studies like that.

"Being exposed to a variety of topics helped me learn how to think better. What you really need in my job is to think through things rather than regurgitate them. When you ask a question, you know how to get the answer," she says. "I learned that at Florida Southern."

# Places in the Heart

Land and education are what matters to Charles '65 and Anne '66 Reynolds

by Cary McMullen



**F**or Charles '65 and Anne Nichols '66 Reynolds, two things have long governed their lives: the importance of education and the Florida landscape upon which they have raised citrus crops and a family. That sense of history and place and the commitment to help younger generations is evident all around the Reynolds' picturesque homestead on Bear Point, overlooking Lake Placid.

It is also the reason the Reynolds were chosen to receive the Florida Southern College Distinguished Alumni Award, which was presented at the Founders Day Convocation on March 14. It was the first time the award has been presented to a couple. (An article about the Convocation and the Distinguished Alumni Awards will appear in the next edition of the *Southernnews*.)

Paintings—some by Anne Reynolds as well as originals by well-known regional artists—adorn the walls, and books of all genres line the shelves of their splendid two-story New Orleans-style home. A short walk away is the home where their daughter, son-in-law, and four grandchildren live. Scattered throughout Highlands County are the

citrus groves and cattle ranches of Reynolds Farms that Charles and his extended family own and operate together.

Charles L. Reynolds, Jr., an unpretentious Southern gentleman with a drawl to match, says, “We have always been in agriculture.”

His great-grandfather was a pioneer, a pre-Civil War settler in Polk County who farmed and grew strawberries.

“They were Methodists and from Lakeland, so I was destined to go to Florida Southern,” he says.

At FSC, he majored in economics, studied citrus science under legendary professors Thomas Mack and William Lyle, and sang in the college chorus. He lived with his grandmother in Lakeland, a hard-working farm wife who wore a bonnet and a “croaker sack” as an apron and worked every day in her garden. She was emblematic of the family's connection to the land and its virtue of hard work, a virtue Charles still practices.



“No one has a work ethic like this man,” Anne says of her husband.

Anne met Charles in chapel at Florida Southern when he noticed “a good-looking girl in an ROTC uniform” and asked her for a date.

“He was persistent,” Anne recalls with a laugh.

Shortly after they were married, Charles started the Reynolds Fruit Company, a fruit harvesting business, and they built the house in which they continue to live today on Bear Point. They had three children, one of whom was tragically lost in a school bus accident at the age of seven.

While Charles built the business, Anne dived into community life in Lake Placid. She was active in the community library and was the first president of the Lake Placid Arts and Crafts Fair, for which she is included in one of Lake Placid’s famous public murals.

But for both Charles and Anne Reynolds education has been of paramount importance. Charles serves on the Highlands County Education Foundation Board, and Anne served three terms on the South Florida Community College District Board of Trustees.

Anne became a teacher, first at a public school, then at a private middle school academy that she helped start, now named Lake Placid Christian School. She taught there for 14 years, accepting only one dollar a year in salary because, she told a local newspaper, “I believed in what we stood for: discipline, prayer, and caring, raising leaders armed for success.”

The Reynolds are supporters of the Roberts Academy at FSC, the elementary school for exceptional children with dyslexia, donating funds for a classroom and most recently to convert a room into an art studio. For 35 years they have provided scholarships for students at Lake Placid High School going into the field of education.

“We’re trying to promote teachers,” Charles says.

Anne has devoted significant time and effort to archeology, an avocation she took up several years ago after discovering Native American artifacts along the lakeshore and learning they came from prehistoric villages dating as far back as 5000 B.C. She serves on the Highlands County Historic Preservation Commission.

**[My great-grandparents] were Methodists and from Lakeland, so I was destined to go to Florida Southern.**

She has overseen the preservation and exploration of an important archaeological site, dubbed Blueberry, found in one of the Reynolds’ groves. Native Americans used the 61-acre site over a period of six thousand years, and professional archaeologists are excavating an area

where a village existed continuously from about 1200 to 1700. The Reynolds donated all artifacts from the Blueberry site to the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville last year.

“I get all the enjoyment of archeology without having to publish,”



*Anne stands among a collection of Native American artifacts from the Blueberry site.*

she says, although she did write a scientific article about an artifact discovered at Blueberry for the journal *Florida Anthropologist*.

The Reynolds are so well known in Lake Placid that even a visit to a local restaurant becomes a continuous round of greeting neighbors and friends. Their lives revolve around work and family, church and travel. Charles is an avid runner and has run in the Disney and Boston marathons, although these days he limits himself to early-morning four-mile runs.

For quiet times, they retreat to the cracker house, a nod to his pioneer heritage, that Charles built along the lakeshore, using Florida red cypress from the family homestead on Lake Istokpoga.

Anne uses the cabin as an art studio. She also has delved into writing, winning awards for her poetry. Her debut novel, *Winter Harvest*, was published in February.

With a rueful smile, she says, “My problem is I have too many passions.”



# Faces of Faith

Spirituality takes many forms at Florida Southern

by Cary McMullen

*O*ne evening before finals in December, the Fannin Campus Ministries Center was a beehive of activity, as dozens of students swarmed over tables laden with towels, soap, combs, and Band-Aids. In assembly-line fashion, they worked intensely on a project to make life a little easier for afflicted people half a world away.

The students were assembling about 1,000 health kits to be sent to the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), the disaster relief agency of the United Methodist Church. As the supplies dwindled, the Rev. Tim Wright '94, holder of the Riley P. and Claire M. Short Chaplaincy at FSC, congratulated them on a job well done.

"You guys rock!" he said. "You're making a big difference in the lives of people who are really hurting right now."

The project was co-sponsored by Campus Ministries, a consortium of several groups under the chaplain's office, and it was just one example of the ways each year that the spiritual lives of students of all faiths are

nurtured through service, fellowship, and worship. Wright said Florida Southern continues to maintain its tradition as a place where students can deepen their beliefs.

"If you're a person of faith, you're going to be given lots of opportunities to live that out. I get questions from prospective students, asking whether this college is going to be hostile to them as persons of faith. I reassure them that the environment is very open and welcoming," he said.

Each Sunday there are two worship services in the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel. Wright leads a nondenominational service designed, he said with a smile, "to get college students out of bed on Sunday morning." The musical team, led by talented Associate Chaplain Bryant Manning '09, plays contemporary Christian songs, and Wright gears his message toward the concerns of students, with the result that up to 200 people turn out on a regular basis.

A significant number of FSC students are Catholic, and Mass is celebrated each Sunday by Father Ramon Bolatete of St. Joseph's

Catholic Church in Lakeland. In addition to Mass, the Catholic Student Organization, one of the groups under the Campus Ministries umbrella, gathers weekly for discussion or spiritual exercises such as the rosary. The organization has experienced renewed participation lately under the guidance of Father Bolatete and faculty advisor Dr. Cindy Hardin '82, professor of business administration.

Father Bolatete said, "As the Catholic Student Organization chaplain for the past few years, I have been truly inspired by the sincerity of the participating students in their practice of the faith through worship and ministry to fellow students. There is active and engaged leadership from the Catholic professors and leaders in the College. We are blessed to have Dr. Hardin encouraging and inspiring Catholic students and friends to participate actively in the celebrations."

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*According to the National Survey of Student Engagement, 87 percent of first-year students report having an interest in spiritual activities on their campus.*

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In addition, the Jewish Student Association meets twice monthly under the guidance of Associate Professor of English Catherine Eskin. The association supports students' observances, such as building a *sukkah* on campus last fall during Sukkot.

Dr. Eskin said the Jewish Student Association helps reassure Jewish students that they are welcome on campus.

"They sometimes come to us with trepidation about the availability of religious facilities and whether they will face prejudice. Seeing our presence on campus is a real relief for them. Just knowing we are here



*Rev. Tim Wright '94, Riley P. and Claire M. Short Chaplain at FSC, delivers an entertaining and inspiring sermon at Sunday Service.*



*It was a scene of controlled chaos as nearly 200 students descended on the Fannin Center and eagerly packaged health kits for hurricane victims.*

makes Jewish students feel more comfortable with their surroundings and more confident about their Jewish heritage."

Other groups that meet during the week include the Fellowship of Christian Athletes; a women's Bible study; the Wesley Fellowship; TZeDeK, a social justice ministry; and Pistis, a ministry to fraternities and sororities. In addition, a sandwich ministry meets each week to prepare sandwiches and distribute them to the homeless and poor in and around downtown Lakeland.

Campus Ministries is housed in the newly renovated Fannin Center, named for retired United Methodist Bishop Robert Fannin '58, bishop-in-residence at FSC. Bishop Fannin, who spent nine years as a campus minister at the University of Florida, said Campus Ministries has done a good job of giving students a spiritual foundation.

"I've been very impressed and excited about the inclusive nature of Campus Ministries. They've included everyone, and at the same time centered the ministries on worship and outreach. To have a truly spiritual experience, you have to see beyond yourself," he said.

Campus Ministries has had a lasting impact on countless students. During her time at FSC, the Rev. Jenny Beckett Smith '05, pastor of St. John United Methodist Church in Anchorage, Alaska, played in the chapel praise band and participated in the Wesley Fellowship. She said Campus Ministries threw her a spiritual lifeline she needed.

"Campus Ministries gave me a social and spiritual foundation in the midst of a lot of changes. The Twin Tower attacks happened my first month of college, and I was desperately missing my family in Alaska. New friends stepped right in and filled that gap. I always appreciated their support as we served and loved others, and I loved going on several mission trips that helped me grow in great ways," she said.

A photograph of an elderly couple standing on a wooden dock by a lake. The woman, Jane Suggs Weise '57, is wearing a bright pink long-sleeved top and a pearl necklace. The man, Lena Suggs '44, is wearing a white polo shirt and glasses. They are both smiling. The background shows a calm lake, green trees, and a cloudy sky.

# Like Mother, Like Daughter

Jane Suggs Weise '57  
followed in the pioneering  
footsteps of her mother,  
Lena Suggs '44

by Cary McMullen

In the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, opportunities for women were limited, especially for women with children at home who lived in small towns. Jane Suggs Weise '57 saw her mother demonstrate that determination can change destiny.

"If someone in your family breaks the mold, it influences the generations that follow," she says.

Jane and her mother, the late Lena Suggs '44, are examples of how perseverance and hard work lead to success. Both women were nontraditional students at Florida Southern, commuting long distances and attending classes at night and during the summer in order to graduate. They became teachers, at one point with classrooms in the same building, and they instilled in their own children a love of learning.

"Mother would have haunted me if my children hadn't finished college," Jane quips.

Mrs. Suggs felt so strongly about the value of education, she sought to make it easier for others than it had been for her. Although a woman of modest means, she established a scholarship at FSC with preference given to high school students from Highlands County. Jane Weise has given a gift to the College to enlarge the scholarship endowment.

"My mother never made more than \$10,000 a year, but she was determined to establish the scholarship. She was so grateful she was able to get her degree. That's one reason I want to extend her legacy," she says.

Lena Suggs was something of an early feminist, Jane says. She was raised on a Georgia farm and went to Berry Academy in Rome, Ga., for secondary schooling. She wanted to study algebra and physics, classes that were offered only to boys in the mid-1920s. She received permission but had to walk more than a mile to the separate boys' campus in order to take the classes.



Mrs. Suggs was a young wife and mother of three children when her husband was injured while serving as a volunteer firefighter, and she supported the family by working in a canning plant. Jane remembers that her mother raised chickens and cows and made all of her children's clothes. In spite of the circumstances, Mrs. Suggs wanted to earn a college degree. For years she commuted from Bartow to Lakeland to attend FSC at nights and on weekends.

*“She was so grateful she was able to get her degree. That’s one reason I want to extend her legacy.”*

Then the family moved to Avon Park, too far away to commute because of gas rationing during World War II. Mrs. Suggs needed summer classes to finish her degree but had no one to look after 9-year-old Jane and her twin sister, Beth. So FSC President Ludd Spivey, in a compassionate gesture, arranged for Mrs. Suggs and her girls to stay in Joseph Reynolds Hall over the summer. She graduated with honors and returned to Avon Park to become an English teacher.



*Jane and her mother, Lena, visit the campus together in 1994.*

Jane Weise followed an uncannily similar path. She and her sister were talented academically and musically, and they had received offers from top schools such as Purdue. But Jane eloped during her senior year of high school, and then she had a daughter of her own. College seemed a remote possibility, but her mother encouraged her.

“My in-laws were horrified. They said, ‘No, you have a baby.’ It just

wasn’t done. But Mother said, ‘You can do this.’ She figured it out so I didn’t have to go to class every day,” Jane says.

Three days a week, she got up at 4 a.m. and drove through the fog 60 miles to Lakeland. She had a double major, music education and English, and her days were long, filled with study and music lessons. Jane finished just a semester late, graduating *magna cum laude* with her mother in the audience.

She taught music and English in public schools for 34 years, 17 in Florida and 17 in Georgia. At one point she taught in Avon Park High School, in a classroom just below her mother’s.

Even though she was teaching full time and had three young children, Jane found time to pursue her musical talents, performing regularly as a flutist. And she discovered she had an athletic side. She learned to play golf and was good enough to qualify for the 1970 U.S. Women’s Amateur.

In 2001, Jane married Duane Weise, a retired engineer and developer, and the two moved into a beautiful home in Vero Beach overlooking the Indian River Lagoon. These days she remains busy, playing the flute with local ensembles and volunteering. The natural curiosity instilled in her from a young age remains vibrant. She collects and plays Native American flutes and continues to play golf.

Lena Suggs taught for more than 30 years and died in 2003 at age 99, but her legacy continues to a third generation. Jane’s son is a pharmacist, one daughter worked on the space shuttle program at NASA, and a second daughter is an environmental consultant. A grandson recently earned a master’s degree from the University of Florida in environmental engineering.

“It’s been an adventure. I’ve felt my mother’s influence throughout my life,” Jane says. “I know I was an excellent teacher, but my mother was the most gifted and inspiring teacher I’ve ever known.”



*Lena Suggs '44 stands proudly in her cap and gown, 1944.*



## Eight Inducted into FSC Athletics Hall of Fame

Five former student-athletes and three of Florida Southern College's dedicated supporters are the newest members to be inducted into the Florida Southern Athletics Hall of Fame. The Class of 2013 was inducted at the 12<sup>th</sup> annual FSC Athletics Hall of Fame Banquet on September 20 in Jenkins Field House.

**Megan Brown '07 M.Ed. '09** was one of the most dominant softball pitchers in Division II history and holds numerous career FSC records, including wins (124), ERA (0.69) and strikeouts (997).

**Greg Koch** (2004–07) played for the men's golf team and was a three-time All-American. He was the SSC Freshman of the Year in 2004 and the 2007 SSC Men's Golfer of the Year.

**Antonia Newman '02 MBA '06** was a four-year letter winner in women's basketball and was a two-time Honorable Mention All-American. She ranks second in the FSC record books in career rebounding (979), 15th in career scoring (1,164) and holds the single-season (56) and career marks (163) for blocked shots.

**Vicki Saltsman Balogh '91** was a four-year letter winner in volleyball and was a second-team All-American and a two-time All-SSC selection. She ranks in the Top 20 on FSC's all-time charts in kills (1,077), aces (131) and blocks (286).

**Mike Schoeller** (1978–79) was a two-time All-American in baseball and was a member of the school's 1978 Division II National Championship team. His .445 batting average in 1978 is third best in school history, and he ranks third on the school's all-time slugging percentage chart (.662) and first in career batting average (.426).

Completing the class of inductees in the honorary category are **Bob Stanley '51**, the late **Jim Lee '67**, and the late **Harold "Streamline" Sale**. All three are founding members of FSC's Sixth Man Club, which supports the men's basketball program, and Lee served as its president for more than four years.



*The Class of 2013 FSC Athletics Hall of Fame inductees, or their representatives, are, front row, from left, **Greg Sale '87**, son of the late **Harold "Streamline" Sale**; **Nan Lee**, wife of the late **Jim Lee '67**; and **Bob Stanley**. Back row, from left, are **Mike Schoeller '79**, **Greg Koch '07**, **Antonia Newman '02**, **Megan Brown '07**, and **Vicki Saltsman Balogh '91**.*



The men's cross-country team completed a superb year, winning the Division II South Region title and placing five runners in the top 20. The team is seen here after winning the Regional meet in Dover, Fla. Seniors **David Tomchinsky** (second row, fourth from left) and **Chris Yanichko** (second row, fifth from left), junior **Chris Trebilcock** (kneeling, left), sophomore **Jose Perez** (kneeling right) and freshman **Robert Ormsby** (second row, third from left) were named to the All-South Region Team. First-year coach **Ben Martucci '11** (far right) was named South Region Coach of the Year. The Mocs also won their 16<sup>th</sup> Sunshine State Conference championship, with Yanichko, Tomchinsky, and Ormsby named to the 2013 All-SSC team. Ormsby was named SSC Freshman of the Year, and Martucci was named SSC Coach of the Year.





*FSC's Kevin Capers drives against a Florida defender in the Mocs' exhibition game against UF. Capers was chosen Division II South Region Player of the Year and was a second-team All-American.*

## Mocs Win SSC Titles, Fall in Regional Tournament

After a tremendous 2013–2014 season, Florida Southern's men's basketball team fell short in its quest to reach the NCAA Division II Final Four. The Mocs won their first 18 games and won the Sunshine State Conference regular season and tournament titles but lost in the first round of the NCAA Regional tournament to Tuskegee University, 98–95, in March.

FSC junior **Kevin Capers** was the star for the Mocs all year, and he scored 46 points in the losing effort against Tuskegee. He was named to the South Regional All-Tournament Team for the second straight season. Capers, who already had been named the SSC Player of the Year, SSC Tournament Most Outstanding Player, and Daktronics South Region Player of the Year, completed his junior season averaging 21.5 points per game.

Coach Linc Darner also achieved a prestigious accolade, being named the South Region Coach of the Year by the National Association of Basketball Coaches.

Coach Darner said that the season was very successful despite falling short of its goal of repeating as regional champion.

"We went 26–5, made it back to the NCAA Tournament for the seventh consecutive season and also won both the regular season and postseason league titles," said Darner. "We had another great season."

## Repeats: Men National Runners-Up, Alli Crenshaw Is National Champion

Call it a Swan song. FSC senior **Robbie Swan**, one of the Mocs' most decorated student-athletes in recent years, pushed past two other swimmers on the final leg of the final event of the four-day 2014 NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships to give FSC's men's swim team a 2½-point margin over Wayne State University for its second consecutive runner-up finish.



Going into the final event of the championship, the 400-yard freestyle relay, FSC trailed Wayne State by 1½ points. After three legs, the Moccasins were in sixth and Wayne State was fourth. In the final swim of his career, Swan's 100-yard final leg, in 43.68 seconds, beat Wingate by 0.11 seconds and Wayne State by 0.31 seconds to give the Mocs second place in the championship.

For the FSC women, sophomore **Alli Crenshaw** (above) repeated as the 1,000-yard freestyle national champion, and the Mocs finished in seventh, their fourth straight top-10 finish at the national finals. Crenshaw also had a 9th-place finish in the 1,650-yard freestyle, earning a second All-American certificate.

The individual title for Crenshaw is the third of her career. In addition to winning the 1,000-freestyle last year as a freshman, she also won the 1,650-yard freestyle.

In the 2013 National Collegiate Water Ski Association Championships in October, FSC sophomore **K.C. Wilson** (below) won the national title in the men's slalom event and finished tied for sixth in the men's overall competition for the second consecutive season. Freshman **Ellie Rae Horton** won the national title in the tricks event and tied for fifth in the women's overall competition. The Mocs water ski team finished fifth in the standings.



*Ellie Rae Horton*



## Faculty

Hazel Haley Professor of Education **Perry A. Castelli**, and his wife, Vivian, have had the third edition of their graduate-level textbook, *Social Foundations of American Education*, published by Carolina Academic Press. They are also completing the second edition of an undergraduate-level textbook, *Exploring the Foundations of American Education*, scheduled for publication in August.

Associate Professor of Spanish **José Garcia** gave a presentation, “Revolutionary Cuba,” at the University of Tampa in November. He also addressed the Honors Symposium Lecture Series at the university, leading a discussion following a screening of the film *Voices from Mariel*, which documented his return to Cuba years after fleeing in the Mariel boatlift.

**Lt. Col. Scott LaRonde**, professor of military science and ROTC battalion commander, gave the keynote address at the City of Lakeland’s Veterans Day Festival on November 9.

John and Ruth Tyndall Professor of Citrus Science **Malcolm Manners** has received his third President’s Volunteer Service Award for his work with flower growers in Bangladesh. He worked as a volunteer technical training expert in Jessore, Bangladesh, in August 2012 on a project to train growers of cut-flower roses, tuberoses, and marigolds on production methods, as well as methods of harvesting, packing, storage, and shipping to market. Since 1996, Dr. Manners has worked as a volunteer with USAID in 10 countries, assisting farmers in a variety of fruit and flower production and management projects. He received this same award in 2007 and 2008.



Professor of English **Claudia Slate** recently received the Distinguished Colleague Award from the Florida College English Association at its 2013 Conference in October. The award is given annually by the association for “significant and sustained contributions in teaching, scholarship, and service.” She presented a paper, “Opening the Boat of Florida Literature to an Outlier: Stephen Crane,” to the Florida Historical Society’s annual meeting in March. She also presented “‘Like’ the Idea of

Facebook as a Rhetorical Strategy for Composition Students?” at the Popular Culture Association National Conference in April.

Professor of Criminology **Risdon Slate** participated in a panel discussion on “Care for Aging, Addicted, Chronically and Mentally Ill Inmates and Detainees” as part of a symposium, “Health Behind Bars: What Obamacare Means for Prisons, Jails and the Justice-Involved,” at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York in October.

Professor of Religion **W. Alan Smith** is co-author, with Ruth Illman, of a new book, *Theology and the Arts: Engaging Faith*, published by Routledge. The book is a practical theology that focuses on the arts in their various forms as the means of interpreting and understanding the nature of communities, as well as the ways through which these communities engage in transformative work.

The Board of Trustees has approved the award of tenure and promotions to several outstanding faculty members. **Dr. Catherine Eskin**, associate professor of English; **Dr. José Garcia**, associate professor of Spanish; **Dr. Eric Kjellmark**, professor of biology; and **Dr. Patrick Smith**, associate professor of psychology, were awarded tenure. **Dr. John Thomasson** was awarded tenure and promoted to professor of music. Faculty members receiving promotions were **Dr. Christy Skelly**, assistant professor of nursing; and **Dr. Michael Trice**, associate professor of communication.

## Students

**Patrick Abrahamsson** was one of five college and university students from Florida who received the GEICO Achievement Award for academic accomplishments and leadership skills. The GEICO Achievement Awards give students \$1,000 toward future educational pursuits and are presented to students who have excelled academically in business, computer science, mathematics, or a related degree program and have demonstrated leadership within their campus or community.

SGA President **Jared Goodwin** was included in a feature, “A Salute to Our Campus Leaders,” in the August edition of *Cross & Crescent*, the online newsletter of Lambda Chi Alpha. Jared is a member of FSC’s Epsilon Xi chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha.

**Kelly Madden ’13** presented a poster of her Honors Thesis research, “The Monty Hall Paradox and Applications in Computer Security,” at the 2013 South Central Regional Conference of the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges at Louisiana State University. She was accompanied by Professor of Computer Science Gwen Walton.

**Torri Moore**, recipient of the 2013 Women’s Club of Winter Haven scholarship, addressed the club in November as part of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.



**Frida Söderdahl**, a vocal performance major who works with the special needs community in her hometown in Finland, is volunteering as music director for Lakeland Community Theatre's Out of the Box, a special needs theatrical troupe.

**Hannah Weldon '13** was named Omicron Delta Kappa's 2013 National Leader of the Year in Creative and Performing Arts. While earning her degree in music education, she was ODK circle president, a senator in SGA, and played in the FSC Symphony Orchestra and in the community Imperial Symphony Orchestra. Weldon is teaching in Hong Kong and plans to enroll in law school.



Sophomore **K.C. Wilson** was named a recipient of the Southern Region/Elmer Staling Scholarship from the American Water Ski Educational Foundation (AWSEF). Wilson, who is the captain of the Moccasins' water ski team, is one of eight athletes to receive the \$1,500 scholarship. The recipients were chosen because of their commitment to their sport and studies.

## Trustees



**The Hon. E.J. Salcines, Jr., '59**, former chairman of the FSC Board of Trustees, was one of 165 attorneys honored for 50 years of membership by the Florida Bar Association at a luncheon at its annual convention in Boca Raton in June. He was also the featured speaker at the luncheon. He is a retired judge for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Court of Appeals and lives in Tampa. Also honored at that luncheon were Jan L. King '60 of Travelers Rest, S.C., and former FSC

Trustee Robert L. Ulrich of St. Petersburg.



**Evett L. Simmons '79** was presented the Sankofa award at this year's annual convention of the National Bar Association in August. The award is presented to an individual who has distinguished him or herself by efforts to empower the futures of young people by making a quality education accessible to all. Ms. Simmons, a shareholder with Greenspoon Marder, also hosted the Evett L. Simmons Mock Trial Competition, held during the National

Bar Association's Crump Law Camp, which is designed to provide high school students with an introduction to the challenges of a legal education.

## Friends

**T. Terrell Sessums** was honored June 7 by the League of Women Voters of Hillsborough County with its Lifetime Achievement Award. Sessums served as a state legislator from 1963 to 1974 and on the Florida Board of Regents from 1979 to 1988. He also served on the Board of Governors for Florida Southern College and was awarded an honorary doctor of laws from FSC in 1973. The award is given to an individual who has dedicated his or her life to serving the public through education and advocacy at the local, state, and national levels.

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2015

March 13-15, 2015

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## *A Report from the National Alumni Board of Directors*

Dear FSC family and friends,

It is my distinct honor to serve as president of the Florida Southern College National Alumni Board of Directors. FSC has played an integral role in my life. My husband, Dennis Alter '80, and I met as students and have been married 33 years in December. Two of our five children, along with our son-in-law, are also graduates of FSC, and our youngest son is currently a freshman. It's a privilege for me to serve the College that has so enriched my family.

The alumni board has been hard at work reorganizing and planning for the future. We now have bylaws in place and we are establishing committees and procedures. We are also exploring new ways for you to stay connected to our alma mater and to fellow alumni. Be sure to check out the alumni webpage: [flsouthern.edu/alumni](http://flsouthern.edu/alumni). We want all alumni, wherever you are, to feel the energy and passion of what is being accomplished on campus!

Florida Southern and the alumni board host numerous events each year to promote interaction, networking, and student success, the biggest of which is Homecoming, which was held March 14–16, 2014, and is planned for the same weekend next year, March 13–15, 2015. I encourage you to make plans to attend what promises to be the highlight of the year.

To truly appreciate all that has changed and is changing, you need to take a trip back to campus. You will be stunned by the beautiful landscaping and architectural features of the new facilities! You will

feel the infectious energy of the faculty and students. You will be thrilled to reunite with old friends and faculty, all the while remembering why this institution played such a huge role in your life. The true spirit of FSC is flying high, and I encourage you to rediscover it.

FSC has truly undergone a remarkable transformation in the last few years, and I have never been prouder of what has been accomplished. Under the visionary leadership of President Anne Kerr, we are reaching new heights of excellence with soaring national rankings. Our faculty is second to none. We have built many new state-of-the-art facilities with plans underway for others. Each year we continue to attract the best and brightest students from around the world, with record-breaking enrollment this year!

My greatest hope during my tenure as president is that all alumni near and far will be passionate about the mission of the Florida Southern College Alumni Association. There has never been a better time to be a Moc!

Laurie McCain Alter '80  
*President, National Alumni Board of Directors*



### **Need a transcript? Go to [flsouthern.edu](http://flsouthern.edu) > Info For > Alumni > Transcripts**

The Office of the Registrar can now provide official FSC transcripts securely to students and alumni via a new online service. A signed consent form is required for processing, and the fee is \$7.50 per transcript.

Multiple orders may be placed in one session. No charges will be incurred until the order is completely processed, generally within three to five business days. Order updates will be provided through e-mail and may also be received via mobile text messaging. Orders can also be tracked online using your e-mail and order number.

For more information, contact the registrar's office from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday; by e-mail at [registrar@flsouthern.edu](mailto:registrar@flsouthern.edu); or by phone at 863-680-4127.




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## 1942

**Julia Cousins Laning** recently gave a donation to help expand the Venice (Fla.) Museum and Archives. The museum is housed in the former Triangle Inn, built in 1927, which was Laning's childhood home.

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## 1943

**Dr. Luther Beal** celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on July 28. He is a retired dentist who lives at the Florida Presbyterian Homes in Lakeland. He reads the newspaper and attends exercise classes faithfully, according to a report in *The Ledger*.

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## 1949

**John D'Albora, Jr.** was given an award from The Rotary Club of Cocoa, Fla., honoring him for 68 years as a Rotarian. He also was named a Lifetime Member.

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## 1950

**Dr. Kenneth Herman** is the author of *Pop: Burst the Diet Bubble*, published with his daughter, Dr. Rebecca Cipriano, about the importance of controlling weight, eating nutritionally, and exercising. Dr. Herman sits on the board of trustees of a free primary medical care facility for the uninsured. He has been married to his wife, Benita, for 54 years and has four children and nine grandchildren.

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## 1962

**Dr. Gary Shiplett** has written his sixth book and first novel, *The Crystal Bell*, recently released by Infinity Press. He is a retired United



*These Alpha Chi Omegas held a week-long reunion in Key West in May. They are, from left, Tillie Irvine Botz '62, Patty Jo Holroyd Accornero '64, Liz Hunter Schultz '62, Sue Eckhardt McLain '62, Paula Whan Parkel '63, Ruth Kleineck Shoobe '61, Ginny Grosscup Campion '63, Dianne Derrer Aucamp '63, Bessie Brown Cochran '62, Bobbie Khonigan Cloud '61, Sue Sherry Balsiger '62, and Edi Walker '62.*



*This Florida Southern family all attended Homecoming 2013. They are: front row, from left, Dottie Galloway Hollis '63, Peggy Hollis Fox '89, Lynn Hollis '92, and Lindsay Fox; back row, from left, Scott Fox '88, Strait Hollis '63, and FSC Counseling Center counselor Tom Norman. Strait and Dottie joined the Golden Mocs on the occasion.*

Methodist pastor who served churches in Indiana, Florida, Illinois, and Michigan. He and his wife, Carol, live in Escanaba, Mich.

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## 1964

**Ed Kershner** was inducted into the National High School Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame in a ceremony in June in Des Moines, Iowa. He has 809 wins as a high school basketball coach and continues as the coach of Oviedo High School. He previously has been inducted into the Florida Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the Florida High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, and the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

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## 1967

**Sandra Parks** gave a talk recently to the Friends of the Main Library in St. Augustine about her late husband, author and human rights activist Stetson Kennedy. She is a former St. Augustine city commissioner and owns Anastasia Books in St. Augustine.

**Edwin Vetter** is founding principal of the International Baccalaureate School in Bartow, which was recently named as the No. 2 best high school in the United States by *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast*. Edwin was quoted in an article about the school.

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## 1968

**James John Gustafson** is a student in the MFA program at the University of Tampa. He has published two poetry collections, *Driving Home* (Aldrich Press, 2013) and *Take Fun Seriously* (Limitless Press, 2006).



1969

FSC Distinguished Alumnus **R. Fred Lewis** continues to serve as a justice on the Florida Supreme Court after winning his merit retention vote in the November 2012 election.

1970

**Art Miles** has been named president of Easi-Set Industries, Inc., in Midland, Va., a company that specializes in precast concrete. He has spent 30 years in manufacturing and construction services businesses.

**Lt. Col. Bill Northacker**, who is retired from the U.S. Army, has published his third book, *Two If By Sea*, a novel of espionage and naval action set during the Cold War. He reports that he is working on a fourth book.

1974



**Bill Dancy**, who played baseball for the Mocs, was inducted into the Florida State League Hall of Fame at a ceremony in November in Daytona Beach. He was inducted for his more than 39 years of experience as a player, coach and manager in professional baseball. He's currently the minor league field coordinator for the Detroit Tigers.

**Thomas Smith** was promoted in February from pro sales specialist to department manager of both the Tool World and Hardware departments at Lowe's Home Improvement in Jacksonville.

1975



**John Byers III** is national sales manager for Tombow USA, an office and art products company, and also a career development consultant. He lives in Alpharetta, Ga.

1976

**Frank Cacciatore** who played on the Mocs 1975 national champion baseball team, is in his sixth season as batting coach for the Reading (Pa.) Phillies, a AA minor-league team. He's in his 26<sup>th</sup> season in professional baseball and has managed or coached minor-league ball for several major-league teams.

**Jim Meaders** has published his fourth book, *Minds Against Wicked Things*. He teaches art at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

**The Rev. Thom L. Shafer** is the senior pastor of Cypress Lake United Methodist Church in Fort Myers. Before assuming his post in July,



*Employment Technologies Corporation (ETC), founded by FSC Distinguished Alumnus **Joe Sefcik, Jr. '76**, was selected by the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission to receive their prestigious William C. Schwartz Industry Innovation Award in September. In addition, ETC was a first round finalist for the 2013 Florida Companies to Watch award, which honors the top 50 second-stage companies headquartered in Florida that exhibit innovative business strategies and processes. Joe and his wife, Eugenia (right), receive the Schwartz Award from Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs.*

he was associate vice president for advancement at FSC. He serves on the boards of directors of the Florida United Methodist Foundation, Bethune-Cookman University, and Westminster Retirement Communities of Florida.

1977



**Dr. C.B. Gambrell, Jr.** was named a Knight of the Legion of Honor, France's highest award, for his service in the U.S. Army's 276<sup>th</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion during World War II. He was a professor in the College of Engineering and the first academic vice president at the University of Central Florida from 1967 to 1978, and he started the engineering school at Mercer University. He earned a bachelor's degree in history at FSC's Orlando campus. His daughter is **Jane Gambrell Gavin '94** and granddaughter is **Carol Gavin Jones '03**. Dr. Gambrell lives in Lakeland with his wife, Olive.




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## 1978

**The Rev. Van Brooks** recently marked 20 years as senior pastor of New Hope Church in Effingham, Ill.

**Larry French** was recently featured in the *Daytona Beach News-Journal* for his activities in historical and nature conservation and his hobby as an historical re-enactor. He works for a publishing company editing science textbooks, and he and his family live in Deltona.

**Linda Bruno Stone** has retired from teaching in Orange and Osceola counties after 34 years of service. She writes that she is currently pursuing a career with Mary Kay and will be driving “free” very soon.

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## 1979



**David Lewis** has been elected superintendent of the Muscogee County School District in Columbus, Ga. He has spent 34 years with the Polk County School District as a teacher, principal, and associate superintendent. He is married to **Karen Nielsen Lewis '79**.

**Ernie Respress** retired in June after 33 years at Frostproof Middle-Senior High School as a science teacher and a coach. He plans to devote his time to a citrus harvesting business.

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## 1981



**Allison Parks Crutchfield** was one of seven finalists for the 2013 Polk County Teacher of the Year award. She has worked for the Polk County School Board for 31 years, 24 of those as a teacher in kindergarten to second grade. Currently she is the network manager at Laurel Elementary School.

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## 1982

**Janet Henderson Bartuska** is the manager of Volunteer Polk, a county office that recruits volunteers for programs and for local non-profit organizations. She was recently featured in a profile in *The Ledger*.

**William Kim Smith** is assistant principal of Winter Haven High School. He was a candidate for the Auburndale City Commission in the November election.

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## 1983

**Linda Farber Miller** is the owner of St. John's Jewelry Store in Ellicott City, Md. She took over the store from her father in 2003, and her two daughters, 22-year-old Margaux and 15-year-old Nicolette, help as employees. The family was featured in an article in *The Baltimore Sun*.

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## 1984

**Maureen Nicolace** was recently featured in an article on the TCPalm.com news website for her extensive volunteer work. She is president of Nicolace Marketing, Inc., in Vero Beach. She has volunteered with the American Cancer Society, Junior Achievement, and Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce, among other organizations.

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## 1985

**Anne Marie Fox Cirelli** writes that she has retired after 28 years as a middle and high school teacher with the District School Board of Pasco County and is moving to the Seattle area.

**Shirley Scott** contributed clinical commentary in a new book, *The Disenfranchised: Stories of Life and Grief When an Ex-Spouse Dies* (Baywood Publishing). She is a registered nurse, grief counselor, and certified thanatologist.



FSC Distinguished Alumna **Shelly Schaffer** has been named executive vice president and chief financial officer of Simply Hired®, a technology company based in Sunnyvale, Calif. In her new role, she will oversee the company's financial, legal and talent operations. Before joining Simply Hired®, Schaffer served as executive vice president and chief financial officer at Support.com.

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## 1986

**Robert Evans** and his wife, Lori, have published a new book and DVD series, *Wave Your Fat Goodbye*, a guide to fitness from a Christian perspective. They have produced and hosted the TV program *Christian Fitness*, seen on the Christian Television Network, for the past five years. They live in St. Petersburg.

**Howard Wiggs** was elected mayor of Lakeland on Nov. 5. He has served on the City Commission since 1993.

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## 1987

**Dr. Stanley Castor** is now practicing medicine in Tampa.

**Joe G. Tedder** was elected to the Polk County School District's Hall of Fame in May. He was elected as Polk County's tax collector in 1996 and has been re-elected for the past four terms. He is married to FSC Dean of Education Tracey Tedder.

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## 1988

Former Moc All-American **Dino Ebel** was promoted from third base coach to bench coach by the Los Angeles Angels.



**Kim Powell** and her sisters Cindy Powell and Vickie Murphy celebrated the one-year anniversary in August of 3 Sisters Ice Cream Palace in Lake Helen. This is the third business Kim and her sisters have started together. Pictured, from left, is Kim, her daughter Tara-Rose, and Cindy.

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### 1989

Former Moc basketball All-American **John Ebeling** is sports director of Pesaro, a professional team in Italy's top basketball league, Lega Basket Serie A.

**Chuck Massa** was promoted to vice president at Fifth Third Bancorp in Cincinnati. He joined the bank in 2005 and was previously a dealer finance relationship manager.

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### 1990

**Gregory W. Cunningham** has been promoted to corporal in the Rhode Island State Police. He is a 19-year veteran of the force and a member of the State Police Tactical Team.

**Jon Sielsky**, who played on the Mocs men's golf team, coaches middle school golf at the Cannon School in Concord, N.C.

**Trish Gadberry Wade**, who played on the Mocs' volleyball team, coaches volleyball and track, and is assistant basketball coach at St. John-Hudson Junior-Senior High School in Saint John, Kan. Her daughter, Teresa, is a standout volleyball player for Hutchinson (Kan.) Community College.

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### 1991

**Karen Kull Brand** is the director of strategic marketing and communications for Providence Day School, a private, independent TK-12 college preparatory school in Charlotte, N.C.



**Geoffrey Freebern '91**, alumni member of the FSC Toastmasters International Club, recently represented the chapter in the 2013 District 84, Division E, Area 54 Humorous Speech Contest. He received first place for his speech, "Word-Up!" This is the fourth time in five years that the FSC Toastmasters Club brought home the winning trophy in the Humorous Speech contest. Freebern placed first in 2009 and 2010, and student member Melissa Hernandez placed first in 2011.

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### 1992

**Greg Faught** is the secondary curriculum supervisor for Enterprise (Ala.) City Schools. He has held the post since 2007, and he was recently a candidate for the position of superintendent.

**Laurie Hurner** is the new citrus agent for the Highlands County Extension Office. She was previously assistant director of Grower Affairs at Florida Citrus Mutual. Laurie succeeds her father, Tim Hurner, who worked for the extension office for more than 30 years.

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### 1993

**LaDreda Borom Akins** was named a court coach for the 2013 USA Basketball Women's U16 National Team Trials in Colorado Springs, Colo. That announcement came on the heels of her hiring as the new women's basketball coach at Warner University in Babson Park, Fla. She led the Haines City High School girls' basketball team to consecutive state finals appearances, three regional championships and six district championships during a 13-year tenure.

**Scott R. Lilly** has joined the law firm Greenspoon Marder, P.A., in Tampa as a shareholder practicing in the areas of creditors' rights, health care, and commercial litigation. He is a former member of the FSC President's Council.

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### 1994



**Zack Kaplan** has joined RE/MAX Platinum Realty as a broker-associate in the Lakewood Ranch office. He was previously with RE/MAX Marketing Specialists in Springhill. Zach has worked in the real estate industry for nine years and specializes in luxury and waterfront homes, equestrian properties, and distressed properties.

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### 1995

**Jeffrey Cayer** was one of 217 quarterfinalists nationwide for the Music Educator Award presented by The Recording Academy and the GRAMMY Foundation. He is the band director at Southwest Middle School in Lakeland.

**Kimberly Downs** has been certified as a Six Sigma Green Belt from the American Society for Quality. She is a process analyst for the Continuous Improvement Department at Watson Clinic LLP in Lakeland.

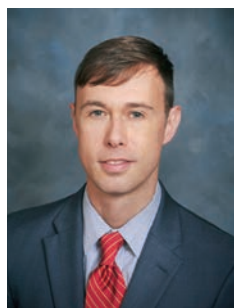
**Heidi Evans** writes that she has quit the rat race for good. She enjoys life as a full time homemaker with her husband and family friend of many years, Ray Christensen. They live in Mountain Rest, S.C. She invites friends to write her at [themaingator@att.net](mailto:themaingator@att.net).



## 1996

**John Kerley** has been promoted from assistant principal at Maplewood Elementary to principal at North Marion Middle School in Ocala.

## 1998



**Bill Edwards** has joined the Tampa office of the statewide law firm Broad and Cassel as Of Counsel in the firm's Commercial Litigation, Labor and Employment and Corporate and Securities Practice Groups. Prior to joining Broad and Cassel, he served as general counsel and director of legal services for a national privately held professional employment organization.

**Andrea Kosa**, who played for the Mocs' women's golf team, now runs YourGOLFBODY in Calgary, Canada, a physiotherapy service designed to help golfers improve their game, as well as prevent and rehabilitate golf-related injuries.

## 1999



In January, **Ashley Calhoun Winship** was named a shareholder in the law firm of Rush, Marshall, Jones, and Kelley, P.A., in Orlando. She also was recently recognized as one of 28 recipients of the 2013 Leaders in the Law Award, presented by the Florida Association of Women Lawyers (FAWL), and she was recently sworn-in as president-elect of the Central Florida Association for Women Lawyers (CFAWL) for 2013–2014, and will serve as the president of the organization in 2014–2015.

## 2000

**Jeff Klauk**, who played on three Mocs national championship men's golf teams and won the individual 2000 Division II national title, has been featured in the media recently. He is playing on the Web.com tour, trying to come back from injuries and treatment for epilepsy. He is married to **Shanna Nagy Klauk '99**, herself a former Moc golfer who won two individual NCAA Division II national titles.



**Jennifer Young Milone** and her husband, Nick, and their family are living in Valrico. Jennifer is seen here with her daughters, 5-year-old Tessa Faith, 7-year-old Gwenyth Jade, and Phoebe Noelle, 23 months.



*These Zeta Tau Alpha alumnae spent a weekend together in Ft. Lauderdale in October, dining and shopping on Las Olas Boulevard, swimming, laughing, reminiscing, and reconnecting. Front row, left to right: **Jessica Curran Worch '99**, **Julie Curran Desaulniers '00**, and **Jennifer Huber Murphy '99**. Back row, left to right: **Courtney Jennings '98**, **Elizabeth Fisher Kinsinger '97**, **Rebecca Ross Berkley '98**, **Sumer Childress Dickinson '00**, and **Gretchen Swartzlander '99**.*

## 2001

**Fred Koehler** owns The Fred Group, a graphic design company in Lakeland. His first illustrated children's book, *How to Cheer Up Dad*, will be published in the spring by Dial Books for Young Readers.

**Emilie DuBois Plants** competed in the Lakeland Classic bodybuilding competition in August. She engaged in a weight-loss regimen and lost more than 40 pounds before entering the competition. Emilie was featured in an article in *The Ledger*.

## 2002

**Trevor Clark** is a logistics agent living in Lakeland. A former Moc soccer player, he is co-captain of the Lakeland Cosmos, a team in the Florida Suncoast Soccer League. His co-captain with the Cosmos is former Moc **Denny Townsend '09**.

**The Rev. Zachary C. McGowen** earned his master of divinity degree from Reformed Theological Seminary. He was ordained by the Presbyterian Church (USA) and installed as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Lakeland on August 11.

## 2003

**Justin Sorrells** was recently quoted in the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* in a story about his hometown of Arcadia. Justin works in his family's citrus business.



**Lizette Martinez Candela** has joined Premier Sotheby's International Realty in Naples, Fla. She was previously in sales with Pulte Homes in Lakeland.

### 2004

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**Todd Parrish** earned the distinction of Board Certified Attorney by the Florida Bar in the area of Workers' Compensation Law. He is one of fewer than 250 attorneys in the state of Florida who have earned this recognition.

**Danielle Zirkelbach** recently had a solo exhibition of her artwork at the Wyland Oceanfront Gallery in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. Her works reflect her love of surfing, and she is following her dream of surfing every day and working as a full-time artist on the Kona coast of Hawaii.

### 2005

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**Pamela Feggans**, who played on the Mocs women's golf team, won the Ingarö Ladies Open in Stockholm in July, her first win on the Ladies European Tour Access Series.

**Morgan Ortagus** received a joint MBA and master's degree in government from Johns Hopkins University in May. A few weeks later, she was married to Jonathan Weinberger in a ceremony performed by Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg in her chambers at the U.S. Supreme Court. Morgan is vice president of the board of the Friends of the Public Private Partnership for Justice Reform in Afghanistan. From 2010 to 2011, she was deputy U.S. Treasury attaché in Saudi Arabia.

### 2006

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**Amy Gaskins** recently joined MetLife's global technology executive team as their assistant vice president for data analysis. In her new role, Gaskins oversees enterprise-level business analytics programs and data governance strategies. She lives in Cary, N.C.

**Rodoboldo "Roly" Gonzalez** has a new position as an account manager for Likeable Media in New York City. He handles clients that have employed the agency to manage their social media and online presence.

### 2007

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**Angel Davis** is a librarian at the Larry R. Jackson Branch of the Lakeland Library and has almost completed her master's degree in library information science.

**Stephen Piercefield** is the new baseball coach at Cambridge Christian School in Tampa. He was previously an assistant coach at Lake Mary Prep in Orlando. Stephen played on the Mocs' 2005 national championship baseball team.

### 2008

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**Christina Ashley Kurz** passed the Veterinary Technician National Examination in August. She is a certified veterinary technician in her ninth year with Edgewood Animal Clinic in Lakeland.

**Laura Quintana-Cruz** has a new position as the science, technology, engineering, and math initiatives engineer at Lockheed Martin corporate headquarters in Washington. She is a graduate of the corporation's Engineering Leadership Development Program and obtained her master's degree from the University of Central Florida's Professional Engineering Management Program. Laura is engaged to Michael Garrison of Orlando. They will be married in the fall of 2014.

**Karen Quintana Ruoff**, sister of **Laura Quintana-Cruz '08**, completed her Certified Professional Accountant (CPA) Exam.

**Ryan Payne**, a graduate assistant athletic trainer for the University of Georgia baseball team, was chosen as one of two recipients of the 2013 Above and Beyond Award from the National Association of Athletic Trainers. Ryan and fellow UGA athletic trainer Michael Dillon were chosen for the award, which recognizes exceptional performance, for their rehabilitation of two Georgia baseball players partially paralyzed in separate accidents.

### 2009

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**Martine Daceus Marcelin** and her husband, Gary, are returning to South Florida, where Martine will become director of the Branches Community Center's Grow program. The program serves low-income and at-risk elementary children in the North Miami area. Martine received tutoring and other support from the Branches Community Center while in elementary and middle school.

### 2010

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**Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class CaSandra M. Reinhardt** graduated from the U.S. Navy's Nuclear Power School at Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Goose Creek, S.C. Nuclear Power School is a rigorous six-month course that trains officer and enlisted students in the science and engineering fundamental to the design, operation and maintenance of naval nuclear propulsion plants.

### 2011

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**Levis George** is a first-year osteopathic medical student at Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine in Harrogate, Tenn.

**U.S. Army 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Ian O'Neill** earned his flight wings on May 2 during the Initial Entry Rotary Wing/Advanced Aircraft Transition graduation ceremonies held at Fort Rucker, Ala.

## 2012

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**Jordan Burks**, a music teacher at Auburndale Central Elementary School, is also a member of the John Rhey Band, and he joined his band mates live on WQYK 99.5 on October 23. The group was part of a two-hour show in which the band wrote and performed a song based on lyrics suggested by show listeners.

**Erin McDonough** is now a staff associate at McNeely Pigott & Fox Public Relations in Nashville, Tenn.

**Erica Santiago**, former president of Gamma Phi Beta at FSC, is working on her master's degree at Florida State University and is chapter advisor for Gamma Phi Beta at FSU.

**Mary Yurso** is studying at the University of Glasgow for her master's degree in museum studies.

## 2013

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Former Moc **Mike Czenszak** signed with the Carine Cats in the Western Australia State Baseball League. The season opened in October.



**Erin Ferguson** is the new communications and administrative coordinator for the Community Foundation of Greater Lakeland, which provides philanthropic services, strategic investments, and community leadership for the greater Lakeland area.

**Joshua Mazur**, who is in the graduate program at the University of Florida School of Music, writes that in the spring he will be creating the role of Uncle Maffeo in the world premiere of a new opera, *The Red Silk Thread*, a story of Marco Polo, by Stella Sung, with the University of Florida Opera Theater and the Ocala Symphony Orchestra. He also was a featured soloist in the University of Florida Choir's performance of *A Melancholy Beauty*, an oratorio for large orchestra and chorus.

**Kirstin McIntyre** has signed a contract to play professional basketball in Germany with USV Jena in the Regionalliga's Southeast Division.

Former Moc **Robbie Shields** is playing third base for the Class A St. Lucie Mets.

**Julia Trainor MSN '13**, advanced registered nurse practitioner, has joined Bond Clinic in Winter Haven. She will be working with Dr. C. Jake Lambert in his cardiovascular and thoracic surgery office.



**Beth Cotney '70** and her husband, Fred, celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on May 31 with a dinner with family and friends. Beth is retired from a career in leisure property management. The Cotneys have three sons and seven grandchildren. They live in Lakeland.

**Julia Stansbury Ibarra '83** and David Seifert were married on April 13, 2013, in Brookshire, Texas. Her daughter, Rachel Ibarra of Houston, was maid of honor. Julia is a paralegal at Blank Rome LLP, and David is a production superintendent at Oteco, Inc. They live in Houston.



**Rich Chapman '94** and his wife, Shannon, and oldest son, Bode, welcomed a new baby, Lars. The Chapmans live in Juno Beach, Fla.

**Christine Shiver Brown '95** and **Christopher Brown '94** welcomed twins recently. Joshua Erick and Cameron Paul arrived on July 22, 2013. They each weighed 6 lbs.

**Angela J. (Armentrout) Springer '96** and her husband have welcomed another child into their family through adoption. Jay Springer was born Feb. 2006 and adopted May 2012. They live in Garner, N.C.

**Tamme Rae Easley '06** and Justin Caldwell Goble were married on Oct. 20, 2012, in Lakeland. Tammie is a marketing project manager for Publix Super Markets, and Justin is a department manager at the Highland City Town Center Publix. They live in Lakeland.

**Lt. Christopher Norton '10** is engaged to Brianna McCarron of Vero Beach. Christopher is serving with the U.S. Army in Clarksville, Tenn. Brianna is studying nursing at Indian River State College. No date for the wedding was announced.



▲ Former student **Brian Tate** and **Melisa Etienne '05** were married at Florida Southern on November 20, 2010. Bridesmaids included former students Nerlynn Etienne and Gloria Tate, **Lisa McQueen '06**, and **Lynda Phanord Davenport '06**.



**Jack Z. Sanders III '07** was married to Jessica Hunter on Aug. 3, 2013. The couple resides in Summerville, S.C.



▲ **James Robert Parish '12** and **Sarah Jean Perry '13** were married in a double-ring ceremony on May 25, 2013, at Scott Lake Baptist Church in Lakeland. The maid of honor was **Ashley Gentile '13**, and the best man was **Jared Kress '11**. Bridesmaids were Lauren Cox and Amber Dempsey. Groomsmen were Cody Small and Aaron Perry. The flower girl was Kaylor Pretty, granddaughter of **Peggy Robinson Chaney '75**, and the ring bearer was Ethan Roberts, son of **Adam Roberts '99**. Following a honeymoon in Niagara Falls, Canada, the couple will reside in Mulberry.



◀ **Lauren Harvey '06** married **Chris Riccio '07** at the Lakewood Ranch Golf and Country Club in Lakewood Ranch on October 20, 2012. The wedding party included **Kaitlin Harvey Randlett '06**, **Chris Randlett, '04**, **Sarah Markus '06**, **Brendan Schloerb '05**, and **Dave Trimble '05** (not pictured due to his deployment as a United States Marine). Lauren recently received her master's degree in elementary education from the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee and is a second grade teacher in Manatee County. Chris works for Champs Sports corporate office in Bradenton as an associate buyer. They live in Sarasota.



◀ **Nate '04** and **Sarah Logan '05 Smith** are seen with their son, Logan Nathaniel Smith, born Sept. 29, 2012.



# Southern*memoriam*

## 1930s

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**Margaret McAuley Preckel '37** of West Lafayette, Ind., died Sunday, June 30, 2013.

**Imogene Neal Rowley '37** died June 10, 2013, in Danville, Ky.

**Della Louise Green Daniels '39** died Sept. 5, 2013, in Bradenton.

## 1940s

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**Theodora Viola "Pat" Wood Edwards Safford '40** of Lakeland died July 23, 2013.

**Donald C. Adams '41** of Bartow died Nov. 19, 2013.

**Helen Davison Sanders '41** died May 16, 2013, in Lake Placid, Fla.

**Valda Lee Guess '42** of Lakeland died June 4, 2013.

**Martha Jo Luckie Snell '45** died Aug. 29, 2013, in Auburndale.

**Andrew E. "Van" Cason, Jr., '46** died Nov. 4, 2013, in Jacksonville.

**Alma Gloria Reynolds Tart '46** of Clinton, N.C., died Sept. 24, 2013.

**Sabrina Brown Hall '48** of Lakeland died Nov. 3, 2013.

**Leon C. Mills '48** of Auburndale died April 25, 2013.

**Barbara Jeanette Mosley Mitchell '48** of Lakeland died Nov. 6, 2013.

**Bette Morgan Pech '49** of Fort Lauderdale died Nov. 9, 2013.

**Stephen Voss '49** died July 8, 2013, in Boca Raton.

## 1950s

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**Hugh Bill Callahan '50** of Lakeland died May 24, 2013.

**Dr. Victor Rodney ("Vic") Durrance '50** of Gainesville, Texas, died April 18, 2013.

**Paul J. Gustat '50** of Sebring died Oct. 17, 2013.

**Faye Morris Kirkland '50** of Auburndale died April 30, 2013.

**Dr. C. Victor Romano '51** of New Smyrna Beach died on April 22, 2013.

**Geraldine Koestner Kruger '52** of Stuart died Oct. 28, 2013.

**Garry E. Lent '53** of Fort Montgomery, N.Y., died Sept. 27, 2013.

**Charles E. Clark '54** of Orlando died Oct. 16, 2013.

**Edward H. (Ted) Conway '54** of Fort Lauderdale died Oct. 16, 2013.

**Lillie A. Collins '54** died June 27, 2013, in Rockledge, Fla.

**Norma Barwick Harrell '54** of Lakeland died Sept. 21, 2013.

**Jerry Scott Greenfield '55** of Oldsmar died Oct. 17, 2013.

**Doris Hollis Everett '56** of Frostproof died Jan. 10, 2013.

**Frederick V. Gebhard '57** of Cape Coral, Fla., died June 18, 2013.

**James Georg '57** died Sept. 6, 2007 in Lakeland.

**James Lee Kaman '57** died July 9, 2013, in New Hartford, N.Y.

**Donald E. Brennan '58** of Ho-Ho-Kus, N.J., died on Aug. 26, 2013.

**Lawrence Austin "Larry" Drake '58** of Moultrie, Ga., died Nov. 6, 2013.

**Byron L. Kennedy, Jr., '58** of St. Petersburg died Oct. 1, 2013.

**Andrew Charles "Andy" Scaturro '58** of Acworth, Ga., died on April 22, 2013.

**Curtis L. Adkins '59** died June 14, 2013, in Palm Harbor.

**Barbara E. Ferris '59** of Clearwater died Nov. 17, 2012.

**William Clayton Harmon '59** died May 2, 2013, in Hendersonville, N.C.

**Charles Barclay "Whit" Whitmore '59** of Seffner died Oct. 19, 2013.

## 1960s

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**Edward S. MacKenzie III '60** of Brooksville died July 13, 2013. He was a recipient of the FSC Citrus Alumni of the Year award.

**Maj. Thomas D. McCutcheon '60** of Lakeland died April 25, 2013.

**Dennis A. Miller '60** of Noblesville, Ind., died July 23, 2013.

**Era W. "Bud" Carlsen '61** of Vero Beach died Sept. 18, 2013.

**Myrold J. Freer '62** of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., died June 15, 2013.

**Raymond E. Poitras, Jr., '63** died May 29, 2013, in Winter Haven.

**Melanie Mathis Mucklow '64** of Arlington, Va., died Sept. 3, 2013.

**Jon Dunlap Currier '65** died May 5, 2013, in Panama City, Fla.

**Thelma P. Boatenhammer '68** died Feb. 7, 2010, in Lakeland.

**Alice Fleming Crankshaw '68** died July 3, 2013 in Salt Lake City.



## 1970s

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**Thomas K. Greene '72** of West Oneonta, N.Y., died Oct. 13, 2013.

**Steven C. Babbitt '73** of Longboat Key died Oct. 23, 2013.

**John Quincy Rollins, Jr. '77** of Pompano Beach died Dec. 15, 2011.

**John Neal Shrader '78** of Lexington, S.C., died April 29, 2013.

**Jesse L. "J.L." Stacks '78** of Raleigh, N.C., died May 17, 2013.

## 1980s

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**Robert "Bob" Keith Christopher '80** died Aug. 11, 2013, in Lake City, Fla.

**Dr. Rosalie Rebecca "Lee" Robbins '80** of Port Charlotte died Aug. 1, 2013.

**Dori Drummond '81** of Poplar Bluff, Mo., died May 20, 2013.

**Richard Allen "Rich" Petry, Jr., '81** of St. Johns died Aug. 23, 2013.

**Dennis Ray Scales '83** of Spring Hill, Tenn., died Sept. 15, 2013.

**Diane Irene Beard '84** of Cookeville, Tenn., died Nov. 3, 2011.

**Earnestine Law '87** of Mulberry died Nov. 10, 2012.

**Charles Adonis Crawley '88** died Sept. 7, 2012, in Orlando.

**Margaret Hazel Mullins '89** died Oct. 14, 2008, in Wheat Ridge, Colo.

## 2010s

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**Jennifer Leslie Hodes '15** of Clermont died Nov. 15, 2013.

## STAFF

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**David E. Adelmeyer** of Auburndale died June 14, 2013. He worked for the Facilities Maintenance Department at FSC.

**Dr. George William Baxter, Jr.**, of Bristol, Tenn., died June 26, 2013. He was assistant dean and registrar at FSC from 1959 to 1966.

**Charles L. Long** of Bartow died June 29, 2013. He was a security officer for FSC for 20 years.

**The Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Price, Jr.**, died Sept. 24, 2013 in Tallahassee. He was chaplain at FSC from 1967 to 1974.

**Eugene L. Roberts '56** of Lakeland died Dec. 11, 2013. He was assistant director of admissions at FSC and a past president of the FSC National Alumni Board of Directors. Memorial gifts may be made to the Gene and Judi Roberts Scholarship Fund at FSC.

**Gary "Speedy" Satterfield '61** died May 24, 2013, in Cary, N.C. He

was an assistant baseball coach for the Moccasins.

**Margie Gilliam Watkins** died July 1, 2013, in Lakeland. She was a nurse with the FSC Student Health Center.

## TRUSTEES

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**Lloyd G. Hendry '44** died Oct. 17, 2013 in Fort Myers. He was a member of the FSC Board of Trustees from 1983 to 1998 and was elected trustee emeritus. A descendant of a historic Florida family, Mr. Hendry was an attorney and owned his own law firm. Survivors include a son, **Harry Orrin (Hank) Hendry '74**; and a daughter, **Mary Christine (Peach) Sonne '76**.

## FRIENDS OF FSC

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**Lois Cowles Harrison** of Lakeland died June 6, 2013. She was a noted philanthropist, and the Cowles Charitable Trust, of which she was an officer, gave a generous donation for the repair of the president's porch on the Emile E. Watson Administration Building.

**Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans**, FSC's 1971 honorary chancellor, died Jan. 23, 2012, in Charlotte, N.C.

**A. Ernest "Ernie" Straughn** of Lakeland died Aug. 24, 2013. A partner since 1960 in the firm now known as Straughn Trout Architects, Straughn designed the Sarah D. and L. Kirk McKay Archives Center at FSC.

**Adelaide Stevens Ware** of Lakeland died Aug. 9, 2013. She and her late husband, the Rev. Dr. Melton Ware, created the Ware Scholarship at FSC.

*For more complete obituaries that include FSC accomplishments, military service, and survivors, please see the listing on the College's Alumni website. Go to [fsouthern.edu/alumni](http://fsouthern.edu/alumni) and click on the In Memoriam link.*

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## The First Frank Lloyd Wright Building at FSC: The Annie Pfeiffer Chapel



*One of the earliest photos of the original Annie Pfeiffer Chapel, around 1941. Note the textile blocks extend up on either side of the base of the tower. They were later covered with stucco.*

The new Usonian house at the Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center marks the thirteenth structure at FSC designed by the great American architect, Frank Lloyd Wright. The first one to be completed, the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel, is now 72 years old, and it has had a complicated history.

In Wright's plan, the chapel would be the centerpiece of the campus, and President Ludd Spivey had to find the means to build it. Through Methodist Bishop William F. Anderson, who was associate professor of religion at FSC from 1937 to 1941, Spivey met pharmaceutical industrialist Henry Pfeiffer and his wife, Annie.

Mr. Pfeiffer was the founder of the Pfeiffer Chemical Company which later became the William Warner Company, today known as Pfizer. The Pfeiffers lived modestly and had no children, and they were generous philanthropists, supporting many educational institutions. They contributed \$50,000 to the college foundation that Spivey named for E. Stanley Jones, the famous Methodist missionary to India, and the foundation money was used to fund the chapel. Ground was broken in 1938. Mr. Pfeiffer died the following year without seeing the building completed.

Wright's original design called for a tower 85 feet high, with five "bowtie" structures connecting the north and south faces, but a lack of money and supplies forced Wright to scale back. As built, it is 65 feet high with three bowties and an almost square base—88 feet by 80 feet—1,800 square feet smaller than originally planned.

When the dedication ceremony was held on March 9, 1941, it was named the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel. Mrs. Pfeiffer was awarded an honorary doctorate on the occasion.

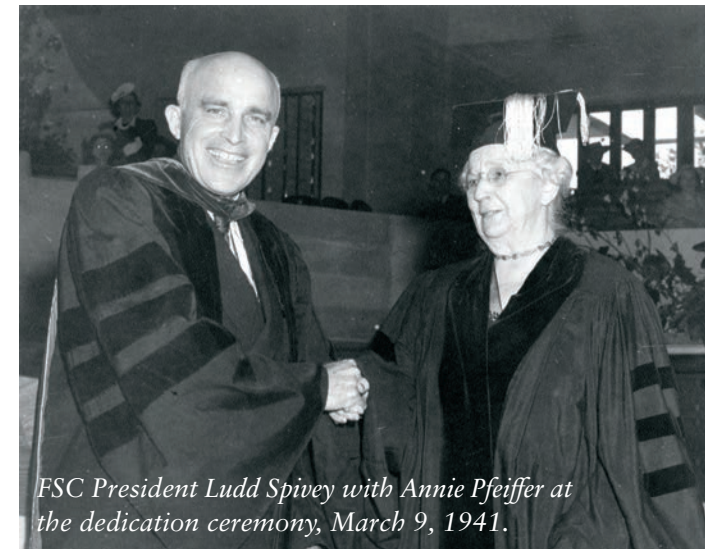
Disaster struck on Oct. 19, 1944, when a hurricane came through Lakeland, and the south face of the tower was blown inward, crashing through the skylight and collapsing the north face. The interior structure remained intact, but the original, massive "ship's prow" pulpit was destroyed along with many of the pews. The building was repaired at a cost of \$40,000. Spivey insisted that the new pulpit be smaller and movable.

Dale Gyure, associate professor of architecture at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, Mich., and author of Frank Lloyd Wright's Florida Southern College, said in a 2010 lecture at FSC that Wright and Spivey disagreed about another key point. During commencement or convocations, the greenhouse effect of the skylights made the chapel unbearably hot.

"When the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel was being rebuilt, Spivey pleaded with Wright to allow air conditioning, but Wright refused. None was put in any of the buildings until after Wright's death in 1959," Gyure said.

Originally, the ground-floor seating extended out into wings, or transepts, which were eventually closed off. The original red cypress pews were replaced with the cushioned theater-style seats in current use. The chapel today seats 510, considerably less than when it was dedicated.

Like many of the Wright buildings, leaks and water seepage have been a problem. In 2012, using funds from grants, the College did extensive work to waterproof the roof. A master plan drawn up by architect Jeff Baker on behalf of the College calls for the repair and restoration of the chapel to its original state, and two new grants from the State of Florida's Division of Historical Resources totaling \$400,000—for which the College is currently working to raise the required matching funds—will be used for that purpose. The textile blocks on the west side of the chapel will be replaced, and the interior will be returned to its original appearance, replacing current theater-style seating with pews based on Wright's design and rebuilding the original pulpit.



*FSC President Ludd Spivey with Annie Pfeiffer at the dedication ceremony, March 9, 1941.*



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