

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

SOUTHERN NEWS

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A letter *from the president*



Art is an important component of human culture. Through the ages, artists have used their talents to express profound emotions and ideas. Indeed, museums offer us images of beauty, mystery, life commentary, and often challenge us to change the way we look at the world.

Therefore, I am enthusiastic about the new affiliation between Florida Southern and the Polk Museum of Art. The museum has a long history of offering important exhibitions to Polk County residents and beyond, and now through this agreement, it will join the ranks of notable academic art museums in the nation.

The success of the affiliation has been supported greatly by J. William Meek III '72, director emeritus of the Harmon-Meek Gallery in Naples. Mr. Meek and his wife, Barbara '76, not only arranged for a significant collection of American figurative art to be donated to the permanent collection of the museum, but also contributed works from their own private collection. Their support and advocacy of this initiative create the foundation for a successful artistic venture for FSC.

This edition of *Southernnews* will tell you about this valuable affiliation and how it will strengthen both the College and the museum, which has been renamed the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College. I hope you share the excitement and that you will add a visit to the museum to your schedule the next time you visit the campus.

We continue to add dynamic new leadership to the College, including Dr. James Fenton, Dean of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, whom you will meet in this edition. The Barnett School is soaring under his leadership.

You will also read about the significant damage the campus suffered during September's Hurricane Irma and how in its wake, the faculty, staff, and students worked together to recover from the effects of the storm. I am proud of the way our campus community exhibited true "Moc Spirit," and I hope you are as proud as I am to be part of this great College.

Sincerely,

Anne B. Kerr, Ph.D.
President

On the cover:

A Cartographer at his Studies by Kneller Gottfried (1646 – 1723)

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CITRUS EXECUTIVE BILL BECKER '65

AWARDED PRIZE FOR ECONOMIC FREEDOM



Dr. R. William "Bill" Becker '65 receives the Prize for Economic Freedom from Dean Robert Holmes of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise. President Anne Kerr and Publix Super Markets Chairman Ed Crenshaw (right) express their congratulations.

Praised as a champion of free enterprise, a leader in the state and one of its most important industries, Dr. R. William "Bill" Becker '65 was named the recipient of the third annual Prize for Economic Freedom from the Center for Free Enterprise at FSC. Dr. Becker was presented the 2017 award at a luncheon last spring, attended by hundreds of dignitaries from around the state, including Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam, who delivered the keynote address.

The Center for Free Enterprise, part of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, awards the Prize for Economic Freedom to an individual or organization which exemplifies the highest commitment to the principles that allow for human prosperity. Previous honorees are Publix Super Markets, Inc., and Dr. H. Fisk Johnson III, Chairman and CEO of household products manufacturer S.C. Johnson & Son.

Dr. Becker, president of Becker Trading Company and founder and owner Peace River Citrus Products, has spent more than 50 years in the citrus industry. Upon graduating from FSC, he went to work for his family's company, Becker Groves, as general manager. He went on to become vice president of Becker Holding Company, which owned or managed 12,000 acres of citrus groves. He founded Becker Trading Company, which processed nearly 18 million boxes of fruit per year, and in 1994, he founded Peace River Citrus Products, which manufactures and distributes citrus-based packaged goods for retail, food service, agricultural and industrial customers.

Dr. Becker was appointed to consecutive terms on the Florida Citrus Commission by two governors and served as chairman five of his six

years on the commission. During his tenure, he worked to maintain domestic markets while advocating expansion to foreign markets, helped shift the commission's focus to promotional marketing, and was an advocate for enhanced quality standards. He is also a former president of the National Juice Products Association and the Florida Citrus Processors Association. Dr. Becker was inducted into the Florida Citrus Hall of Fame in 2011 and recognized by Florida Southern with an honorary doctor of business degree that same year.

In his keynote address, Commissioner Putnam called free enterprise "the arsenal of democracy," which brings prosperity to cities and small towns alike, and "the friend of freedom-loving men and women all over the world and the natural-born enemy of tyrants." He called Dr. Becker "a champion of free enterprise, of economic freedom."

"He has shaped public policy and molded global trade policy as chairman of the Florida Citrus Commission. He is a philanthropist, an innovator, a deep thinker, and a tireless leader. Bill Becker has proved that Florida is more than just a prize for a life well-lived someplace else. It's a launching pad for the American dream," Commissioner Putnam said.

The award was presented by Ed Crenshaw, chairman of the board of Publix who accepted the 2015–2016 Prize for Economic Freedom on behalf of his company. Dr. Becker called the award "an incredible honor" and said his employees over the years helped make his businesses successful.

"Free enterprise is what enabled me to build the companies I've had, but the real thank-you goes to the people who have worked with me and made it all possible. At the end of the day, it's not bricks and mortar that makes a company, but people. I've had people who for 40 years have dedicated themselves to hard work, conscientiousness, integrity, and all the things that contribute to making a business successful," he said.



Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam gives the keynote address.

THE HOME DEPOT CEO CRAIG MENEAR DELIVERS

CEO100 Lecture



Mr. Menear responds to questions from a panel of students from the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise.

Hailed as a brilliant business executive of vision, acumen, and a human touch, The Home Depot CEO Craig Menear showed some of the qualities that have led to his corporation's success as he addressed a large audience of students, faculty, and local community leaders at the 2017 CEO 100 Lecture last spring.

The annual lecture, hosted by the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, brings chief executives of leading businesses and corporations in America to FSC to share their insights and wisdom. Mr. Menear was the second lecturer in the series, following Ken Powell, CEO of General Mills.

Mr. Menear is credited with elevating The Home Depot above its competitors and is now the largest home-improvement retail company in the industry, with 2,300 stores in North America and \$90 billion in sales. In her introduction, senior business administration student Madeleine Henderson, who held a summer internship at The Home Depot's Atlanta headquarters, said Mr. Menear's hands-on approach to management is "legendary within the company," and he is known to regularly have lunch with the rank-and-file associates.

In his remarks, Mr. Menear noted the challenges facing retail businesses and said the growth sectors in the company are in digital sales and in services offered to customers such as assistance with installation and home-improvement projects.

"We are anticipating \$900 million to \$1 billion per year growth in digital sales. We have experienced more change in the last three years than in the previous 30 years" he said.

In addition to delivering remarks, Mr. Menear took a series of questions from top students from the Barney Barnett School

of Business and Free Enterprise. Henderson asked what were the key components of The Home Depot's internal corporate culture. He replied that the company's founders had stressed a set of values that guided how decisions are made as well as a symbol—an inverted pyramid, with customers at the top, front-line associates in the middle, and executives at the bottom—that represented the company's philosophy.

"Our key approach is how do we continue to improve our customers' experience at the same time we improve our associates," he said.

In response to a question from senior Joseph Alter about giving back to the community, Mr. Menear described The Home Depot's decision in 2011 to address the housing needs of military veterans. Since then, through The Home Depot Foundation, the company has committed \$195 million toward repairing or improving 35,000 housing units for veterans and has a goal of spending \$250 million, he said. He said The Home Depot also works with the military in employing veterans as part of their transition to civilian life.

Mr. Menear also offered a word of advice to students.

"Be willing to take risks. Sometimes you have to take a risk and step into something you weren't willing to do in order to build experience. Take on challenges that are out of the norm," he said.

At the conclusion of the lecture, President Anne Kerr conferred the honorary doctor of business degree upon Mr. Menear, and Lakeland Mayor Howard Wiggs '86 presented him with the key to the city as a gesture of appreciation for The Home Depot's donations to the city's Veterans Park.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Menear toured the campus and interacted with students in a management class in the Becker Business Building.



The Home Depot CEO Craig Menear addresses a business class in the Becker Business Building.

NO STATUS QUO:

NEW DEAN JAMES FENTON INTENDS TO TAKE THE BARNETT SCHOOL FULL SPEED AHEAD

As a man who spent more than a dozen years running companies in a highly competitive industrial sector, Dr. James Fenton knows that standing still is a good way to get trampled. As the new dean of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, he says the same principle applies to the world of business education.

“If we are maintaining the status quo, we’re falling behind,” he says. “There is too much quality competition among business schools. We want the marketplace to look at us as a priority.”

Even before Dr. Fenton unpacked all his boxes, he was already looking ahead, thinking of ways the Barnett School can advance. He brings valuable experience to the task of achieving strategic goals. In his previous position as dean of the James F. Dicke College of Business at Ohio Northern University, a school comparable in size and programs to Florida Southern, he guided the business school from unranked to No. 45 in Business Week’s listing of the top undergraduate programs.

“When I went to Ohio Northern, the business program was kind of plain vanilla. The academic programs were not differentiated from any other school’s,” he says.

Dr. Fenton launched several cross-disciplinary initiatives, establishing collaborative programs with Ohio Northern’s pharmacy and engineering schools. As a result, he says, “Enrollment grew, and so did the quality. Overall placement for graduates rose from about 70 percent to 95 percent.”

Although born in Ohio, Dr. Fenton’s father was in the Army, and the family moved often. He returned to Ohio to complete his bachelor’s degree in business administration at the University of Toledo. He worked for a public utility in labor-management relations, a field that would continue to be of interest in his professional and academic career. He completed his MBA at Toledo, studying at night, and went on to finish a Ph.D. in management and law at the University of Iowa.

His career has alternated between industry and academia. Dr. Fenton worked primarily in the steel business, owning a company in Iowa that manufactures specialized, high-quality cast products. He and a partner

turned a financially distressed company into a profitable enterprise and sold it eight years later. He also was president and CEO of a firm in South Carolina that engineers and markets safety access equipment.

However, after each foray into the business world, he returned to his passion, which is teaching. Dr. Fenton says he originally didn’t intend to enter higher education, but a stint as a teaching assistant while in graduate school hooked him on teaching.

“I like to teach,” he says. “I like to have a part in developing young men and women.”

His academic posts have included professorships at the University of Toledo; Francis Marion University in South Carolina, where he was Forrest S. Williams Professor of Entrepreneurship; Utah Valley University, where he was dean of the School of Business and professor of management; and Ohio Northern.

His success as an entrepreneur has informed Dr. Fenton’s work as a dean. At Ohio Northern, an entrepreneurial philosophy infused the collaboration between the business and engineering schools, he says, and he would like to see a similar emphasis at the Barnett School.

“Entrepreneurship is a mindset. Its principles can be used across disciplines,” he says.

Dr. Fenton was drawn to the Barnett School because of its strengths, including its faculty, its elite status as an AACSB-accredited school, and the College’s faith-based legacy. He is “a big believer” in experiential learning, he says, which dovetails well with FSC’s long-established practice, and he intends to create a position to coordinate student internships with a view toward mandating them for all business students. Other goals include expanding cutting-edge specializations in the curriculum, such as data analysis and supply-chain management.

“My first interest is the growth of the school. It’s a matter of marketing the program and building awareness,” he says. “The idea is being known for something and doing it with excellence. I’m accustomed to employers coming to us because they want our students. That’s what I want to see here. It’s ambitious, but I’ve lived it.”



A Writer's Life

BOB BLACK '51 INDUCTED INTO DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION HALL OF FAME



Mr. Black is congratulated by his friend Bill Jones '62 (left) after receiving the award.

According to Bob Black '51, at 87 years old, he is a correspondent for the *Tampa Bay Times*, writes a thousand-word blog, chairs public relations committees, and works actively in his community.

“Man, am I tired,” he said.

Don't believe it. The indefatigable Mr. Black—public relations executive, journalist, and community activist for more than 60 years—shows no sign of slowing down.

As a result of his tireless work in the communication industry and on behalf of the College, it was fitting that Mr. Black was the guest of honor at the Department of Communication's annual awards banquet last spring. He is the inaugural inductee into the Department of Communication's new Hall of Fame.

The new award recognizes alumni who have achieved notable success over the course of their career in the field of communication, said Dr. Alex Ortiz, chairman of the Department of Communication.

“Mr. Black is a model of devotion to his craft and journalistic integrity, two things we try to impress upon our students above all else. Success is important, but hard work and ethics are equally important, and we could think of no better representation of that philosophy than Bob Black,” he said.

After graduating from FSC, Mr. Black served in the U.S. Army as a combat infantry squad leader during the Korean War and then joined the staff of the Army's newspaper, *Stars and Stripes*. He went on to work

for such respected news organizations as *The New York Herald-Tribune*, the Associated Press, and *Popular Science*.

For the majority of his career, Mr. Black was a consummate public relations professional. He was Swissair's public relations manager for North America, a vice president and later executive vice president for the firm of H.A. Bruno & Associates, and public relations director for the National Council on the Aging.

However, most of his success came at the helm of his own firm, Bob Black & Company, Inc., which he owned for almost 50 years. Among his many top clients were Trans World Airlines (TWA), TAG-Heuer watches and chronographs, and New York Life Insurance Company.

A particular specialty of his firm was recreational and competitive boating, a field in which he came to be an authority. He was an editor and contributing writer on boating for publications such as *Popular Science*, *Sailing News*, *Power & Motor Yacht* magazine, and he was U.S. racing editor for the English publication *Motorboats Monthly*. He also had a nationally syndicated column, “Boating with Bob Black,” and he served as a news correspondent covering the America's Cup race.

As a result, in 1996, he was the first public relations professional to be awarded a Life Membership in Boating Writers International. Other honors have followed as well. Since returning to Florida, Mr. Black has been an active alumnus, teaching classes in the Department of Communication, serving as adviser to *The Southern* student newspaper, and serving on the National Alumni Board of Directors. In 2006, he was presented the Communications Alumnus of the Year Award, and in 2009, he was given the College's Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Upon being inducted into the new Hall of Fame, Mr. Black pronounced himself “a little floored by all this.”

“I thank you for the honor tonight, and I believe I'm obligated to leave you with a piece of wisdom,” he told the students, faculty, and well-wishers. “What I was taught here by Professor Carl Ferner almost 70 years ago ... is never, ever do a phony story. Don't lie. This goes for hard news or a public relations feature. You can be cute, but you've got to be honest.”



Bob Black '51 addresses the Awards Banquet audience after being inducted into the Department of Communication Hall of Fame.



Queen Noor of Jordan Praises Roberts Academy as “Academic Jewel”

In a dignified and inspirational address, Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan spoke at The Roberts Academy’s annual Mothers Day Luncheon and declared that women and mothers are “the key to most of the challenges in our communities.”

“The bond between mother and child is miraculous. It is because of mothers’ great sacrifices that children learn, thrive, and prosper,” she said. “I have seen too many mothers mired in poverty, conflict, and displacement, barely able to provide food, safety, and shelter. Children need their mothers every day, and they need them healthy and free from war.”

The queen spoke to a capacity audience in the George W. Jenkins Field House at FSC. The annual event raises funds for The Roberts Academy, the College’s school for children with dyslexia. Past guest speakers have included former First Lady Laura Bush; former First Daughter Jenna Bush Hager; and Pam Tebow, mother of Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback Tim Tebow.

Born to a distinguished Syrian-American family known for its public service, Queen Noor earned a degree in architecture and urban planning from Princeton University and worked on international urban planning and design projects in the United States and around the world prior to marrying King Hussein of Jordan in 1978. Queen Noor is the founder and chairwoman of the Noor Al Hussein and King Hussein Foundations, which have advanced education, conservation, sustainable development, human rights, and cross-cultural understanding in Jordan and the

Middle East. She also has been involved in numerous other organizations that promote poverty and refugee relief, disarmament, and economic development.

Queen Noor began her address by noting that one of her most painful memories of motherhood was watching one of her children struggle with schoolwork. Assessments revealed the child had dyslexia. She praised the College for opening The Roberts Academy.

“Institutions like The Roberts Academy are still all too rare. They are academic jewels, helping young people reach their potential and go on to do amazing things and become role models.” Addressing Dr. Tracey Tedder, dean of the School of Education, she said, “I am very impressed by the work you and your team are doing.”

Queen Noor went on to describe some of the work done by the King Hussein Foundation in the arena of education.

“Generations cannot, must not lose out on the hope of a better future through education,” she said. “Any approach to education must emphasize not only skills but empathy. There is so much more that unites us than divides us. We all aspire to lives of dignity and opportunity.”

In a charming moment after her address, the queen read the classic children’s story *Stone Soup* to a group of Roberts Academy students. She told them that upon arriving at the airport in Tampa, she looked for the book without success in a Barnes and Noble and a Walmart. Fortunately, the book was available at the Lakeland Public Library.

NEW ACADEMIC YEAR BEGINS WITH LARGEST FIRST-YEAR CLASS

Left: Members of the women's soccer team pitch in with carrying belongings.

Below: These intrepid faculty and staff members showed up to greet first-year students and lend a hand with unloading.



In August, FSC began its 134th academic year by welcoming its best-credentialed and largest-ever class of first-year students.

The College welcomed 830 new students, including 725 freshmen, the largest entering class in its history. The class is geographically diverse, with 42 states and 20 countries represented. This is the fourth year since 2012 that FSC has set a record for the size of its incoming class. The new class will bring total enrollment, including 440 graduate students, to 3,080.

“The faculty and staff of Florida Southern are gratified that some of the brightest students in the nation are making FSC their destination college,” said Vice President of Enrollment Management John Grundig. “We strongly believe our reputation as a college that strives for excellence is the reason for our upward trajectory in academics and enrollment. The incoming class is full of promise, and we are sure these students will uphold the high standards that have been set by previous classes.”

Among the members of the incoming class are six valedictorians; a winner of the Anne Frank Humanitarian Award from the Florida Holocaust Museum; students who achieved a perfect score on sections of the SAT and ACT; a student who helped create a solar-powered car; a published novelist; and the fourth-ranked male water skier in the world.

The College added medical laboratory science as a new academic major this year, a cooperative program with Lakeland Regional Health that will fill the need for trained medical laboratory scientists. The new major reflects the College’s ongoing emphasis on science, technology, and healthcare-related fields of study.

The College also welcomed 22 new faculty members, including Dr. James W. Fenton, Jr., the new dean of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise (see page 4).

Arriving students and their families were assisted by FSC’s characteristic concierge service, in which the staff facilitates the new students’ check-in, assisted by members of the faculty, athletic teams, and fraternities and sororities, who ensure that the students are quickly

settled in their residence halls.

Fielding Goodwin, a freshman from Bradenton who plans to study marketing, easily found his belongings in his first-floor room in Spivey Hall. He will be a member of the Mocs’ baseball team and said, “I was always interested in Florida Southern because I know they have a good business program.”

His mother, Kathi Goodwin, said Fielding’s three siblings didn’t have it nearly as well when they moved in to their colleges.

“This is so organized and easy. I’m really impressed with all the students and athletes helping out,” she said.



At Legacy Luncheon, Generations Continue to Grow

The number of legacies at FSC continues to grow impressively, and many of the first-year legacy students and their families were recognized at the 2017 Legacy Luncheon, held each year in August on Move-in Day.

This year, about 70 first-year students were legacies, or 10 percent of the class. Many of those students are legacies of multiple alumni, and some represented several generations. For example, freshman Chace Whitlock has 17 family members dating back to the 1950s who are FSC alumni.

Among the other legacies present in this year's class are Molly Berend, daughter of Trustee Dr. Keith Berend '92; Ty Jenkins, who is the seventh member of his family to attend; Andrew Whisenant, who is a fourth-generation Moc; and Emma Davis, granddaughter of the late President Robert Davis, and daughter of Palmer '87 and Barbara Davis.

Molly Berend, who will major in nursing and play on the women's lacrosse team, said FSC had become a kind of home away from her home in New Albany, Ohio.

"My father didn't say a word about me coming here," she said. "I was really drawn to the nursing program, which is amazing."

Dr. Berend said he allowed Molly to make her own decision.

"We're very excited and honored she decided to come to Florida Southern," he said.

Phyllis Davis, President Davis's wife, said she was thrilled Emma chose to attend FSC.

"It's such a good place for young people," she said. "We're very thankful there has been a strong continuation of the school's values."

The grand prize for the day went to Emily Wills, who is the 35th member of her family—including her great-uncle, Professor of Religion Waite Willis '70, and her great-aunt, Associate Professor of Music Diane Willis Stahl '73—to attend FSC.

As he circulated among the students, having them stand and introduce themselves, Dr. Robert H. Tate, vice president for advancement, quipped about the Willis family, "In the future, we're going to have to have a special Legacy Luncheon just for them."



1. Molly Berend, daughter of Trustee Dr. Keith Berend '92, introduces herself.
2. First-year legacies and their families make for an impressive group at the 2017 Legacy Luncheon.

MOC SPIRIT RULES

I N T H E W A K E O F H U R R I C A N E I R M A

Less than 36 hours after Hurricane Irma scoured the FSC campus with torrential rains and winds approaching 100 mph, more than 100 faculty, staff, and students turned out to volunteer their efforts to clean up. Although the hurricane passed just miles west of Lakeland very early on the morning of September 11, the campus suffered damages to several buildings due to wind and flooding, more than 50 trees were toppled, and the College, like most of Florida, lost power.

On September 12, President Anne Kerr was on hand to lead administration officials from Facilities Maintenance, Business Affairs, and Student Life in assessing the damage and coordinating cleanup efforts. The volunteers were assigned the task of clearing limbs and debris. Student volunteers also worked to clear the grounds at the College's off-campus apartments.

"I was surprised at the number of people who came out. Everyone had a very positive attitude, and there was a great sense of community. They spread us out and told us to work from the perimeter of the campus toward the center," said Soleil River '15, marketing assistant in the office of Marketing and Communications.

Among the problems caused by Hurricane Irma were:

The Simmons Multi-Cultural Center suffered damage to its roof when two large trees toppled onto the building. The trees were quickly cleared away and repairs were soon underway.

Significant flooding occurred in multiple buildings, especially Ordway, Polk Science, and Spivey Humanities, where the Department of Art is

located, requiring extensive work by professional water-removal crews and follow-up repairs.

A few buildings, including the Becker Business Building, sustained broken windows, with those rooms and offices suffering water intrusion.

The Frank Lloyd Wright structures on campus escaped major damage, although the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel will require extensive repairs. There was also some water intrusion in the Danforth Chapel and a few other Wright buildings.

With the threat of Hurricane Irma looming, the administration decided to close the campus on September 7, allowing students to be with family and friends away from the storm. Those students who couldn't make arrangements to leave campus were housed in a secure area of Branscomb Auditorium on campus. By the time classes resumed on September 17, the College was back to normal, with power, Internet, and email service restored to the campus.

A midday service of thanksgiving followed by an appreciation luncheon was held on Sept. 22 for faculty and staff. At the service, President Kerr expressed gratitude for the tireless efforts of volunteers and administration officials to help the College recover.

"My heart overflows with thanksgiving for your hard work. I really believe God put each of us here to fulfill this mission—to educate young people so they can receive their degrees and achieve their dreams. I'm grateful the Lord put each of you at Florida Southern," she said.

In a meditation given at the service, Bishop-in-Residence Robert Fannin '58 noted that there will be more storms in our lives.

"We need two things to survive. We need the presence of God, and we really need one another—we need family," he said. "A big piece of love is caring, and this family has love."



Some trees were lost in Southern Landing along Lake Hollingsworth.

President Kerr (second from right) joins (from left) faculty members Dr. Zachary Baumann, Dr. Erika Vause, and Melissa Kulp, director of career development, in the campus cleanup on Sept. 12.





1. Workers clear away fallen trees that damaged the roof of the Simmons Multicultural Center on Johnson Avenue.

2. Kimberly Smith, Meredith Prokuski, and Kamalie Morales (from left) clear debris from the campus.

3. A light pole was taken down by falling limbs at the president's residence.

4. Bishop-in-Residence Robert Fannin '58 leads a service of thanksgiving for faculty and staff in the wake of the storm.

5. Members of the Facilities Maintenance staff sing a hymn during the service of thanksgiving.

HAPPY 150TH BIRTHDAY, MR. WRIGHT!

On June 8, 1867, the man many believe to be America's greatest architect was born in Wisconsin, and Frank Lloyd Wright's legacy lives on in the many magnificent buildings he designed on the campus at FSC and around the world. Wright's 150th birthday was marked with articles and retrospectives in the art and architecture communities, and Florida Southern didn't let the occasion pass unnoticed.

On Founders Day, Dr. Glenn Lowry, director of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, was the Convocation speaker and was honored as the College's 82nd Honorary Chancellor (see page 20), in anticipation of an exhibition of Wright's work at the museum. The National Alumni Board of Directors, led by its president, Larry Stahl '70, organized a special trip

to New York for alumni, faculty, and staff to see the exhibition.

The two-day trip, on June 15 and 16, featured a dinner at the famed New York Athletic Club (which awards the Heisman Trophy each year), special tours of the Museum of Modern Art, and an after-hours dinner at the museum. The well-attended event was a delightful success.

Mr. Wright's birthday was also observed at the Sharp Family Tourism and Education Center on campus, with balloons, cake for visitors, and special tours of the Usonian house for \$1.50.

Here is a pictorial view of the festivities.



Alumni, faculty, and staff gather on a beautiful June evening on the balcony of the New York Athletic Club overlooking Central Park.



Trustee Richard Jensen '59 (left), Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College Executive Director Claire Orologas, and Trustee Robert Puterbaugh enjoy conversation.



1 Donald Purviance '60 and his wife, Carol, are joined by their daughter, Susan Purviance (left) at the after-hours dinner at the Museum of Modern Art.
 2 Dr. Carrie Risher '01, assistant professor of nursing (left), and Dr. Beverley Blair Brown '83, assistant professor of nursing, admire Vincent Van Gogh's famous painting *The Starry Night* at the Museum of Modern Art during the College's evening program.
 3 President Kerr takes a picture of Tiffany Osler (left); C. Scott Franklin (center), president and CEO of Lanier Upshaw, Inc., of Lakeland; and his wife, Amy.
 4 Sally Lyle '77, President Anne Kerr, Assistant Professor of Art History Dr. Alex Rich, and a guest
 5 Rita Fandrich, associate professor of music emerita, and Alyna Salgado '16 perform during the program at the Museum of Modern Art.
 6 David Evans '71 (left) and Larry Stahl '70

MOC DOCK BENEFITS WATER SKI AND RECREATION PROGRAMS



The FSC Water Ski Team has a long and illustrious heritage, dating back more than 60 years. The program attracts top skiers from around the world, and over the past several years it has been among the top four programs in the National Collegiate Water Ski Association.

Now the Water Ski Team has a new and improved dock as a base for its boats. Ed '79 and Amy '81 Laderer gave generous gifts for the completion of the new dock, which has been dubbed the Moc Dock. They had a particular interest in the project since both were skiers and Ed was a member of the Water Ski Team when he was a student.

The dock, which is about 1,000 square feet under roof, has two berths for boats, lifts to raise them out of the water, and ample space for observing practice on the lake. Located across from the Hollis Wellness Center, it also will be used for recreational equipment, such as the canoes, kayaks,



Left: Florida Southern's new Moc Dock is inaugurated by lowering a ski boat using one of the two lifts in the new dock. In the boat are Ed '79 and Amy '81 Laderer (left, seated) and Brett Walker '17 (center), a former member of the Mocs water ski team.

Right: Ed and Amy Laderer were presented a plaque in appreciation of their gift to build the Moc Dock.

Below Left: FSC Water Ski Head Coach Curtis Rabe (left) shows his appreciation to Ed Laderer.

Below Right: This photo from the Interlachen shows the 1979 Water Ski Team, with Ed Laderer in the front row, fourth from left.

and paddleboards available for students, faculty, and staff. It was built by Larry Gohn Marine Construction of Winter Haven.

“Ed and I are from the Midwest, and one thing that stood out for us about Florida Southern was the lake,” said Amy Laderer at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Moc Dock. “This will not only attract water skiers. I love nature, and I hope it will be a place for students to come and enjoy being outside on the lake.”

President Anne Kerr, noting that “this was a dream long in the making,” said the Moc Dock is a key part of the College’s waterfront area.

“I can’t overemphasize how important it is. It benefits one of the top collegiate water ski teams in the country, but it also helps us reach an institutional dream,” she said.



FSC DEDICATES

Judy and Joe P. Ruthven Beach Volleyball Courts



Judy and Joe P. Ruthven and Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Robert L. Fryer, Jr. '70 admire the beach volleyball courts nicknamed "Ruthven Beach."

Florida Southern's newest intercollegiate sport was officially introduced on October 26 with the dedication of an exciting new venue, the Judy and Joe P. Ruthven Beach Volleyball Courts.

The three regulation courts and spectator stands were made possible thanks to a generous gift from Dr. and Mrs. Ruthven, longtime supporters of the college, and the players have affectionately dubbed the courts "Ruthven Beach."

Beach volleyball is the NCAA's newest sanctioned sport, and the first championship tournament was held in 2016. FSC began play in February with a roster of 13 first-year players and seniors from the indoor volleyball team who are eligible to play one year of beach volleyball. The team is coached by Hyrum Keine, who is also the assistant coach for the indoor volleyball team.

Jill Stephens, director of volleyball and assistant athletic director, said at the dedication ceremony it was "an unbelievably exciting day."

"We've had a ton of success with indoor volleyball, and we're excited to get on the beach and have some success there," she said. "The team has already been training, and we're going to put a great team together."

Dr. Ruthven is a Lakeland businessman, former mayor, and member of the FSC Board of Trustees. He and Mrs. Ruthven are noted philanthropists, contributing to numerous educational and civic causes in Lakeland and

Polk County. Florida Southern awarded him an honorary doctor of public service degree in 2007.

President Anne Kerr expressed thanks to Dr. and Mrs. Ruthven on behalf of the college.

"Today, with the dedication of this wonderful new athletic facility, Joe Ruthven has once again helped Florida Southern on its way to becoming one of the nation's finest comprehensive colleges with an athletic program to match," she said. "Our entire campus community is grateful to Judy and Joe Ruthven for all of their support."

In his remarks at the ceremony, Mr. Ruthven said he looked forward to the college fielding another winning team and addressed the women athletes.

"As a 21st century woman, your choices are limitless. You can make a difference in world around you," he said.

FSC is one of five Sunshine State Conference schools to offer beach volleyball. It is rapidly becoming a popular spectator sport thanks to its success at the Summer Olympic Games. Florida Southern now has a total of 20 NCAA-sanctioned sports, plus club equestrian and water ski programs.



Members of the Mocs beach volleyball team put on a demonstration of the sport at the dedication of the new courts.

The Roberts Academy continues to expand with the addition of classrooms like this one.



THE ROBERTS ACADEMY ADDS CLASSROOMS & MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES

Thanks to the ongoing generosity of benefactors Hal and Marjorie Roberts, The Roberts Academy, Florida Southern's private transitional school for talented children with dyslexia, continues to expand its buildings and its grade levels in order to offer even more opportunities for children who are struggling to cope with learning differences.

The Roberts, who each have honorary doctorates conferred by the College, gave a contribution for the expansion, which adds four new classrooms by enlarging the first floor and creating a second story on one of the two buildings on the campus. The buildings—formerly the headquarters of the Florida United Methodist Conference—were acquired by the College in 2008 through a generous donation from the Roberts that also established The Roberts Academy.

A ceremony on February 17, 2017, was held to dedicate the new classrooms and formally thank the Roberts.

With the expanded facilities, The Roberts Academy, which currently has 120 students in grades 2 through 6, will add a 7th grade beginning in August and an 8th grade in August 2018. When fully enrolled, the Academy will be able to accommodate up to 200 students.

Dr. Tracey Tedder, dean of the School of Education, said The Roberts Academy will add a full middle school curriculum to the course of study, which incorporates the Orton-Gillingham method designed to help talented children with dyslexia master the skills to accommodate their learning differences until they are prepared to succeed in a traditional school setting.

The Roberts Academy is Florida's only transitional school for children with dyslexia, which is the most common cause of reading, writing, and spelling difficulties and can lead to extreme frustration and low self-esteem. It was the inspiration of Dr. Marjorie Roberts, a College Trustee, to begin the Academy after seeing how her grandson, Liam, who has dyslexia, was helped by a similar school in Atlanta.

At the dedication ceremony, Dr. Roberts said Liam at one time knew only four letters, the ones that spell his name, but now he has won a scholarship in English from the University of Utah. She also had a surprise announcement.

"We have a check for Dr. Kerr to start a scholarship for a student who has attended the Roberts Academy to go to Florida Southern," she said, drawing applause from the audience, which included members of the Board of Trustees and other dignitaries, as well as the students and teachers of the Academy.

"We're very grateful for Dr. Roberts and the way she envisioned The Roberts Academy so it can serve these children. Now they can learn to read, and read to learn, and go on to become anything in your heart's desire that you want to be. We can't wait to see what that will be," said Dr. Kerr.

The students showed their appreciation by presenting flowers to Dr. Marjorie Roberts and singing a song, "Hello Friends." An open house of The Roberts Academy facilities followed the ceremony.

ZOE TROUT

Receives Fulbright Teaching Award



If Zoe Trout '17 learned anything from her overseas study and volunteer work, it was that problems can result from Americans having a too-superior attitude while visiting or working in a developing nation. She resolved to use that insight in a more positive way, and now she will get the opportunity as Florida Southern's first student Fulbright award recipient.

In April, Trout was notified that she had been awarded a coveted Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award. The award, granted by the internationally renowned Fulbright U.S. Student Program under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State, provides the opportunity for U.S. students to help teach English abroad while serving as cultural ambassadors.

Trout's award was in part the result of a new initiative at FSC to encourage and direct students to apply for more prestigious grants, scholarships, and fellowships, and it is beginning to pay dividends. Just weeks before Trout learned that she had won a Fulbright award, sophomore biochemistry and molecular biology student Jake Griner was notified that he was the recipient of a Goldwater Scholarship, the most important undergraduate scholarship in the STEM fields in America.

The Fulbright program will send Trout to Thailand in September for a year-long assignment to teach English, and in that assignment, she will draw on her new B.S. in communication (*summa cum laude*), her minor in English, and her previous experience teaching and studying abroad. Those experiences include a summer teaching at an orphanage in Nepal, a Junior Journey study in Spain, and a semester spent studying communication law and ethics at Regent University in London. Trout said travel in other cultures helps persons develop and mature.

"There is a direct correlation between people who value diversity and people willing to go abroad. The ability to communicate with people different from yourself makes you a whole human being," she said.

Trout found her summer in Nepal made a big impact on her but did not change the situation of the people she encountered, and that was humbling. She concluded that she should have been not just a teacher but a student of the culture in which she lived.

"Westerners have the perspective that we're the saviors. We need to learn about developing nations rather than go in with ideas about saving them," she said.

Trout wrote her senior thesis, which was the basis of her Fulbright application essay, about how American volunteers overseas can make a positive difference.

"That's why the Fulbright program is so important. Being in another country for a year, you can invest in its culture," she said. "You have to learn before you can help."

President Anne Kerr said Trout will represent her alma mater well.

"Zoe is a bright, sensitive and mature young woman who exemplifies the best Florida Southern has to offer. We are very proud of her, and we are sure that her year as a Fulbright award-winner will prove invaluable for her and for the people she meets in Thailand," she said.

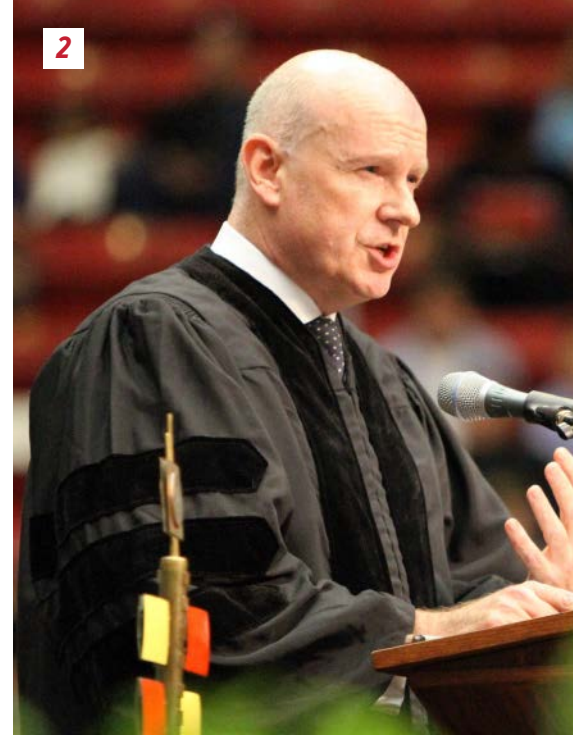
Dr. Erika Vause, assistant professor of history, is the associate director of the honors program at FSC, and as part of an effort to elevate the program further, she was made an adviser on nationally competitive fellowships. In that role, she acts as a coordinator and a counselor, making students aware of the opportunities and then encouraging them to take a thoughtful approach to the application process.

"As an adviser, I help students understand their own narrative in life and how that fits with the fellowships that are available," she said. "A student that is successful will look for a good match between what the scholarship is about and their own life narrative."

It is an approach that worked perfectly for Zoe Trout.



Zoe Trout and some of her students at an orphanage in Nepal.



FSC GRADUATES
Largest Class
in History
AT
SPRING COMMENCEMENT



In a landmark occasion, Florida Southern College conferred degrees on its largest graduating class in history at its Spring 2017 Commencement ceremony on May 6. The ceremony marked the conclusion of the College's 133rd academic year.

As a sign of its continued growth, the College granted degrees to 452 students, the most at any FSC commencement ceremony, including eight masters' degrees and two doctoral degrees. Of those, 226—exactly half—were awarded with honors.

The commencement speaker was Gerard Baker, editor-in-chief of one of America's largest and most prestigious newspapers, *The Wall Street Journal*. Mr. Baker, who was awarded an honorary Doctor of Business degree by the College following his address, told the graduates that in the course of his career as an internationally respected journalist, he had learned his best lessons from the stories of ordinary Americans. He cautioned them to exercise a healthy skepticism but to seek the truth nevertheless.

"For some time, the truth has been under siege. We're deluged with partisan political opinion that masquerades as truth, corporate and political and celebrity propaganda marketing and hiding and sometimes discrediting the truth. Sometimes the truth is upsetting. It unsettles us, it disgusts and outrages us," he said. "You have a wonderful opportunity at the outset of your careers to set things right. It is important to seek the truth, to protect and defend it, because the alternative really is tyranny. Challenge, doubt, question, but above all, find the truth," he said.

During the ceremony, the College also inaugurated a new honor, the Joe P. Ruthven Leadership Award, which will be given on an occasional basis to a faculty or staff member who warrants special recognition for contributions in leadership. The award was presented to Dr. Larry Ross, the Anne and Bill France Professor of Business, who is not only one of the most respected faculty members at FSC but has acted as a valued consultant and adviser to businesses in Polk County and nationwide. The award is named for Dr. Ruthven, a prominent Lakeland businessman, former mayor and Trustee, who was present at the ceremony.



In addition, the College awarded the President's Scholar Medal to senior Charles "Chase" Hoyt, who graduated with a bachelor of science in nursing, *summa cum laude*. He was president of the Student Government Association in 2016–2017 and a member of the honor societies Omicron Delta Kappa and Phi Eta Sigma. The medal is given to a graduating senior who exemplifies the College's values of scholarship, leadership, and service.

The Miller Distinguished Faculty Award, given by John and Eleanor Miller to recognize excellence in teaching, scholarly productivity, and advising, was presented to Dr. Christianne Roll, assistant professor of musical theater. In presenting the award, Dr. Kyle Fedler, provost, commended her for her "freshness, energy, professional knowledge, and genuine concern for the wellbeing of her students."

The Senior Speaker, chosen to deliver remarks on behalf of the graduating class, was Jenna Michelle Karr, a marine biology and environmental science student from St. Charles, Ill. She noted the changes at FSC since the class entered as freshmen, including the addition of the Wynne Warden Dance Studio, the Becker Business Building, and new majors in marine biology and dance.

"Nothing I learned at Florida Southern College has prepared me to give this particular speech. But everything I learned at Florida Southern has taught me how to say thank you, and so, faculty, family, and friends, that is what we are going to do today. We are saying thank you for the most influential and rewarding experiences we could ever have hoped to gain over the journey that marked our time at Florida Southern," she said. "We must never forget that our highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them. We will work to prove that our years at Florida Southern College have given us the confidence to thrive at what we do."

1 A capacity audience filled The Lakeland Center for the Spring Commencement ceremony, which saw the largest graduating class in Florida Southern history.

2 Gerard Baker, editor-in-chief of The Wall Street Journal, delivered the commencement address.

3 Charles "Chase" Hoyt, who graduated with a bachelor of science in nursing summa cum laude, was the recipient of the President's Scholar medal.

4 Dr. Larry Ross, the Anne and Bill France Professor of Business, was presented the inaugural Joe P. Ruthven Leadership Award.

5 Jenna Karr, who graduated with a bachelor of science in marine biology and environmental science magna cum laude, was the Senior Speaker.

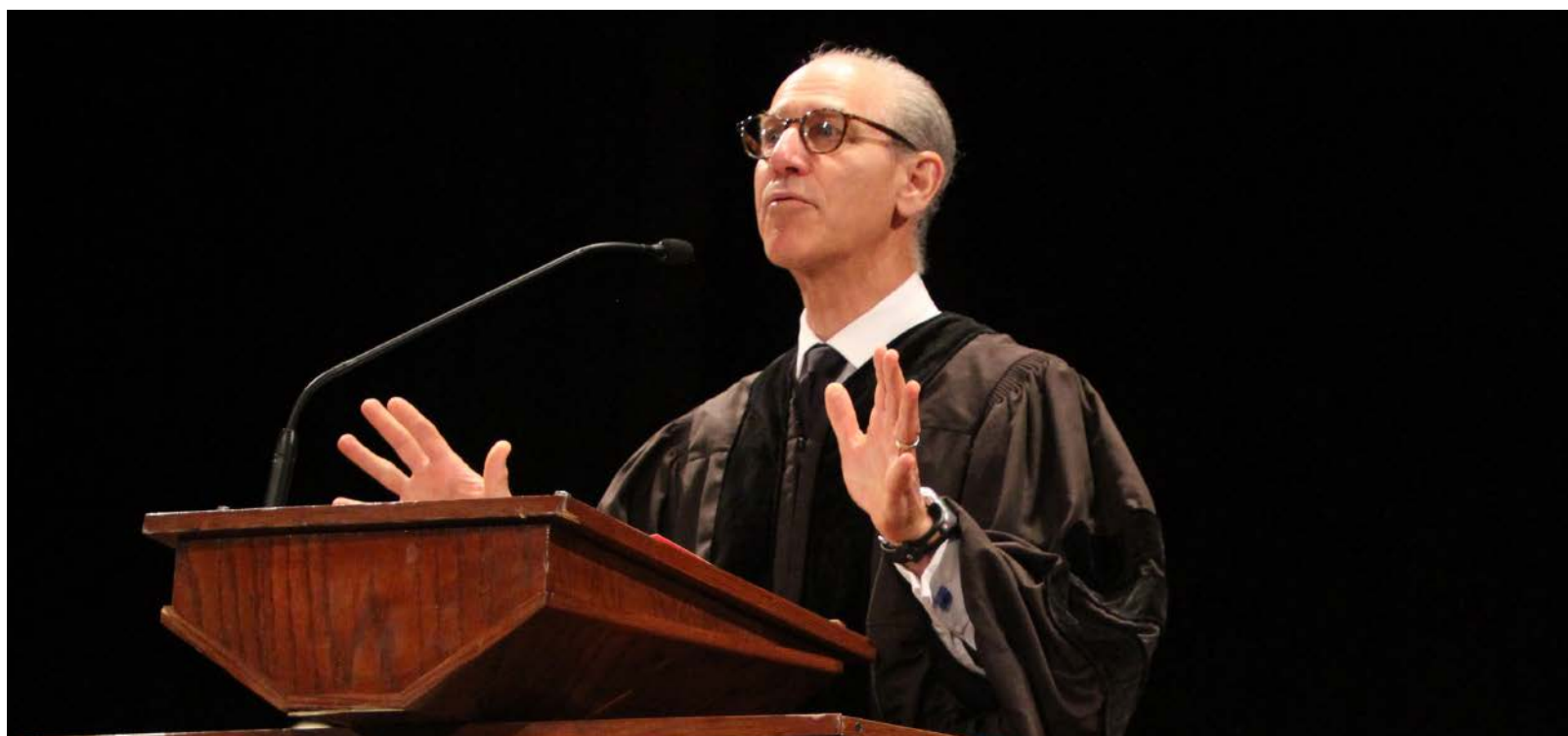
6 Dr. Christianne Roll, assistant professor of musical theater, was presented the Miller Distinguished Faculty Award to recognize excellence in teaching. Dr. Kyle Fedler, provost (at right), reads the award citation.

7 Dr. Hope Davis Holley '12 MEd '13 was one of two students to earn the doctor of education in educational leadership. She receives her hood from Provost Kyle Fedler and Dr. Tracey Tedder, dean of the School of Education.



Founders Day Convocation

DR. GLENN LOWRY, MUSEUM OF MODERN ART DIRECTOR,
INSTALLED AS HONORARY CHANCELLOR



In an eloquent and inspiring Founders Day address, Dr. Glenn D. Lowry, director of the Museum of Modern Art in New York, praised the power of art and artists to confront new challenges and encouraged Florida Southern to be on the forefront of using art to build bridges in society.

Dr. Lowry was invested as the College's 83rd Honorary Chancellor at the Founders Day Convocation on March 31, 2017, and was bestowed with the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree. The convocation also included the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award to three outstanding alumni, Joseph Capitano, Sr. '60, M. Clayton Hollis, Jr. '80, and Carol Prevatt Sipe '83 (see profiles on the following pages).

During the Founders Day weekend, the College also inducted the Class of 1967 into the Golden Mocs club and honored them with several special events (see facing page).

In his address, Dr. Lowry commented on the College's "remarkable" architecture, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, and declared that thanks to the Museum of Modern Art's recent acquisition of Wright's archives, there is "an immediate and natural bond" between FSC and the museum. He said he looked forward to an exhibition of Wright's work at MoMA in June, to which FSC faculty, staff, and alumni made a special trip (see pages 12-13).

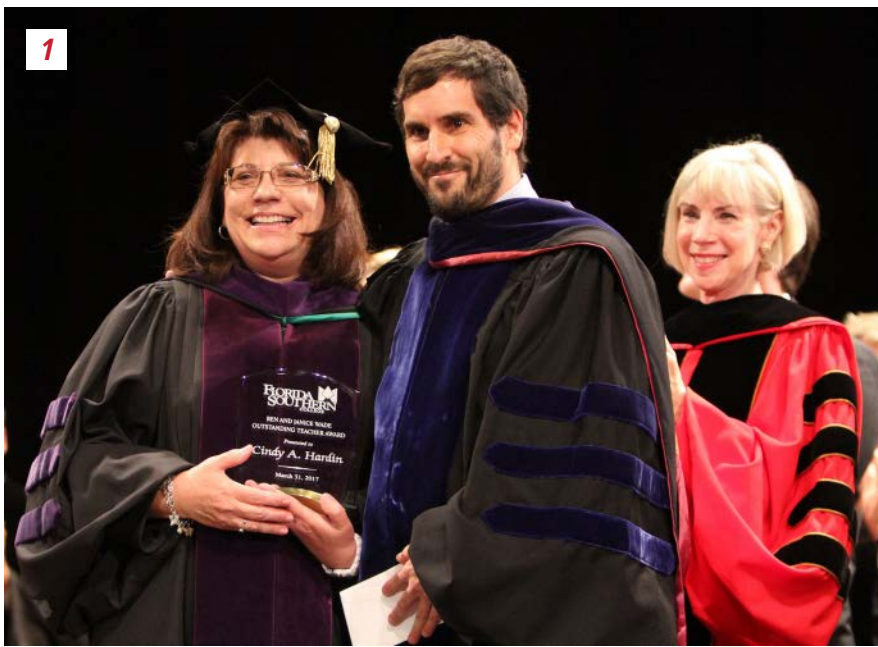
Dr. Lowry defended the arts, including music, dance, and theater, saying they define us as human beings.

"The humanities are as essential to our social, intellectual, and cultural well-being as science and medicine. They are all part of the same continuum of human experience and knowledge," he said.

The College recently announced a new Arts Initiative that includes a partnership with the Polk Museum of Art, and Dr. Lowry commended President Kerr for bringing together "the force of education with the convening power of the museum in an important alliance that will expand and enhance the kind of conversations that are so necessary for our culture."

Also during the convocation, senior math and computer science major Jessica Finocchiaro was named the 2017 Honor Walk student. An honors student and President's Scholar, Ms. Finocchiaro is a member of Omicron Delta Kappa honor society and recipient of an undergraduate research grant from the National Science Foundation. She was one of 31 finalists for the Honor Walk, the highest honor bestowed by the College to a graduating senior.

The Ben and Janice Wade Outstanding Teaching Award was presented to Professor of Business Administration Cindy Hardin, J.D.



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- 1 Professor of Business Administration Cindy Hardin (left) is congratulated by Provost Kyle Fedler for being honored with the Ben and Janice Wade Outstanding Teacher Award.
- 2 The Class of 1967 gathers in caps and gowns before processing into Branscomb Auditorium for the Founders Day Convocation.
- 3 Jessica Finocchiaro (center), a math and computer science major, was named the 2017 Honor Walk student at the Founders Day Convocation.
- 4 The Golden Mocs got the opportunity to look through the Interlachen yearbooks from their years on campus. Here Melody Wolfe Dickson '67 (right) shares a picture of herself as a student with Barbara Marshall Castro '67.
- 5 Students welcome Virdia Van Huss Jastrebski '67 (left) and her husband, Zig, to the Golden Mocs brunch.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS
Joe Capitano, Sr. '60
 IS STILL CALLING THE SHOTS



By his own admission, Joe Capitano, Sr. '60 is not one for lengthy meetings.

“Just tell me what you want me to do, get out of the way, and let me do it,” says Mr. Capitano.

In the Italian of his ancestors, “capitano” means “captain,” and his no-nonsense approach has made him a successful and admired businessman and philanthropist in his hometown of Tampa. Even past the age when most people would be taking it easy, his energy and decisiveness are still very much in evidence as he shows visitors around his offices, located in an elegantly restored historic building in the Ybor City district.

Mr. Capitano is president of The Radiant Group, LLC, a company founded by his father, Nick Capitano, in 1931 as a home and commercial fuel oil supplier, eventually becoming the chief supplier of petroleum products at the Port of Tampa. Joe Capitano, Sr., began working for his father when he was still a boy.

“I would ride with him in the truck and hold the hoses to fill up tanks. When I was 16, he left me in charge for a week while he went on vacation. I knew the routes,” he says.

Mr. Capitano graduated from Jesuit High School and was looking for a college with the same intimate environment. He visited Florida Southern and was impressed with the friendliness of the people.

Once he arrived on campus, he found other boys from Tampa with whom he formed lifelong friendships. Notable among them was Al Garcia, Jr. '60, who would marry Mr. Capitano's sister; and future Distinguished Alumnus E.J. Salcines '59, who was his roommate.

Mr. Capitano studied accounting under the late Louise Templeton, whom he remembers as “fantastic.”

“She was a great person. She was a good teacher, and she was very concerned about her students,” he says.

Returning to Tampa after graduating, Mr. Capitano stepped right into Radiant's business, doing everything from deliveries to sales. He oversaw the company's move away from home heating oil into gasoline sales as a retail distributor of Texaco, and later Exxon, products through service stations in the Tampa area. In 1973, Radiant entered into a partnership with Sparky's Food Stores and was on the forefront of the emerging convenience store concept.

“In 1975, we opened one of the first self-serve gas stations in Florida. It was in Lakeland, on Combee Road,” says Mr. Capitano.

Eventually, under Sparky's and its own Radiant brands, the company would have about 125 stores, adapting through the changing fortunes of the fuel business, from the oil embargo of the 1970s that caused shortages and skyrocketing prices to shifting consumer demands for bigger and better convenience stores in the 1980s and 1990s.

With deep roots in Ybor City, Mr. Capitano began to take an interest in the old historic district, which had been neglected.

“I have lived here all my life, and I saw these buildings starting to fall down. So I started buying them and restoring them,” he says.

The Radiant Group offices reside in one of those projects. It occupies the second floor of a building that was an early hotel in Hillsborough County. The Capitano family has won awards for historic preservation and played a key role in the revitalization of Ybor City.

Mr. Capitano's sons, Frank and Joe Jr., have joined him in the business, and he has turned over most of the management of Radiant to them. Recently, the company made a major shift in its business model, selling most of its convenience stores to the 7-Eleven corporation and moving into Dunkin' Donut franchises.

In addition to maintaining an office at the Radiant Group, Mr. Capitano devotes himself to church and charitable causes and remains an important figure in his hometown.

“I keep trying to slow down, but they won't let me,” he says with a smile.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

Clayton Hollis '80

STILL TREATING EVERYONE RIGHT

It is still hard for Clayton Hollis '80 to explain why he followed his father and grandfather into a career with Publix Super Markets, Inc. Both his grandfather, William M. Hollis, and his father, Mark Hollis, were Publix executives and trusted confederates of the company's founder, George W. Jenkins, and they could easily have pushed young Clayton to follow the same path, but they didn't. Rather, when he turned 16, he signed up to work in the Grove Park Publix store as a bag boy.

"I don't know why," he confesses. But he adds, "I loved retailing. I loved interacting with the customers."

Mr. Hollis' love of people and the grocery business and his naturally genial personality served him well in the 40-year career with Publix that followed. He worked his way through a series of management positions, culminating in his appointment as vice president of public affairs, a job he held for almost 20 years. Mr. Hollis concedes the bar was high for him, because his father and grandfather in many ways embodied the culture of Publix.

"You've got to live up to these expectations of excellence and fair treatment," he says. "The first lesson Dad told me was, 'Don't lie. Somebody will find you out.'"

After graduating from high school, Mr. Hollis spent two years away from the company, including a year in Switzerland working for a supermarket company. He returned to Lakeland determined to pursue a career at Publix. At FSC, he studied marketing and management while working full-time as a stock clerk.

"It kept me very busy, but I was very focused at that point," he says.

After graduating, Mr. Hollis worked in nearly a dozen Publix stores in Florida, working his way up from the bottom to store manager.

"You understand the business more, you become a better manager, and you have more compassion for the people doing their jobs," he says. "I learned as I worked around the state that if you treat everyone right, it doesn't matter who walks in the door."

In 1986, Mr. Hollis was promoted to Publix's corporate office as director of public affairs and public relations. He also served the company as director of government relations in Tallahassee before being appointed vice president. His roles often required him to navigate contentious issues with legislators and trade association representatives on issues important to the grocery industry.

"My skill set was putting people together," he says. "Whenever I was dealing with all these people, my approach was, let's find common ground."

Mr. Hollis' skills also served his alma mater well. He was elected to the



Board of Trustees in 2002 and served for 15 years. During that time, he led a number of initiatives that have had a profound impact on the College. He was chairman of the Believe campaign, a highly successful effort to raise funds for capital and operational needs, which has contributed to many of the new buildings on campus. He also led the initiative to create the Spivey Society, for donors of at least \$1,000 annually, and served as its first chairman.

"The idea was to get both alumni and people not associated with the College involved. I wanted it to be a society that anyone new to the area would want to be a part of, and it was successful," he says. "It really increased the level of participation."

In addition, he and his wife, Beverly Doddridge Hollis '79, generously contributed to the restoration of the Water Dome, which has become a signature part of the College's Frank Lloyd Wright architecture, and established an endowed scholarship for a business student.

Upon accepting the College's Distinguished Alumnus Award at the Founders Day luncheon, Mr. Hollis commented that FSC alumni should be proud of how the College has improved.

"So many alumni can't believe the transformation, not only in the grounds and facilities. It's in the students, it's in the faculty and staff—every part of the school has upped its game."

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

Carol Prevatt Sipe, '83

DETERMINED NOT TO FAIL

Ask Carol Prevatt Sipe '83 how she became president and CEO of Summit Consulting, one of the leading providers of workers' compensation insurance in the Southeast, and the answer is rather unglamorous. It was the result, she says, of hard work, attention to detail, and a determination to do her best.

"I just would go in to work every day and try to do a good job at a company I adore. I was trying to make people's lives easier, and they would give me more and more problems to solve. You wake up one day as president and say, 'How did this happen?'" she says with a smile.

Mrs. Sipe admits that she never imagined herself as an insurance executive when she was a student at FSC. She practically had grown up on campus as the daughter of the late Dr. Rubert Prevatt, beloved professor of citrus science. She remembers students and faculty members visiting the Prevatt home often and developing close friendships with the children of other teachers and staff.

"It felt like family. FSC has woven its way into all my upbringing," she says.

Mrs. Sipe studied accounting, but she also took education classes at night and discovered she had a passion for teaching. She considered becoming a middle school math teacher after graduation. Then Summit, a company started by FSC alumni C.C. "Doc" Dockery '61 and Tom Petcoff '70, offered her a position as a training coordinator for claims, and she saw it as an opportunity to be a teacher in a business environment.

"I had zero knowledge of the insurance industry, but people saw me as a resource. I wanted to know the answers to the questions I was being asked, and slowly but surely I began to build up some knowledge of workers' compensation," she says.

Mrs. Sipe was promoted to a supervisor's position, and her career was off and running. Her hard work was noticed, and she held positions of increasing responsibility and visibility at Summit. When the company was sold to Liberty Mutual, the new president and CEO, Rick Hodges, promoted her to vice president of operations and eventually to senior vice president and chief operations officer. He also began to prepare her for the opportunity to become Summit's president someday.

Modestly, Mrs. Sipe still didn't envision herself as president, but in 2009, after Hodges' retirement, she was invited to interview for the position and flew to Liberty Mutual's headquarters in Boston.

"I remember I came out of that interview and said to myself, 'I'm going to be the president of the company,'" she says.



During her tenure, Mrs. Sipe has overseen several initiatives at Summit that have resulted in greater innovation and efficiency, including a strategy to update all the company's core technology systems. She also guided Summit to consistently increased profitability and successfully led the company through its acquisition by American Financial Group without the loss of any personnel.

"I've had incredible mentors and supporters," she says. "This organization is full of the most amazing people."

She and her husband, Chris Sipe, a civil engineer, have three sons, and they found ways to balance the demands of family and work. Spending time with her family and trips to the beach are her favorite pastimes.

"Sometimes I've thought to myself there is no way I could do it," she says. "But I'm very competitive by nature. I don't like to fail. Life is too short to give anything less than your best. The drive for me wasn't for position, it was to do my best at whatever was put on my plate."

GRACE BEGGS '15 AND DR. JENNIFER HILMER '12 DELIVER LECTURES AT THE SPENCER SYMPOSIUM



The uses of chemistry, from determining the origins of life on earth to finding cures for dreaded diseases, was the theme of the seventh annual John L. Spencer Symposium at FSC on January 27, 2017. The symposium featured a prominent cancer research scientist and two FSC alumnae who are now pursuing careers in health sciences.

Coordinated by Jessie Ball duPont Professor of Chemistry Carmen Gauthier, the symposium offers thought-provoking lectures and discussion on topics related to chemistry and the natural sciences as they apply to the fields of medicine and health. The symposium is named for the late Dr. John L. Spencer, a longtime professor of chemistry at FSC, who was a research chemist for pharmaceutical corporations before joining FSC, and who held the Jessie Ball DuPont chair prior to Dr. Gauthier.

Dr. Gauthier invited Grace Beggs '15, a Ph.D. student in biochemistry at Duke University, and pediatric physical therapist Dr. Jennifer Hilmer '12 to address the symposium. In addition, the keynote speaker was Dr. Christoph Rader, associate professor in the Department of Cancer Biology and the Department of Molecular Therapeutics at The Scripps Research Institute's East Coast campus in Jupiter. Also speaking was Dr. José Aponte, research associate at the Astrochemistry Analytical Laboratory at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland.

Beggs described her research in x-ray crystallography to understand the structure and mechanisms of proteins in the bacteria *Neisseria*

gonorrhoeae, the cause of the sexually transmitted disease gonorrhea, which has been labeled an antibacterial-resistant “superbug” by the World Health Organization.

Beggs said she is hoping to pursue academic research after completing her Ph.D.

“It is kind of surreal but a huge privilege to come and be a speaker at the Spencer Symposium. I remember attending it as a student so many times,” she said.

Dr. Hilmer, a Spencer Scholarship student at FSC, devoted her lecture to her journey from a chemistry student intending to study pharmacy to earning a doctor of physical therapy degree at Duke University. She is a pediatric physical therapist at Kids First Therapy, a private clinic in Asheville, N.C., and works with a federal program to give early intervention therapy for underprivileged children born with disabilities or other conditions. In her lecture, she gave a case example of her work.

“I had always been interested in teaching, and I was always physically active. Physical therapy is a way to meld science and personal interaction,” she said. “I see kids who require crutches or walkers. A lot of them were born prematurely and don’t have a lot of the skills a full-term child would. I help them catch up.”

In his keynote address, Dr. Rader described his research in creating synthetic antibody molecules for monoclonal antibody (mAb) therapies to fight cancer. Unlike drugs that affect the entire body, antibody therapy targets cancer cells without harming healthy cells.

Dr. Aponte’s research involves analyzing meteorites to discover organic material that could have provided the building blocks for life on earth during the early, formative period of the earth’s history.



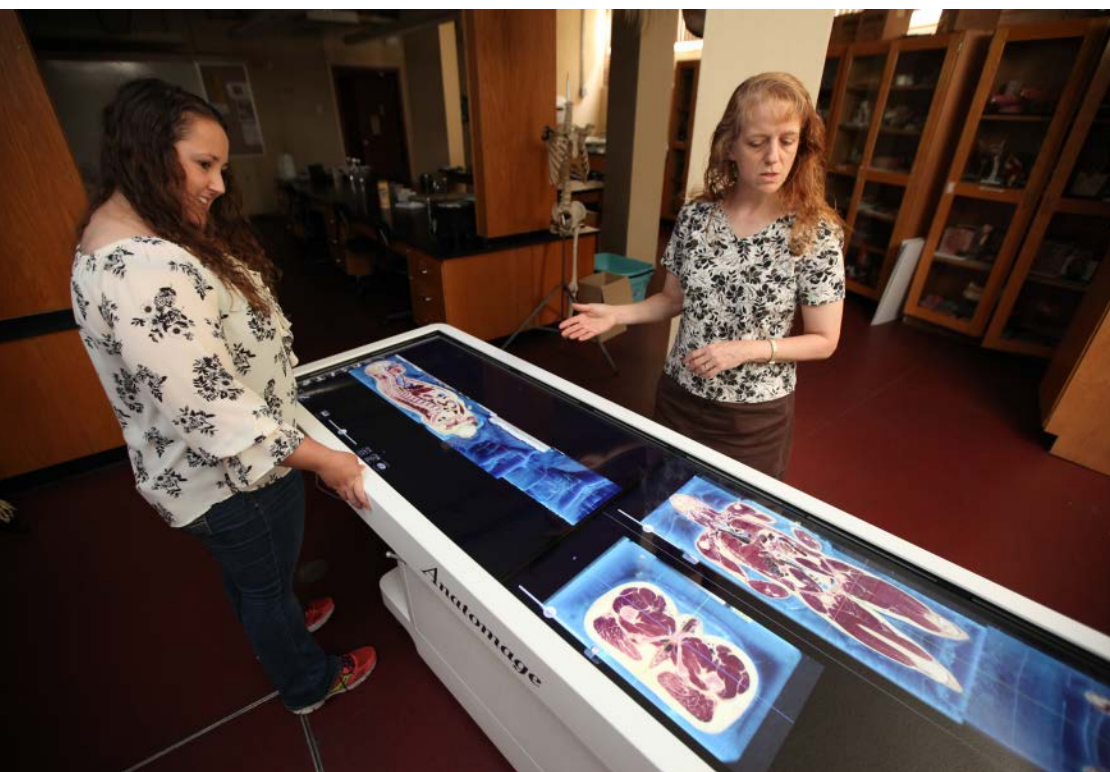
Above: Grace Beggs '15 (left) and Dr. Jennifer Hilmer '12 were invited to address the annual Spencer Symposium by Dr. Carmen Gauthier, Jessie Ball duPont Professor of Chemistry.

Left: Grace Beggs '15 gives her lecture during the symposium.

ANATOMAGE TABLE GIVES HIGH-TECH LOOK INTO ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

By **Dr. Nancy Morvillo**, Nelson C. White Professor of Life Sciences

For any student aspiring to a career in the health sciences, the understanding of the human body begins with basic anatomy. Most nursing and biology students gain hands-on experience with the intricacies of anatomical structures through dissection of lower animals such as rats, far removed from the examination of human anatomy.



Jenna West, laboratory and field studies coordinator for the Department of Biology (left), and Dr. Nancy Morvillo, Nelson C. White Professor of Life Sciences, demonstrate the capabilities of the Anatomage Table, displaying a 3-D image of a human skeleton and musculature.

Now, a state-of-the-art tool will enable students to dissect and analyze human anatomy without ever wielding a scalpel or touching a human cadaver.

With the support of Dr. Linda Comer, dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences, and Dr. Brad Hollingshead, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, FSC received a generous \$100,000 gift from the Anne MacGregor Jenkins Fund within the Givewell Community Foundation to purchase an Anatomage Table, a sophisticated device that displays high-definition images of CT scans of actual human bodies.

The digital images can be manipulated to reveal various anatomical and physiological systems in different levels of detail, and the 3-D images can be turned so they can be viewed from any angle.

For example, the instructor can “remove” the skin from a virtual cadaver to reveal the musculature, then remove that layer to show internal organs,

and so on, down to the skeletal structure. The table also contains images of humans with various diseases, and allows students to view sections of tissues, organs, and bones that are affected by these diseases. There is also an extensive library of images depicting injuries to bones and joints. Other images, such as CT scans, can be uploaded for viewing as well. The library even contains CT scans of animals such as dogs and cats, which will be helpful for pre-veterinary students.

“This technology is going to bring our Human Anatomy & Physiology laboratory sessions to a new level that will help prepare students for their future careers in the medical field,” said Celina Bellanceau, instructor of biology at FSC. “We will isolate body systems and organs and then discuss the interdependence of all our body systems. We will be able to do cadaver dissections without the issues related to having a cadaver facility.”

The table also could be used by faculty and students from across campus, for example in courses that cover human development or animal diversity. The table provides examples of structures—such as skulls—injured by gun shots, which can be of use for students studying criminology.

Many faculty members spent a good part of last summer learning all the capabilities of the Anatomage Table and finding ways to incorporate it into their teaching.

Dr. James M. Lynch, professor and clinical education coordinator of athletic training, urged the College to investigate the device after one of his students saw one during an internship at Stanford University.

“Understanding muscle action is hard when three-dimensional movement needs to be incorporated,” said Dr. Lynch. “A thorough clinical physical exam has to consider all the structures in the area of interest. The Anatomage Table is a large step forward in our ability to help students think in this fashion.”



Jenna West prepares to display an image using the digital control panel on the Anatomage Table.

Scholarship Honors

Memory of Tom Willard



Editor's note: Five months after Dr. Gerry Getman announced the endowment for a scholarship in the name of Professor Willard, he died unexpectedly. See the accompanying obituary.)

The legacy of the late Dr. Tom Willard, professor of chemistry emeritus, continues at FSC, thanks to two generous gifts from one of his devoted students.

Dr. Gerry Getman '69 has endowed a scholarship in Dr. Willard's name for a chemistry student as a gesture of thanks for his guidance when Dr. Getman was a student. He also has purchased an ultraviolet spectrophotometer for the FSC Department of Chemistry laboratory, further enhancing the department's increasingly sophisticated facilities.

Dr. Getman announced these gifts at a special event on April 13, 2017, in the Polk Science Building, a lecture given in Dr. Willard's memory that was attended by faculty, students, and Dr. Willard's son, Bill Willard '85.

"Dr. Willard was my adviser, and I grew to know him as a mentor and a friend," Dr. Getman told the audience. "He made a profound effect on my life and career. I'm very glad to endow this scholarship in his name."

On behalf of Dr. Willard's family, Bill Willard thanked Dr. Getman.

"My father was a modest man. He would have appreciated the gifts, but he would have said, 'Don't make a big fuss.' For us, this is a great way to remember him and his continuing gift of education," he said.

Dr. Willard died in August 2016. He served his entire career on the FSC faculty, from 1964 to 1999.

The lecture given in his memory was delivered by Dr. Alfredo Angeles-Boza, professor of chemistry at the University of Connecticut, on the subject "Mechanistic Inorganic Chemistry: From antimicrobial peptides to CO₂ reduction."



*Above: Dr. Gerry Getman '69 (left) and Bill Willard '85, son of the late Dr. Tom Willard
Left: Dr. Alfredo Angeles-Boza, professor of chemistry at the University of Connecticut, gives the inaugural Willard Lecture*



Dr. Gerry D. Getman '69, 1947–2017

Dr. Gerry D. Getman '69 of McMurray, Pa., and Boca Grande died Aug. 10, 2017.

After graduating from FSC, Dr. Getman earned his Ph.D. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York and embarked on a career in industrial chemistry. He founded BioSafe, a company in Pittsburgh, Pa., and held two patents for antimicrobial peptides.

He was an avid gardener, genealogist, and collector of Steuben and Duncan Miller crystal.

He was preceded in death by a brother. He is survived by his wife, Katy Getman; two daughters, Chrissy Martin and Mandy Cribbs; a grandson; and several nieces and nephews.

U.K. “BREXIT” POLITICIAN NIGEL FARAGE DESCRIBES

“Democratic Revolution”

In a witty speech laced occasionally with acerbic remarks directed at his political opponents and the bureaucracy of the European Union, British politician Nigel Farage, the leading advocate of the successful movement to remove the United Kingdom from the European Union, told a capacity audience at FSC that “Brexit” was part of a global democratic revolution.

“2016 saw something very radical happen,” he said. “It saw the ordinary folk—people who own their own businesses, people who bring their kids up, people who obey the law, people who pay their taxes, people who aren’t ashamed to say they’re patriotic—what 2016 was about was those little people saying, ‘We’ve simply had enough of being governed by global elites who do not understand our thoughts, hopes, and aspirations.’”

Mr. Farage, former leader of the U.K. Independence Party and a member of the European Parliament, spoke at FSC on November 3 as a special speaker in the Center for Free Enterprise’s Politics, Law, and Economics Lecture Series. His speech was originally scheduled as the keynote to the center’s Economic Freedom Week but had to be rescheduled due to Hurricane Irma. He joked that “we got there in the end, which, in a sense, really, is the story of my political career.”

Mr. Farage, a regular commentator for Fox News and a supporter of Donald Trump’s 2016 presidential campaign, portrayed the populist movement that propelled both Brexit and Trump as “a battle of democracy versus bureaucracy.” He said there is collusion between corporations and

politicians that places barriers in the way of small businesses through over-regulation.

“We are not living in a capitalist society, folks, we are living in an era of global corporatism. The unholy trinity of big business, big banks, and big politics has taken us to where we are,” he said.

Mr. Farage stated that there are obstacles to be overcome to complete the U.K.’s withdrawal from the European Union, including reluctance from the government of Prime Minister Theresa May and resistance from the European Commission of the E.U. However, he noted that nationalist parties recently won power in Austria and the Czech Republic, suggesting the populist movement against centralization is gaining momentum.

He concluded his speech by stressing the need to ensure younger generations understand the principles of national sovereignty and populist economics.

“If we believe in liberty and freedom and democracy and our nation, the one thing I’m certain of is that the fight to keep those things is actually perpetual, because as soon as we stop fighting, the forces against us will always come back and claw back and start to erode those things,” he said. “The revolution of 2016 is still rolling, but our job is to make sure it rolls forever.”



Spotlight on Scholarship Donors: The Beulah Kahler College Trust

More than 95 percent of FSC students receive financial assistance from a wide range of significant funds and generous individuals. One of the most valuable and prestigious benefactions for student financial aid at the College is the Beulah Kahler College Trust.

Mrs. Kahler and her husband, a successful banker, had close connections to four states, and according to the terms of the Trust, funds are given annually to select colleges in those states offering liberal arts courses leading to a bachelor of arts degree.

In 1998, then-Trustee Lorraine L. Spivey, the daughter-in-law of former President Ludd Spivey, introduced members of the board of the Trust to the College. Since then, the Trust has contributed more than \$1.5 million for the Beulah Kahler Scholars Program at FSC. Scholarships have been given to students in fields of study in the School of Arts and Sciences, including biology, music performance, mathematics, English literature, theater, and modern languages.

Each year, five or six students receive scholarships ranging from \$10,000 to \$22,500. Among current students benefiting from the Beulah Kahler Trust is Casey-Jane Wiesing, a sophomore psychology major from New Jersey. She said coming to Florida Southern would not have been possible without the assistance.

“It was a big leap to come here, and the financial aid helped incredibly. I love the Department of Psychology, and the grants and scholarship from the Beulah Kahler Trust gave me the opportunity to achieve my dreams” she said.



Casey-Jane Wiesing

BARNETT SCHOOL STUDENTS HAVE PRIVATE LUNCH WITH

Publishing CEO STEVE FORBES



Five students from the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise had the rare treat of having lunch in New York with publishing executive Steve Forbes in April. Mr. Forbes (top left), who was the speaker at FSC's spring commencement ceremony in 2012, readily agreed to the request from President Kerr to meet with the students. After some sightseeing, including a Broadway show and a visit to the Freedom Tower, the students joined Mr. Forbes at the Upland Inn. Over a two-hour visit, he shared his wisdom from many years of running his family's publishing business, which includes the noted business magazine, *Forbes*. An additional highlight for the students was visiting the floor of the New York Stock Exchange and the New York office of Facebook. The students making the trip were (top row, center and right) John Coultas, Madeleine Henderson '17, (bottom row, from left) Jordan Honc, Kendall Kerge '17, and Kevin Spicer. Accompanying them was Dr. Jane Finley, associate vice president of advancement and professor of accounting.

On the Danube:

DR. KIRA OMELCHENKO AND OLIVIA SMITH PARTICIPATE IN MUSIC FESTIVAL

In the genteel world of classical music, the competition to play in prominent festivals can be as fierce as any reality-TV show. So it was an extraordinary feat for both Dr. Kira Omelchenko and junior Olivia Smith to be chosen to participate as conductor and violin soloist, respectively, at an international music festival in Bulgaria in July.



Dr. Omelchenko and Smith participated in a festival hosted by the Vidin State Philharmonic Orchestra in the northwestern Bulgarian city of Vidin (pronounced vi-DEEN), which sits on the famous Danube River. Both professor and student were chosen through a competitive application process. Dr. Omelchenko was one of just six conductors chosen to participate, and Smith was one of nine soloists at the festival, who ranged in age from 12 to 30 and came from Asia, Europe, and America.

During the two-week festival, they attended classes and rehearsals, made new friends, absorbed the local culture, and at its conclusion gave a performance with the orchestra of the first movement of the Violin Concerto by Aram Khachaturian, with Dr. Omelchenko as conductor and Smith as the soloist.

It was the first time Smith had performed as a soloist with a full orchestra, but she said the classes she took during the festival helped her prepare for the performance. Afterward, the director of the festival complimented her and Dr. Omelchenko.

“I was nervous, but I tried not to think about it,” Smith said. “I tried to be in the moment. At the end, I felt like I had accomplished something. It was a lot of fun, too.”

Dr. Omelchenko invited Smith to apply to the festival in Vidin, which focuses on younger performers and also has an emphasis on collaboration between conductor, orchestra, and soloist.

“Olivia is a special student,” said Dr. Omelchenko. “She’s very talented. She’s the concertmaster of the Florida Southern Orchestra, and she works hard. She’s very disciplined, very passionate.”

Smith said she was speechless when her professor invited her to apply.

“I’m humbled she asked me. I realized how big an opportunity it is. Students from around the world audition for this festival. It’s a lot bigger than a school project,” she said.

Smith said the instruction she received at the festival was thorough, and it was helpful in the practice sessions and classes to observe how the other soloists handled themselves on stage and projected confidence. Although the classes and rehearsals were “all business,” there was some time for relaxation. Smith said although Vidin is modernizing, it reminded her of other European cities, with parks and cafés. A medieval castle and a bridge over the Danube were favorite tourist attractions.

Smith began playing the violin at age five, but despite her expertise, she chose to major in accounting, minoring in music. She said she felt accounting offered a more stable career path but didn’t want to give up playing.

“This way I can choose what I want to do in music and have the best of both worlds,” she said.





Dr. Jean Twenge (far left) discusses her findings about trends among young people with Trustee Marjorie Roberts (far right). Also part of the conversation with Twenge are (from left) Mrs. Roberts' husband, Mr. Hal Roberts; Mr. Van Davis; and the Rev. Holly Davis.

TROUBLING TRENDS AMONG SUPER-CONNECTED “iGEN”

In an address to FSC Trustees, faculty, and staff that presented troubling data about the social and psychological health of young people, Dr. Jean Twenge, professor of psychology at San Diego State University, sounded an alarm about the unhealthy effects of excessive smartphone use.

Dr. Twenge is the author of more than 140 scientific publications, including her most recent book, *iGen: Why Today's Super-Connected Kids are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy—and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood*.

In her lecture, she said the results of multiple studies over the decades showed the current generation of college students—born between 1995 and 2012, and known as “iGen”—are slower to achieve the social and psychological maturity associated with adult behavior and more prone to feelings of loneliness and depression than previous generations. She said the trends showed sudden changes, beginning about 2010, or the same time that smartphones became widespread.

“Serious problems have shown up across populations of young people. The number of people who report being on social media every day goes from less than 50 percent in 2008 to almost 90 percent in 2015. Just getting together with friends as an activity among eighth to twelfth graders plunges after 2010,” she said.

Among the disturbing trends among iGen Dr. Twenge cited:

On average, teens are using screen devices—smartphones, tablets, and laptops—six to eight hours a day. Reports suggest late-night and

compulsive usage is common.

Activities considered adult, such as acquiring a driver’s license, dating, having a part-time job, and even trying alcohol and having sex are all down significantly.

Reported feelings of being left out or loneliness are up, as are reports of being unable to function and having thoughts of suicide and self-harm.

Dr. Twenge said the implications of the studies for colleges are significant.

“These kids are growing up more slowly and having trouble making their own decisions,” she said. “They have less experience when they arrive on campus, so they’re going from zero to 60 when they arrive at college.”

Dr. Twenge said college counseling centers across the country are seeing a growing need for mental health services.

“This generation is telling us they’re unhappy and lonely. They’re saying, we need some help,” she said.

Asked how college faculty and staff can address these problems, Dr. Twenge said there is no “magic bullet.”

“Part of it is awareness. The good news is that young people are willing to hear this message,” she said. “We know that getting together with people is good for mental health. Any activity that encourages them to put their phones away and interact with others helps.”

PROFESSORS ROSS & SLATE

BID FAREWELL

Two stalwarts of the faculty, in business and in the humanities, retired at the conclusion of the 2016–2017 academic year and were bid farewell amid tears and appreciation for their contributions to the College. Dr. Larry Ross, Anne and Bill France Professor of Business Administration, and Dr. Claudia Slate, professor of English, were honored at a reception attended by numerous well-wishers from the faculty and staff.

Dr. Erica Bernheim, associate professor of English, paid tribute to Dr. Slate's insightfulness and kindness.

"Whenever there was a problem in the department, we would say, 'Why can't you just be more like Claudia?' She makes people do better," she said.

Dr. Slate, who has been a member of the faculty since 1989, except for a one-year hiatus, praised her fellow English faculty members.

"I couldn't have asked for better colleagues," she said. "The humanities are under siege in this country, and it is reassuring to have a college that supports the humanities."

Dr. Ross joined the faculty in 1994, and among other accomplishments, he chaired the committee that reinstated tenure at FSC and led the effort to redesign the MBA program for the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise. He said in his remarks that the College has been an exciting place to be.

"It has been a busy life, but it is time for me to take more time for other things," he said.

President Anne Kerr said Dr. Ross' retirement was "especially poignant" for her, because he was on the search committee that brought her to FSC as president.

"You were one of the first people I met here, and you gave a great introduction to the College. There is no way we can ever thank you for your contributions," she said.



Left: Dr. Larry Ross and his wife, Anne. Right: Dr. Claudia Slate and her husband, Professor of Criminology Risdon Slate.



NEW ARMY OFFICERS TOLD

“ W E W I L L N E E D Y O U R L E A D E R S H I P ”

About to be commissioned as Army officers, cadets from the Mocs ROTC Battalion were told they will have to face chaotic global conflicts, but they were reassured that they are ready to face that challenge. At the spring commissioning ceremony at Annie Pfeiffer Chapel in May, 2017 15 cadets took the oath of office and received their insignia and first salutes as second lieutenants in the U.S. Army.



The guest speaker for the ceremony was Maj. Gen. Edward F. Dorman III, director of logistics and engineering, J-4, at U.S. Central Command, based at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa. Maj. Gen. Dorman said the United States faces threats from terrorism, Russia, China, North Korea, and Iran.

“The global environment is as turbulent, violent, and complex as at any time in our nation’s history. You will be fundamental to our nation’s defense. We will need your leadership, every ounce of it,” he said.

Maj. Gen. Dorman cited the distinguished history of the ROTC program at FSC and urged the cadets to study the example of its graduates who went on to become great officers and leaders.

“The same will be expected of you,” he said.

The newly commissioned officers will assume a wide variety of duties, including roles in the Army’s combat armor branch, cyber security, medical corps, and logistics division.



1 Maj. Gen. Edward F. Dorman III of U.S. Army Central Command delivered the address to the cadets and well-wishers at the spring commissioning ceremony.

2 Moc Battalion cadets stand at attention while waiting to be commissioned.

3 2nd Lt. Tabitha Powell receives her officer’s insignia from family members.

4 The newly commissioned Army second lieutenants are joined by College officials after the ceremony. In the front row are (from left) Chairman of the Board of Trustees Dr. Robert L. Fryer, Jr.; guest speaker Maj. Gen. Edward F. Dorman III of U.S. Army Central Command; President Kerr; and Lt. Col. Rocky R. Vaira, commander of the Mocs Battalion. In the second row at far left is Capt. Jeff Wade, operations officer for the Mocs Battalion cadre.



A Portrait of PARTNERSHIP

FSC and Polk Museum of Art Launch Joint Initiative



Above: J. William Meek '72 stands with artist John Briggs of Plant City in front of his painting, Swimmer #7, part of the newly acquired collection of American figurative art on display at the Museum.

Left: Claire Orogas (left); Dr. Sarah D. McKay, Trustee for the Museum and the College; and President Kerr unveil Forbidden Fruit by Robert Vickrey, part of the new collection of American figurative art donated to the College and permanently housed at the Museum.

Below: President Kerr and Ms. Orogas stand in front of St. Paul and the Soothsayer of Philippi by Lambert Jacobsz, part of the "Rembrandt's Academy" exhibition.

After more than a year of planning, The Polk Museum of Art and Florida Southern launched a new affiliation agreement on June 1 with two spectacular new exhibitions at the Museum, promising an exciting future for the arts at the College and for the community.

The agreement transforms the Museum, newly renamed the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College, into an academic art museum that will not only continue to serve the public but also will strengthen FSC's arts programs.

The boards of both the College and the Museum enthusiastically approved the arrangement earlier this year. The College will supply fundraising support for the Museum, and students will benefit from an enhanced curriculum, with the ability to study great works of art on display at the Museum. In addition, Dr. H. Alexander Rich, assistant professor of art history at FSC, will assume the role of director of galleries and exhibitions for both the College and the Museum.

The Museum retains its own nonprofit status with its staff under Executive Director Claire Orogas and will remain fully open to the public, with free admission thanks to generous donors.

President Anne Kerr said the College is following the example of colleges and universities around the world that have or are affiliated with great museums.

"Both the College and the Museum believe strongly in supporting the vital role the arts have in enriching the lives of all of us," she said. "With a strong relationship between the College and the Museum, we can together serve students, artists, the community, and tourists to build a world-class community academic art museum."

Dr. Sarah D. McKay, a longtime member of both the Museum and College Boards of Trustees, said the affiliation represents an important new development for both institutions.

"Years ago, members of the Junior Welfare League (now the Junior League of Greater Lakeland) came together to establish this Museum, and I'm thrilled that we have a new chapter for this institution that will

enrich and expand the Museum's role in this area," she said.

The new affiliation was christened with two superb new exhibitions, arranged through the College, which opened to the public on June 10.

The first exhibition, "Rembrandt's Academy: Old Master Paintings from Private Dutch Collections," was organized at the request of Dr. Rich by the Hoogsteder Museum Foundation in The Netherlands exclusively for The Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College. The show features 16 spectacular works by students of Rembrandt, demonstrating his influence and techniques.

A second exhibition features paintings of American figurative art from a newly acquired collection organized and donated by J. William Meek III '72, director emeritus of the Harmon-Meek Gallery in Naples. In addition to donating works from his personal collection, he arranged a collection of more than 200 works from major American artists and their estates, collectively worth more than \$2.5 million, all of which will be donated to the College and permanently housed at the Museum. As a result, The Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College will be the only museum in the United States specializing in American figurative art.

The collection includes works by such famed artists as Adolph Dehn, Robert Vickrey, and in particular, Will Barnet. Mr. Meek and his wife, Barbara '76, were personal friends of Barnet, in addition to

Continued on next page



representing him, and the collection contains a survey of his works.

“Thinking of this community, I asked myself what would be appreciated and also serve as a basis for education,” Mr. Meek said. “The most basic art is of the human figure. It’s a great educational tool for students to see.”

Dr. Rich agreed, saying that students across all disciplines and the community will benefit from the alliance with the Museum.

“I like the idea of raising the consciousness of the community. The College will be able to integrate the Museum into the curriculum and enhance the art program, and the Museum will be able to have bigger and better exhibitions,” he said.

Ms. Orologas first approached the College about an affiliation in order to grow the Museum’s capabilities.

“The kind of exhibitions the community was longing for and academic institutions want, we couldn’t do,” she said. “Florida Southern is our neighbor, and we worked together for many years. This affiliation will mean great things. Now we’re able to consider some exhibitions we couldn’t previously.”

At a news conference announcing the affiliation, Lakeland Mayor Howard Wiggs ’86 presented keys to the city to President Kerr and Ms. Orologas, saying the affiliation will improve the quality of life in the city and beyond.

“It is especially important because it brings together two elements that are critical to the quality of life and economic development of the city—education and the art and cultural communities. It is particularly uplifting as mayor to know that we have forward thinking leaders like Dr. Kerr, Claire, and the others who have made this happen,” he said.



St. Paul and the Soothsayer of Philippi by Lambert Jacobsz (1598 – 1636) was one of the paintings in the “Rembrandt’s Academy” exhibition at the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College.



Dr. Alex Rich Oversees Exhibitions for Polk Museum of Art at FSC

Dr. Alex Rich, assistant professor of art history, admits he was “never a sophisticated artist” himself, although as a child growing up on Manhattan’s Upper East Side he aspired to be a Disney illustrator. An uncle introduced him to New York’s many museums, and his interest in art took a more academic turn.

“In high school, I didn’t know art history was a discipline, but I was writing papers on the Spanish Civil War as seen through Picasso’s series of ‘Weeping Woman’ paintings. I tell my students art history is just looking at history through art,” he said.

Dr. Rich directs the College’s Melvin Gallery in the Robert A. Davis Performing Arts Center, which primarily features exhibitions of student works with occasional shows by artists of regional or national note. Last year, President Kerr approached him about assuming an additional, considerably more visible responsibility—helping to guide the new affiliation between the College and the Polk Museum of Art. The prospect of helping to re-orient the Polk Museum as an academic art museum that would also continue to serve the public was exciting, and right up his alley.

“I was amazed by the opportunity. It was a dream come true. When I was at Dartmouth, the Hood Museum was central to my development as a student,” he says.

In June, Dr. Rich assumed the title of director of galleries and exhibitions, overseeing shows at both the Melvin Gallery and the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College. In addition, he

was named curator of the museum. The first exhibition he arranged was a rousing success—“Rembrandt’s Academy: Old Master Paintings from Private Dutch Collections.” It normally takes years to arrange an exhibition, but Dr. Rich managed this one in just six months. A call to the Netherlands referred him to the Hoogsteder Museum Foundation, which had access to paintings from the Dutch Golden Age in private hands. The result, as Dr. Rich says, was a unique exhibition which had not been seen anywhere before in its entirety.

And that is just the beginning, as he sees it. The exhibitions he has in mind will not just attract visitors, they will benefit students.

“The College will be able to use the Polk Museum, integrate it into the curriculum, and enhance the art program,” he says. “I’m thinking about how exhibitions can be educational.”

He points to an exhibition that made its debut in December of the drawings and studies of the French Impressionist Jean Renoir, which could be used to lead discussions of modern art. Students in the studio art program can observe in person Renoir’s technique. A future exhibition is planned on Spanish masters of the 18th and 19th centuries and another will include the works of 20th century painter Marc Chagall.

Dr. Rich also sees students doing internships at the museum, learning how to mount exhibitions, perhaps preparing for careers in museum administration.

“There are so many different professions in the museum world,” he says.

THE CLASSICIST:

JESSICA ARTMAN '06

During the 20th century, long traditions about precise artistic technique and realistic representations of the human figure and nature were rejected by artists who explored abstraction and expressionism. As a result, academies and college art departments neglected the study of drawing and painting realistically from life subjects. Fortunately, Jessica Artman '06 is part of a new wave of artists dedicated to reviving traditional painting and drawing. It is a commitment that began while she was a student and a teacher at FSC.

“When I was younger, all I wanted to do was express myself through some kind of realism or representational form. That idea was challenged by what is popular in art, and I fought for many years trying to figure out where I fit in. Throughout my training, I found that going back to foundational skills has elevated my practice,” she says.

The chairman of FSC’s Department of Art, William Otremsky, has long advocated for realist art, and that emphasis suited Ms. Artman well.

“My experience as a student at FSC was amazing,” she says. “Bill Otremsky, Alexis Serio, and Eric Blackmore were great mentors to both challenge and inspire me. Because of them, the facilities and the environment, I believe the art program fostered a lot of the discipline that I have now to creating works in the studio.”

“Portrait of a Young Man” by
Jessica Artman



After graduating, Ms. Artman earned a Master of Fine Arts at the National University of Ireland, then returned to FSC to teach from 2010 to 2012. Desiring more intensive training in drawing the figure, she went to New York to study at the Grand Central Atelier, where she has refined her technique.

In October, Ms. Artman took a position as an instructor at the Paris Academy of Art, a new atelier, or studio, in France devoted to the classical techniques of the 18th and 19th centuries. She teaches cast drawing and figure drawing as well as an evening anatomy class. She says that students from around the world have come to study at the Academy, and the challenge now is for artists to bridge the gap between classical and modern styles.

“It’s a fact that traditional drawing practices have been lost since the turn of the century, and I believe that art programs should devote a large component of their curriculum to drawing from life. However, that being said, it is important for many forms of art to exist, and they are equally necessary to the contemporary art scene. Whatever style an artist is pursuing, if it comes from a place of truth it will transcend and be meaningful.”



BIG, COLORFUL, AND BOLD:

BETH DARBY HAIZLIP '80

Beth Darby Haizlip '80 never imagined a career in art. Her parents encouraged an appreciation of art, and she had dabbled a little in high school, nothing too serious. She came to FSC to study business, but in her first semester, she saw Beverly McDonald Turner '78—who would become her good friend—painting in their residence hall one day, and she was hooked.

"I called my father and said, 'I want to take art classes.' He said, 'Whatever you want to do.' As soon as I signed up, I loved it," she says.

Mrs. Haizlip has been painting ever since. Her subjects are primarily landscapes, seascapes, still lifes, and studies of people. Working primarily in oil and acrylic, she describes her style as "very bold, colorful, and impressionistic."

In Jacksonville, where Mrs. Haizlip and her husband, a former Navy pilot, have lived since 1990, she is in demand as a muralist and an artist working on private commission. Recently she was commissioned by Wolfson Children's Hospital in Jacksonville to create large-scale murals on the walls of the entire fourth floor, complementing work she has already done on the third floor. She also has had a commission from the library at the University of North Florida, and she has exhibited in galleries in Florida and the Caribbean island of St. Kitts.

Mrs. Haizlip says the training she received at FSC gave her a good foundation. The curriculum included "a little bit of everything." Her principal professor was the late Downing Barnitz, who was accomplished in drawing and ensured that his students learned the basics of drawing.

"Everything I am able to do is because I learned how to draw from Downing. It was a great experience," she says.

Her husband was stationed at Navy bases in California, Hawaii, and finally Florida, and at each place, she took classes in art, continuing to learn and grow as an artist. In Jacksonville, she began to enter contests and won a contest for the poster art for a local jazz festival in 2007. Her reputation began to spread.

"It all evolved," she says. "It takes years to get established as an artist."

Mrs. Haizlip still stays in touch with her friend Beverly Turner, who got her started on her career.

"Every year we go to Charleston and meet about a dozen other artists," she says. "We hire a cook and spend a week just painting."



THE *Opera Stage Beckons* FOR JOSHUA MAZUR '13 AND WESLEY MORGAN '02

Becoming a professional opera singer is not the easiest of career paths. Talent alone may not guarantee success. Yet two FSC alumni have been working their way into the world of opera, finding steady work in roles in regional productions, and in January 2017, they found themselves on the same stage. In fact, the stage was Branscomb Auditorium, right back where they started at FSC, in a production by the Imperial Symphony Orchestra of Leoncavallo's *I Pagliacci*.

Joshua Mazur '13, a baritone, and Wesley Morgan '02, a tenor, reflected on their training at FSC, their progress as singers, and their goals.

For Mazur, the Branscomb stage is familiar. As a student, he had a couple of supporting roles in Imperial Symphony opera productions, including a memorable *Barber of Seville*, in which Mazur had a comic role as a police officer.

"It's nice to be home at Branscomb Auditorium. It's a very friendly place to sing," he said.

After graduating from FSC, Mazur was accepted into the graduate vocal studies program at the University of Florida, where he completed a

JOSHUA MAZUR '13



master's degree and was continuing toward a doctoral degree when he decided to take a leave of absence and concentrate on performing.

"I love singing. I thought it was time to take the plunge and get serious about it," he said.

Mazur's role as Silvio, the secret lover of Nedda in *I Pagliacci*, was a substantial—and serious—part, both vocally and dramatically. He sang opposite the acclaimed veteran soprano Maria Kanyova, which might have been daunting for a young singer, but Mazur said no.

"As you do these parts, you get more confident. It's not the frightful experience it used to be. Maria is wonderful, and we were one big family

from the first day of rehearsal," he said.

Mazur also has been trying his hand at composing. While studying at UF, he composed *The Magdalene Requiem*, inspired by true accounts of young women in Ireland forced to work in laundries overseen by the Catholic Church. It received its premiere with the Gainesville Master Chorale last year. The libretto was written by his sister, Lyda Mazur, an English major at FSC.

But for now, he is concentrating on singing, and his appearance in *I Pagliacci* represents a step forward.

"I think this has been a turning point for me," he said. "I'm having a lot of fun."

At FSC, Morgan studied under a legendary voice teacher, the late Beverly Wolff, whom he calls "a force of nature."

"She changed my life in a big way. She taught me that life is more than just singing," he said.

Morgan said his career has evolved in stages. As he completed a master's degree in voice at Georgia State University, he took small supporting parts in the Atlanta Opera and roles in productions designed for young artists.

"I was 30 before I started getting busy. You kind of make it up as you go along," he said.

In *I Pagliacci*, he sang the supporting role of Beppe, but recently he has been getting substantial roles, such as Edgardo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*. He is scheduled to sing the part of Romeo in Gounod's *Romeo and Juliet* and is hoping for more leading tenor roles.

"I'd just like to work consistently and be happy with my vocal development, which is more important," he said.

In between roles, Morgan is also teaching, which he calls "an equal passion" to singing. He was an adjunct instructor at Georgia State and recently moved to Philadelphia to work on a doctoral degree at Temple University, looking toward the day when he can teach full-time at the university level.

Morgan expressed amazement at the development of FSC's Department of Music, noting that it now has a specialty in opera studies, something that was lacking when he was a student. He spent some time on campus visiting with former teachers, including Professor Diane Willis Stahl.

"It's wonderful to be able to reconnect with people here I know. The school has grown tremendously, which is great to see," he said.



WESLEY MORGAN '02 (RIGHT)

FOR THE DEFENSE:

STEVE WELLSLAGER '88 AND HIS TEAM AT PUBLIX HELP FSC CREATE CYBER-SECURITY COURSES

Steve Wellslager '88 has a disarmingly simple explanation for what he and his team at Publix do.

“We’re the technical ‘goo’ that makes everything work,” he quips with a smile.

Simple to say, challenging to do. As vice president of information systems architecture and security for Publix Super Markets, Inc., Wellslager oversees a department that coordinates hardware and software for everything from point-of-sale data at the company’s more than 1,100 stores to generating executive-level reports for the fifth-largest retail supermarket corporation in America.

It has been quite a jump for someone who began working for Publix as a programmer fresh from FSC.

“I had never touched a computer before I went to college,” he says. “I started out as an education major. Then I took a course on introduction to computers. The class was easy for me, and I decided to change majors.”

There was no computer science major at FSC in the 1980s, but there was a concentration in computer systems for business administration students. Wellslager learned about databases and programming in COBOL, the computer language for business popular then, and landed a job with Publix as an entry-level programmer. After several years, he was promoted to a management position, and in 2014, he was named a vice president. Now he is in charge of a department that handles cyber-security, database administration, programming, and support for the various computer systems Publix uses.

The pace of innovation and technological change has accelerated over the decades, presenting a challenge for corporations like Publix. Also, in an era when thieves anywhere from Tampa to North Korea are working around the clock to steal data, Wellslager and his team must constantly safeguard against threats to their systems’ integrity.

“Security is only a part of our organization, but it’s a 100 percent concern. We are relentless in putting up the right defenses,” he says. “The people who work for me are phenomenal. The directors, managers, engineers, and technical people—they’re brilliant.”

Fortunately for the students in FSC’s computer science program, Wellslager and several members of his team are sharing their expertise in cyber-security. They have been working with Dr. H. David Mathias, assistant professor of computer science and chairman of the department,

to develop a cyber-security concentration for students majoring in computer science.

The arrangement began in 2016 when Wellslager received an email from Vice President for Advancement Dr. Robert H. Tate asking if he could lend a hand in developing courses in cyber-security. Wellslager invited Mathias to meet some of his team at Publix and showed him their operations center. He then asked his team if any of them would be willing to work with Mathias to develop and perhaps teach courses in cyber-security.

“The response was overwhelming. Five of my best people said yes. We’ve been meeting with David regularly ever since,” he says. “I think we can provide some very tangible technical skills for students about cyber attacks and defenses against them.”

The cyber-security concentration will consist of three courses developed jointly by FSC faculty and the Publix team. The first course will be offered in the fall of 2018 with the others following in consecutive semesters. Mathias says he’s grateful for the assistance and the real-world experience they are offering.

“Publix has hundreds of thousands of devices they have to keep secure, and that’s something they take very seriously. I’ve been awed by their generosity. It’s just been incredible,” he says.

Wellslager has been heavily involved in developing the new relationship between his department and FSC, hoping that it will be mutually beneficial.

“Anything we can do to build the computer science program at Florida Southern is something Publix wants,” he says. “We want to find good people, and I’d love for them to be good Florida Southern people.”



Five Inducted into FSC ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

Florida Southern College inducted five new members to its Athletics Hall of Fame on March 22 during its annual Hall of Fame Banquet at Jenkins Field House. The five-member class is comprised of Pete Meyer (baseball), Jordan McAfee Williams '06 (volleyball), Matt Stauch '10 (men's golf), Mary O'Sullivan '11 (women's swimming), and David Jenkins (honorary).

ESPN college basketball analyst Dick Vitale served as the keynote speaker, giving an impassioned talk about the Game of Life to highlight a memorable evening. Among the attendees at Thursday's Hall of Fame Banquet were previous Hall of Fame honorees, current and past Moccasin student-athletes and coaches, members of the Florida Southern College Board of Trustees, President Anne Kerr, and distinguished guests from the community.

It was announced that Florida Southern has begun a special scholarship in honor of Meyer, who currently serves as FSC director of athletics and dean of wellness.



ESPN college basketball analyst Dick Vitale was the keynote speaker at the Hall of Fame Banquet.

The inductees and their accomplishments are:

Jordan McAfee Williams was a two-time All-American and All-South Region selection for the Mocs who led Florida Southern to four-straight NCAA Tournament appearances. She is FSC's all-time leader in assists with 5,729.

Mary O'Sullivan was Florida Southern's first-ever national champion in women's swimming, winning the 200-freestyle and 200-backstroke at the 2011 NCAA Championships. She earned seven All-America honors, holds seven school records, and is the first swimmer, man or woman, to earn Hall of Fame honors.



The newest members of the FSC Athletics Hall of Fame are (from left) David Jenkins, Jordan McAfee Williams '06, Mary O'Sullivan '11, Matt Stauch '10, and Pete Meyer.

Matt Stauch was a three-time All-American and led the Moccasins to a national title in 2010. He was the SSC Male Athlete and Golfer of the Year in 2010, while also earning a spot on the GCAA All-Nicklaus team.

Pete Meyer coached the Moccasin baseball team to a national championship in 2005 and compiled a record of 308–139–1 over seven seasons at the helm of the program. He earned National Coach of the Year honors in 2005, while also being named South Region and SSC Coach of the Year. Meyer led Florida Southern to six NCAA Tournament appearances, including two South Region titles.

David Jenkins, a majority owner of MLB's San Francisco Giants, has been a major contributor to Moccasin Athletics. His contributions have been crucial in the addition of athletic facilities such as the remodeling of the George Jenkins Field House, development of the Jenkins Clubhouse at Henley Field, as well as the procurement of Historic Henley Field for Florida Southern College and the future expansion of the weight room facilities.

MOCS WIN SUNSHINE STATE CONFERENCE MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TITLE



Senior Bobby Ormsby's second-place finish helped Florida Southern win the Sunshine State Conference men's cross country championship in October at the South Central Regional Park in Boca Raton. The championship is the Moccasins' 17th overall and the team's first since 2013. Junior Dean McGregor and freshman Mason Jones finished fifth and sixth, respectively, and sophomore Warran Grajalez took ninth. For the season, Ormsby and McGregor were named First-team All-SSC, and Head Coach Ben Martucci '11 was named SSC Coach of the Year. Jones was named SSC Freshman of the Year.

At the NCAA South Regional meet in November, Ormsby and Jones were named to the All-South Region Team, and Ormsby was chosen to run in the NCAA national championship meet as an individual.

The team is pictured with the SSC championship trophy. In the center, holding the trophy, are senior John Bryant, Ormsby, McGregor, and senior Evan Quiñones. Head Coach Ben Martucci '11 is second from right.

MOCS VOLLEYBALL FINISHES AS NO.2

A magical run for the FSC volleyball team ended with a second-place trophy, as the Mocs fell to defending national champion Concordia University-St. Paul in the NCAA Division II National Championship match in Pensacola on December 9. The Moccasins, who ended the year with a 30-7 record, were unable to slow down a blistering offensive attack by Concordia.



Stephens

Florida Southern's runner-up finish is the highest in program history, as the Mocs were making their first-ever appearance in a national championship contest. The team had 24-straight wins to get to the title match, the second-best win streak in school history.

"It's been an amazing season that we never would have dreamed of," said Head Coach Jill Stephens '95. "Not one time did I question this team's heart. They fought and battled."



Mattson

The Mocs were the Sunshine State Conference champions with a 19-1 record and won the NCAA Division II South Region title, defeating



The Mocs hold the trophy after winning the NCAA Division II South Regional tournament at Jenkins Fieldhouse.

the University of West Florida at Jenkins Fieldhouse. It was the Mocs' fifth South Region title but their first since 1991, when Stephens was a freshman on the team.



Tovo

Three players and two coaches won honors for the season. Junior outside hitter Nicole Mattson was named a first-team Division II All-American, senior outside hitter Anna Tovo was named second-team All-American, and Bethany Besancenez was named to the third team. All three players were named to the National Championship All-Tournament team, and the three also were named first-team All-South Region. Mattson was named South Region Player of the Year, and Stephens was named South Region Coach of the Year by the American Volleyball Coaches Association. In addition, Associate Head Coach Chris Keen was named Division II Assistant Coach of the Year by the AVCA.

Allan Gutierrez '15 Donates Olympic Medallions

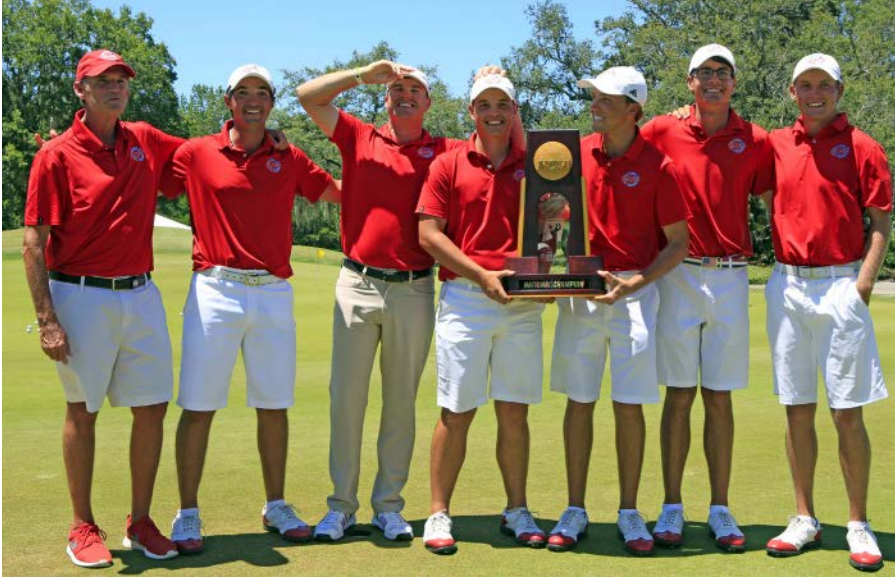


Allan Gutierrez presents the Olympic medallions he received for participating in the Olympic Games in 2012 and 2016 to President Kerr.

In a gesture of gratitude to his alma mater, Allan Gutierrez, Florida Southern's first Olympic athlete, has donated medallions commemorating his participation in the 2012 and 2016 Summer Olympic Games to the College. Gutierrez, a former member of the Mocs men's swimming team, represented his native Honduras in the 2012 Olympics in London and the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro. While visiting the College in August, he presented the small commemorative medallions, given to all athletes as a memento of their participation in the Games, to President Anne Kerr.

"If it wasn't for the College, I wouldn't have been at either Olympics. By coming here, I received all the training I needed to qualify. I decided I wanted to give something back to the school," Gutierrez said.

During his career at FSC, he earned 20 All-American certificates and helped the team achieve four top-five finishes at the NCAA Division II National Championships. Gutierrez, who earned his degree in biology, has returned to the United States and plans to enter graduate school and work in the medical field.



LUCKY NUMBER 13!

MEN'S GOLF TEAM WINS DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Overcoming difficult weather conditions, individual disappointment, and powerful opponents, the FSC men's golf team won its 13th NCAA Division II National Championship on May 26, 2017, defeating Lynn University 3–2 in the title match. The title gives FSC a landmark total of 30 national team championships.

The grueling tournament has teams play three rounds of stroke play, then the top eight teams play elimination rounds of match play. In the championship match, sophomore Christian Anderson won a critical match for the Mocs against Lynn's Mateo Gomez with a par on the 18th hole. Junior All-Americans John VanDerLaan and John Coultas won their matches as well, giving the Mocs the win.

Coultas bounced back from a crushing disappointment during the stroke play phase of the tournament, when he surrendered a three-stroke lead

over the last few holes to lose the individual national title by a single shot to Chandler Blanchet of the University of West Florida.

The title is Head Coach Doug Gordin's sixth, leaving him just one behind FSC's legendary coach, Charley Matlock.

Coultas and John VanDerLaan were named first-team PING All-Americans by the Golf Coaches Association of America, Coultas for the third straight year and VanDerLaan for the second consecutive year. In addition, VanDerLaan was a finalist for the 2017 Division II Jack Nicklaus National Player of the Year Award—an award Coultas won in 2016—and he was voted the Sunshine State Conference Men's Golfer of the Year. He set a new FSC scoring record with a 70.26 season stroke average.

Women's Lacrosse On the Move



Emily Santoli advances the ball against Adelphi.

The Mocs women's lacrosse team continues its amazing success at the elite level of the game. During the 2018 season, the team was undefeated and ranked No. 1 before a loss to Rollins in April, and Head Coach Kara Reber has her sights fixed on winning FSC's second NCAA Division II national championship in May.

The team fell just short of defending its 2016 national championship title last season, losing in the NCAA Division II championship final to Adelphi University, 6–4. It was a rematch of the 2016 title game in which FSC upset the eight-time national champions. The Mocs finished the 2017 season with a 21–3 record and were the South Region champions and Sunshine State Conference tournament and regular-season champions.

Several players collected honors in the 2017 season. Meghan O'Brien, Kendall Kerge, and Emily Santoli all were named first-team All-Americans by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association, and midfielder Dani Bursinger and defender Meghan Vadala were named second-team All-Americans. All five were first team All-Sunshine State Conference selections this year, and Santoli was named the SSC Player of the Year.

Students

The Florida Southern Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa was recognized for the third year in a row with the national organization's Presidential Circle of Excellence award. The FSC circle was one of 23 schools out of 300 with ODK circles to receive this recognition, continuing a tradition of excellence in student leadership and faculty sponsors. The 2016–2017 officers were **Jessica Koenig**, president; **Abigail Workman**, vice president; **Nina Hoyt**, secretary; and **William Fisackerly**, historian. William is a third-generation member of the FSC circle. His grandfather, **Rev. Bill Fisackerly '52**, was a charter member.

The Sunshine State Conference announced in July that 170 FSC student-athletes were named to the commissioner's academic honor roll for the 2017 spring semester. A league-high 51 of those student-athletes earned a perfect 4.00 grade point average for the semester.



In October, the FSC Army ROTC 10-Miler team finished in 3rd place overall in the Service Academy and ROTC division at the 33rd Army Ten-Miler (ATM) race in Washington, D.C. The Mocs Battalion finished behind two strong West Point marathon teams but remains the top ROTC Army 10-Miler team in the nation for a third year in a row. The team is seen here with Maj. Gen. Christopher P. Hughes, commanding general of the U.S. Army Cadet Command (center).

Freshman **Kelley Breeden** was named the recipient of the U.S. Water Ski Foundation's Southern Region/Elmer Stailing Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. She is majoring in biochemistry.

Sophomore biochemistry and molecular biology student **Addison Cantor** is a volunteer medical assistant at Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine, which offers basic medical care to the indigent. In May, she donated the profits from her homemade jewelry business, Red Rock Beads, to LVIM, presenting the charity with a check for \$104. Addison is the granddaughter of **David '62 and Jean '65 Bunch**.

MBA student **Kelly Deese** has been appointed vice president of business development for the Lakeland Economic Development Council, where she serves as the first point of contact for prospects, developers, and site selectors. She previously was an asset specialist with Publix Super Markets, Inc.

Sierra Kitchen, a pre-dentistry student, received a \$1,000

scholarship from Westville (Ind.) Correctional Facility, where her father, Rod Kitchen, is community services director. Charles Bowen, a Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana board member, presented her with the check to assist with educational supplies.

The Florida Southern Pre-Dental Society hosted several local dentists at a dinner in April to thank them for supervising observation hours for FSC students. Pictured are **Josh Sessums**, **Dr. Harley Richards**, **Dr. Brian Crosby '90**, and **Blake Crosby '17**, who was accepted to dental school.



Junior art student **Jamileh Chemaissem** won a contest by the Lakeland Community Redevelopment Agency to design a logo for the city's East Main Street District, which is emerging as an arts district. The contest was organized by **Elizabeth Hults '09**, the founder of Artifact, an artist and gallery space in the district.

Two Sigma Alpha Epsilon brothers were recognized by the fraternity's national organization with awards for their work on behalf of the FSC chapter. **Max Flick** received the M. Todd Buchanan Recruitment Chairman Scholarship Award. **Kyle Shatto** was one of four recipients of the Bradley M. Cohen Eminent Archon of the Year Scholarship Award. The awards were presented to them at Sigma Alpha Epsilon's annual John O. Moseley Leadership School.

Freshman **Kaya Wells** was the recipient of a scholarship from the West Indian American Association of Greater Bridgeport (Conn.) in September. The association is devoted to maintaining and fostering Caribbean culture and education.

Faculty

Adjunct English instructor **Sean Gandert** had his first novel, *Lost in Arcadia*, published in July by 47North. The novel is a dystopian fantasy about an addictive virtual-reality experience in which people have immersed themselves while the real America around them is crumbling.

Three faculty members were granted tenure by the Board of Trustees in May and promoted. With their new titles, they are (pictured below, from left) **Dr. An-Phong Le**, associate professor of chemistry; **Dr. Kelly McHugh**, associate professor of political science; and **Dr. Deah Quinlivan**, associate professor of psychology.



Dr. Erica Bernheim, associate professor of English, won the inaugural award for poetry from *Arcturus*, an online literary magazine published by the Chicago Review of Books. Dr. Bernheim won for her poem *Sinkholes of Florida*.

Dr. Beth Gibbs, associate professor of music and director of FSC's choral ensembles, has been appointed assistant conductor of the Tampa Bay Master Chorale, a professional choral ensemble that often performs with the Florida Orchestra.

Dr. Frank Johnson, professor of religion, was presented the Eldridge W. Roark, Jr., Meritorious Service Award on February 25, 2017, at a regional meeting of ODK circles hosted by Florida Southern. The award is authorized by ODK's national Board of Directors and demonstrates the Board's appreciation to those who serve the Society. He is seen here (right) receiving the award from ODK Associate Executive Director Tim Reed.

In June, **Sue Stanley-Green**, associate professor of athletic training and director of the Athletic Training Educational Program, was named the 2017 recipient of the Distinguished Athletic Trainer of the Year Award from the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine. The award honors an athletic trainer for distinguished service to the National Athletic Training Association and to the athletic training profession.

Staff

In June, women's golf head coach **Robbie Davis** was inducted into the Polk County Sports Hall of Fame. He has guided the team to four NCAA Division II national championships and coached six individual national champions in more than 20 years as head coach.

Men's golf head coach **Doug Gordin** has been named a Distinguished Alumni by the Ohio Wesleyan Alumni Association. It is awarded for

extraordinary achievements in professional pursuits and public service and will be presented in May. Gordin, who will retire at the conclusion of the 2018 season, has led the Moccasins to six NCAA Division II National Championships, including last year's title.

Director of Athletics and Dean of Wellness **Pete Meyer** has joined the board of directors of Special Olympics Florida. He also was chosen to be the special guest starter of the NASCAR Xfinity Firecracker 250 race at Daytona International Speedway on July 1, waving the green flag to get the race underway.

In August, director of public relations and marketing **Rebecca Paul** was named co-treasurer of the Dick Pope/Polk County chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association for 2017–2018.

Trustees

In October, **Dr. Barney Barnett '65** and his wife, **Dr. Carol Jenkins Barnett '79**, were honored as Lightning Community Heroes by the Tampa Bay Lightning. A \$50,000 donation from the Lightning Foundation was given by the Barnetts to the Mote Marine Laboratory. Seen here presenting the check to the Barnetts is Lightning owner Jeff Vinik (right) and Lightning center Brayden Point.



Photo by Scott Audette/Tampa Bay Lightning



Former Publix CEO **Ed Crenshaw**, who serves as chairman of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise Advisory Board, was honored in January with the Rabb Award, the Food Marketing Institute's highest accolade. He was honored for excellence in serving the consumer, the community and the industry.

CLASSNOTES

Share Your News Change jobs? Moving? New addition to the family? Retiring?

There are two ways to share your personal news with your classmates and the College. Use the form on our website: www.flsouthern.edu/alumni/info-update or send an email to alumni@flsouthern.edu

Class of 1943

In April 2017, **Jack Keene** got to take a ride in a B-29 Superfortress, the plane he flew in bombing missions in the Pacific during World War II. Jack is a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. He flew 50 bombing missions and 100 transport missions during the war, piloting B-24s and B-29s. He has four sons, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, and lives in Irvine, Calif. He was featured in an article in the Orange County Register.

Rev. David Groves has written a book about his experiences during World War II, *No Uncommon Valor*. He is a retired United Methodist minister. (*Editor's note: Before this issue of the Southernnews was published, we received word that Rev. Groves died. A notice will follow in In Memoriam in the next edition.*)

Class of 1951

Russell Acker was featured in an article in the *Ormond Beach Observer*. During Hurricane Irma, he remained in the beachfront home where

he has lived for the past 28 years. He is retired from a career in the investment business.

Melvin Friend was profiled in an article in the *Asbury Park Press* about his experiences as a gunner and bombardier on a B-17 during World War II. His crew flew 25 missions over Germany. He lives in Long Branch, N.J.

Class of 1955

Joan Dean Hust writes that she is in good health, active in the Idaho Writers League, takes courses at the local colleges and still loves to learn. She has been married to retired engineer William Hust for 51 years and has four grandchildren. She and William continue to live in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Kirk Dougal writes that he is "still alive at 82" and has six grandchildren. He lives in St. Augustine.

Class of 1958

In July, **Dr. James L. Baker, Jr.**, was named one of the Best Doctors in America for the 13th consecutive year, a peer-selected honor which recognizes 4 percent of U.S. doctors from whom other doctors would seek care. Dr. Baker, a plastic surgeon, was also featured in *Orlando* magazine in July. He lives in Winter Park.

Verdell Nelson writes that he is retired and plans to "try and keep on living." He lives in Tucson, Ariz.

Stanley Clarke Wyllie has been presented the 2017 Melvin Jones Award from the Lions Club Society for community service, a prize recognizing civic contributions. He is a retired librarian who served 26 years with the Dayton (Ohio) and Montgomery County Public Library. He also has been named to the Who's Who Lifetime Achievement list, which

A Reunion in Memory and in Celebration



These Sigma Alpha Epsilon brothers, and an Alpha Delta Pi sorority friend, held an impromptu reunion in January in Ormond Beach at the memorial service for fraternity brother **Henry "Hank" Belden '66** (see In Memoriam, page 66). Pictured are (from left)

Bill McGee '67, **Fred Fender '67**, the **Hon. John Antoon '68**, the **Hon. Jack Watson '67**, **Bev Stover '66**, **Gary Gregory '66**, **Dr. Sam Schwartz '66**, and **Walter Manley II '69**. Not pictured but present for the service was **Tom Jones '70**.

includes people who have excelled in their fields for more than 20 years. He lives in Dayton.

Class of
1960

James H. “Jim” Ellis was inducted into the Florida Citrus Hall of Fame at a ceremony at FSC on March 10, 2017. He was elected to the Hall of Fame for his contributions to all aspects of the industry, from growing to processing. Jim still works as the manager of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Citrus License and Bond Division in Bartow. He is known as a leading historian of the citrus industry in Florida and has a valuable collection of citrus crate labels.

Class of
1961



In 2017, **Lorna Brooks Hagstrom**, who is president of the Florida Hospital DeLand Foundation, was named Trustee of the Year by the nationwide Adventist Health System. The award was presented during Adventist Health System’s annual Conference on Mission. She lives in DeLand.

Class of
1964

Ed Kershner retired as boys’ basketball coach at Oviedo High School in May as the winningest high school basketball coach in Florida history and one of the winningest in America. His record coaching in Indiana and Florida for 48 years was 901–377. He won two state titles, one with Osceola High School in Kissimmee and the second in 2014 at Oviedo. He was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in 2011. He has been married to Joyce White Kershner for 49

years, and she never missed a single game Ed coached.

Class of
1966

Sandy Railsback Council was recently presented with the Butterfly Award by the SouthShore Coalition for Mental Health and Aging, an annual award given to honor service and volunteerism. She is very involved in the community of Ruskin as president and a founder of the Ruskin Community Development Foundation and as a member of the SouthShore Arts Council.

Dr. J. Larry Durrence, former professor of



history at FSC, was presented the George W. Jenkins Award by the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce at its annual meeting in January 2017. The

Jenkins Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Chamber, and it was given to Dr. Durrence for more than 40 years of public service. In addition to teaching at FSC, he is former president of Polk State College, a former member of the Lakeland City Commission, and a former mayor of Lakeland. The award was presented to him by FSC Trustee Barney Barnett ’65, vice chairman of the board of Publix Super Markets, Inc. (pictured, right). Dr. Durrence is married to **Connie Durrence** ’82, and they live in Lakeland. (Photo courtesy of *The Ledger*)

Robbye Price Lewis writes that she is working as an actress in Minneapolis, Minn.

James Yeatts is retired after a 43-year teaching career in Florida and Texas that included elementary physical education; middle school math, science and computer science; and high

school biology and math. He also coached high school soccer and ran in 20 Disney marathons. He and his wife, Karol, live in Sebastian in the winter and spend summers with family in Washington state. They have two adult daughters and five grandchildren.

Class of
1968

Susan Stanley Brokaw writes that she has moved to Dallas, Texas, and is looking forward to new adventures. She retired 14 years ago after teaching elementary school for 33 years with the Polk County School District.

Jim Gustafson has published a new poetry collection, *Unassisted Living*. He teaches at Florida Gulf Coast University and lives in Fort Myers with his wife, Connie.

Class of
1969

In January, **Ed DeVos** published his fourth book, *Family of Warriors*, a story of five brothers serving in different combat zones in World War II. He is retired from the U.S. Army, where he reached the rank of lieutenant colonel, and also retired from his insurance and investment planning business. Ed and his wife, Susan, live in McCormick, S.C.

Bob Dillon is retired after working for more than 35 years for Duke Power. He retired in 2002 as vice president of human resources and corporate safety officer for Duke Engineering and Services. He writes that he is a proud graduate of FSC and that the College shaped his life in many positive ways. “We attended Homecoming in 2014 and had a wonderful time. The campus is more beautiful than ever,” he says. He also serves on the board of Lifespan, an organization that assists the disabled. He and his wife, Sheila, live in Mooresville, N.C.

Class of
1970

These Mocs gathered in Annapolis, Md., on April 22 for a memorial service for **Tim Cronin '70**. Pictured are Tim's Sigma Alpha Epsilon brothers **Walter Manley II '69** (far left) and **Toby Wagner '70** (far right); **Bill "Joe" Buck '71** (second from right); and Tim's son, Christian Cronin. Walter Manley was eulogist at the service.



Rev. J. Gary Blaine gave the Memorial Day address at a service in Hesston, Kan. He is pastor of Highland Trinity United Church of Christ in Newton, Kan., and also serves as chaplain at Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital in nearby El Dorado. He enjoys caring for his horses, fly-fishing, and photography.

Class of
1972

Doug Bowne is a competitive race-walker and finished third in his age group in a 5K race in February 2017 with a time of 39:59. It's a family activity, and his grandson, Justin Bowne, was the overall winner in the race. Doug is married to **Christine Roelans Bowne**, and they live in Lakeland.

M. Olivia Faulkner Kirtley has been appointed a non-executive member of the board of directors of Randgold Resources Ltd., a corporation based in the U.K. that

operates gold mines in Africa. She also serves on the boards of directors of US Bancorp and Papa John's International, Inc., and she is immediate past chairman and president of the International Federation of Accountants.

Ingrid Burton Nathan recently retired after teaching Spanish for 40 years. She lives in DeBary.

Dowling Watford, Jr., was elected mayor of Okeechobee in January 2017. He is in his 35th year of serving on the Okeechobee City Council.

Class of
1973

In October, **John Hennon, Jr.**, reunited with the rowing team he coached in 1975 at Florida Institute of Technology–Jensen Beach. That team scored an upset victory at the prestigious Dad Vail Regatta on the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia, winning the gold medal in the Freshmen Four event. For the reunion, Hennon and the team once again competed, this time in the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta. John lives in Bellingham, Wash.

Class of
1974



In October, **Ben C. Few III** was elected president of the Society of Risk Management Consultants at its annual meeting. He is founder and president of Ben Few & Company, Inc., in Fort Myers, a risk management consulting business, and he holds the professional designations associate in risk management and associate in risk management for public entities from the Insurance Institute of America.

Class of
1975

Wanda Spires Smith writes that she was widowed in 2014 and retired in 2015 after 40 years of teaching in Lake County. She is enjoying fishing and dancing and three beautiful grandchildren. She lives in Fruitland Park.

Class of
1976

Carol Johnson Cameron has begun a blog to publish short stories and musings, including excerpts from her memoir, *'C' is for Carolyn: An Alzheimer's Journey in Love*, about her mother. She also has a board on her Pinterest site that is designed for Alzheimer's Caregivers.

Class of
1977

Alan Lukhaub works at Lakeland Electric utility after studying post-graduate engineering. He and his wife, **Karen Cummings Lukhaub '82**, live in Lakeland.

Class of
1978

Dr. Laurie Elizabeth Godfrey was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Brown County (Ind.) Playhouse for her work as the theater teacher and director at Brown County High School for the past 10 years. The school's theater department won state thespian conference championships in 2012 and 2013 and placed in the top five shows six times. She lives in Nashville, Ind.





Anne Mayo Girata '79 shared this picture of alums who met over the summer on a cruise retracing the journeys of the Apostle Paul. Seen here at the Mdina Gate in Malta are (from left): **DonnaJean Heitman deSilva '88**, **Anne, Karen Bemko Kemp '77**, **John Gill '80**, and **Esther Gill '69**.

In June, **Andy McGaffigan** was inducted into the Polk County Sports Hall of Fame along with the late **Frank Decker '50**. Andy was a pitcher for the Mocs baseball team and helped lead the team to the NCAA Division II Championship in 1978 before playing in the major leagues for 11 years. He and his wife, **Jill Morton McGaffigan '80**, live in Lakeland.

Lynne Fay Shrader writes that following the death of her husband, John Shrader, in 2013, she moved to Augusta, Ga., to be closer to family. She is in her second year as principal of Oakwood-Windsor Elementary, in Aiken, S.C., and she has five grandchildren.

Rev. Jean Sparks was called to be the pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Delavan, Ill., in November.

Class of
1980

Brian Butterfield has been named the new third base coach for Major League Baseball's Chicago Cubs. He served the Boston Red Sox in the same capacity since 2013. Brian was a member of the 1978 Mocs National Championship baseball team.

Karen Withers Covey owns Cinnamon's Quilt Shoppe in Jacksonville, which was voted one of the top ten quilt shops in the spring edition of *Better Homes and Gardens Quilt Sampler* magazine.

Janice Tedder Jones is serving a one-year term as chairwoman of the board of directors of the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce. She is a principal in the Lakeland office of the accounting firm CliftonLarsonAllen. She is married to **Steve Jones '79**.

Class of
1981

Rev. Dr. Dana Everhart earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Emory University's Candler School of Theology in May. He was appointed director of ministerial services for the North Georgia Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church in June after serving six years as the district superintendent of the Atlanta Emory District of the North Georgia Conference.

J. Peter McClure is operations manager of TerViva, a company that cultivates, sells, and processes pongamia, a tree that yields a natural, protein-rich oil. In March, he was a speaker at the Innovation in Plant Biosecurity conference in York, England, on the topic "Lessons learned: An industry perspective on the HLB outbreak in Florida."

Class of
1982

Kathi Ritchey Brown MSN '16, ARNP-C, has joined Watson Clinic's otolaryngology (ENT)/facial plastic surgery practice in Lakeland as a nurse practitioner.

In December 2016, **Roger Bunting** won two gold medals in pickleball at the Florida Senior Games, in singles and men's doubles in the 55–59 age division. He also finished fifth in 50–54 mixed doubles. Roger finished fifth in his age division at the 2015 Pickleball U.S. Open. A former member of the Mocs men's tennis team, he took up the sport to help his recovery from a bout of meningitis. He lives in Clearwater.

Carol Pittard Hammer is working part-time as office manager for Cheverly United Methodist Church, near Washington, D.C. Her husband, the Rev. Al Hammer, is associate pastor and chief officer of operations for Foundry United Methodist Church in downtown Washington. They live in Columbia, Md., and Carol writes that they are anticipating retirement in the southwestern Virginia/eastern Tennessee area in five to seven years.

Rev. Kenneth Kieffer is pastor of Cheshire (Conn.) United Methodist Church. He previously served as a district superintendent in the New York Annual Conference. He was featured in an article in *The Cheshire Herald*.

Class of
1983



In May 2017, **Scott Brockman**, president and CEO of the Memphis (Tenn.)–Shelby County Airport Authority, was elected chair of the American Association of Airport Executives for 2017–2018

during the association's annual conference and exposition in Long Beach, Calif. Scott has led the Memphis-area airport authority since 2014, previously serving as executive vice president and chief operating officer. He was awarded the AAAE Distinguished Service Award in 2013.

Class of
1984

Dr. Ronny K. Bridges is professor of biology at Pellissippi State Community College in Knoxville, Tenn., where he has been on the faculty since 1999. He is a former captain in the U.S. Army. He and his wife, Brenda, live at BeeRidges Farm in Clinton, Tenn., where they offer a place for military veterans to relax and support one another in making a transition to civilian life. The Bridges have two adult sons.

Scott Crossman shared the following Tweet in July: “@JohnCrossman1 and Scott Crossman had a great meeting with Anne Kerr and Robert H. Tate from Florida Southern College! #FSC #Crossmanco”. Scott is CEO of Crossman and Company in Orlando, a commercial real estate firm that represents more than 340 shopping centers in seven states. Scott’s company has worked with the College to hire FSC students as interns, providing them with valuable experience. Pictured (from left) are Scott, FSC student Gabby Yordan, Dr. Kerr, and Dr. Tate.



Maureen Jahns Nicolace is the president of Nicolace Marketing, a full-service advertising and marketing firm in Vero Beach, which celebrated its 15th anniversary in January 2017.

In May 2017, **Francine Coleman Postell** was honored with a plaque dedicating the media center of Ocoee Junior High/Middle School in her name. She was a longtime teacher at the school and also served a term as mayor of the Oakland community west of Ocoee, where

she has lived most of her life. She has five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

Class of
1985

Marco Dawson was inducted into the Space Coast Sports Hall of Fame at a ceremony in May. The 2015 Senior British Open champion, Marco continues to play on the PGA Champions Tour.

Class of
1986

Nancy Blakeslee Hopper is the new athletic director at John Carroll High School in Fort Pierce. She has been a physical education teacher and guidance counselor at the school since 2003.

Dr. Daniel H. Robertson has been named vice president of digital technology and research fellow at the Indiana Biosciences Research Institute in Indianapolis. Previously he was senior director of research IT at Eli Lilly and Company, but he has been working at IBRI as part of a loaned executive program. He is married to **Jeanette Owen Robertson** '87.

Josh Snively has been named head of operations at Flotek Industries, Inc., overseeing the Energy Chemistry Technologies and Consumer and Industrial Chemistry Technologies segments of the business. He continues as the company’s executive vice president and president of its Florida Chemical division. He lives in Winter Haven.

Class of
1987

Douglas Fagan is the new chief financial officer of Partner Colorado Credit Union in Arvada,

Colo. Previously he was senior vice president of finance at MidFlorida Credit Union in Tampa. He is married to **Lisa Rodriguez Fagan** '88.

In September, **Jon Poppell** was elected to the board of directors of the Florida Strawberry Festival. He has served as an associate director and volunteer at the festival for more than 15 years. Jon is vice president of personal lines at Poppell Insurance in Plant City. He and his wife, **Leslie Purvis Poppell** '86 have two adult sons.

Class of
1988

Jamie Dodd has just completed an MBA, and he is the national marketing and operations manager of Frontier Community Connections, a new department within Frontier Communications. He lives in Brandon.

Dino Ebel, a member of the Moccasins' 1988 NCAA National Championship baseball team, was featured in the April/May 2017 issue of AARP magazine. He is in his 12th season with Major League Baseball’s Los Angeles Angels, currently acting as bench coach.

Lisa Rodriguez Fagan has been named general manager for North America at Insights, a global learning and development corporation that provides training to business clients to improve staff teamwork and effectiveness.

Ralph Howe is the new senior pastor at Lifebridge Church in Windemere. He and his family spent three years in China, where Ralph taught at a golf academy, then he was a pastor at Discovery Church in Orlando before taking his new position. Ralph was a member of the Mocs men’s golf team.



These three alums got together to help promote the Baltimore Orioles at historic Ed Smith Stadium in Sarasota during spring training in March 2017. They are, from left, **Thomas H. "Tripp" Norton '92**, director of baseball operations for the Orioles; **Erin Thomas Duggan '99**, vice president of Visit Sarasota County; and **Jeff Maulsby '91**, director of business and economic development for Sarasota County.



In 2016, **Wayne Tobey** was named director of parks and recreation for the City of Coconut Creek, in Dade County. He has spent his entire career with the department and oversees the city's 19 parks. He was a member of the Mocs 1988 National Championship baseball team.

Class of
1989

Gonzalo Artes has been named commercial and marketing director with Planasa, a worldwide agricultural corporation that specializes in plant research, nurseries, and fresh produce. Previously he was technical and R&D director for Onubafruit. He is located in Cartaya, Spain.



Bethann DeBree Gundersen was on hand in January when her son, Matt, a midfielder on the boys' lacrosse team at Southington (Conn.) High School, signed a letter of intent to play lacrosse at FSC.

Richard Shepard is a tenure-track faculty member at South Florida State College where he teaches in the EMS and fire science programs. His wife, **Michelle Pierce Shepard '87**, is a curriculum coach at Hardee (County) Junior High School. They live in Winter Haven. In the summer, they went to Colorado Springs to visit their son, U.S. Army 1st Lt. **Connor Shepard '15**, who is stationed at Fort Carson with the 4th Infantry Division, and Connor's wife, **Kaitlyn Brandt Shepard '14**, who works for the Sky Sox, a Milwaukee Brewers baseball

franchise affiliate. Seen here from left are Kaitlyn, Michelle, Richard, and Connor.



Amy Prough Stumpf is a freelance theater reviewer and arts features writer for *The Tennessean* in Nashville, having worked in journalism, publishing and corporate communications for nearly 30 years.

Class of
1990

Denise "Dolly" McMullan Chewning is the international sales and marketing manager for the State of South Carolina's Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism. She has been with the department for 18 years. She lives in Camden, S.C., with her husband and son.

Dr. Bruce Lovins has retired from the U.S. Army at the rank of colonel and is working as a hospitalist at South Baldwin Medical Center in Foley, Ala., near Mobile. He is married to **Karrie Webb Lovins '89**, and they live in Robertsdale, Ala.

Class of
1991

Jennifer Hoyt Cranford has published her first Christian fiction book, *The Recruits: Answering the Call*. She earned a master's degree in Bible and theology from Lincoln Christian University in 2013 and lives in Pontiac, Ill.

Dave McMillan is director of golf operations at Elmhurst Golf and Country Club in Winnipeg, in his native Canada. He was a member of the Mocs men's golf team. His son Ryan is a talented junior golfer.

Class of
1992

Laurie Anklin Cable was recently named director of people and culture at The Sembler Company, a real estate services firm in St. Petersburg. Prior to joining Sembler, she worked as the human resources manager for Beauty Manufacturing Solutions Corporation in Coppell, Texas. She is married to **Ross Cable**.

Anda Chance had an exhibition of her colored-pencil artworks at the Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts in Valdosta, Ga., in June and July. She has taught public school for 16 years and lives in McAlpin.

U.S. Army **Col. John D. Kaylor** has retired after 30 years of active duty service that included overseeing cargo and troop movements in Afghanistan and Iraq. His final assignment was in Brussels, Belgium, as deputy chief of the training and exercises branch for the Army's Operations and Planning Division, International Military Staff, North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Leah Bellotto Lauderdale retired in June after 15 years as the Polk County School District's senior director of public relations and strategic partnerships in order to help manage her family's agriculture business. She previously worked in public relations with Farmland Hydro, Farm Bureau of Polk County, and Mobil Oil Corp. She is married to **Ronnie D. Lauderdale '66** and is the sister of FSC softball coach **Chris Bellotto '80**.

F. Matt Morgan is the new athletic director and vice principal at The Dalles (Ore.) High School. He was previously athletic director at St. Helens (Ore.) High School.

Jennifer Kleman Olivier has joined Eye Specialists of Mid-Florida as a marketing manager. She is a past president of the Dick Pope/Polk County chapter of the Florida Public Relations Association.

Jami Yost was appointed assistant principal of Jean O'Dell Learning Center in Bartow. She was previously an administrative assistant at the center.

Class of
1993



Curt N. Baker RN has been named senior vice president and chief nursing officer for Centra, a nonprofit healthcare system with four hospitals in Central Virginia. He has been with Centra for 10 years and lives in Lynchburg, Va.

Brian Boushie is the new director of golf at Dallas (Texas) National Golf Club. He started his new position in June. Previously, he was the director of golf at Jupiter Hills Club in Tequesta.

Sharon Schroer Scarbrough has been appointed principal of Braden River High School in Manatee County. She had been principal of Carlos E. Haile Middle School since 2014. Her husband, Brad, is principal of Buffalo Creek Middle School, and they will celebrate their 20th anniversary this year. They have twins, Ciarra and Holden, who attend Lakewood Ranch High School.

Dr. Frederick Key Smith is professor of humanities at Florida Gateway College in Macclenny.

Class of
1994



David Calcanis has been named managing director of land services for Colliers International Central Florida in Orlando, a commercial real estate firm. He recently helped conclude a transaction for a new Florida Hospital facility in Lakeland.

In April 2017, **Steve Gressel** was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame of Concord High School in Elkhart, Ind., where he was an honorable mention All-State football player and led the baseball team to a state title. Steve, a former member of the Mocs baseball team, is senior vice president and senior credit products officer for product delivery and middle-market banking at Bank of America in Orlando. He and his wife, **Dennine Suchma-Gressel '92**, live in Gotha and have a son, Hunter.

Bobby Slater is the head athletic trainer for the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He appeared in the HBO documentary *Hard Knocks*, which featured the Buccaneers' preseason training camp. He is married to Bridget Renyer Slater.

Karina Ferrer Sloan is owner and president of Early Childhood Learning Center in Lakeland. She recently helped organize a referendum among her fellow natives of Venezuela about the policies of the government there.

Mark Sobolewski was inducted into the Southington (Conn.) Sports Hall of Fame in a ceremony in November. He played baseball for Southington High School and was a standout member of the Mocs' baseball team. He is married to **Cheryl Lubertazza Sobolewski**

'92, and they live in Fernandina Beach.

Class of
1996

Amanda "Amy" Anderson is serving as dean of the School of Business and Management at Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, N.C.

In May 2017, **David W. Bostick** was honored by VFW Post 4256 in Madeira Beach with the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizen Education Teacher Award. David is a retired U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer First Class and now teaches second grade at Madeira Beach Fundamental School. He has been teaching in the Pinellas County School District for 20 years.

In January 2017, the Florida Bar honored **Kristie Hatcher-Bolin** for her pro bono work with the Guardian Ad Litem program for the judicial circuit that includes Polk, Highlands, and Hardee counties, representing the best interests of children living in foster homes or with relatives and involved in court proceedings. She was one of just 21 attorneys statewide to receive the award. Kristie is an attorney with GrayRobinson in Lakeland.

Class of
1997

U.S. Air Force **Lt. Col. John C. Dobbin** is a student at the U.S. Army War College. He gave a presentation at the LSU Law Center in Baton Rouge, La., in March 2017 as part of the War College's Eisenhower Series College Program. Prior to entering the War College, he was chief of special activities for U.S. Africa Command.

Stephanie Johnson Manning is Of Counsel for the law firm of Ogletree Deakins in Dallas, Texas, in 2016. She lives in nearby Frisco, Texas.



These Zeta Tau Alpha alumna reunited for a weekend in Lakeland in June. They are (from left) **Sumer Childress Dickinson '00**, **Julie Curran Desaulniers '00**, **Jennifer Huber Murphy '99**, **Courtney Jennings '98**, **Gretchen Swartzlander '99**, **Jessica Curran Worch '99**, and **Larissa Schiller Tolson '96**.

Class of 1998

Crystal Short Cooper continues to play flute with the Imperial Symphony Orchestra in Lakeland and also plays piccolo with the Dade City Symphony. She frequently performs in musical ensembles for touring acts, and in March, she was in the supporting orchestra for the Italian vocal trio Il Volo.



John V. Davis, Jr. M.Ed. '11 had a poem, "Avenging Eve," published by the prestigious *American Journal of Poetry* recently. He is an instructor of English at Keiser University in Clearwater and lives in Riverview.

At the 2017 Florida Christian Writers Conference, **Leslie Kirby DeVooght** was awarded first place over all in fiction and first place in the romance category. A publishing company is considering her book. Leslie lives in Jacksonville.

Heather Donhauser has been appointed assistant principal at Lake Gibson Middle School in Lakeland. She was previously dean of students at Kathleen High School and has worked in Polk County schools since 1998.

Jessica Gates Fredricks is a fine arts resource specialist with the Polk County School District and uses drums to improve student behavior through a program she devised called DRUMBEAT. She also owns a business, RhythmTrek, which offers corporate team building drum sessions. She and her husband, **Cole Fredricks**, have a son, Luke, and live in Winter Haven.

Tracy Herb LeClair has joined Keller Williams Realty Select in Sarasota as a real estate agent.

Class of 1999

Ameya Chandavarkar is executive director of FDC Ltd., a pharmaceutical firm founded by his grandfather, in Mumbai, India. He is a former member of the men's tennis team.

Jeff Larsen is running for the District 2 seat on the Pinellas County School Board. He is a middle school reading teacher and coach who served as a Tarpon Springs commissioner and vice mayor for the past six years. He and his wife, **Dory Mamouzelos Larsen '98**, have two sons.

Sarah Laux, who does theater costume design in New York, was recently nominated for a Lucille Lortel Award for the Off-Broadway show *The Band's Visit*. She also was the designer for Jesse Tyler Fergusson's one man show *Fully Committed* and the Broadway show *The Humans*.

Brent Parrish MBA '04, CPA, is a shareholding partner with Adamson + Co., P.A., in Winter Haven. His firm was one of just two Florida accounting firms to make the list of 2017 Best Accounting Firms to Work For, published by *Accounting Today* magazine.

Richard P. Taylor is a financial advisor in Charlotte, N.C. He and a partner competed in the U.S. Golf Association's U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship in May. Richard is a former member of the Mocs men's golf team.

In February 2017, **Ashley Calhoun Winship** was elected secretary of the board of directors



for the Orlando Museum of Art's Acquisition Trust, which uses its resources to add to the museum's collection. She also

was recently appointed to the Florida Bar's Grievance Committee for the Ninth Judicial Circuit, which decides whether there is probable cause a lawyer violated professional conduct rules. Ashley is an attorney and the president of Winship Law in Winter Park.

Class of 2000



In May 2017, **Eric J. Eisnaugle, Jr.**, was appointed to Florida's 5th District Court of Appeal. He had represented Florida House District 44 since 2014 and previously held House District 40 from 2008 to 2012. He

is the son of **Eric J. Eisnaugle, Sr. '68**; the brother of **Ian Eisnaugle '08** and **Morgan Eisnaugle '12**; and the nephew of the late FSC basketball standout **Tim Eisnaugle '65**.

Dr. Robyn Panther Gleason has been named associate dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions at Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph, Mo. She previously taught at the University of Florida College of Nursing, Bethune-Cookman University School of Nursing, and Keiser University.

Booker T. Hodges has been promoted to undersheriff for administration with the Ramsey County (Minn.) Sheriff's Office. He was previously an inspector leading the regional services division. He is married to **Larinda Slater Hodges '02**. They live in Eagan, Minn.

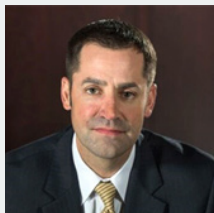
Tony Jenkins is a food and nutrition services administrator for Orange County Public Schools in Orlando. He was recently elected regional director in the Florida School Nutrition Association (FSNA) representing

school food service programs in seven Central Florida counties.

Marissa Pope-Beck teaches German at Haines City High School's International Baccalaureate program and is a professional opera singer. She was an organizer of a fundraising concert of alumni from Harrison School of the Arts in Lakeland, which took place in February 2017.

Class of
2001

Javan Grant and a partner have opened a new law firm, Slater | Grant, in Wesley Chapel. The practice focuses on serious injury and wrongful death cases, business disputes, and other civil litigation.



Mark Jackson MBA is director of tourism and sports marketing for Polk County. He and his wife, Mary Beth, live in Winter Haven.

Florida Army National Guard **Maj. Sam Sargeant** served as a liaison officer between a joint task force and a Navy-Marines team that rendered aid to the hard-hit Florida Keys just days after Hurricane Irma passed over them. He was stationed aboard the USS Iwo Jima, an amphibious assault ship, during the four-day mission.



Taylor Scott has published a book, *Ballgames to Boardrooms*, about achieving satisfaction in

your career. He has worked in the hospitality industry and lives in Dana Point, Calif., with his wife, Jenna.

Class of
2002

Joseph Townsend recently accepted a position as financial advisor at Edward Jones Investments in Melbourne Beach. Previously he held advisory roles for regional banks.

Class of
2003

Matthew Kindel is a criminal defense attorney with the law firm of Carlson, Meissner, Hart & Hayslett, P.A., in New Port Richey. He was recently installed as the president of the West Pasco Bar Association. He is married to **Nina Pontoriero Kindel '05**, and they live in Land O'Lakes.

Dr. Andrew MacDonald writes that he recently visited campus and saw lots of classmates. He is the manager of a new specialty Walgreens pharmacy in Oakland, Calif., and is engaged to his partner, Wilson. He lives in San Francisco.

Kristen Weaver has become well known as a commercial photographer. Her studio, Kristen Weaver Photography, is in Orlando, but she travels the world taking pictures at destination weddings.

Class of
2004

Mike Bua has joined Regions Bank and will serve as branch manager for its Signal Mountain, Tenn., office. Previously, he served as financial center manager for Fifth Third Bank in Tampa.

Derek Major is a management consultant for higher education clients at Accenture, a global management consulting and professional services company. He lives in Newnan, Ga.

Class of
2005

In April 2017, **Hollie Hurner** was presented an award for Outstanding Service to the Community and to Calvert Memorial Hospital. She has been a hospitalist physicians assistant at Calvert County (Md.) Memorial Hospital for eight years, and last year she was named Lead Doctor/PA at the hospital. She also has served on a task force to write a new national physicians assistant certification exam.

Brook Kohlheim has been named assistant coach of the women's basketball team at Michigan Tech University. She spent the past six seasons as an assistant coach at Nova Southeastern and Florida Atlantic universities. She was a four-year starter for the Mocs women's basketball team.

Noah Nadler has been promoted to partner in the law firm of Wick Phillips in Dallas, Texas, focusing on commercial litigation and insurance coverage litigation for corporate policyholders. He joined the firm in 2015 and before that he was with Haynes and Boone, LLP.

Brian Wetzel is the chief operating officer for the UF Cancer Center at Orlando Health. He is responsible for daily operations and financial management of four cancer center locations, as well as providing oversight of facility design and cancer program development.

Class of
2006

Sarah Bliven has completed a graduate degree in gemology from the Gemological Institute of America. She lives in Duluth, Ga.

Chris Bowen and Clint LaFlam are colleagues in the music programs in the Okeechobee County School District. Chris is director of the Osceola Middle School bands, and Clint is director of the Okeechobee High School Band.

Daina Catanzaro is senior director of strategic program management for Orange Lake Resorts in Orlando, where she recently oversaw the integration of Silverleaf Resorts into the company after an acquisition. She is married to Brian Catanzaro.

Melissa Cofta was a nominee for the Young Professional of the Year award from the News-Press of Fort Myers for her work as co-founder of Leadership Next, an initiative to bring and retain young professionals to Fort Myers. She is a marketing and public relations manager at Priority Marketing.

Trista Dollison originated the role of Violet Beauregarde in a new production on Broadway of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, which premiered in April 2017. This is her first principal Broadway role after having supporting roles in *The Lion King*, *A Bronx Tale*, and *Avenue Q*.



Byron Hogan is the cellist with the Julius Quartet, the string quartet-in-residence at Montclair State University in New Jersey. As a soloist, he performed works by Bruch and Popper in concert with the Imperial Symphony Orchestra in Lakeland in April.

Robin Lusk is marketing manager and a bridal stylist with Angelique Bridal Boutique in Winter Haven. She previously had theatrical jobs with Cirque du Soleil, Legoland, Theatre Winter Haven, and Disney.



Christy Martin Morgan (far right) gave a lecture on osteoporosis and bone health in women as one of a team of presenters at the American

Physical Therapy Association conference in San Antonio, Texas, in February. Also in the photo, next to Christy, is Teresa Schuemann, sister of Dr. James M. Lynch, professor of physical therapy at FSC.

In April 2017, **Trish Burdin Pfeiffer** was re-elected to a second three-year term on the Bartow City Commission. She and her husband, Bob, have two daughters.

Caitlin Price was recently named the brand and business builder for Cargo, a marketing agency that specializes in helping big brands market to small businesses, headquartered in Greenville, S.C. Previously, she worked at THRUUE Inc., a consultancy, as a publicist.

Charles M. Prior has joined the West Palm Beach office of Kelley Kronenberg Attorneys at Law, where he handles matters related to general liability, first party property insurance defense, and criminal defense. He is a graduate of Barry University School of Law.

Lacey Lunt Sweet has been appointed assistant principal of Jewett School of the Arts in Winter Haven. She was previously a behavior interventionist at Sleepy Hill Elementary School in Lakeland.

Class of
2007

Nolen Bailey has passed the requirements to become a certified financial planner. He is a financial planner with CPS Investment Advisors in Lakeland and is married to **Ashley Abernathy Bailey MED '16**.

Josh Dampier teaches orchestra in Polk County schools and has been a violinist with the Imperial Symphony Orchestra for 17 years.

Victoria Sandbrook recently sold two short stories. "The Moon, the Sun, and the Truth" appeared in *Shimmer* issue 38. "Phalium arium ssp. anams" aired as episode 256 of the Cast of Wonders podcast. She, her husband Mike Flynn, and their daughter, Eleanor, live in Brockton, Mass., with their dogs and apple trees.

Rachel Anderson Mason was the winner of the women's division of the Chickamauga Chase 15K race at the national battlefield park near Chattanooga, Tenn., in April 2017. She was the Chase women's runner-up in 2016, three months after having a baby.



Dr. Jessica Pryce has been chosen as director of the newly created Florida Institute for Child Welfare at Florida State University, which conducts research, policy analysis, and program evaluation of child protection and child welfare services. Prior to assuming her new position, Dr. Pryce served as the deputy director of the New York State Social Work Education Consortium. (Photo by Bruce Palmer/Florida State University Photo Services)



Class of
2008

Dr. Daniel Christian has completed his general surgical residency and began a fellowship in minimally invasive and bariatric surgery at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte, N.C., in the fall of 2017.

Michael Ehlenbeck spoke to 71 families at the Tampa Yacht Club in January 2017 on how Florida Southern College helped prepare him for his career.

Bill Mueller is the new digital content manager for NSi Industries, a manufacturer of electrical products, in Huntersville, N.C. Bill will be responsible for maintaining and developing NSi's digital marketing platforms.

In May 2017, **Olga Timirgalieva** was awarded the Elijah Watt Sells Award from the American Institute of CPAs. The 2016 award was bestowed upon CPA candidates who have obtained a cumulative average score above 95.50 across all four sections of the Uniform CPA Examination, passed all four sections of the exam on their first attempt and completed testing in 2016. She was one of just 58 recipients of the award out of more than 100,000 who took the examination. She is employed with McNichols Company in Tampa.

Class of
2009

Eoghan Conlon MEd '13 has been promoted to technical director of Lakeland Tropics FC, a professional soccer organization that fields both indoor and outdoor teams in the USL Premier Development League. He was head coach of the Lakeland Tropics outdoor team, and in his new role he will oversee the organization's youth program.

In August, **Christopher Corbin** received his Ph.D. in theological studies from Vanderbilt University and began coordinating ministerial formation and education for the Episcopal Diocese of South Dakota. In September, he and his wife, Rev. Portia Corbin, welcomed a daughter, Louisa Madeleine Corbin. The family lives in Lead, S.D.

Sara Gibbs is pursuing a doctor of musical arts degree in piano performance at the University of Memphis (Tenn.).

William D. Keeler MSN '14, ARNP-C, has joined the Watson Clinic Highlands office in Lakeland as a nurse practitioner. He is married to **Jennifer Gray Keeler '84**.

Justin Lewis teaches sixth-grade science at Westwood Middle School in Winter Haven.

Megan McDonald has earned a master's degree in education, specializing in special education. She lives in Lakeland.

Ashley Pierce has joined Penn State University-Lehigh Valley as a part-time instructor in theater. Previously she was a teaching artist at Yocum Institute for Arts Education. She lives in Reading, Pa.

Brian Richey had success in 2017 on the PGA Tour Latinoamerica, winning the Roberto De Vincenzo Punta del Este Open in Uruguay in October and taking second place in the tour's Order of Merit.

Class of
2010

Drew Sebastian Arnold made her debut as a stage director with a production of *Masterwork*, a play by her sister-in-law Karissa Barber, which premiered at the Tampa International Fringe Festival in May 2017. Her husband, Benjamin, wrote original music for the production.

Colby George is teaching ninth-grade English at Lecanto High School. She lives in Inverness.

In June, **C.J. Johnson** was a celebrity dancer in Dancing For the Space Coast, a charity event to benefit the Brevard Public Safety Charity. He is an attorney and deputy general counsel for Community Champions and is engaged to be married. He lives in Melbourne.

Jaclyn Lee is a first-grade teacher at Elmwood Local Schools, near her hometown of Fostoria, Ohio. She became engaged recently to Kyle Borer of Swanton, Ohio. A June wedding was planned.

Daniel Pontes-Macedo was a contestant on season eight of the Fox reality TV show MasterChef. He made it past the first round and won a spot in the top 20 contestants. Daniel writes, "I found my passion for cooking at Florida Southern College. I always grew up eating homemade food prepared with love. I learned quickly that the best way to do that in the college environment was for me to learn how to cook on my own."



Class of
2011

Krista Garner received her CPA license in December 2016. She lives in Tampa.

Christine Simone is the director of residence life at College of Saint Mary in Omaha, Neb.

U.S. Army **Capt. Ricky Tessaro** has deployed overseas in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve.

Class of
2012



Dave Del Col is national sales director for Professional Sports Publications in New York City, America's largest publisher of game day programs/magazines, yearbooks, and special events publications for

over 100 professional sports franchises and events throughout the four major sports, PGA Golf, U.S. Open Tennis, and the NASCAR circuit, as well as numerous universities across the United States.

Megan Dzikas, assistant women's basketball coach at St. Leo University, was named a Thirty Under 30 Honoree for the 2016–17 season by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association. The program recognizes 30 up-and-coming women's basketball coaches under the age of 30. Megan, a standout former member of the Mocs' women's basketball team, is an assistant coach at St. Leo University.



Stephanie Graziani has been named an assistant softball coach at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, which competes in NCAA Division II. She was previously an assistant at Mayville State University in North Dakota.

Olga Ortiz Medina MSN '16, ARNP, has joined Watson Clinic in Lakeland in the office of Dr. Raam S. Lakhani, a specialist in otolaryngology and facial plastic surgery.

Erica Santiago Steele has become a board-certified music therapist and works for Florida Hospital Orlando and Vitas Healthcare. She is completing a master's degree in music therapy at Florida State University, and she was married on July 3, 2016, to Dr. Kevin Steele. They live in Altamonte Springs.

Class of
2013

Kelsey Ford is programming manager of theater programs for children and young people at the Pittsburgh (Pa.) Cultural Trust.

In 2016, **Brandon Freedman** was marketing director for the campaign of Taso Nikolakopoulos, who ran for councilor-at-large of the city of Lynn, Mass.

Mark Koebernik M.Ed. writes that he is studying for a doctorate in Adult Education from Northwestern State University, and in August, he began his second year as a teacher at Woodlawn High School in Baton Rouge, La.

Juliana Cardona Mejia is the founder and CEO of Street Entrepreneurs, a nonprofit in Washington, D.C., that conducts workshops in low-income communities on how to create small businesses.

Kayla Pahl Osborne is working as an RN at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg in the cardiovascular intensive care unit. She and her husband, **Cory Osborne '12**, celebrated the birth of their first child, Adalyn Kay, in April 2017. They live in Seminole.

Class of
2014

In May 2017, **Grace Keiffer** graduated from the University of Central Florida with an education specialist (Ed.S.) degree in school psychology

and is employed as a school psychologist with the Lake County School District. She lives in Apopka.

After suffering a knee injury that prevented him from playing with Major League Lacrosse's Denver Outlaws, **D.J. Lubs** joined the men's lacrosse staff of Michigan State University as defensive coordinator. He joins head coach and former FSC teammate Cam Holding.

Ricky Marton has started an online clothing and jewelry business, BeRobinHood.com, that gives away a portion of its profits to charitable organizations. He also has an aerial videography business. He was recently featured in an article in the *Orlando Sentinel*.

At the 2017 Georgia Long Course Senior State Swim Meet, **Thomas Nguyen** swam on a coaches' challenge team in the 4x50 medley relay event. His team finished second in the event. Thomas (seen here, far right) is a coach with the SwimAtlanta club.



Jorge Rivera MBA has joined Thomas Howell Ferguson, P.A., CPAs, in Tallahassee as a senior accountant in the tax services division of the firm.

In September, **Frida Soderdahl** played the role of Suzy in a production of *The Marvelous Wonderettes* by TheatreWorks Florida at its new home in Davenport.

Christopher Tebo-Hardin is the recipient of the inaugural Ann L. Pride Award from the Arkansas Repertory Theatre, given to an outstanding intern. Christopher was the sound intern for the theater's 2016–2017 season.

Daniel Tillman has returned to his high school alma mater and is the pitching coach for the Suwanee High School baseball team in Live Oak. He played for the Mocs and in the minor leagues.

David Tomchinsky writes that he got married to his high school sweetheart, Brooke, in April and started a new job at the beginning of 2017 as an account executive at a TV, radio, and multimedia production agency in Sarasota.

Class of
2015

Frank Adams has been named head athletic trainer for the Iowa Wolves, the NBA G League affiliate of the Minnesota Timberwolves in Des Moines, Iowa. Prior to joining the Wolves, he was a graduate assistant athletic trainer at Abilene Christian University while earning a Master of Education degree in kinesiology, sport and recreation from Hardin-Simmons University. Frank was a member of the Mocs men's basketball team.

James Albury has been elected to Parliament in The Bahamas, representing Central and South Abaco. He also was given the post of parliamentary secretary in the office of prime minister for Abaco.

Catherine Brusie has been named assistant volleyball coach at Wingate (N.C.) University. She was previously an assistant coach at Campbell (N.C.) University, where she earned an MBA in 2016. Catherine was a two-time All-Sunshine State Conference member of the Mocs volleyball team.

Kevin Capers played with Halcones de Ciudad Obregón of the Mexican basketball league CIBACOPA in the summer, helping the team win the league championship. He also played the past two seasons with the Westchester Knicks of the NBA's (developmental) G League.

Equilla Cherry MSN recently joined Talbot House Ministries' Good Samaritan Free Clinic in Lakeland as clinic director. The clinic provides medical, dental, and mental-health services to uninsured Polk County residents.

Kaelyn Emmitt is a student at Barry University School of Law and serving in the United States Navy Reserve. She lives in Orlando.

Leah Schwarting is a senior reporter for The Villages (Fla.) *Daily Sun*. In a recent article about the Florida Legislature, she quoted Dr. R. Bruce Anderson, the Dr. Sarah D. and L. Kirk McKay Jr. Endowed Professor of American History, Government, and Civics.



In July, **Tyler Tripoli** (seen here on the left) and **Brian Miller** (right) graduated from the U.S. Navy Officer Candidate School in Newport, R.I., and they both reported to flight school at Naval Air Station Pensacola where they are student naval flight officers. They were joined at their graduation from Officer Candidate School by **Maddie Tamburino '16**. In the fall, Maddie entered Barry University to pursue a master's degree in occupational therapy.

Class of
2016

Emily Beriswill MSN is a nurse practitioner who recently joined Watson Clinic South in Lakeland. Her areas of expertise include Adult/Gerontology Primary Care.

Jewel Blakeslee won a role in a spring 2017 production of *The Christians* by Lucas Hnath at the Riverside Theatre in Vero Beach. She has been working at the theater as a performance apprentice.

Hassirou Diakite has signed to play soccer with the Lakeland Tropics, a professional team which is part of the United Soccer League's Premier Development League. He was a member of the FSC men's soccer team.

Grace Donovan, a member of the Mocs' 2016 national championship women's lacrosse team, is one of just 29 women in NCAA Division II to receive a 2017 NCAA post-graduate scholarship. She is enrolled in the doctoral program in physical therapy at Eastern Washington State University.

Brandi Jones MBA '17 has been named marketing coordinator for The Lucas Group, an executive recruiting firm in Atlanta, Ga., assisting with public relations, content marketing, and social media marketing.

Blake Lowman went scuba diving at the Great



Barrier Reef in Australia last summer, where he displayed underwater his Pi Kappa Alpha flag.

Kyle K. McLaughlin led the Kingsway High School boys lacrosse team to the Gloucester County Cup title and was named 2017 Lacrosse Coach of the Year by the *South Jersey Times*. The school is located in Woolwich Township, N.J.

Elisabeth “Lizz” Miles is a reading teacher at Ridge Community High school in Haines City and the camp director for Sand Hill Scout Reservation.

Cullen O’Donnell is a Peace Corps volunteer serving as a secondary education English teacher at Primero de Abril High School in Latacunga, Ecuador.



Rebecca Schild is a dance teacher at Urbanity Dance studio in South Boston, Mass. She also teaches at a nonprofit after-school arts program called Kids Arts, in nearby Jamaica Plains. She teaches modern, tap, jazz dance, choreography, and ballet.

Serena Sinos was recently hired as the creative services coordinator at Lakeland Regional Health Center.

Alec Wathen is the new coach of the girls’ swimming team at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Fort Lauderdale. He was a member of the Mocs’ men’s swimming team.

Class of
2017

Joey Arteaga is a guest experience manager with the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, overseeing operations at the Boma Restaurant at the four-star Animal Kingdom Lodge.

Blake Crosby has entered the University of Florida College of Dentistry.

Grace Diaz is a human resources intern at Feeding Children Everywhere in Orlando.

Kristina Dignam is teaching kindergarten at Addison Mizner Elementary School in Boca Raton. She and her boyfriend hope to get married and start a family in the near future.

Matthew English is pursuing a master’s degree at Boyer College of Music and Dance in Philadelphia, Pa.

Emilie Flament began attending the Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine in Erie, Pa., in the fall.

Darby Frankfurth is pursuing a master’s degree in healthcare administration at the University of Florida, following a summer internship with Moffitt Cancer Center.

Nicole Gallinaro is attending the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine.

Lauren Harris is attending the University of Kentucky College of Medicine.

Madeleine Henderson has begun her career at The Home Depot headquarters in Atlanta as a project analyst in the merchandising department.

Kay Hoffmann writes that he will play professional golf for a year, then will attend graduate school in the field of financial engineering and mathematical finance. He was a member of the Mocs men’s golf team.

Anisha Koilpillai has entered the Ph.D. program in political science at Florida State University.

Lindsey Roesch is a donation resource coordinator for the New Jersey Sharing Network, the organ procurement organization in the state. She lives in Red Bank, N.J.

Robert Rosa is employed with Deloitte Consulting LLP in Charlotte, N.C.

Sydney Schantz was accepted as a corps member with Teach for America and is teaching high school English in Richmond, Calif.

Mary Scheffrahn has entered a post-baccalaureate certificate program in speech pathology at Arizona State University.

Austin Suarez has joined the real estate firm of John Nauman & Associates in his native Fort Myers as a realtor. Austin is the third generation in his family to work for JNA, following in the footsteps of his grandfather and his mother, LeAne Taylor Suarez, a broker and partner with the firm.

Dylan Vaughn is working as a lifeguard at the Hollis Wellness Center while he explores career options, including the language translation services industry.

Florence Ward is studying for a master’s degree in strength and conditioning at Northumbria University in her native England, and she plays for Team Northumbria in the Women’s British Basketball League.

Cayce Whitlock is an executive marketing assistant for the USA Water Ski Foundation in Lakeland.

Megan Yingst is the new choir director at Mulberry Middle School. She also served as a delegate to the National Association for Music Education summit in Washington over the summer, advocating for music education in the schools. “I hope to continue to convey the importance of music programs at the grassroots levels with my new position,” Megan writes.

Why I Give

GOING THE DISTANCE:

JOHN WILSON '62

TRAVELS A LONG WAY TO FOUNDERS DAY

By his estimate, John Wilson '62 and his wife, Joyce, have attended about 10 Founders Day convocations since he graduated, most of those visits coming since he retired several years ago. Others may have attended more, but when you consider that the Wilsons have traveled from as far away as California and Texas, it makes their commitment a little more impressive.



Mr. Wilson gives the credit elsewhere, though, for making those visits to FSC. He says his classmate and fraternity brother, Col. Tim Scobie '62, U.S. Army (ret.), motivated him to disregard the long distances and come to Founders Day and Homecoming weekends over the years. Col. Scobie was president of the Class of 1962, and both men were members of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, for which Mr. Wilson was treasurer his senior year.

"Tim and I have maintained a close relationship. He has made a lot more trips to Founders Day than I have," Mr. Wilson says.

He recalls one Founders Day weekend in particular, in 1987, when Mr. Wilson traveled from his home in San Francisco, Calif. Col. Scobie outdid him, coming all the way from Brussels, where he was stationed at NATO headquarters. Last year, they planned to meet again, but Col. Scobie fell ill on the way to Lakeland, so only Mr. Wilson was present to represent the Class of 1962.

At FSC, he studied business and accounting and had to work hard to earn money for tuition. Between his sophomore and junior years, Mr. Wilson took an adventurous summer job in Fairbanks, Alaska, where he fought forest fires and drove a Pepsi delivery truck over the tundra. His degree came in handy after graduation, when he entered the U.S. Air Force and was assigned to Thailand during the Vietnam War, purchasing fuel for jets and vehicles.

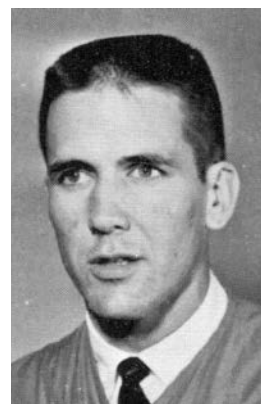
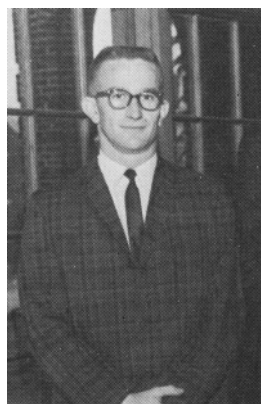
"I arrived one week after the Gulf of Tonkin incident. By the time I left, I was responsible for purchasing a million barrels of fuel a day," he says.

After leaving the Air Force, Mr. Wilson parlayed that experience into an accounting career with three different oil companies, Texaco, Gulf, and Chevron—all of which, ironically, are now one company. He spent 20 years working in San Francisco and retired in 1992 to Austin, Texas, where he and his wife, Joyce, continue to live.

Over the years, they raised four foster children, adopting one of them, and Mr. Wilson has served as a court-appointed advocate, a guardian ad litem, for a dozen other children.

Mr. Wilson's support of the College is not limited to Founders Day visits. He has contributed to the Annual Fund, and he has remembered Florida Southern in his estate plan. Despite the years and the miles, he recalls fondly his time at FSC, especially living in the Pike fraternity house.

"I really enjoy coming here. Maybe I like to re-live the past, but I have really good memories of being here," he says.



Left: John Wilson as a senior at FSC

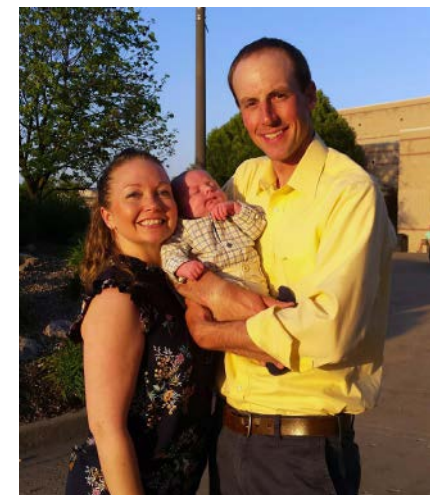
Right: The senior photo of Tim Scobie '62 from the Interlachen



Ashley Woodham '15 and **David Bentley '11 MBA '13** were married on March 4, 2017, in Tallahassee. Pictured in the wedding party are (from left to right) **Taylor Stockowski '16**, Sarah Basford, **Erin Clements '12**, **Haley Pack '15**, **Miranda Craig '16**, **Kelli Rosser '17**, Ashley, David, Kendall Self, Matthew Pierce, Wally Woodham, **Matt Clements '11 MBA '13**, **Marcus Duffy '11**, and **Brett Erwin '09**. The Bentleys live in Tallahassee, where Ashley is a realtor with Coldwell Banker and David is an insurance agent with McGinniss Himmel Insurance Agency.



Ashlea Wiley Fairchild '05 and her husband, Alex, welcomed their first daughter, Knallie, in May 2017. They live in Chamblee, Ga.



Nathan Jordan '08 and **Whitney Lewis Jordan '07** celebrated the birth of their first son, Anderson Jordan, in March 2017. Nathan was promoted to superintendent at Mount Hawley Country Club shortly after Anderson's birth. The family lives in Peoria Heights, Ill



Cameron Grimsley '14 and **Ivana Murga '14** were married at Saint Paul's Catholic Church in Saint Petersburg on Oct. 1, 2016. The bride was attended by Ashley Murga, her maid of honor and sister. The best man was Jake McFarland. Cameron works as a logistics coordinator at Oldcastle, a building materials company. Ivana works as a teacher in Tampa.



FSC Director of Admissions **Arden Mitchell '08 MBA '11** and **Sarah Hartsfield '10 MBA '11** welcomed their daughter, Joey Tansil Hartsfield-Mitchell, on Sept. 29, 2016. Sarah is a claims supervisor at Geico.



Kai Elle Tate was born on April 10, 2016. She is the daughter of **Melisa Etienne Tate '05** and former student **Brian J. Tate**. The family lives in Charlotte, N.C., where Melisa coordinates outreach programs for the Girl Scouts.



Lindsay Snyder Thibodaux '12 and her husband, Aaron, take their children, Weston, born Dec. 22, 2013, and Brenna, born Aug. 31, 2016, for a stroll around the Water Dome. Lindsay is a registration and advising module associate in the Registrar's office at FSC. Aaron is a supervisor at Geico. They live in Lakeland.

Stephanie Fields '15 was married to Devin Booth on Oct. 15, 2016, in Daphne, Ala. The couple live in Pensacola.

Scott Kisling '12 and Stephanie Whitaker were married on April 29, 2017, in Covington, Ky. Scott works for Nordstrom and Stephanie works for Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Center. They live in Erlanger, Ky.

FSC swimming head coach **Mike Blum '08** and his wife, Jen, celebrated the birth of their son, Jude Michael Blum, born on Sept. 26, 2017.

1940s

Lella Rice Pfeiffer '41 of Columbia, S.C., died Sept. 30, 2017.

Elizabeth "Bette" Ruhl Tinsley '41 of Fort Myers died Oct. 21, 2017.

Mary Smith Kaulback '42 of New Wilmington, Pa., died April 10, 2017.

Madeline Edwards Thomson '43 of High Springs died June 2, 2017.

Hilda Hull Wilkinson '43 of Pahokee died March 13, 2017.

Della Rosenberg '44 of Starke died March 14, 2017.

Donna Beane Sutton '45 of Jacksonville died April 20, 2017.

Rev. Marvin D. Bean '46 of Westerville, Ohio, died Feb. 8, 2016.

Martha "Marty" Hopper Ervin '46 of Atlanta died March 3, 2015.

Rachel Albaugh Spilman '46 of Tarpon Springs died Jan. 8, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Walter Spilman '47**. Survivors include a son, **Lawrence Spilman '77**; and a granddaughter, **Melissa M. Spilman '12**.

Carolyn E. Adams Edwards '47 of Madison died Feb. 24, 2017.

Frederick Corliss "Fred" Jones '47 of Madison, Wis., died Sept. 8, 2017.

James R. Patrick, Sr. '47 of Brandon died June 15, 2017. Survivors include a son, **James Russell Patrick, Jr. '87**.

Robert "Bob" Riedel '47 of Tallahassee died Feb. 3, 2017. He was presented the Alumni Achievement Award in 1997.

Rev. Dr. J. Marvin Sweat, Jr. '47 died March 21, 2017, in Virginia.

James Mitchell McMullen '48 of Tomball, Texas, died Feb. 1, 2017.

Virginia Garfield Melton '48 of Dade City died Dec. 31, 2016.

Rex Toothman M.A. '48 of Tallahassee died May 28, 2017.

Jane "Mimi" Warnock McElyea '49 of Orlando died July 10, 2017.

Inez Langebrake Wilson '49 of Altamonte Springs died Oct. 19, 2017.

1950s

Dr. Richard W. Kurth '50 of Tallahassee died Sept. 14, 2017.

Mary Carolyn Stansell Bistline '50 of Longwood died May 26, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Frederick W. Bistline '49**.

Alvin C. Marker '50 of Auburndale died June 11, 2017.

Carol Jean Wehrwein Thomas '50 of Bethesda, Md., died March 25, 2017.

Anne Talman Tucker '50 of Lakeland died May 26, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Thomas R. "T.R." Tucker, Jr. '48**. Survivors include a granddaughter, **Sarah Dalton Woodsby '07**.

Frances Lowe DeHaven Asheim '51 of Winter Haven died Jan. 12, 2015.

Thurston L. "Buck" Brooks, Jr. '51 of St. Augustine died March 24, 2017.

Frances Hays Burns '51 of Winter Haven died April 28, 2017.

Elwell J. Clendenny '51 of Seminole died June 3, 2017. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Mary Schwencke Clendenny '51**.

Roger Densmore Coudray '51 of Los Angeles, Calif., died Jan. 29, 2017.

Frederick S. Johnston '51 of Charlotte, N.C., died May 11, 2016.

Albert R. Seyferth '51 of Rockledge died Dec. 9, 2016.

Jean Raymond "Blue" Terry '51 of Bartow died Sept. 11, 2017.

Irmgard Schmelzer Barnes '52 of Lake Bluff, Ill., died April 19, 2016.

Bradylee "Lee" Blackwell Burch Bayshore '52 of Winter Garden died June 28, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Selby R. Burch '54**. Survivors include a son, **William Brady Burch '79**; a daughter, **Alyson Denise Burch '78**; and a brother, **M. Frank Blackwell '63**.

John R. "Jack" Booream '52 of Babson Park died Jan. 8, 2016. Survivors include his wife, **Nancy Meredith Booream '53**.

A. Glenn Brown '52 of Lakeland died April 16, 2017.

Robert E. "Bob" Hamilton '52 of West Palm Beach died Aug. 25, 2017.

Lawrence "Larry" Krackowsky '52 of Jacksonville died Feb. 5, 2017.

Elizabeth “Betty” Duke Mack ’52 died June 1, 2017 in Rock Hill, S.C.

Daniel F. “Dan” O’Brien, Sr., ’52 of Rockwall, Texas, died Jan. 17, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Mary Ann Crowson O’Brien ’52**.

Mark N. Ohnikian ’52 of Lakeland died March 5, 2017. Survivors include a son, **Mark A. Ohnikian ’86**.

Robert E. Rayle, Jr. ’52 of Greensboro, N.C., died Oct. 26, 2017.

Alexander Sosik ’52 of New Port Richey died Feb. 22, 2015.

Doris Virginia Venable Wesson ’52 of Lakeland died Aug. 8, 2017.

James A. “Sonny” Jones ’53 of Plant City died Nov. 1, 2017. He was presented the Alumni Achievement Award in 1991.

James A. Polson ’53 of Marco Island, formerly of Greensburg, Pa., died July 24, 2017.

Richard N. Sears ’53 of Lenexa, Kan., died Feb. 6, 2017.

Dr. Robert P. Williams, Jr., ’53 of Lakeland died Feb. 6, 2017.

Jane Whitfield Allison ’54 of Vero Beach died Jan. 28, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Robert B. Allison ’55**.

Harold R. Cameron, Sr. ’54 of Lakeland died July 13, 2017. Survivors include a son, **Harold Cameron, Jr. ’85**.

Ralph B. “Buddy” Penn ’54 of Lakeland died Feb. 5, 2015.

Dr. Alden C. Smith ’54 of Bellingham, Wash., died Feb. 11, 2017.

Rev. Charles B. Blackburn ’55 of Baltimore died May 31, 2017.

R. Lois Scoates Gossett ’55 died Sept. 28, 2016, in St. Augustine.

Robert D. “Bob” Hiers ’55 of Winter Haven died Oct. 11, 2017.

David W. “Dave” Kelsey ’55 died March 8, 2017, in Douglasville, Ga.

Peter M. “Pete” Lenhardt ’55 of Dunedin died Feb. 17, 2017.

Douglas W. “Doug” MacGregor ’55 of Cleveland, Tenn., died Feb. 23, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Barbara Howard MacGregor ’54**.

David Russell “D.R.” Sims, Sr. ’55 of Palm Springs died June 30, 2016.

Barbara Tyson Anderson ’56 of Signal Mountain, Tenn., died March 4, 2017.

Michael F. Cuscaden ’56 of Fort Myers died Oct. 12, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Shirlia Latanision Cuscaden ’59**.

Norman E. Freebeck ’56 of Florence, Ala., died April 29, 2017.

David L. Howell ’56 of Debarry died May 11, 2017.

Jerold “Jerry” Johnson ’56 of Tallahassee died July 29, 2017.

Lucy Fisackerly Whitehead ’56 of Havana, Fla., died March 15, 2017. Survivors include a daughter, **Marilyn Whitehead Fair ’80**; a son, **John V. Whitehead, Jr. ’83**; a brother, **Rev. William “Bill” Fisackerly III ’52**; a nephew, **Rev. William Fisackerly IV ’84**; and a great-niece, **Allyson G. Fisackerly ’12**.

Jack E. Donnelly ’57 of Paradise Valley, Ariz., died Jan. 24, 2017.

Charles W. “Chuck” Johnston ’57 of Brocton, N.Y., died March 2, 2017.

Wilson E. Sheridan ’57 of Richmond, Va., died July 24, 2017.

Virginia Austin York ’57 of Clermont died Sept. 21, 2014.

Kenneth W. Kerber ’58 of Amherst, N.Y., died June 30, 2017.

Alice Allen Spaulding ’58 of Franklin, Tenn., died June 16, 2017.

Patricia Autrey Bonesteel ’59 of Melrose died May 2, 2017.

Don L. “Duke” Groen ’59 of Jacksonville died April 29, 2017.

Thomas M. Hester ’59 of St. Petersburg died Feb. 10, 2016.

Dr. Robert E. Lee ’59 of Orlando died June 2, 2017.

Dr. Bobbie Dean McGuire ’59 of Edgewater died March 10, 2017.

Donn L. Scheerer ’59 of Sebastian died Dec. 24, 2016.

Robert H. “Bob” Stewart ’59 of Sorrento died June 9, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Elizabeth “Jane” Crane Stewart ’60**.

William K. “Bill” Whitfield III ’59 of Savannah, Ga., died Jan. 7, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Carole Smith Whitfield ’61**.

1960s

Jay I. “Jerry” Andrews ’60 of Maysville, Ky., died July 21, 2017.

James L. Bender ’60 of Dallas, Ga., died March 15, 2017.

Ann Brown Cayce ’60 of Lakeland died Aug. 15, 2016.

Robert G. “Bob” Orvis ’60 of Port Orange died April 20, 2017.

Lenora Lovett Paulk ’60 of Rockledge died Feb. 22, 2015.

Arlene Jourdan Engler ’61 of Arlington, Texas, died May 20, 2017. Survivors include her husband, **Richard Engler ’61**.

Henrietta Alada Boyer Faber ’61 of Leesburg died June 19, 2017. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Henry A.M. “Hank” Faber, Jr. ’61**.

George H. Odiorne, Jr. ’61 of Brandon died Feb. 13, 2017.

Willodean Harrison Rafferty ’61 of Winston-Salem, N.C., died Jan. 30, 2017.

Rev. Frank D. Seibert, Jr. ’61 of Orlando died Jan. 1, 2017.

Virginia “Ginni” Curci Shipley ’61 of Dunedin died Oct. 8, 2017.

Marie “Toni” Watkins Beddingfield ’62 of Winter Haven died June 13, 2017.

Harry C. Griffin ’62 of Lakeland died Jan. 20, 2017.

Henry E. Groendal ’62 of Ludington, Mich., died Feb. 6, 2017. Survivors include a son, **Kenneth Groendal ’82**.

Dr. Larry K. Jackson ’62 of Auburndale died April 1, 2017. He was presented FSC’s Citrus Alumni Achievement Award in 1972.

William H. “Bill” Kirkpatrick ’62 of Monticello died April 14, 2017.

Dr. James F. Baube ’63 of Nettleton, Miss., died Feb. 4, 2017.

James L. “Jim” Brubaker ’63 of Punta Gorda died April 16, 2016.

Jacqueline “Jackie” Cliett Burch ’63 died June 12, 2017, in Blue Ridge, Ga.

Paula Barr Cox ’63 of Hialeah died May 18, 2016.

Rhea Lou Aukerman Miller ’63 of Carmel, Ind., died June 25, 2017. Survivors include her husband, **Donal B. Miller ’61**.

Talley Mack Sharpe ’63 of Sevierville, Tenn., died Dec. 27, 2016. Survivors include his wife, **Elizabeth Pippin Sharpe ’49**.

Evelyn Hattaway Varju ’63 of West Palm Beach died Oct. 22, 2015.

Dr. Jacob “Jake” Caffisch III ’64 of Brandon died June 25, 2017.

Robert M. “Bob” Fischer ’64 of Titusville died Aug. 8, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Cecelia “Mitzie” Guizzetti Fischer ’64**.

Charles J. “Chuck” Johnson ’64 of Waco, Texas, died May 14, 2017.

K. Sue Morris ’64 of Gainesville died Feb. 10, 2017.

Leonard H. Shapiro ’64 of Merritt Island, Wash., died March 12, 2017.

Sylvia Moyer Smeltzly ’64 of Lakeland died June 20, 2017. Survivors include her husband, former FSC baseball head coach and athletic director **Hal Smeltzly ’57**.

Mary McDaniel Beitz ’65 of Lakeland died June 27, 2017.

Dean W. Holloway ’65 of Silver City, N.M., died Feb. 2, 2017.

Stuart W. “Stu” Smith ’65 of Crystal River died July 3, 2017.

Mary E. Athearn ’66 of Diamondhead, Miss., died Feb. 15, 2017.

Henry M. “Hank” Belden ’66 of Daytona Beach died Dec. 2, 2016.

Eleanor “Ellie” Zukowski Dykstra ’66 died Nov. 23, 2010.

Joanne Needles Eggert ’66 of Palm City died Aug. 6, 2017.

Robert S. “Bob” Kerr, Sr. ’66 of Davenport died Sept. 11, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Carolyn Fulford Kerr ’66**; and a son, **R. Scott Kerr, Jr. ’92**.

Peter J. Kleinkopf ’66 of Dade City died Feb. 8, 2017.

Anne D. Nichols Reynolds ’66 of Lake Placid died Aug. 12, 2017. She was presented FSC’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2014, along with her husband, **Charles Reynolds ’65**, who survives her.

Carole “Joya” Antinori Torres ’66 of St. Petersburg died Oct. 21, 2016.

Rev. Fred A. Bowers ’67 of Boone, N.C., died Jan. 21, 2017.

Raymond D. Daniel ’67 of Lakeland died Aug. 16, 2017.

Robert S. Dravecky ’67 of Grayslake, Ill., died June 20, 2017.

Marilyn Fulmer O’Brien ’67 of Satellite Beach died May 4, 2017.

Clyde H. Mitchell, Sr. ’68 of Satellite Beach died July 8, 2017. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Dorothy Hazlett Mitchell ’66**.

Dr. Gerry D. Getman ’69 of McMurray, Pa., and Boca Grande died Aug. 10, 2017. (See page 29.)

Gregory M. Krackowsky ’69 of Hartford, Conn., died Sept. 24, 2017.

Dale L. Phillips ’69 of Oviedo died Oct. 29, 2017.

Norman L. “Skip” Sheffield, Jr. ’69 of Boca Raton died July 20, 2017.

1970s

Timothy C. Cronin ’70 of Annapolis, Md., died March 24, 2017.

Julie E. Bedenbaugh ’71 of Herndon, Va., died March 8, 2017.

Peter J. Platt ’71 of Hingham, Mass., and Sunapee, N.H., died Sept. 27, 2017.

Glenda G. Sumner ’71 of Lakeland died Dec. 19, 2015.

Thomas W. “Tom” Miles, Jr. ’74 of Morristown, Tenn., died March 5, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Barbara Rossman Miles ’75**.

Freida Lavonne Jackson Williams ’75 of Lakeland died Aug. 5, 2017.

Dara C. Goodson ’76 of Brooker died March 16, 2017. Survivors include his father, former Professor of Mathematics **Lane M. Goodson**; his mother, former adjunct English instructor **Betty Jo Goodson**; two brothers, **Minter H. Goodson ’82** and **Lief G. Goodson ’83**; and two sisters, **Dr. Melanie Goodson Narkawicz ’76** and **Robin Goodson Lane ’80**.

Brandon V. Immerman ’76 of Miami died June 12, 2017.

Judy Pratt Pugh ’76 of Jacksonville died Aug. 8, 2017. Survivors include her husband, **John Pugh ’79**.

Frank D. Attkisson ’77 of St. Cloud died April 6, 2017.

William C. “Boo” Graves IV ’77 of Vero Beach died June 21, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Eva Zwemer Graves ’84**.

Cheri A. McElroy ’78 died Oct. 24, 2017, in Hiawassee, Ga.

Robert J. “Rob” Shingler, Jr. ’78 of St. Petersburg died Aug. 25, 2017.

Margaret G. “Marge” Tarnowski ’78 of St. Cloud died Jan. 24, 2017.

Alton A. Kimball ’79 of Lakeland died Aug. 9, 2017.

John C. Merritt ’79 of Venus died Feb. 13, 2017.

Dan T. Moore ’79 of Orlando died Sept. 24, 2017.

William L. “Billy” Powell ’79 of Plant City died Feb. 18, 2017.

1980s

Dr. Kimberly Ann Barksdale ’80 of Allen, Texas, died May 11, 2017.

Beatrice “Betty” Ellis Carroll ’80 of Winter Haven died Aug. 7, 2017.

Mona Rowell Green ’80 of Lakeland died Oct. 27, 2017.

Robert T. “Bob” Sadd, Jr. ’80 of Copperas Cove, Texas, died July 1, 2017.

Joseph W. “Joe” Thomas ’80 of Lakeland died June 25, 2017.

Jack R. Stuckey ’81 of Dover, Penn., died Dec. 29, 2016.

Michael L. “Mike” Zubor ’81 of Southlake, Texas, died Nov. 3, 2013.

Deanna Holloway Bohanan ’82 of Lakeland died March 22, 2017.

Kenneth Catello ’82 of Lakeland died Aug. 28, 2017.

Robert C. “Bob” Franklin ’82 MBA ’91 of Lakeland died Oct. 8, 2017. Survivors include his wife, **Sharon Holbrook Franklin ’87 MBA ’92**.

Kathryn McCorvey Crabtree ’83 of Leesburg died Sept. 13, 2013.

Brian C. Radon ’83 of Lakeland died Aug. 7, 2017. He was a member of the 1981 national championship basketball team. Memorial donations may be made to Brian Radon Scholarship Fund at FSC.

James D. “Jim” Pehrson ’85 of Woodstock, Ga., died Feb. 20, 2017.

Julie Buttram Wilkins ’86 of Avon Park died Nov. 6, 2016.

Kim E. Frasier ’87 of Hendersonville, N.C., died Jan. 28, 2017.

Lisa D. Nall Fuillerat ’87 of Lakeland died Feb. 24, 2017.

Lucy Jane Collins ’88 of Bartow died Sept. 9, 2017.

Barry A. Irving ’88 of Canton, Ga., died Feb. 6, 2017.

1990s

Lynn E. Dombrowsky ’90 of Lakeland died Oct. 30, 2016.

Linda Standifer Ashbaugh ’92 of Apopka died Sept. 12, 2107.

John Kossick, Jr. ’96 of Middletown, Del., died May 23, 2017.

2000s

Patricia J. Matthews ’03 of Ponte Vedra died April 16, 2017.

Ryan M. Berg ’05 of Palm Springs died Sept. 24, 2017.

Angela M. Nohl ’07 of Punta Gorda died April 26, 2017.

FACULTY

Dr. John J. Carey died March 2, 2017, in Asheville, N.C. He was professor of religion from 1988 to 1989.

John P. Obrecht ’80 of Scottsville, Va., died July 1, 2017. He was assistant professor of mass communications from 1980 to 1998.

Col. Kenneth E. Webber of Lakeland died July 10, 2017. From 1970 to 1974, he was professor of military science and commander of the ROTC battalion at FSC.

STAFF

Barbara Ann Elliott of Lakeland died July 19, 2017. She worked in the technical services department of the Roux Library from 1970 to 1993.

Colleen R. Gardner of Lakeland died Feb. 2, 2017. She was a bookkeeper for the FSC Bookstore for many years.

Anthony C. “Tony” Harris of Lakeland died Feb. 16, 2017. He was director of Branscomb Auditorium from 1991 to 2014. Survivors include his wife, **Virginia “Ginny” Harris MBA ’96**.

Annie L. Pollock of Port Orange died April 10, 2017. She was a secretary for the College’s Orlando division.

Sandy Tate of Lakeland died March 26, 2017. She worked for the Business Affairs office for 19 years, retiring in 2016. Survivors include her husband, **Roger Tate**, who works in FSC’s Facilities Maintenance Department.

TRUSTEES

Dr. Lorraine Largen Spivey of West Palm Beach died Feb. 27, 2017. She served on the Board of Trustees from 1992 to 2004 and was a Trustee Emerita. She was the daughter-in-law of former President **Ludd Spivey**. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Dr. L. Myrl Spivey ’47**.

Survivors include a son, **Glen Spivey ’88** of Tequesta. Memorial contributions may be made to Florida Southern.

FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

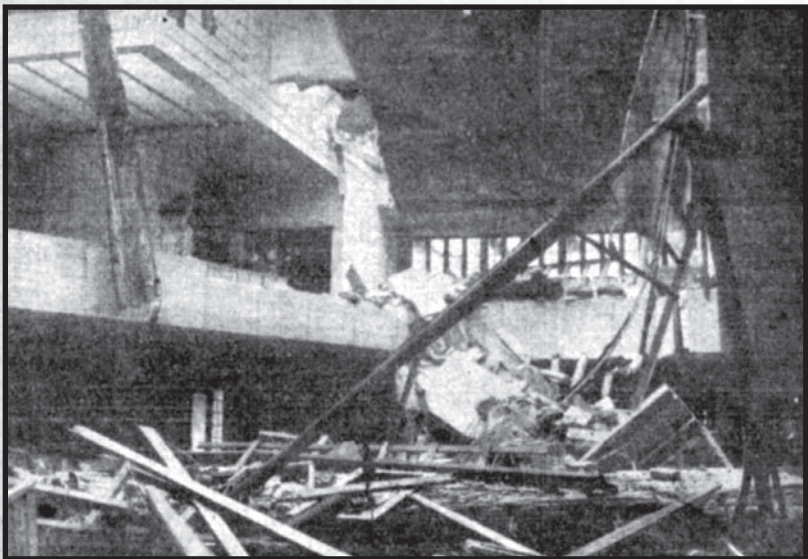
Frank M. Calhoun of Lakeland died Sept. 25, 2017. He was a longtime supporter of athletics at FSC. Survivors include his wife, **Betty Sipes Calhoun ’82**, former director of the FSC Student Health Center. Memorial gifts may be made to Florida Southern College Women’s Basketball in care of the FSC Advancement office.

Ralph L. “Buddy” Fletcher died July 25, 2017. A former student at FSC, he was a Lakeland City Commissioner from 1988 to 1992 and served two terms as the Mayor of Lakeland from 1992 to 2009.

Dr. Robert James Waller died March 10, 2017 in Fredericksburg, Texas. He was the College’s Honorary Chancellor in 1998. An academic, author, photographer, and musician, he was best known for his 1993 best-selling novel, *The Bridges of Madison County*.

For more complete obituaries that include accomplishments, military service, and survivors, please go to flsouthern.edu/alumni and click on the In Memoriam link. Locations are in Florida unless otherwise noted.

The *Hurricane* of 1944



This photo, taken by a photographer from The Lakeland Ledger, shows the interior of the chapel after the south face of the tower collapsed..

It began as an October storm off the coast of Nicaragua, quickly formed into a hurricane and moved north, gaining strength. As a category 4 hurricane, it ravaged western Cuba, approached Florida's west coast, and made landfall near Sarasota, continuing northeast.

Known in the days before hurricanes were given names as the 1944 Cuba-Florida Hurricane, by the time it exited the state near Jacksonville, it had killed 300 people in Cuba, ruined the citrus crop in Florida, and badly damaged the signature building on Florida Southern's Frank Lloyd Wright-designed campus, the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel.

The state's recent brush with Hurricane Irma raised some striking parallels with the 1944 storm. Like Irma, it was a large, dangerous late-season storm that reached winds of 145 mph. It struck Cuba on October 17, passing 15 miles west of Havana, leaving destruction and death in its wake. It suddenly weakened

before coming ashore in Florida on October 19. The storm, just below hurricane strength, passed between Tampa and Lakeland and on up through Ocala. According to records from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), winds of 50 mph and a gust of 81 mph were recorded in Lakeland, readings similar to those of Irma.

However, unlike Irma, the 1944 storm seems to have caused little concern in Lakeland ahead of its arrival. Although warnings and advisories were

issued over the radio, there is no record FSC students were evacuated, as they were with Irma. There was no mention of the storm in *The Southern*, before or after, and only a few pictures of "the hurricane" appeared in the 1945 Interlachen. Damage seems to have been limited to uprooted trees—with the notable exception of the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel.

The chapel, the first of Wright's buildings at FSC, had been dedicated only a few years before, in March 1941. As it is now, the chapel's tower was hollow, with its familiar "bowtie" pattern in the east and west upright standards. The north and south faces of the tower are separate large panels, and one later report indicated the panels were connected to the standards by only a few small connecting rods.

During the storm, the south face of the tower collapsed inward, hitting the north face before crashing through the roof and skylight, partially demolishing the interior of the chapel including some of the seats and the massive "ship's prow" pulpit. In letters to President Ludd Spivey, Wright claimed that he didn't know Lakeland lay in "the terrific Hurricane belt" and that the collapse was due to weak materials and improper supervision of the construction.

The College received an \$80,000 check from the insurer, and *The Southern* reported on November 4 that repairs were underway. Spivey wanted changes to the design, including a smaller skylight, because in the era before air conditioning, on sunny days the interior of the chapel became a sweltering greenhouse. He also wanted a smaller, removable pulpit. He got a pulpit on casters, but Wright kept the skylight, raising it to give more stability to the tower. More and larger connecting rods were used to tie the new panels to the tower. It would take a year before the chapel reopened.

The changes must have done the trick. The chapel survived Hurricane Donna in 1960; Hurricanes Charley, Frances, and Jeanne in 2004; and now, Hurricane Irma.



Bottom left: As with Hurricane Irma, large oak trees on campus like this one were blown down.

Right: This waterspout, generated by the October 1944 hurricane, was captured on film just off Key West.





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For more information, contact the FSC Alumni Relations Office at 863-680-4110 or alumni@flsouthern.edu.

