

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

SOUTHERN NEWS

VOLUME 64 • FALL 2019





A letter *from the president*



With great excitement, we began our new academic year in August, welcoming 3,558 new and returning students to campus. The highly talented Class of 2023 arrived here from 37 states and the territory of Puerto Rico, and from 18 countries.

This edition of *Southernnews* highlights exciting changes that have been taking place at FSC, including the introduction of several high-profile academic programs, recently completed and ongoing construction projects, faculty promotions, student honors, and alumni profiles.

The start of the fall semester saw the launch of our much-anticipated Doctor of Physical Therapy program in its distinctively designed new home, the Campisi Academic Center for Physical Therapy. This state-of-the-art facility effectively brings unique aspects of FSC's renowned architectural heritage to Lakeland's Dixieland Historic District on South Florida Avenue. As part of the program's curriculum, students will be performing clinical rotations locally and around the country, and will join faculty members in providing *pro bono* services through outreach efforts to underserved populations in our community.

In these pages, you'll also find an update about plans for another architecturally significant structure that will accommodate a major expansion of our computer science program, the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center, beginning to take shape in a prime spot overlooking Lake Hollingsworth.

During a special Celebration of Our Freedoms luncheon in February, I was extremely pleased to announce that recently retired Florida Supreme Court Justice R. Fred Lewis '69 was returning to his alma mater, joining the faculty as our first Eminent Professor of Law and Letters. He is directing an important and influential classroom-based program that takes civic education to elementary, middle, and high school students.

Florida Southern is proud to have been among the colleges and universities that produced the most Fulbright Scholars in 2018-2019, according to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Four of our students were named as part of the international educational exchange program in 2018, followed in 2019 by the naming of three more FSC students whose illustrious academic achievements and leadership earned them awards from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. You will meet these remarkable young women on Page 23.

I hope this edition of *Southernnews* will convey a sense of the enthusiasm we feel each day as FSC reaches new heights of excellence as one of the nation's finest private colleges.

Sincerely,

Anne B. Kerr, Ph.D.
President

On the cover:

Former Florida Supreme Court Justice R. Fred Lewis '69, FSC's first Eminent Professor of Law and Letters;
Photo by Mark Wallheiser

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Water Skiers Found a Home on FSC's Lakefront Setting



JUSTICE TEACHING CENTER

FLORIDA SUPREME COURT JUSTICE R. FRED LEWIS TO LEAD CIVIC LEARNING PROGRAM

In February, Florida Southern President Anne Kerr welcomed trustees, civic and judicial leaders, alumni and friends to a special Celebration of Our Freedoms luncheon with the announcement that recently retired Florida Supreme Court Justice R. Fred Lewis '69 would be joining the faculty as the College's first Eminent Professor of Law and Letters.

Lewis, an FSC trustee, also will direct community programs on civics and government in conjunction with the Justice Teaching Center for Civic Learning, which has relocated to FSC. He founded Justice Teaching, a classroom-based civic learning program, while he was serving on the Florida Supreme Court.

Lewis's appointment takes FSC's social sciences program to a new level. In 2016, Trustee Dr. Sarah D. McKay provided an opportunity for the College to become a leader in the collegiate study of American history, government, and civics when she made a transformational gift to establish an endowed professorship to specialize in this field. Her gift ensured that FSC will employ in perpetuity an expert professor to provide a stellar civics education. McKay Professor Dr. R. Bruce Anderson has become a leader in establishing civics education initiatives for junior and senior high school students in our community.

The relocated Justice Teaching program, through its partnerships with legal and educational communities all across Florida, will continue to advance civic learning that aims to improve understanding of our justice system. Volunteer judges and attorneys will work together with elementary, middle, and high schools to enhance civics and law-focused education through active programs in all grades. Under Lewis's leadership, the Center's experiential educational model will allow the program's volunteers to present classroom activities, projects, and seminars modeled on instructional and training resources from the Justice Teaching website.

The program's original concept has remained in place, Lewis said, because he believes in the abilities of lawyers and judges to bring civics-themed education programs into schools in ways that "must be non-agenda, must be nonpartisan, and must be fair." The key, he added, was to avoid lecturing and instead interact with students, classroom by classroom.

During his time on the court, Lewis began visiting schools several times a month to talk with students about America's system of government. "I came to an understanding that the status of civic education was at its lowest level," he explained, which led him to develop the Justice Teaching model. "Our children deserve to understand who we are as a people, so we can all come together to make it work, for all of us."

Lewis and his wife, Judith Munc Lewis '69, were introduced at the Celebration of our Freedoms luncheon by longtime friend and FSC

alumnus Senior District Judge John C. Antoon II '69, of the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida. Judge Antoon recalled his college chum as "just Freddy," with no fancy titles. Speaking in the George W. Jenkins Field House, the same campus facility where Lewis had played for FSC's basketball team five decades earlier, Judge Antoon praised Lewis's judicial career. "Fortunately for the people of Florida, he gave up the opportunity to play professional baseball and went to a school of law," he said.

Earning his law degree from the University of Miami was the first step on Lewis's path to Florida's top court. He was appointed to the court by the late Gov. Lawton M. Chiles in December 1998, served as chief justice from 2006 to 2008, and retired in January 2019.

Lewis brings the Justice Teaching concept to FSC with a sense of great enthusiasm. As he told attendees at the Celebration of Our Freedoms luncheon, "I'm here to see if I can make a difference, and I'm at your disposal."

At the conclusion of the luncheon, Lewis joined Dr. Kerr in presenting Dr. McKay with the inaugural Outstanding Leader in Civics Award, recognizing extraordinary leadership in the realm of history, government, and civics education. The award is named in her honor and will be given annually.



Trustee Dr. Sarah D. McKay, left, was the recipient of the inaugural civic leadership award named in her honor during the Celebration of Our Freedoms luncheon in February. "I really am overwhelmed," she said, adding "We are so happy to have Fred Lewis join the faculty."

A CHAMPIONSHIP EFFORT

FSC'S CONCIERGE SERVICE SIMPLIFIES MOVE-IN DAY



When incoming freshmen and family members arrived on campus for Move-In Day on August 17, they were greeted by hundreds of energetic Florida Southern volunteers with a single, all-encompassing goal: simplicity.

Each year, hard-working teams of students, faculty, and staff show up early on a Saturday morning to welcome new students for their first semester at FSC. With fine-tuned precision and speed, the College's concierge service takes charge of unloading every car and delivering all of the students' belongings directly to their rooms in the residence halls.

"It was really quick and easy," said Sheryl Francavilla of Riverview, whose daughter Kaitlin is the fifth member of the family to move away to college. "We have it down to an art, but you guys have it down to a science."

Incoming freshman Candice Mastykarz of Wesley Chapel was equally impressed. "Move-In Day was super easy! My car was unpacked in less than five minutes," she said, adding that all of her belongings had been delivered before she even reached her room.

FSC launched its 2019-2020 school year with a new-student population of 814 and a total student population of 3,558. On Move-In Day, the newly arriving Class of 2023 was comprised of 683 full-time students. Collectively, these new freshmen have an average high school GPA of 3.76 and an average SAT score of 1202. Incoming students arrived from 37 states and the territory of Puerto Rico, and from 18 countries.

"I am so pleased to welcome another talented incoming class to Florida Southern this academic year," said Provost and Vice

President for Academic Affairs Dr. Brad E. Hollingshead. "Their accomplishments before even arriving here — a student with a perfect score on the ACT, one who received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award, and another honored with an Anne Frank Humanitarian Award, to name just a few — hint at the promising futures all of them have, as well as their capacity to thrive as Moccasins."

Dr. Hollingshead and FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr strolled through campus to observe the Move-In Day activities, to visit with volunteers, students, and parents, and to take part in the team effort by carrying some of the new arrivals' belongings to their rooms. Pausing to chat with volunteers at the check-in location for Nicholas Hall, Dr. Kerr delightfully accepted the offer of a bright red T-shirt emblazoned with the words "Moc For Life."

One student volunteer, Sebastian Kuhr, arrived on campus just three days earlier from Hermosa Beach, Calif. An incoming freshman himself, he will be playing on FSC's men's soccer team. On Move-In Day, Kuhr and about 200 other student-athletes, ROTC cadets, and other students worked together with faculty, coaches, and staff to get everyone settled in their new rooms as smoothly as possible.

"I love it here," said Kuhr, who plans to major in criminology. "Everybody has made me feel at home." Becoming a member of FSC's impressive concierge team allowed him to bring that same welcoming spirit to other new arrivals, "to make it feel like a second home for everybody."



Above: The impressive team efforts of students, faculty, and staff were evident all around campus on Move-In Day, as the College's concierge service unpacked vehicles and delivered belongings to FSC's residence halls. This diligent team of volunteers prepared to load up for a trip into Wesley Hall.

Left: New freshman Sebastian Kuhr of Hermosa Beach, Calif., who arrived on campus several days earlier as a member of the men's soccer team, helped cart other newcomers' belongings into Spivey Hall.

Continuing the Legacy

New Students, Family Alumni Celebrate FSC Connections

Florida Southern's annual Legacy Luncheon, a popular Move-In Day tradition, served as an introduction to incoming students who are related to alumni or employees as well as a mini-reunion for family members revisiting their alma mater with the new freshmen.

Kayla Whisenant of Oviedo, who plans to study exercise science, and her brother Andrew, a junior, came to FSC as fourth-generation members of their family contingent. They shared a large table at the luncheon with a number of family members with legacy stories to tell, including their mother, Lesli Powell Whisenant '94, and their grandparents, Janey Woods Powell '71, a former FSC admissions counselor, and Larry Powell, who retired as the College's director of recreation services.

"I wasn't pressured to come here," Kayla said. "I came to Scholars Weekend and I fell in love with the campus." Her brother admitted he hadn't even known the depth of the family's legacy ties when he arrived at FSC.

Incoming freshman Lawrence Citarelli III of Remsenburg, N.Y., said his father's legacy status was a factor in his decision to attend FSC. "He wanted to know my background," said Lawrence Citarelli, Jr. '90. "He looked at schools all over the Northeast and Southeast, and when he came here, he felt it was the most comfortable."

According to Elizabeth Parker of Naples, who chose to study flute performance at FSC, "having a legacy definitely put it on the radar for me." She appreciated how her mother, Kelly Hardman Parker M.B.A. '88, was able to show her around the College. "I could make the connection of her being a student here, and not just a parent."

Conversations flowed easily at the Aug. 17 luncheon in the Charles T. Thrift Building, from the moment Florida Southern's beloved mascot, Mocsie, greeted the incoming students and their visiting family members. Many alumni marveled at the evolution and growth of FSC, and the care with which the College has preserved the cultural feel and architectural integrity of the campus.

FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr welcomed the incoming students to the Moc Nation, pointing out that about 10 percent of each new freshman class has a family connection to one or more legacy alumni.

"Let us know if we can help you in any way," Dr. Kerr said. "I hope this is the start to one of the best years of your life!"



FSC's Mocsie welcomed Elizabeth Parker and her parents, Kelly Hardman Parker M.B.A. '88 and Steve Parker, to Legacy Luncheon 2019. Elizabeth's legacies also include her uncle, William Hardman '85, and her great-aunt, Johnna Reid Patterson '69, Sigma Chi's 1968 Derby Queen.



Incoming freshmen and their legacies gathered for a group photo following the 2019 Legacy Luncheon.

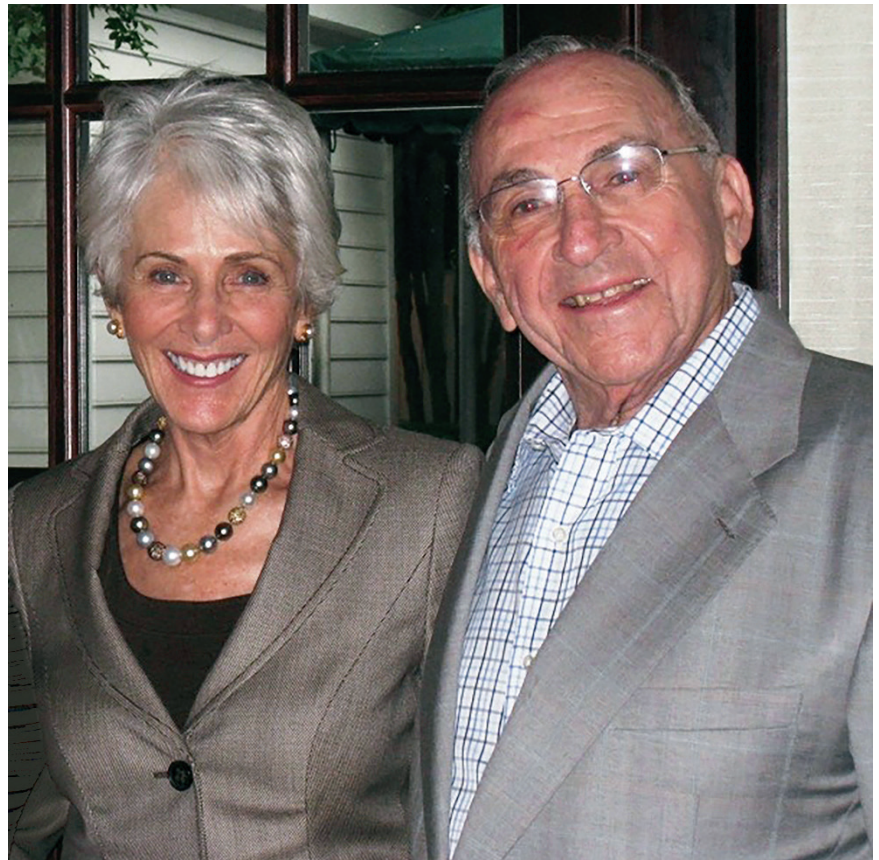
Groundbreaking Signals Growth FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAM

Florida Southern marked a major expansion of its computer science program in November 2018 with a groundbreaking for the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center, which will provide a state-of-the-art computing environment for the growing department; indeed, the fastest growing major on campus.

In addition to high-tech classrooms and collaborative learning spaces, the new structure will house a cybersecurity and informatics learning lab, a flagship computer cluster, a virtual cyber range for customized training environments, a logistics center, an artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics lab, a makerspace workshop, and an esports competition arena.

“This is a grand occasion,” FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr said, welcoming guests to the groundbreaking event. She expressed great pride in the College’s determination to expand the computer science program, saying “it is incumbent upon Florida Southern College to be as technologically advanced as possible for our students.”

Dean of Arts and Sciences Dr. Brad E. Hollingshead, now FSC’s provost, said the College “has been steadily expanding its computer science program over the past few years, with concentrations in web and cloud computing, artificial intelligence and machine learning, and cybersecurity. The generous gift from Carole and Marcus Weinstein will allow us to grow the program further and prepare students for high-demand areas that require the expertise that they develop through our programs.” Dr. Hollingshead also stressed the importance of creating a “new home” for



The expanded home for the College’s computer science majors will be named for FSC Trustee Carole Weinstein and her husband Marcus of Richmond, Va., whose philanthropy previously helped fund the Christoverson Humanities Building and other important construction projects.



As seen in this rendering, a large cube-shaped atrium will be a standout element of the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center, which is to overlook Lake Hollingsworth.

students in the Department of Computer Science, to “inspire, stimulate, and bring out the best in our students,” he said. “It is being designed, in the end, to empower them.”

The dramatically distinctive structure, designed by architect and Frank Lloyd Wright scholar Jeffrey Baker of the firm Mesick Cohen Wilson Baker Architects of New York, will overlook Lake Hollingsworth. Mr. Baker serves as the lead architect for restorations of the College’s historic Frank Lloyd Wright structures. Named for FSC Trustee Carole Weinstein and her husband, Dr. Marcus Weinstein, of Richmond, Va., the Center will provide approximately 15,000 square feet of

academic space, with a 3,000-square-foot auditorium and food venue featuring international items.

“In the past five years, we have more than doubled the number of majors,” said Dr. Christian Roberson, chair of the Department of Computer Science. Talented new faculty have been recruited to lead the continuing trajectory of this exciting academic enterprise.

The Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center has an estimated completion date of 2020.



Participants in the November 2018 groundbreaking for the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center were, from left, Vice President of Finance and Administration Terry Dennis, FSC Trustee Steve Buck, student Natalie Barton '19, Jeff Sandman of Rodda Construction, architect Jeff Baker, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Dr. Robert L. Fryer, Jr. '70, President Dr. Anne Kerr, Chair of the Department of Computer Science Dr. Christian Roberson, and current Provost Dr. Brad E. Hollingshead.



An electric golf cart donated by Jenkins Motorsports in Lakeland will be a likely platform for machine learning and computer vision research in the areas of object and collision detection, which are critical problems for the future of self-driving vehicles. Samantha “Mani” Jenkins '19, from left, met with Dr. Matthew Eicholtz, assistant professor of computer science, and Dr. Christian Roberson, assistant professor of computer science and department chair, for the transfer of the vehicle.

FSC Student Researcher Receives Goldwater Scholarship

Zachary Fralish of Niceville, Fla., is among an elite group of 496 students across the United States to receive a Goldwater Scholarship for the 2019-2020 academic year.

A senior at Florida Southern majoring in biochemistry and molecular biology, Fralish is one of only 13 students from academic institutions in Florida to receive the scholarship. Nationally, 1,223 college sophomores and juniors in the natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics were nominated by 443 institutions to compete for a Goldwater Scholarship.

“It is rare for smaller private schools to produce Goldwater Scholars, and Florida Southern has had two in the past three years,” said former FSC Provost Dr. Kyle Fedler. “Zach receiving a Goldwater Scholarship is a testament to Florida Southern’s commitment to undergraduate research as one element of its focus on experiential education.”

Established in 1986 to promote education and research by undergraduates in STEM fields, the Goldwater Scholarship Program is the preeminent award of its kind. The goal of the scholarship program, which was created in honor of the late Senator Barry Goldwater, is to identify and support college students who show exceptional promise of becoming the next generation of research leaders.

Fralish’s primary research interest is the delivery of medications to treat diseases of the retina.

Unlike current treatments that involve direct injections into the retina, Fralish’s project involves the development and analysis of a drug delivery system based on nanotechnology, to entrap treatments inside metal-organic polyhedra — which he describes as “cages” — meant to travel through the gel-like vitreous of the eye until they reach the retina, where they slowly release the medication. The goals of this procedure, if proven to be viable, would be to reduce the risks of surgery and lower costs while making the treatment accessible to more patients.

“At most schools, students start on research in their junior or senior year,” Fralish said, “but I began shadowing other students early in my first semester, and spending time in the laboratory. This allowed me to accomplish a lot more than I could have otherwise.”

In addition to the Goldwater Scholarship, which will award a \$7,500 research stipend in his senior year, Fralish is a recipient of the C.V. McClurg Scholarship, a four-year scholarship for students of exceptional academic merit that covers full tuition and fees for four years of study, awarded to first-year FSC students.

Fralish plans to pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering with a specialization in drug delivery mechanisms.



Zachary Fralish '20

FSC HOSTS NUCOR CORPORATION'S JOHN FERRIOLA

CEO100 Lecture

John Ferriola, who is chairman, chief executive officer, and president of Nucor Corporation, the largest steel manufacturer in North America, delivered the annual CEO100 Lecture hosted by the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise in February.

Speaking to FSC students, faculty, and community leaders about his company's mission, Ferriola stressed the important role a company should play in local economies by giving back in ways that will benefit each community and its residents.

Maintaining the high quality of Nucor's products, becoming more efficient, and improving production capabilities all demand the same degree of dedication, he added. "We know if we give our people the tools they need to succeed, and then get out of their way, there is nothing that they cannot and will not accomplish."

Nucor also displays its commitment to teammates through scholarships and by offering generous bonuses and profit-sharing programs.

Ferriola joined Nucor in 1991 as the manager of maintenance and engineering at the company's steel mill in Jewett, Texas, having previously worked for 17 years in various operational and management roles with Bethlehem Steel Corporation. In addition to his executive roles, he serves on the Board of Directors for two Nucor joint ventures: Nucor-Yamato Steel Company and NuMit LLC. He is vice chairman of Worldsteel, vice chairman of the American Iron and Steel Institute, serves on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Manufacturers, and for more than 20 years has been active in the Association for Iron and Steel Technology.

Nucor Corporation, based in Charlotte, N.C., is building a \$240 million steel mill in Frostproof, Fla. Described by Ferriola as a micro-mill, the plant will produce a limited number of products, focusing mainly on rebar steel used by the construction industry. A number of representatives from the city of Frostproof attended his presentation.



John Ferriola of Nucor Corporation addressed the guests at FSC's CEO100 Lecture in February 2019.

"John Ferriola has a record of success in leading what I consider to be the most efficient steel producer in the U.S., if not the world," said Dr. James W. Fenton, Jr., dean of the Barnett School. "Nucor's employees, from the CEO down to the newest entry-level employee, embrace the fact that they are in a performance-sensitive work environment. As individuals or as teams, they are empowered to make a positive, consequential impact on corporate performance."

Ferriola's people-based approach to business was clear throughout his presentation, as he referred to Nucor's 26,000 North American employees (650 of whom are in Florida) as "teammates" and emphasized the company's commitment to making their safety the top priority. Should a safety issue arise at Nucor, Ferriola said, "any teammate can —

and more importantly, is *expected* to — stop the operation."

FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr conferred upon Ferriola an honorary doctor of business degree, commending him for his distinguished 28-year career at Nucor and for his continuation of "a 50-year corporate legacy of excellence that holds at its core an unwavering commitment to cultural and environmental stewardship in the communities where they live and work."



Members of the Dean's Advisory Council met with Ferriola before his CEO100 Lecture. The students, pictured from left, were Mark Iannuzzi '19, Emily Suzuki '20, Hannah Whisman '18, Colby Firestone '21, Victoria Cangero '20, and Anderson Baker '21.

PERSONAL BEST

COMPETITIVE VIDEO GAMING BUILDS CONFIDENCE, SENSE OF COMMUNITY



Coach Nate Carson '17 offers a bit of in-game advice to "League of Legends" competitor Josh Morgan '21.

Nate Carson knows all the stereotypes about video gamers, and can rattle them off without taking a breath: bad eating habits; poor posture; an aversion to exercise; a preference for sitting alone in a darkened room; and avoiding human contact by playing video games nonstop.

Carson, a 2017 alumnus who is now head coach for Florida Southern's pioneering esports program, is eager to change those misperceptions.

He notes, for example, that while community-focused aspects of the esports program are overseen by Student Life, the competitive side of the program is operated by the Athletics Department. This connection, together with Coach Carson's focused guidance and encouragement, ensures that his 17-person roster of players will maintain a strong commitment to good health and fitness. They even go through the same concussion protocols as students who play baseball, basketball, lacrosse, and the other team sports.

"Probably our biggest supporters on campus are the men's soccer team," said esports team member Josh Morgan from Brandon, Miss.

"They'll hang out in the arena, play games, and enjoy the environment," Coach Carson added. "Our arena space is available to all of our student body whenever we're not practicing or competing, and there are regular events like tournaments and watch parties."

All of the competitors on Coach Carson's player roster are committed to making a mark in the expanding world of collegiate electronic sports. They play four different team-based games in league play, all of which require a high degree of cooperative problem solving: "Hearthstone," a fast-paced strategy card game; "League of Legends," a battle arena action/strategy game; "Overwatch," a near-future fighting game featuring a disbanded global peacekeeping task force; and "Rocket League," succinctly described by Coach Carson as "soccer with a car."

By working together as teammates and forming bonds with other students, FSC's esports players are making real strides that should pay off when they enter the workplace, as potential employers take notice of their increasingly marketable technical prowess, paired with necessary social skills.

"Being a part of the team gives you a lot of skills that you'll carry with you," said William James, a computer science major from Atlanta, Ga. "Working with

MAKING IT HAPPEN

FSC was the first school in Florida to join the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE), the governing body for the growing field of competitive collegiate video gaming. FSC's President, Dr. Anne Kerr, learned about the coming wave of collegiate esports from Ed Kerr '16 and enlisted the dean of students, Mike Crawford, to help make it happen here.

"We had six weeks to turn a classroom into an esports arena and to hire a coach," Crawford said. "We have a competitive side, but we also have a community side, where students are building a community by gaming together."

The "home field" for Florida Southern's pioneering video gaming teams is a colorful converted classroom with 14 computers lining its walls. Fans of the College's esports teams can watch their games online, as they are broadcast live.



Team members Will James '22, left, and Chris Vickers '20 participate in a "League of Legends" practice session as part of Florida Southern's esports program.

different kinds of people and coming together to achieve a common goal, everybody brings their own unique strengths."

FSC's competitive gamers take all aspects of their sport seriously, whether competing as team members in the esports arena or while practicing on their own, in their free time at home.

"We have one guy, if he played football, he would be Tom Brady," Coach Carson said. "He's that dedicated."





Michael Kunz '18 receives his Master's of Business Administration from Provost Dr. Kyle Fedler, left, and Dr. James W. Fenton, Jr., dean of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, during the afternoon commencement ceremony for graduate students.



Lt. General Donald L. Kerrick (Ret.) '71



Students enter the lobby of FSC's Branscomb Auditorium prior to the start of their winter commencement ceremony.

WINTER COMMENCEMENT

“LIVE A LIFE RICH WITH CHARACTER”

Florida Southern conferred undergraduate and graduate degrees, one a doctorate in education, at two separate winter commencement ceremonies in Branscomb Auditorium in December 2018.

At the morning ceremony for undergraduates, Senior Speaker Hannah Whisman shared lighthearted reflections about long nights in the library, the importance of coffee, and the changing appearance of FSC's mascot, Mocsie. She urged the crowd of soon-to-be-alumni to follow their passions and “to make this a better world for succeeding generations.”

Commencement speaker for the morning ceremony was U.S. Army Lt. General Donald L. Kerrick (Ret.) '71, a former FSC trustee. Gen. Kerrick served as Deputy National Security Advisor to President Clinton and was a principal negotiator on the U.S. peace delegation that brokered an agreement ending the Bosnian War. He exhorted the graduates to “live a life rich with character,” and shared three words that powerfully inspire the military: duty, honor, and country.

The College conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters on Dr. Sherry

Magill, recently retired president of the Jacksonville-based Jessie Ball duPont Fund. Dr. Magill, who led the Fund for 25 years, is a founding member and past chair of the Florida Philanthropic Network and past chair of the board of directors of the Council on Foundations.

FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr presented the 2018 President's Medal to graduating senior Olivia Smith of Lakeland, who earned both a bachelor of science and her master's degree in accounting. Olivia also flourished as a violinist and violin teacher, serving as concert master for the Florida Southern Symphony Orchestra and traveling with conductor Dr. Kira Omelchenko to perform with Bulgaria's Vidin State Philharmonic Orchestra. The President's Medal recognizes a student with superior academic standing who exemplifies the values of the College and demonstrates a commitment to scholarship, leadership, and service.

At the afternoon ceremony for graduate programs, Walter Manley II '69, an attorney, professor, author, and philanthropist, delivered the address. He encouraged those in attendance to make sure their lives are filled with genuine and robust social connections based on civil, reasoned discourse. Always look for ways to build bridges and friendships, Manley said.



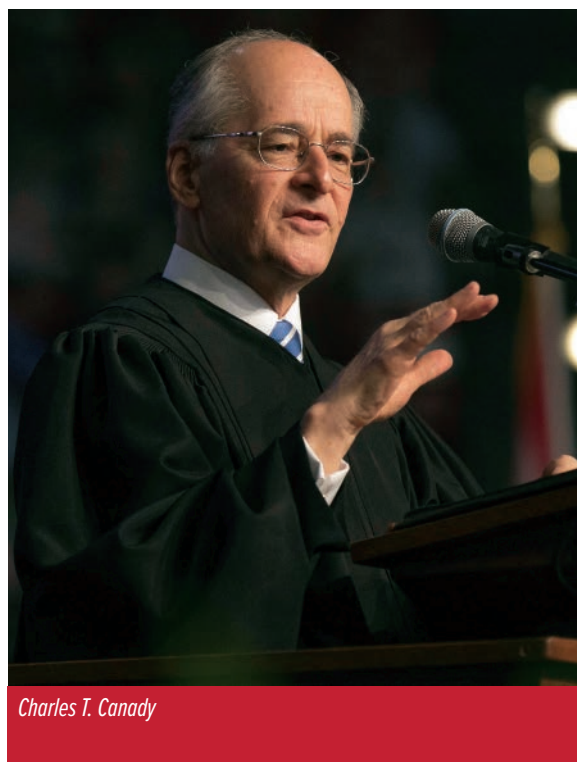
Walter Manley II '69



Natalie Barton '19 introduces the commencement speaker, the Honorable Charles T. Canady, chief justice of the Florida Supreme Court.



Dr. Robert L. Fryer, Jr., left, and Stephen Buck, right, confer an honorary Doctor of Business on fellow Trustee Richard C. Jensen.



Charles T. Canady

SPRING COMMENCEMENT

“WE EACH SHAPE THE LIVES WE LIVE”



Chairman of the Board of Trustees Dr. Robert L. Fryer, Jr. '70 congratulates 2019 graduate Myles Wilkins during FSC's spring commencement ceremony.

Senior Speaker Marcos Martins expressed great praise for his fellow graduates at Florida Southern's spring commencement in May, collectively referring to the class of 2019 as "a network of encouragement." With humor and passion, he asked his classmates to promise "to never stop fighting for what is good and right" and to never lose the spirit of "Let's go, Mocs!"

The College awarded degrees to a record number of 474 students, 28 of whom earned graduate degrees, with three earning doctorates.

The Hon. Charles T. Canady, chief justice of the Florida Supreme Court and a former legislative leader, delivered the commencement address. Justice Canady challenged the graduates to remain mindful of a few simple principles. "You will never regret cultivating and demonstrating a heart filled with gratitude," he said, adding, "We each, by our own decisions, shape the lives we live." The College conferred on Justice Canady the Doctor of Humane Letters *honoris causa*.

FSC also conferred on alumnus Richard C. Jensen '59 a Doctor of Business *honoris causa*.

A third-generation owner of Michael Riesz and Co., a building construction firm, Dr. Jensen is also a member of the Florida Southern College Board of Trustees.

FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr introduced graduates Olivia Panda and Kate Vita, two of the College's three recipients of 2019 English Teaching Assistant Awards from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. (See page 23.) She also recognized Natalie Barton and Jordan Carr, co-recipients of the 2019 Honor Walk Award, the College's highest student award, and President's Scholar Medal recipient Alec Bigness. All three graduates had been honored during the Founders Day Convocation in March. (See pages 16-17.)

The Miller Distinguished Professor Award, recognizing excellence in Teaching and Advising, was presented to Dr. Silvana Falcon '91, assistant professor of business administration in the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise and advisor to the campus chapter of Enactus, an international nonprofit that promotes social responsibility in business. Dr. Kyle Fedler, provost, praised Dr. Falcon by saying "She deserves Teacher of the Decade."

MOCCASIN BATTALION CADETS COMMISSIONED AS ARMY OFFICERS



Above: The 11 members of the Moccasin Battalion's commissioning class of 2019 posed together in FSC's Annie Pfeiffer Chapel.

Right: Lt. Col. Rocky Vaira, professor of military science and the department chair at FSC, introduced distinguished guests and spoke about the accomplishments of the graduating cadets.

Far right: Guest speaker at the ceremony was Brig. Gen. Stanley Budraitis, Commander of the 66th Troop Command of the Mississippi Army National Guard.

Graduating cadets of the Moccasin Battalion were commissioned as Army 2nd Lieutenants during the Spring ROTC Commissioning Ceremony in May, an annual component of Commencement Weekend activities. Family and friends were on hand in FSC's Annie Pfeiffer Chapel to help mark the commissioning, which featured speakers Lt. Col. Rocky Vaira, professor of military science and department chair at Florida Southern, and Brig. Gen. Stanley Budraitis, Commander of the 66th Troop Command of the Mississippi Army National Guard.

The commissioning ceremony was Lt. Col. Vaira's last at FSC before heading to United States Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa. A professor at FSC since 2015, Lt. Col. Vaira told the cadets, "I'm extremely proud of all of you. I hope I challenged you to think critically, analyze carefully, and as I always say, 'Be ready to fight tonight.'" He also recognized the College's faculty and staff "for all of their time, dedication, and energy in preparing our future leaders and really teaching them 'how to think' as they enter our Army as leaders in a very complex world for a nation still at war."

Brig. Gen. Budraitis spoke to the graduating cadets about the importance of leading from the front, as well as by example. He challenged the graduates to take care of their soldiers, to be actively involved in their



Lt. Col. Rocky Vaira



Brig. Gen. Stanley Budraitis

professional development, and to advance their own personal development by always continuing to learn and evolve as professional soldiers.

DAY OF IMPACT

FSC CELEBRATES LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



In January, students and faculty members gathered to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with a special Day of Impact that included a service project to assemble hundreds of trays of nonperishable food for distribution to hungry and homeless youths in Polk County.

The event, which featured an address by alumna and Trustee Evett L. Simmons, Esq. '79, was held in the George W. Jenkins Field House on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, a federal holiday to celebrate the life and pivotal achievements of the American civil rights leader, who was slain in 1968.

Dr. King's famous "Letter from Birmingham Jail," written following a 1963 arrest for his involvement in a nonviolent public demonstration, was at the heart of Simmons' compelling talk.

"In some ways, we are facing the same battles 55 years later," the Port St. Lucie-based lawyer said. "Injustice must be exposed, with all the tension its exposure creates, to the light of human conscience and the air of national opinion before it can be cured." Speaking as Dr. King's "surrogate," Simmons said, she challenged audience members to be their brothers' and sisters' keepers.

"Dr. King is calling on us to make a positive impact," she said. "And it starts with each of you today."

FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr asked the large assemblage of students to reflect on Dr. King and "how much he accomplished through his message of love."

The service project that followed the program involved more than 60 students who teamed with representatives from a local nonprofit agency, KidsPACK, to assemble and wrap 375 trays of nonperishable items such as granola bars, peanut butter crackers, pasta cups, nuts, and applesauce for area children in need. Each tray was meant to provide the equivalent of two breakfasts, two lunches, and two dinners.

"In Polk County, we have 3,725 registered homeless children," said KidsPACK Program Manager Amy Royal, adding that the average age of a homeless person in the county is 9 years old. The main mission of KidsPACK, she said, is to provide nutritious meals to homeless children on weekends and other times when they are not in school to receive state-subsidized breakfasts and lunches.

The student collaboration with KidsPACK was organized by FSC's Student Government Association, the Multicultural Student Council, and the Evett L. Simmons Center for Multicultural Appreciation, which was named in honor of the day's guest speaker in 2013.

Event co-planners Natalie Barton, president of the Student Government Association, and Uso Okonkwo, president of the Multicultural Student Council, were pleased with the way the student volunteers helped to bring Dr. King's caring lessons into today's world.

"It's a great opportunity for students to give back for the betterment of Lakeland," Barton said.



Above: Alumna and Trustee Evett L. Simmons, Esq. '79, a Port St. Lucie-based lawyer and poet, delivered the main address for the Day of Impact event.

Right: Jessica Korver and Princess Desuze, at right, prepared trays of food to be wrapped and packed for distribution to local homeless students. Dozens of student volunteers took part in the community outreach project.

Founders Day Convocation

DR. MAE C. JEMISON NAMED HONORARY CHANCELLOR



Chairman of the Board of Trustees Dr. Robert L. Fryer, Jr. '70, from left, welcomed Founders Day speaker Dr. Mae C. Jemison during FSC's convocation ceremony in March. They shared the stage with Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award recipients Trustee Dr. Barney Barnett '65, William A. Chope '71, and Albert V. Misan '72.

Astronaut, engineer, physician, educator, and entrepreneur Dr. Mae C. Jemison was the featured speaker at Florida Southern's Founders Day Convocation in March. In recognition of her contributions to society, FSC conferred upon her the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters and named her the College's 85th Honorary Chancellor.

Dr. Jemison, who served six years as a NASA astronaut and was the first woman of color to go into space, grew up in the 1960s, "a time when our potential seemed limitless," she said. Her childhood passions ranged from dance to dinosaurs to outer space.

"I was an original-series 'Star Trek' fan," Dr. Jemison proclaimed, proudly. "I was this little girl who assumed she would go into space, and I made it!"

She urged the audience of students, faculty, alumni, and friends to use their time wisely to explore life's infinite possibilities, "not doubting that you have the right to try, and the responsibility to try."

With humor and insight, Dr. Jemison intertwined stories from her own life with expansive visions of humanity's future. She detailed many of her lifelong interests and innovative ventures, encompassing everything from the artistic to the technological to the inspirational. Giving voice to unifying messages of individual empowerment and the importance of human connection, Dr. Jemison interspersed quotations from such diverse sources as Yoruba proverbs, authors Zora Neale Hurston, and Will and Ariel Durant.

Dr. Jemison is at the forefront of integrating the physical and social sciences with art and culture to solve problems and foster innovation. She has founded two technology companies and the non-profit Dorothy Jemison Foundation for Excellence, which designs and implements STEM education experiences worldwide. She leads the 100 Year Starship®, a global initiative to ensure the capabilities for human travel to another star within the next 100 years while also transforming life on Earth. She also spearheaded the Look Up™ movement, which encourages people to connect with space, Earth, and each other by sharing "sky selfie" photos and personal thoughts. She is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine and the National Women's Hall of Fame.

"We were pleased to welcome this distinguished and accomplished advocate for scientific discovery," said FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr. "Through her talents and accomplishments as an astronaut, doctor, and educator, Dr. Mae Jemison has found numerous ways to demonstrate how technological advancements can benefit our society, while inspiring others to pursue their own dreams of improving the world."

The convocation, which marked Florida Southern's founding 136 years ago in 1883, also included the presentation of Distinguished Alumni Achievement Awards to three FSC graduates who have made outstanding contributions in their professions and communities: Trustee Dr. Barney Barnett '65, retired vice chairman of Publix Super Markets Inc; William A. Chope '71 of Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich., co-founder and president of Crest Automotive Group and president of Metro Jobbers; and Albert



V. Misan '72 of Miami and Lakeland, a longtime Citibank executive who has held positions in locations including Brazil, Ecuador, and Mexico.

Graduating senior Alec Bigness, son of Paul Bigness and Janice Reese of Englewood, was named as recipient of the 2019 President's Scholar Medal, in recognition of his academic record and for demonstrating great promise for future success. He graduated at the top of his class in spring 2019, earning his B.S. in chemistry and a minor in biology.

Also, for only the second time in the College's history, two graduating seniors were jointly selected for the Honor Walk, FSC's highest student award. Nursing major Natalie Barton, daughter of Jill Kibler of Melbourne, and biology major Jordan Carr, daughter of Erin Garcia of North Port and Jeffrey Carr of Sarasota, were named as 2019 Honor Walk recipients. Both students were recognized for their highest-level achievements in academics and for their service to the College community.

Faculty member Dr. Sara Fletcher Harding, professor of religion, was presented with the Ben and Janice Wade Outstanding Teaching Award. In 2010, Dr. Harding was named as Omicron Delta Kappa Teacher of the Year and received an Exemplary Teaching Award from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church.

1 Convocation speaker Dr. Mae C. Jemison, a NASA astronaut for six years and the first woman of color to go into space, was named Florida Southern's 85th Honorary Chancellor.

2 Graduating seniors Jordan Carr '19 and Natalie Barton '19, were selected as co-recipients for the Honor Walk, the College's highest student award.

3 Alec Bigness '19 received the 2019 President's Scholar Medal from Dr. Anne Kerr.

4 Dr. Jemison's inspiring convocation address, which focused on personal empowerment and the value of human connection, was accompanied by a multimedia presentation that included photographs from her days as a NASA astronaut.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

Barney Barnett '65

Trustee Dr. Barney Barnett, a senior executive and retired Vice Chairman of Publix Super Markets, Inc., epitomizes the mission of Florida Southern College, which is to make a positive and consequential impact on society. Through his professional leadership, generosity of time and resources, and commitment to making a societal impact, he has transformed the community where he lives and wherever there is a Publix Super Market. In recognition of his many contributions to society, Florida Southern College bestowed upon him the Honorary Doctorate of Public Service in 1998.

During his collegiate years, he was a member of the men's junior varsity basketball team, the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, and the Accounting Club. He graduated from FSC with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting in 1965, and served in the United States Coast Guard Reserve from 1965 to 1971.

Following a career in public accounting, in 1969, Dr. Barnett accepted a position of internal auditor for Publix Super Markets, where he has worked for the last 50 years. He was promoted to Controller in 1977, was named Vice President of Administration in 1986, and in 1988, he became Publix's Executive Vice President. Dr. Barnett held his role as the company's Vice Chairman since 1998. He has been a member of the Publix Board of Directors since 1985, and serves as a board member of Publix Super Markets Charities.

In addition to his excellent leadership within Publix and the national grocery industry, Dr. Barnett has been committed to the economic development of our region, state, and nation. He has served as Chairman of the Lakeland Economic Development Council, Florida Tax Watch, and Tampa Bay Partnership, and has held leadership positions in the Florida Council of 100, Enterprise Florida, and the Florida Chamber of Commerce. He was inducted into the Tampa Bay Business Hall of Fame in 2002. Dr. Barnett remains actively involved in a number of important community service agencies such as the United Way of America, GiveWell Community Foundation, Volunteers in Service to the Elderly (VISTE), and Kiwanis, among others. He has served as a member of the Florida Southern College Board of Trustees since 1998 and is a member of First United Methodist Church.

Dr. Barnett is married to Dr. Carol Jenkins Barnett '79, whose late father, George W. Jenkins, was the founder of Publix Super Markets. In April 2011, Dr. Carol Barnett made a transformational gift to Florida Southern to establish the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, the first named academic school in the College's history. The couple have two children, Wesley Barnett and Nicholas Barnett '18. Both of their sons are married to FSC alumnae.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

William A. Chope '71

Founder of the Crest Automotive Group and president of Metro Jobbers, a dealership-owned supply cooperative, William A. Chope '71 is an exemplar of successful entrepreneurship based on the values of free enterprise and a commitment to ethical business practices.

Born in Detroit and raised in the adjacent city of Grosse Pointe, at 18 he worked for the National Bank of Detroit and Keans Detroit Yacht Harbor.

While at Florida Southern College, he majored in history and minored in sociology. A member of the ROTC, he graduated in 1971 as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army Infantry before attending the Detroit College of Law.

Chope began his lifelong automotive career in 1974, starting with MOOG Automotive, where he became national sales manager. During the following decade, he guided the business recoveries of several national and international automotive supply companies. In 1994, Chope founded the Crest Automotive Group. Based in Southeast Michigan, the company consists of retail automotive dealerships that throughout the years have sold Ford, Lincoln, Mercury, Volvo, and Hyundai brands.

As president of the Crest Group, Chope now works for his daughter,

Carrie Way, who became the company's new majority owner after purchasing the business from her father. He also serves as president of Metro Jobbers.

In 1981, Chope received the Young Alumni Achievement Citation from his alma mater. He is a longtime member of Florida Southern's National Alumni Board of Directors, as well as the Harry S. Bunting Society of his fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Through the Crest Group, he has made internships available to FSC's undergraduates, and in recent years, he has supported FSC's student recruitment efforts by holding recruiting events in Detroit — offering tickets to Detroit Tigers games or the North American International Auto Show — to promote the College's tradition of welcoming students from throughout the Midwest.

He and his wife, Jenny, who reside in Grosse Pointe Farms and Harbor Springs, Mich., enjoy spending time with their three children and four grandchildren. They also take advantage of their increased leisure time by relaxing aboard their boat, the Sea Jay. Together, they have completed America's Great Loop, a 6,000-mile adventure route that allows recreational boaters to circumnavigate the Eastern U.S. and part of Canada via intracoastal waterways, canals, rivers, the Great Lakes, and the Gulf of Mexico.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS

Albert V. Misan '72

Retired Citibank executive Albert Misan '72 excelled in a highly competitive international business environment, attaining success that brings great distinction to himself and to Florida Southern College.

He was born in Alexandria, Egypt, and immigrated with his family to Brazil after the Second Arab–Israeli War in late 1956. His father, who had been successful in the shipping business in Egypt, found work at a private elementary school in Rio de Janeiro to pursue a new life, and so Albert and his siblings could attend the school at no charge.

Misan received a scholarship to attend high school at the Escola Americana of Rio de Janeiro, studying business management. He later received a partial scholarship to attend college in the United States, and worked summer jobs as a union laborer to help pay his college expenses. While at Florida Southern, Misan was a member of the International Student Association and Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity and also served as the senior class vice president. He graduated from FSC in 1972 with a B.S. in business administration.

Upon graduation, Misan immediately started working in the financial services industry, returning to Brazil for a position with Citibank of New York's operation in Rio de Janeiro. In 1974, he was promoted to consumer banking,

where he worked on high net-worth accounts. He transferred to corporate banking as an account manager in 1977, later becoming a supervisor in Citibank's Sao Paulo office.

After nearly 30 years with Citibank, in locations ranging from New York to Ecuador and Mexico, Misan was recruited in 2001 by Itaú / Unibanco Group, a Brazilian financial group in Miami. He worked for six years as the Chief Executive Officer, focusing on their international business. In 2010, Citibank invited him to rejoin their corporation as a director, managing international accounts.

Misan retired in 2016, following a highly successful international career. He and his wife of more than 45 years, Ana, are residents of Miami and Lakeland, and they enjoy spending time with their three children and two grandchildren in Miami, Lakeland, and New York. Today, he remains active in his fraternity and serves as a member of the Florida Southern National Alumni Board of Directors.

DR. BRAD HOLLINGSHEAD APPOINTED AS PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Dr. Brad E. Hollingshead, who joined Florida Southern College as dean of the School of Arts and Sciences in 2013, was appointed by FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr in May as provost and vice president for academic affairs. His appointment began June 1.

Following the College's national search, which included consideration of more than 200 applicants, members of the selection committee unanimously recommended Dr. Hollingshead, a deeply committed leader of the College's mission of preparing students to make a positive and consequential impact on society.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve as Florida Southern's next provost," Dr. Hollingshead said. "I am in the enviable position of joining a very strong senior leadership team and having the chance to work with faculty and students who are doing some absolutely amazing things. The College is on an excellent strategic trajectory under Dr. Kerr's leadership, and I look forward to helping Florida Southern maintain this momentum and continue to strengthen its commitment to transforming students' lives."

In announcing Dr. Hollingshead's appointment, Dr. Kerr praised his distinguished academic career of nearly 30 years, during which he has served as both a faculty member and administrator, "He has worked extensively to implement programs that foster collaborative and experiential education through engaged learning strategies," she said. "I am privileged to welcome Dr. Hollingshead into his new assignment as provost for Florida Southern College."

Dr. Hollingshead earned his B.A. in English from Ohio Dominican College and both an M.A. and Ph.D. in English from Duquesne University, where he began teaching on a fellowship in 1989. He took a faculty position at Carlow College in 1995, and in 2000 moved to Medaille College as an associate professor. Steadily taking on increasing levels of administrative responsibility, he established himself in a strong leadership role as Medaille's assessment coordinator and chair of humanities, then as associate dean for foundational learning and assessment.

As chief administrative officer for the School of Arts and Sciences at FSC, Dr. Hollingshead has led important strategic initiatives while providing crucial oversight across 13 academic departments and the ROTC, including curricula for 44 majors and 30 minors serving more than 1,300 students. He also maintains faculty status as a tenured professor of English and in 2016, was appointed to the Dahl and Lottie Pryor Endowed Chair in English.



Dr. Hollingshead's leadership at FSC has contributed to positive results in a number of important areas, such as increasing support for students pursuing prestige scholarships, with two Goldwater Scholarship recipients and eight Fulbright Award recipients in Arts and Sciences during the past two years. He also was involved in the College's successful efforts to achieve accreditation by the American Chemical Society, and the expansion of first-year academic programming and learning communities that has significantly improved retention rates for new students.

FSC'S SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL THERAPY GRANTED CANDIDACY FOR ACCREDITATION

Right: The Florida Southern College community came together to break ground for the Jean and Sal Campisi, Sr., Academic Center for Physical Therapy.

Below: Wallis Murphey Boyington Architects designed the new facilities for FSC's School of Physical Therapy, with construction work by Rodda Construction. The structure's design is inspired by the work of architect Frank Lloyd Wright and reflects some familiar elements from Wright's buildings on the Florida Southern campus.



In October 2018, Florida Southern broke ground on the Jean and Sal Campisi, Sr., Academic Center for Physical Therapy, a stunningly designed facility located in Lakeland's Dixieland Historic District on South Florida Avenue, less than a mile from FSC's main campus. Just seven months later, in May 2019, the College announced that the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) had granted Candidate for Accreditation status to FSC's new School of Physical Therapy.

This important step in the pre-accreditation process indicates that a program is making satisfactory progress toward compliance with accreditation standards/requirements and can admit students and implement the program. With CAPTE's granting of candidacy, the School of Physical Therapy's first classes began in the fall of 2019.

"At the School of Physical Therapy, we believe that success comes down to focus and effort, and our team exhibits both," said Dr. Nancy A. Nuzzo, the founding program director and dean of the School of Physical Therapy.

FSC launched its Doctor of Physical Therapy program in response to an overwhelming regional need for highly trained physical therapists in central Florida and beyond. Physical therapists are movement experts, helping people of all ages and abilities to improve and

maintain functionality and quality of life. Graduates of a physical therapy program are considered clinical doctors similar to physicians, dentists, and podiatrists, and provide services in a variety of settings, including hospitals, private practices, outpatient and inpatient clinics, home health agencies, and nursing and assisted living facilities.

Students in FSC's program will perform clinical rotations throughout the country and at area locations such as Watson Clinic and Lakeland Regional Health. Students and faculty will also provide *pro bono* services to underserved populations and will provide community outreach in education and screenings.

The design of the School's new home was inspired by the work of architect Frank Lloyd Wright, including elements reminiscent of the colored-glass "textile blocks" Wright incorporated into his designs for the FSC campus. The site consists of a new 11,000-square-foot classroom/laboratory structure and an adjacent 6,500-square-foot renovated building used for offices and student study spaces.

For more information about the new Doctor of Physical Therapy program at FSC, visit the website at www.flsouthern.edu/DPT.



Effective May 15, 2019, Florida Southern College School of Physical Therapy has been granted Candidate for Accreditation status by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (1111 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314; phone: 703-706-3245; email: accreditation@apta.org). If needing to contact the program/institution directly, please call 863-680-5126 or email nuzzo@flsouthern.edu.

Candidate for Accreditation is a pre-accreditation status of affiliation with the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education that indicates the program is progressing toward accreditation and may matriculate students in technical/professional courses. Candidate for Accreditation is not an accreditation status nor does it assure eventual accreditation.

THREE FLORIDA SOUTHERN SCHOLARS NAMED FULBRIGHT RECIPIENTS

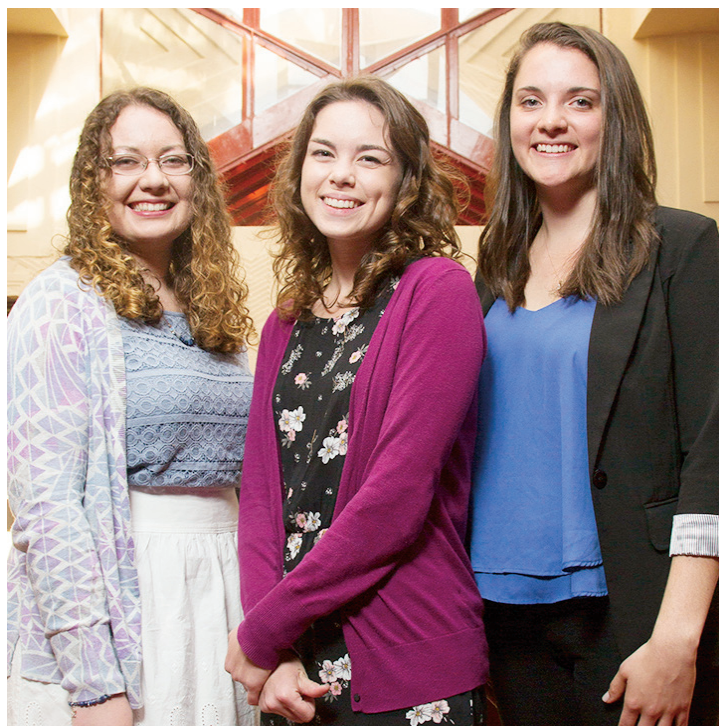
Two members of Florida Southern's class of 2019 and a 2018 alumna were named as recipients of Fulbright Awards in April, exemplifying the College's tradition of academic excellence. Olivia Panda '19 of DeLand, Kate Vita '19 of Bayport, N.Y., and Abby Eskridge '18 of Lakeland received English Teaching Assistant Awards from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, which provided all three with opportunities to spend one academic year teaching English in Europe.

"Olivia, Kate, and Abby have demonstrated the highest commitment to the academic and leadership standards of Florida Southern College," said FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr. "Their experiences as Fulbright recipients are certain to be invaluable as they move forward to fulfill Florida Southern's mission of making a positive and consequential impact on the world."

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is the most selective and prestigious overseas study program in America. It is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government, making it possible for recent college graduates and young professionals to undertake international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and primary and secondary school teaching worldwide.

OLIVIA PANDA first traveled outside the U.S. during her 2017 Junior Journey, FSC's study-abroad program that guarantees each qualifying undergraduate student a domestic or foreign travel learning experience. During her travel adventure, Panda studied Spanish in Alicante in southeastern Spain and enjoyed taking various regional excursions, including to the Asturias province in northwestern Spain. Panda's Fulbright award has allowed her to return to the Asturias province as an English-language teaching assistant. A 2019 graduate with degrees in elementary education and Spanish, Panda was also the recipient of a Hollis Fellows in Education scholarship, a renewable scholarship awarded to qualifying first-year education majors who plan to pursue a teaching career.

KATE VITA's Fulbright assignment in The Netherlands involves teaching English at Montessori School Landsmeer in historic Monnickendam, while also researching international education at Breda University of Applied Sciences. She took part in two service-based Junior Journeys, traveling to Panama in 2017, where she assisted with the placement of children in a special-needs orphanage, and to Costa Rica in 2018, where she taught preschool English and studied diverse education. A 2019 graduate with a major in elementary education, Vita is studying for her Master



Abby Eskridge, Olivia Panda, and Kate Vita

of Education in Transformational Curriculum and Instruction at FSC, continuing her work in the program by taking online classes during her time abroad.

ABBY ESKRIDGE, who graduated from FSC in 2018 with a B.S. in history and a B.A. in Spanish, will teach English in Galicia in northwestern Spain. During a Junior Journey trip to Spain in 2017, Eskridge studied for four weeks at Proyecto Español, a school for international students in Alicante. She was fascinated by the Spanish culture, and is pleased to be able to return, to learn more about the country and its citizens. Her plans include working toward a doctorate in Spanish history.

FSC was among the U.S. colleges and universities that produced the most Fulbright students in 2018, according to information released by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. During 2018, Fulbrights were awarded to three members of FSC's class of 2018 and a 2016 alumna.

DR. ALEX RICH APPOINTED

TO HEAD POLK MUSEUM OF ART



Dr. H. Alexander Rich, who joined Florida Southern in 2014 as assistant professor of art history, was appointed in May 2019 to be executive director and chief curator for the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College. His appointment took effect in June.

At FSC, Dr. Rich has served as head of the art history program and director of campus galleries and exhibitions. In 2017, he assumed the additional role of curator and director of galleries and exhibitions for the Polk Museum of Art, as part of an affiliation agreement between the two organizations.

“It’s a great honor to be given the opportunity to lead a distinguished community and academic art museum,” Dr. Rich said. “With the affiliation in 2017, the Polk Museum officially became an academic museum for students, alumni, children, and all members of the greater Lakeland area. It demonstrates that the College has really endorsed the arts, and the importance of studying and learning about the arts.”

A native of New York City, Dr. Rich earned his A.B. in English and Art History from Dartmouth College, and both his M.A. and Ph.D. in Art History from The Institute of Fine Arts at New York University. His experience includes a high school apprenticeship as a tour guide at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, an internship at the Whitney Museum of American Art, and in various other roles at the Met, the Hood Museum of Art, the Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum of Art, and in the Education Department of the Whitney Museum. He also worked as adjunct professor at Hunter College, City University of New York, and the Fashion Institute of Technology.

In summer 2018, Dr. Rich created “The Von Wagner Code,” a one-of-a-kind exhibition for the Polk Museum of Art based on the mysteries surrounding a rediscovered painting of a chariot race that hung for a time in a student lounge at the College. He has curated a wide range of other recent exhibitions, such as “Masters of Spain: Goya and Picasso,” “Renoir: Les Études,” “Rembrandt’s Academy,” and “Chagall: Stories into Dreams,” and he is planning for top-tier shows that highlight American Impressionism through the French lens, music and dance in paintings of the Dutch Golden Age, and the works of French painter, printmaker and illustrator Toulouse-Lautrec.

The Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College was founded in 1966 as the Imperial Youth Museum, and was renamed the Polk Public Museum in 1969 to better reflect its emphasis on art, history, and science. After receiving accreditation from the American Association of Museums, it was renamed the Polk Museum of Art.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Global Art of the 1970s: From the S.C. Johnson Collection

Nov. 9, 2019-Jan. 26, 2020

Exclusive exhibition of rarely seen works from the company’s private collection, offering a deep dive into one of the most consequential decades in art history.

Music & Dance in Painting of the Dutch Golden Age

Feb. 8-May 31, 2020

17th century Dutch and Flemish masterworks from private collectors, custom curated for the Polk Museum by the Hoogsteder Museum Foundation of The Netherlands.

Toulouse-Lautrec & The Belle Époque

June 13-Sept. 13, 2020

Featuring 225 rare and original works on paper by the Post-Impressionist master who illustrated turn-of-the-century Paris, from cabaret advertisements to everyday life.

FSC in BOSTON

An Alumni and Friends Event



In June, Florida Southern alumni and friends reunited to explore the richly historic city of Boston with faculty members and staff during a special three-day weekend retreat. The trip featured distinctive social events that offered the chance to meet and reconnect with fellow FSC alumni. Highlights of the weekend included a Boston Harbor Whale Watch Cruise, a visit to the New England Aquarium, walking the historic Freedom Trail, and an unforgettable reception at the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum. Guests also enjoyed an exclusive tour of the Museum of Fine Arts, led by Polk Museum of Art Executive Director and Chief Curator Dr. Alex Rich, and a private viewing of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum collections before concluding the weekend with a banquet at the Harvard Art Museums, surrounded by the priceless masterpieces of world-renowned artists.

1 FSC alumni and friends, from left, Patricia Mederos, Devon Mederos, Marillyn Owens '57, Adriana Evans Zapata '82, Benjamin Cooper, Alejandra Evans Cooper '86, and Barbara Kleinschmidt Piech '65 at the closing dinner at the Harvard Art Museums.

2 A group of FSC alumni and friends visit the historic Freedom Trail.

3 The Honorable John Antoon '68 enjoys the Boston Harbor Whale Watch Cruise with Margie and Toby Wagner '70.

CHILD OF THE SUN DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

“Technology and Innovation: Redefining Possible” was the theme for compelling presentations by three visiting speakers in the spring 2019 schedule of FSC’s Child of the Sun Distinguished Speaker Series.



“The Right Kind of Crazy: A True Story of Teamwork, Leadership and High Stakes Innovation”
NASA scientist and author Adam Steltzner worked as chief engineer for the team that landed the Curiosity Rover on Mars in 2012.



“The Glass Cage: How Our Computers Are Changing Us”
An acclaimed writer and speaker whose work focuses on technology, economics, and culture, Nicholas Carr has explored the effects of our growing dependence on computer technology.



“Body 3.0”
A leader in the field of cell and tissue engineering, Nina Tandon is the founder and CEO of EpiBone, the world’s first company to grow living human bone for skeletal reconstruction.

COMPUTER SCIENCE COLLABORATION SENDS RESEARCHERS TO ALOHA STATE

An educational research challenge based on a game of cards inspired Florida Southern's Dr. Christian Roberson to apply for a summer 2018 collaboration grant with student Katarina Sperduto '19. Their resulting work in the areas of artificial intelligence (AI), algorithms, and machine learning led to the submission of a scholarly paper and an invitation for the student/faculty duo to present their findings at a major AI conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.

A variation on the card game Solitaire, called Birds of a Feather, was at the heart of their research. Played with just 16 randomly selected cards laid out in a four-by-four grid, the game was specially created to afford computer science researchers a new, untested area of study.

"The objective is to reduce the 16 cards to a single pile of cards," said Dr. Roberson, assistant professor of computer science and the department's chair. According to the rules of the game, cards may only be moved to cover similar suits or ranks, and only within a shared row or column.

The pair developed a computer program that played through a large number of simulated games, keeping track of each possible move to determine whether or not a game could be solved, and to identify a possible sequence of winning moves. They found that by simulating 400 games and tracking each possible move, the AI player was able to win roughly 95 percent of the time. Boosting the number of simulated games to 4,000 increased the player's effectiveness, improving its win rate to 99.8 percent.

Dr. Roberson and Sperduto submitted their research paper, "A Monte-Carlo Tree Search Player for Birds of a Feather Solitaire," to the Ninth Symposium on Educational Advances in Artificial Intelligence (EAAI-19). It was accepted for presentation at the Honolulu conference in late January

2019, where Sperduto gave a 13-minute presentation of their findings. The duo also received the Best Paper Award (Runner-Up) in the research challenge track.

"I thought the entire experience was amazing!" said Sperduto. "It was great to get involved in undergrad research, which helped with my programming, problem-solving, and professional paper-writing skills, and attending and presenting at the conference helped with my presentation skills, as well."



Assistant Professor of Computer Science Dr. Christian Roberson, left, and student Katarina Sperduto '19 collaborated on a research challenge involving artificial intelligence (AI). They produced a scholarly paper based on the card game Birds of a Feather (a variation of Solitaire) that brought an invitation to present their findings at a major national conference.

STEAK 'N SHAKE COMES TO FSC CAMPUS

Florida Southern has welcomed a campus location of the Steak 'n Shake restaurant chain, located in the southeast corner of Wynee's Bistro (formerly the "Cafe"). FSC's contract called for the certified location to be operated and staffed through the College's food service vendor, Guest Services.

Renovation and construction work began in the summer for the early fall opening.

The restaurant will be open 7 days a week, with hours to be based on customer interest. Seating during extended hours does not require access to Wynee's main dining room. Floor plans also included screened outdoor seating on a covered walkway.

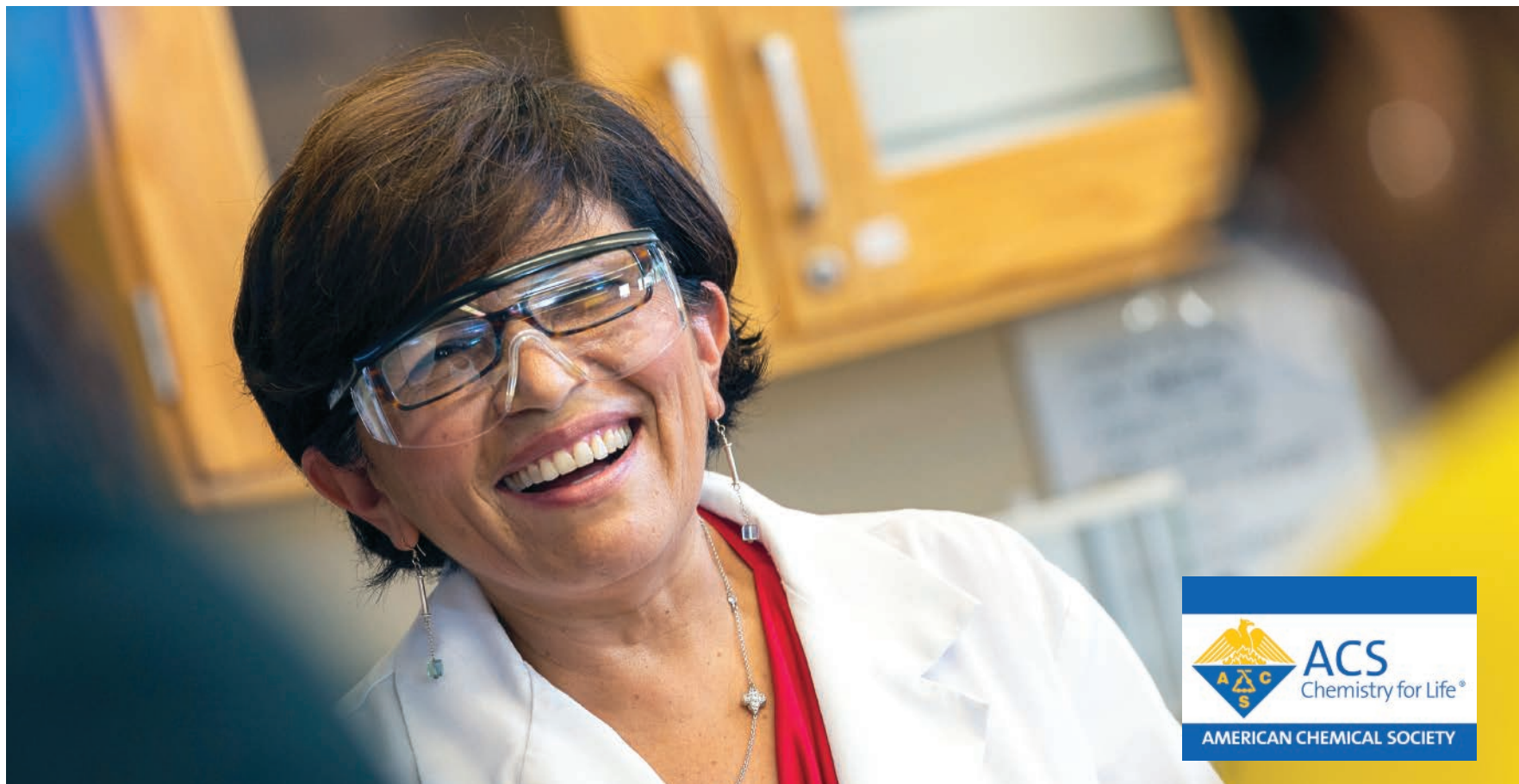
"We are extremely excited that we were able to work out the plan to partner with Steak 'n Shake," said Terry Dennis, vice president of finance and administration at FSC. "Our student body has always had an interest in having a nationally known food venue here."

Onose Ijewere, a junior from Nigeria, was one of the many students looking forward to the restaurant's arrival. "I think it's great that we're getting more food choices on the campus," she said. "And you can get a lot of different options from Steak 'n Shake's menu, so I like that too."

Founded in 1934 in Normal, Illinois, Steak 'n Shake's name reflects its heritage of premium burgers, which are recognized by customers nationwide as Steakburgers, and its hand-dipped milk shakes. The company prides itself on the freshness and quality of its food, creating each meal to order.



FSC'S DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY EARNs ACS ACCREDITATION



Dr. Carmen Gauthier, professor of chemistry, helped lead FSC's successful efforts to achieve accreditation from the American Chemical Society (ACS).

The American Chemical Society (ACS), through its rigorous accreditation process, has recognized the high quality of Florida Southern's chemistry program, affirming to prospective students, institutions of higher learning, and potential employers that FSC offers a superior level of broad-based and intellectually challenging chemistry instruction.

The significance of ACS accreditation to the College is both academic and career-oriented, explained Dr. Carmen Gauthier, professor of chemistry.

"You get students who are really serious about being a chemist," Dr. Gauthier said, adding that graduates of an ACS-certified chemistry program receive three years of free membership in the ACS, the world's largest scientific community. Membership includes benefits such as reduced prices to attend ACS-sponsored conferences, which helps with job searches and networking, she said.

To attain accreditation, FSC's chemistry program was required to meet rigorous guidelines set by the ACS Committee on Professional Training.

"Our curriculum has to cover all the foundational courses in all five sub-disciplines of chemistry, and we need a faculty member with a degree specializing in each of the five fields," Dr. Gauthier said. "I'm grateful for all the hard work from our faculty members and for the unwavering support from FSC administration. It takes a lot of teamwork!"

Pre-application, application, and ACS approval processes had been underway for more than four years, Dr. Gauthier said. Crucial aspects of the evaluation guidelines include the program's depth and breadth; the qualifications of faculty members; the adequacy of facilities, instrumentation, and library holdings; and the opportunities for meaningful research.

FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr praised the chemistry faculty for their efforts to earn ACS accreditation. "By providing our students with the superior-quality chemistry education that defines an ACS-approved program, thereby preparing them to effectively pursue careers as scientific professionals, Florida Southern College continues to demonstrate its academic excellence," she said.

In March, Dr. Gauthier was selected as one of the first 20 faculty members nationwide to develop, test, and refine new classroom practices that can lead to better student learning in the field of inorganic chemistry.

Contributors to the groundbreaking project will study the effects of classroom changes on student learning, interest, and motivation through classroom observations, analysis of student work, student surveys, and faculty interviews. The study is being conducted with support from the National Science Foundation's Improving Undergraduate STEM Education program.

SERVICE INDUSTRY EXECUTIVE HARVEY L. MASSEY SPEAKS ON LEADERSHIP



Chairman and CEO Harvey L. Massey of Massey Services, Inc., an established leader in the pest control industry, was the special guest speaker at an April luncheon presented by the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise. In the course of his executive lecture, Massey shared a number of insights gained during more than 55 years of experience in public and privately owned companies.

“You can’t manage what you don’t know,” he said. “We know why people buy from us, we know why people don’t buy from us, and why people that did buy decided to quit. If you know that, you put yourself in a great position.”

Massey began his career with Rollins Inc. (now Orkin Pest Control) in 1963. He was steadily promoted to management and executive positions within the company, and later with Terminix International. In 1985, he bought an Orlando-based extermination company and renamed it Massey Services, Inc. The 55-year-old business, which was founded in 1930, had just four offices in central Florida.

“The two years before I purchased the business, 1983 and 1984, the company did not make money; it lost money,” Massey said. “To date, we have expanded from four service centers to 142 service centers in seven states, and we are running approximately 1,900 vehicles a day, servicing 600,000 customers.”

Under his leadership, Massey Services has grown to become the

largest privately held family company in the industry.

However, he warned those in attendance, “There isn’t any such thing as a permanent business model, because you and I never stop changing. Our wants, needs, and expectations never stop changing.”

Massey is a 2016 recipient of the Horatio Alger Award, which recognizes inspiring individuals who have accomplished remarkable successes in spite of adversity.

“Mr. Massey represents the essence of success in our Free Enterprise system,” said Dr. James W. Fenton, Jr., dean of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise. “He is the epitome of a successful entrepreneur who grew a weak business to become the fifth largest pest control company in the nation. You could not ask for a better role model for our students than what Harvey Massey represents.”

To close his lecture, Massey shared some favorite quotations from statesman Winston Churchill, whose philosophies have inspired him throughout his business career:

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give,” Massey said, adding “Success is not final; failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that truly counts.”



Top: Harvey L. Massey, Chairman and CEO of Massey Services, Inc., speaks at an executive luncheon presented by the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise in April.

Right: Prior to his lecture, Massey chatted with members of the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise Dean’s Advisory Council.

Roberts Academy

Mother's Day Luncheon

With Humorist and Author Jeanne Robertson



Sharing a wide range of Southern-style observations while displaying a charmingly revved-up comic persona, professional speaker Jeanne Robertson entertained a large, receptive crowd at the sixth annual Roberts Academy Mother's Day Luncheon in May.

At the start of her talk, Robertson paused to acknowledge the important work of The Roberts Academy, Florida's only transitional school for children with dyslexia. "Not everywhere has a community that will make sure you have what you need," she said.

Since 2010, the Academy has been helping elementary-level and middle-school students who experience reading, writing, and spelling challenges to master the skills necessary to succeed in a traditional school setting.

A professional speaker with a long history of accolades and awards (and an unmistakably tall stage presence), Robertson delivered on her central message that a humorous attitude can be a winning strategy for success.

Dr. Tracey Tedder, dean of the School of Education and head of The Roberts Academy at Florida Southern College, introduced Robertson at the benefit event, with the help of Academy students who presented the speaker with flowers. Originally from North Carolina, and a 1967

graduate of Auburn University, Robertson taught physical education and coached basketball for nine years before becoming a full-time speaker. During her talk in the George W. Jenkins Field House, her humorous approach was quickly apparent as she claimed to be fluent in two languages, "both English and Southern."

Robertson shared her thoughts on a wide range of topics, from online shopping and tiny houses to the quirks of families, including several anecdotes about her husband, "Left Brain." She noted a big difference between her own right-brained nature and the analytical tendencies of left-brained people, who "want their lives in order, and they want your lives in order," she said. "Right-brained people hear the word 'order,' and we think 'food.' We just don't think the same way."

On the topic of family dynamics, "The very best place to find a sense of humor is in the mirror," Robertson explained. "Every family has a 'character,' so the next time you're at a family gathering, just take a little step back and look at them. If you don't see a 'character,' it's you."

Throughout her career as a speaker and author, Robertson has been awarded many top honors, such as the 1989 Cavett Award and Toastmasters International's Golden Gavel Award. A past president of the National Speakers Association, she received that group's Council of Peers Award for Excellence upon her induction into the CPAE Speaker Hall of Fame. She was also named the NCAA Southeastern Conference/Auburn University's Women Entrepreneur of the Year and the North Carolina Press Association's North Carolinian of the Year. Her books include *Don't Let the Funny Stuff Get Away*, *Mayberry Humor Across the USA*, and *Humor: The Magic of Genie: Seven Potions for Developing a Sense of Humor*.



Dr. Hal Roberts, Jeanne Robertson, Dr. Marjorie Roberts

Above: Speaker Jeanne Robertson delighted the Roberts Academy Mother's Day Luncheon audience with her humorous personal anecdotes.

Right: Drs. Hal and Marjorie Roberts, whose generous gifts have established and supported The Roberts Academy, met with Robertson.



Florida Southern officially welcomed members of the Class of 1969 into the Golden Mocs Club, kicking off the 2019 Homecoming Weekend festivities as many alumni returned to campus to explore their alma mater and reconnect with friends. On Friday, March 15, members of the Class of 1969 convened in the Hollis Room for a special 50th Reunion Breakfast. Donning gowns, they participated in the Founders Day Convocation processional where students, alumni, and special guests gathered in Branscomb Auditorium to witness the presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Awards, the announcement of the 2019 Honor Walk recipients, and the installation of NASA Astronaut, Dr. Mae C. Jemison, as the College's 85th Honorary Chancellor. A special Golden Mocs Reunion Dinner was held that evening at the Polk Museum of Art. The celebration continued on Saturday, March 16, with the All Alumni Luncheon and a special College Update by President Dr. Anne Kerr. Throughout the afternoon, alumni enjoyed campus tours led by FSC's Southern Ambassadors. The weekend concluded with Sunday worship services in Annie Pfeiffer Chapel and Danforth Chapel. Throughout their special weekend, long-time friends and classmates had many opportunities to reminisce and renew lifelong bonds that first formed at Florida Southern College.



Right: Visiting alumni from Florida Southern's Class of 1969 prepared to make their way to Branscomb Auditorium for the Founders Day processional.



MEMORIES OF '69

Our newly minted Golden Mocs surely found many occasions to marvel at changes on their beloved campus and in the world at large, while also happily recognizing familiar places and faces from earlier days.



Reflecting on their senior year, they may have recalled noteworthy events such as three Apollo space missions (7 through 9), Led Zeppelin's debut album, and the presidencies of both Richard M. Nixon and Charles T. Thrift.

Sara Robinson, who chaired Homecoming and Founders Week events in 1969, recalled that actor Andy Griffith served as Honorary Chancellor and celebrity judge for the Miss Interlachen competition.



Robinson, of Charlottesville, Virginia, also remembered driving between home and school with other FSC students, including West Virginia-born Fred Lewis, one of her best friends and future Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court, originator of the new Justice Teaching Center at Florida Southern College (pages 2-3).



1 Trustee Larry Stahl '70, president of the National Alumni Board of Directors, addressed FSC alumni who attended the Golden Mocs Reunion Dinner, together with retired Florida United Methodist Pastor Archie Buie '67.

2 Glen Berree '69, a former FSC Admissions staffer, received his congratulatory certificate from Dr. Anne Kerr at the Golden Mocs Reunion Dinner.

3 Susie Elliott Haralson '68 and Jerry Haralson '68, were photographed with Teresa Pearson Haralson '69 and Richard Haralson '69, Jerry's younger brother, during the Reunion Dinner at Polk Museum of Art.

4 Florida Southern College alumni reconnected at the All-Alumni Luncheon during the 2019 Homecoming Weekend.

5 Members of the Golden Mocs Host Committee who attended the Class of 1969 Breakfast were, from left, Trustee Fred Lewis '69, Judy Munc Lewis '69, Trustee and National Alumni Board of Directors member and Trustee Nancy McHan Cattarius '69, Phyllis Thomas Finger '69, 1969 Miss Southern Carolyn Cleveland Buie '69, and Archie Buie '67.

6 Keith Dyer '87 of the National Alumni Board of Directors (NABD) connected with Marcia Doscher and Bob Black '51 (NABD) at the All-Alumni Luncheon.

7 Johnny Jordan '70 sat with Paul Brewer '69 and Ava Stout Brewer '69, as they displayed Ava's photo portrait in the 1969 Interlachen yearbook at the Class of 1969 Breakfast. They were joined by Thomas Jones '70, standing from left, Trustee Fred Lewis '69, and Judy Munc Lewis '69.



Fred Lewis and Sara Robinson '69

College Democrats of America Elect Mikaela Guido '19 as President



During its 60th annual national summer convention September 6-8 in New Orleans, La., the College Democrats of America (CDA) elected Florida Southern College alumna Mikaela Guido as its new president for 2019-2020. Guido graduated from FSC in May 2019 with a B.S. in Political Science and now attends the University of Florida's Fredric G. Levin College of Law.

Guido served as secretary of the Florida Southern College Democrats from November 2016 until September 2017, when she became the local chapter's president. While president of FSC's chapter, she was elected vice president of the statewide Florida College Democrats, based in Tallahassee. She also served as national director of programs for the CDA from August 2018 until September 2019.

Founded in 1932, the CDA is the official student arm of the Democratic Party, with more than 100,000 student members in 600+ campus chapters across the country. Both the president and vice president of the CDA serve as voting members of the Democratic National Committee.

Dr. R. Bruce Anderson, associate professor of political science, pre-law adviser, and adviser for FSC College Democrats, praised Guido as an integral part of the department, the College, and as "one of a long line of strong leaders of the chapter" at Florida Southern. "She's 'made the wheels turn' in so many ways."

According to Mark Haver, current president of the Florida Southern College Democrats, Guido's rise to the national stage "really tells

all of our students, regardless of party affiliation, that FSC students are a force to be reckoned with. The hard work we do on campus is meaningful, and we can achieve whatever we set our minds to. Mikaela is a trailblazer among all Florida Southern students."

While serving as president of the Florida Southern College Democrats, Guido coordinated weekly programming such as bipartisan discussions and debates, voter registration drives, and service projects. As vice president of the statewide Florida College Democrats, she was involved in organizing diversity initiatives and cultural sensitivity training within the group. In her new role as president of the national CDA, Guido will preside over meetings of the organization's 10-member Executive Board.

"I am incredibly excited to start this journey as president of College Democrats of America," Guido said. "Florida Southern College, and specifically the Political Science Department – with its emphasis on bipartisanship, presentation skills, and overall community – were essential in shaping my view of politics and the world. Without a consistent undergraduate environment that fostered inclusion, motivation, and the importance of personal connection and communication, I would not have had the confidence and drive to get where I am today."



Top: Guido, whose family lives in Georgia, was excited to meet Stacey Abrams, who served in the Georgia House of Representatives from 2007 to 2017 and ran as the Democratic candidate in the state's 2018 gubernatorial election. "I was fascinated and inspired by her campaign and her continued work," Guido said. "Her spirit, drive, and motivation were all contagious."

Right: The College Democrats of America, the official student arm of the Democratic Party, elected FSC alumna Mikaela Guido '19 as its new national president for 2019-2020. Guido is now studying law at the University of Florida.

LYNN DENNIS '71

A LEGACY OF COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION

By Shari Szabo, Dean of Student Success

The end of an era arrived at Florida Southern College this summer. One of our most beloved administrators and an all-around campus treasure, Lynn Mason Dennis, retired after almost 48 years of service to her alma mater. In numerous campus roles over the decades, her enthusiasm, her kindness, her genuine caring, and her sense of humor have been her trademarks. A 1971 graduate, Lynn served the institution in several ways including as an Admissions Counselor, the Dean of Women, Alumni Director, Director of Planned Giving, and most recently, Executive Assistant to the President.

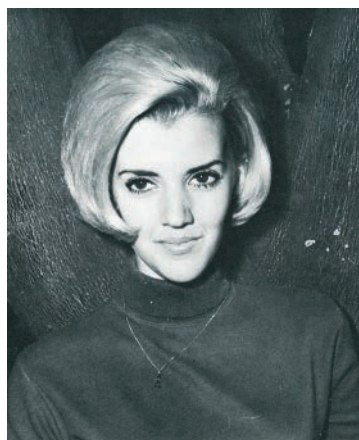
Lynn has been the ultimate go-to, do-all, make-it-happen, and “Queen” on campus. Her Southern style and charm have endeared her to many who describe her as a mentor and “mom.” Lynn is a legend who leaves Florida Southern a legacy. That legacy is one of dedication and commitment; of fun and laughter; of knowledge and resilience. Students, alumni, and friends of the College have all been the recipients of the many talents that she has shared with the College in the pursuit and fulfillment of its mission.

Through these many years, Lynn provided a daily dose of friendship, knowledge, devotion, and laughs to all she worked with, including FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr. In a video celebrating Lynn’s years of service, Dr. Kerr said, “I am thankful that each and every day when I walked into the office that Lynn Dennis was there.” She joked, “Most people don’t know this, but Lynn actually runs the College.”

“I am so grateful to have had the privilege of serving with her, alongside her, and having her be one of my best friends and best colleagues that I’ve ever had in my long career.”

Lynn’s life and the life of Florida Southern have been entwined for what seems like forever. To ensure that her presence and impact will continue for many more years, Dr. Kerr has announced the establishment of the Lynn Mason Dennis '71 Scholarship Fund, providing assistance for students in the many years to come.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Lynn for her extraordinary commitment. Simply put, she *is* Florida Southern College.



Dr. Joanne Preston '68

THE VALUES OF BROAD-BASED LEARNING

When Dr. Joanne Cave Preston '68 thinks back on the variety in her class schedule while a student at Florida Southern, its impact upon her wide-ranging career seems clear and direct.

Gaining knowledge in various areas of study “taught me to be really flexible in my learning, because my field didn’t exist when I graduated,” Dr. Preston said. “I helped to create the field.”

Through her work as an international management consultant specializing in organizational development, Dr. Preston’s communication skills have allowed her “to creatively find ways to solve conflicts,” she said. Her career as a problem solver has led to rewarding connections with major corporate clients and governments in Japan, Korea, China, Argentina, Russia, Kenya, and other international locations.

She considers herself especially lucky to have personally coached and strategized with Poland’s President Lech Walesa and South Africa’s President Nelson Mandela, referring to the Polish leader as “absolutely brilliant” and saying Mandela was the nicest person you could imagine.

Reflecting on her days at FSC, Dr. Preston said, “Even though I was a psychology major, I continued on with languages, and that has helped me tremendously. In Poland, I could remember Polish is a combination of Russian and German, so I could understand the translator. And in South Africa, Afrikaans is a combination of Dutch, French, and, of course, African languages.”

Dr. Preston assisted Mandela in dealing with “13 tribes that were hating each other,” she said. “Mandela was the only person that all 13 tribes respected.” As a young man, Mandela had believed in violence, but as President of South Africa, she explained, he “had to become the model for finding creative solutions that would help the people.”

One of Dr. Preston’s most memorable experiences as an international consultant took place one evening when she joined President Mandela beside a campfire at a traditional South African barbecue.

“It was a beautiful night,” she recalled. “You could hear hyenas, and lions, and elephants.” The experience was extra special, Dr. Preston added, because she was able to share it with her young daughter, Lauren, who was still a pre-teen.

Now living in Colorado, Dr. Preston has been highlighted in *The*



Palgrave Handbook of Organizational Change Thinkers, which charts advancements in the field of organizational change during the past century. Her research and consulting work are noted for how they integrate theories from several different disciplines to guide the growth of organizations.

“I couldn’t have done that without a liberal arts education,” Dr. Preston explained. “I pulled from all sorts of fields.”

ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT

Louisa Long Cullem Jaffe '93

FAMILY HISTORIES INSPIRED CAREER CHOICES



Louisa Long Cullem Jaffe '93 was “raised in a business family,” she says.

Although that simple biographical detail might not appear on her wide-ranging resume, reading between the lines you might sense its influence.

Her father’s entrepreneurship as the owner of two citrus groves in Parrish, Fla., led him to suggest that Louisa enroll in the citrus-marketing program at Florida Southern College, which provided her

with the right combination of interests and skills to take on a management role in her family’s business venture in the early 1990s. The same spark of inspiration guided Jaffe’s decision in 2003, with her husband Bill, to co-found a highly successful information technology (IT) and management consulting firm in the Washington, D.C., area.

That firm, Technical and Project Engineering LLC (TAPE), provides technology services, management consulting, training, and readiness solutions to the U.S. government.

Jaffe’s family history of military service also significantly shaped her career.

As a member of the Army Air Corps during World War II, Jaffe’s father was the Ordnance Officer in charge of loading the atomic bomb into the Enola Gay, which dropped the bomb on Hiroshima and contributed to the end of the war in the Pacific. Her uncle served in the war, as well, taking part in several of the 82nd Airborne Division’s major European campaigns. The influence of this military tradition is evident in Jaffe’s 28 years of service in the Women’s Army Corps and the U.S. Army Reserves, including her post-9/11 request to return to active duty.

“For 20 years, I had one foot in industry and one foot in the military,” Jaffe said. In her position as President and CEO of Technical and Project Engineering LLC (TAPE) for the past 16 years, Jaffe’s feet remain firmly planted in both worlds. Nearly 40 percent of the company’s workers are veterans, and about 15 percent are service disabled.

The Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) has certified TAPE as a service-disabled and veteran-owned Economically Disadvantaged Woman-Owned Small Business. In 2018, the Washington Business Journal ranked TAPE among the largest women-owned companies in the D.C. area.

“From my experience in the military and business world, I came to know many strong women who have made important contributions to our country and economy,” Jaffe told the Business Journal. “I am honored to be part of such a prestigious group.”

Recently, TAPE has moved into the areas of modeling and simulation training, Jaffe said. Her innovative mindset is also evident in her current focus on prototyping a new training method that relies on imagination instead of memorization. “I really think it could be applied to any type of learning,” she said. “That’s my passion these days.”

Matthew Walters '01

A BUSINESS LIFE BASED ON FAMILY VALUES

Matthew Walters came to Florida Southern to study business, but not with a specific goal of joining the family business.

“I was open-minded,” he said. “Coming out of college, I wanted to experience what else was out there in the business world.”

The family business, now known as Woodlands Senior Living, began as a single boarding home for the elderly in Walters’ home state of Maine in 1980. Walters’ parents started the business, following a care-focused career path established by two previous generations. “We lived right next door,” he said. “I basically grew up in the business, and I had the good fortune to work there in different capacities during the summertime, as a kid and all the way up through college.”

Walters decided on a different path after graduating from FSC in 2001, however. He went to work in Tampa, launching a successful career with a national employee training and human resource development firm.

By 2004, Woodlands had expanded to encompass six communities in three locations, with a staff of 140 committed to providing high-quality residential care to 250 senior residents. Walters’ father, Woodlands founder Lon Walters, hoped to continue to grow the business, but needed a trusted, motivated, and business-minded person to help lead that growth.

“He would very subtly try to recruit me when we’d speak on the phone or when he would visit,” Walters said. “In 2004, I was offered a big promotion from the company I was with, to relocate and open a new sales office in Chicago. It was a tremendous opportunity at such an early stage in my career, but deep down I knew I wanted to help build a business where I could make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.”

He declined the promotion, headed north out of Tampa and gladly joined the family business. He became a Licensed Residential Care Administrator, managing two communities at first. Before long, he was spearheading the addition of another regional residential community. He was promoted to Chief Operating Officer in 2007, assumed the additional responsibilities of Director of Finance two years later, and now carries on his family’s legacy as one of the company’s principal owners, overseeing the operations of all Woodlands communities.

Today, the company serves 628 residents with a caring staff of more than 400, operating 14 separate assisted-living and specialized memory-care communities in eight locations in Maine, with a 15th community under construction.

In recognition of the company’s impressive growth, its pioneering



development of specialized memory-care communities, and its adherence to old-fashioned family values, the non-profit Institute for Family-Owned Business in 2018 honored Woodlands Senior Living as the recipient of a Maine Family Business Award. Accepting the award alongside his father, Walters emphasized the importance of being true to their company’s mission and principles in the service of others — a long-held family value that he traced back to his grandmother and great-grandmother, and which now is embraced by the company’s long-term employees, as well.

“It takes a special kind of person to do the type of work that they do every day,” he said, addressing the many staffers and family members in the audience. “And we appreciate you.”

ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT

Chad Patton

CHANGING THE DEFINITION OF SUCCESS



Chad Patton's driving passion when he arrived at Florida Southern in 1992 was golf.

A high school golfer who grew up on a ranch in Kansas, Patton had heard great things from his coach about the college program at FSC. With the goal of pursuing a professional career himself, Patton took a chance and headed to college in far-off Lakeland.

"I was enrolled for two years, and decided to turn pro when I left school," Patton said. He moved to Arizona, accepting a job as an assistant

golf professional at Phoenix Country Club, sight unseen. He found that he thrived in that social environment, learning firsthand about hospitality and the importance of providing a high-level customer experience. Patton carried those lessons with him into various sales professions. "I was craving a career change that had a limitless ceiling," he said.

One of Patton's contacts, an executive at a Scottsdale logistics company, encouraged him to shift his career in that direction. He joined the company and the world of logistical planning, which involves the delivery and storage of consumer goods from production sites to the point of sale.

"Unfortunately, my friend left the company two weeks after I started my position," Patton recalled, "so it was a sink-or-swim moment for me."

His new workplace, he quickly realized, was focused on revenue and growth instead of people. In Patton's view, the freight industry as a whole was beset by poor customer service standards, and the human element was vastly missing in the experience. Having come from the world of hospitality, Patton believed the personal touch to be extremely important, which led him to explore a new business model with a true "concierge experience" as its goal.

"Our mission was to instill higher standards in an age-old industry," Patton said, explaining the premise of Stream Logistics, the company he founded at his kitchen table in 2012 with business partner Carson Holmquist.

In 2017, Stream Logistics was named the third-fastest-growing private company in Arizona and was ranked #181 in the nation by the distinguished Inc. 500 list. Stream also was recognized on the Inc. 5000 list of the fastest-growing private companies in the country in 2018, with a ranking of #2088. "The accolades are flattering to us," Patton said, "but the rankings will never compare to the impact we are making with our clients. Remaining humble and hungry is our mindset."

Now home to more than 50 employees, predominantly like-minded millennials, Stream Logistics prides itself on being a platform for personal and professional development with a vibrant culture as its centerpiece. Patton views his role as that of a coach and mentor, more so than a traditional boss or manager. In essence, he said, he is trying to bring humanity back to the world of business.

"The days of climbing the corporate ladder are long gone," he said. "Instead of saying 'What do you want to do,' I ask people, 'Who do you want to be?'"

Why I Give

ABBY BOONE '16

3:1 EMPLOYER-MATCH PROGRAM QUADRUPLES GIFT TO FSC

FSC PRIDE

Abby Boone met then-Director of Admissions Bill Langston during her Scholars Weekend campus visit while in high school. “He sealed the deal,” Boone said. “I felt comfortable and welcome; he made me feel that Florida Southern was a place where anyone could be heard and everyone had an important role.”

“Abby was a true leader on campus and worked tirelessly to support curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular programs and events with both her time and talents. It’s not surprising to me that she would be eager to give back and continue to support her alma mater through gifts to the College’s annual fund; kindness and generosity are simply parts of Abby’s DNA.”

Bill Langston
Senior Associate Director of
Financial Aid

In an axiom published by Benjamin Franklin in his *Poor Richard’s Almanack*, the Founding Father wrote of “not giving much, but giving wisely.” It’s entirely possible that Abby Boone ’16 was familiar with Franklin’s phrase before she made her first yearly donation as a Florida Southern alumna and working professional.

A true fan of the great thinker and American patriot, Boone had compiled a list of Franklin’s quotes and witticisms as part of a historical role-playing course while a student at FSC.

“I got to be Benjamin Franklin, which was probably one of the best things I did at Florida Southern,” Boone said, recalling how she scoured Goodwill with friends to look for bits and pieces of the Colonial costume she envisioned. “I found shoes with big buckles and a trenchcoat to use for his tails.” (To quote Franklin again, “Diligence is the mother of good luck.”)

Boone’s own academic diligence at FSC earned her a B.A. in English with a concentration in writing, followed by master’s degrees from Auburn University in business administration and computer information systems, earned simultaneously in just two years. After a summer spent coaching swimmers at her neighborhood pool in Louisville, Ky., Boone took a job in 2018 as an information technology (IT) analyst for ExxonMobil in Houston, Texas.

As a newly hired employee, Boone learned about ExxonMobil’s matching gift programs to benefit nonprofits, arts and cultural organizations, and institutions of higher education that employees and retirees support. While many of the company’s matching gifts are based on a 1:1 ratio, ExxonMobil’s educational matching gift program for U.S. colleges and universities offered a 3:1 match on donations up to \$7,500. Under the program, a minimum donation of \$20 would multiply to a total of \$80. Likewise, a \$7,500 employee gift, combined with the company’s maximum contribution of \$22,500, would result in a total donation of \$30,000.

Boone decided to take advantage of the matching gift program after just a few months with ExxonMobil. “I was planning on donating anyway, to give back to Florida Southern because of how important it had been to me,” she said. “The three-to-one match inspired me to give more, because of how much farther every dollar would go.”

While at Auburn, Boone had established an early pattern of giving through MocsGive, FSC’s annual Day of Giving program. With her

career now underway, having been introduced to corporate giving, Boone said she would encourage other young graduates to look into programs offered by their employers.

“It’s an option people should take advantage of,” she said.





DREW HOWARD

NAMED DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS AND DEAN OF WELLNESS

In March, Florida Southern President Anne Kerr announced the appointment of Drew Howard as the Moccasins' new director of athletics and dean of wellness.

Howard joined FSC Athletics in 2013 and was named senior associate athletic director in 2018.

Dr. Kerr praised Howard's focus on athlete safety and health, his technological skills, his respect for FSC's affiliation with the United Methodist Church, and his personal and professional integrity.

"I am honored and humbled to step into the role of director of athletics and dean of wellness here at Florida Southern," Howard said. "This college has an excellent tradition of athletic and academic success from its student-athletes, and I am proud to continue to be part of that history."

Howard is the ninth athletic director at Florida Southern since 1945. He succeeds Pete Meyer (2008-2019), Lois Webb (2000-2008), and Harold "Hal" Smeltzly (1977-2000).

FSC DEDICATES JOHN RODDA STADIUM AT HENLEY FIELD

Florida Southern honored longtime supporter Dr. John A. Rodda in February by dedicating John Rodda Stadium at Henley Field. Dr. Rodda, who passed away in 2018, was a member of the FSC Board of Trustees and served as an assistant baseball coach for the Mocs from 1999 to 2002. The founder of Rodda Construction, he had overseen the renovation and construction of many campus facilities, including the Barnett Athletic Complex, the Becker Business Building, and the Sharon and Jim France Admissions Center, as well as dozens of other structures across Polk County. Dr. Rodda was inducted into the FSC Athletics Hall of Fame in 2014. His son, Jason, played baseball at FSC and graduated from the College in 2002. John's wife Becky, his daughter, daughter-in-law, and son-in-law are also FSC graduates.



Members of Rodda family unveil a sign naming John Rodda Field at Henley Field on Feb. 21, 2019.

ANDERSSON, BARENBORG, AND JOYCE ENTER ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME

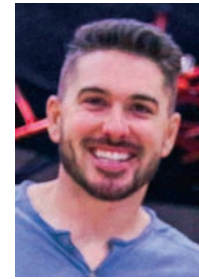
Florida Southern Athletics added three new members to its FSC Athletics Hall of Fame during the College's annual induction banquet in February. The Class of 2019 inductees were golfers **Marianne Andersson '11** and **Jackie Barenborg '08**, and baseball player **Matt Joyce**. Former Atlanta Braves great and 2018 National Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Chipper Jones was the guest speaker at the induction banquet, which was held in the Streamline Sale Arena at the George W. Jenkins Field House.



Marianne Andersson (women's golf, 2008-2011) was the first FSC student-athlete to win the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Elite 90 Award, presented to the student-athlete with the highest grade-point average at each national championship site. Twice an all-American, in 2010 (second team) and 2011 (first team), she ended her career with 26 top-10 finishes, the second most in FSC history.



Jackie Barenborg Stoelting (women's golf, 2005-2008) was a member of the Moccasins' 2007 National Championship squad, and was a second-team all-American in both 2006 and 2007. She has played professionally since 2008, appearing in events on both the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) and the official LPGA-qualifying Symetra Tours, and was the winner of the Golf Channel's "Big Break: Florida" in 2014.



Matt Joyce (baseball, 2003-2005) was the starting right fielder for the Mocs' 2005 National Championship team. A 12th-round pick by the Detroit Tigers in the 2005 Major League draft, he has played for the Tigers (2008), Tampa Bay Rays (2009-2014), Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim (2015), Pittsburgh Pirates (2016), the Oakland Athletics (2017-2018), and the Atlanta Braves. He was named to the American League all-star team with the Rays in 2011.

For more information, go to www.flsouthern.edu/2019fame

FSC DEDICATES BASKETBALL ARENA TO HONOR "STREAMLINE" SALE

In November 2018, Florida Southern paid tribute to one of the most ardent supporters of the College's men's basketball program by officially dedicating Streamline Sale Arena at the George W. Jenkins Field House. Lakeland businessman Harold "Streamline" Sale was a founding member of the 6th Man Club, a booster club for alumni and fans that for decades has provided financial and motivational support to the men's basketball program. "We are proud to recognize the extraordinary enthusiasm and lasting contributions of Harold 'Streamline' Sale in support of our championship Mocs," said FSC President Dr. Anne Kerr. Sale and his wife, Bonnie, were mainstays at FSC's home games and often attended road games to support the team. Present for the Arena dedication were Streamline's son, Allen Sale, his grandson, Chris, who is a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox, and other family members and friends. Sale passed away in 2012, and was recognized in 2013 as an honorary inductee into the FSC Athletics Hall of Fame.



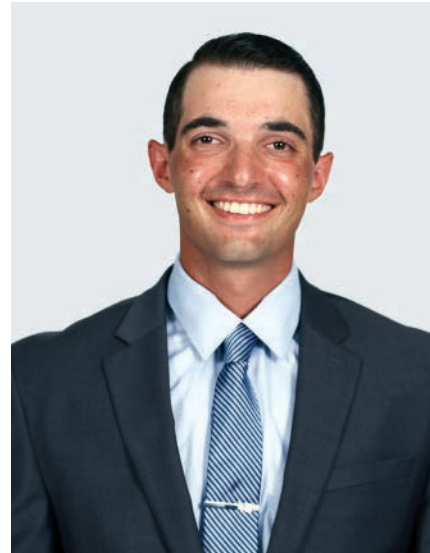
Allen Sale, son of the late Harold "Streamline" Sale, joined other family members and friends at mid-court in November 2018 to dedicate FSC's Streamline Sale Arena at the George W. Jenkins Field House.

HOLMES, VANDERLAAN

WIN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



For the second year in a row, Matthew Holmes '19 brought home an individual national championship for the men's swimming program. He successfully defended his title in March in the 400-individual medley, claiming his second medal of the meet at the NCAA Division II Swimming & Diving Championships in Indianapolis. Holmes won six NCAA medals in his FSC career, three as an individual and three as a relay swimmer, and received 10 career individual all-American or honorable mention all-American awards.



In May, FSC golfer Michael VanDerLaan '19 won the stroke play portion of the NCAA Division II Men's Golf Championships in Daniels, W. Va., to claim the individual national title. He became the 10th national medalist in program history, the most for any Division II team, and the VanDerLaan family now has two of those medals. Michael's older brother, John VanDerLaan '18, won last year's national title. Only four Division II schools have won more individual men's golf championships than the VanDerLaan brothers.

STUDENT-ATHLETES RAISE AWARENESS, DONATIONS TO HELP FIGHT SUICIDE

A yearlong initiative by FSC Athletics and its Student-Athlete Advisory Council, in partnership with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), put a local spotlight on that group's efforts to reduce the suicide rate in the United States. Select home contests included awareness events and donation drives, and FSC student-athletes, coaches, and staff participated in Polk County's "Out of the Darkness" fundraising walk around Lake Hollingsworth in December 2018, in support of the AFSP goal of a 20 percent reduction in the annual U.S. suicide rate by 2025.



Students

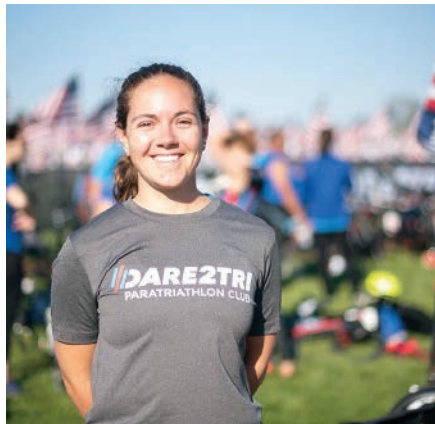
In July, FSC student and Women's Water Ski Team MVP, **Valentina Gonzalez**, finished first in the jump competition at the World



Under 21 Water Ski Championships in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Valentina brought home the world championship as a competitor for her native Chile, capturing the world jump title on the women's side and finishing fourth in the overall women's

standings. Two other current Moccasin water skiers, Rea Joerger and Jamie Calhoun, and incoming freshman Josefa Gonzalez, also competed in the four-day event sponsored by the International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (IWWF).

Diana Griessler '19, an exercise science major with a passion for



working with para athletes, was selected to serve as a sports medicine intern with the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee at the Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center in California, where both Olympic and Paralympic athletes train in track and field, rugby, archery, cycling, and tennis.

Diana's internship, which runs from July through December 2019, is providing her with an opportunity to work alongside athletic trainers, chiropractors, massage therapists, and performance coaches, while observing the athletes during their training sessions.

In July, **Nicholas Metheny '19**, a biology major, became the first student from Florida Southern College to be directly admitted into the Lake Erie College of Medicine (LECOM) through a new agreement between the two schools known as an Early Acceptance Program (EAP). Nicholas applied for the program, interviewed, and was accepted into LECOM while still in high school, allowing him to avoid a cumbersome end-of-college interview process or gap year. An EAP agreement between participating colleges is designed to prepare future physicians for success at their chosen medical school.

Students in the **Florida Southern College Dance Department** were invited to Massachusetts in August to perform their feminist-inspired piece, "Awaken," at the Jacob's Pillow Festival, one of the oldest and most internationally acclaimed dance festivals in the country. The FSC Dance Department was chosen as one of only six college and university programs to perform at the festival, determined by panelists at the American College Dance Association and later selected by curators at Jacob's Pillow. This was a first-time performance of this magnitude for the program, which is now in its fifth academic year.



Faculty

An interview with **Dr. Matt Bernthal**, associate professor of marketing, was published in an online "Ask the Experts" feature by WalletHub. Dr. Bernthal discussed marketing strategies in the credit card industry, with a focus on recent attempts to reach specific target audiences.

Dr. Catherine R. Eskin, associate professor of English, lectured on



the topic of "Jewish Voices: The Temple Emanuel Archive Oral History Interviews" at the Lakeland Public Library in late 2018, as part of its Lakeland History Series. Dr. Eskin talked about

the influence of Jewish residents on Lakeland's civic and social development through public service and a commitment to social justice. In 2019, she participated in a National Endowment for the Humanities summer institute about Jews in the American South, and this fall she is teaching a service-learning writing course about Southern Jewish history, involving students in a mapping project about the Jews of Lakeland.

Dr. José García, associate professor of Spanish and program coordinator, and **Dr. Melissa Garr**, associate professor of Spanish, were selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities to attend a four-week Institute at the University of Tampa during June and July. The study program, “José Martí and the Immigrant Communities of Florida in Cuban Independence and the Dawn of the American Century,” was directed by the Center for José Martí Studies Affiliate. It was designed to enrich the cross-cultural teaching approaches of NEH Summer Scholars in areas such as U.S. History, Race and Ethnicity, Latin American Studies, Caribbean/Cuban Studies, or any aspect of the relationship between the global north and the global south.

Dr. Gabriel Langford, associate professor of marine and aquatic biology, was named to the newly established George W. Truitt Endowed Chair in the Sciences. The



chair was established by **Marilee Beadles Truitt '52** in honor of her husband, **George W. Truitt, Jr. '49**, who graduated with a B.S. in biology. Dr. Langford has been at FSC since 2010. His research focuses on ecology and the evolution of parasite life histories, primarily in and around aquatic habitats.

Assistant Professor of Communication **Dr. Katherine Loh** was named secretary general to the Pan-American Lacrosse Association.

Staff

John Thomas has been named assistant vice president of operations and chief information officer. He has been with FSC since 1995. He will serve as a key contact in leading efforts to improve administrative and instructional operations through the effective use of technology and information resources.



Dr. Susan Freeman assumed the role of vice president of student development in June. Dr. Freeman began her career at FSC in 1988. Her previous role was assistant vice president of student development, where she reported to the provost. In her new role, Dr. Freeman will report directly to President Dr. Anne Kerr.



Mike Crawford is FSC's new dean of students. He has been with the College since 2003, with his previous position being assistant dean of students. Crawford's history with the College and well-loved rapport among students made it a natural and seamless progression into his new responsibilities as dean.



Dr. Sara Fletcher Harding was named as the new interim dean of arts and sciences in summer 2019, succeeding Dr. Brad E. Hollingshead, who was named provost. Dr. Harding began her FSC career as a faculty member in the Department of Religion in 1997.

Marissa Smith, a sixth-grade teacher at The Roberts Academy, was selected as a 2019 Delta Beta Grant Recipient for education.

Trustees

In May, the Junior League of Lakeland announced that **Sarah Dukes McKay** was one of 19 women named as notable members of the Association of Junior Leagues International. Among the other honorees on the list of “extraordinary women who’ve made an impact,” past and present, were Katharine Hepburn, Julia Child, Eleanor Roosevelt, Betty Ford, Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, and Laura Bush. Mrs. McKay became a member of the service organization in 1955, which she served as its president in 1964-1965, and she has remained an active contributor to the Lakeland area’s civic life and nonprofit organizations.

FSC WISHES DR. FRANK JOHNSON A HAPPY RETIREMENT



In his 47 years as a faculty member at Florida Southern College, professor of religion and philosophy Dr. R. Frank Johnson had offices in a few different campus locales.

“I started off near the Melvin Gallery, then I moved to the basement of the Polk Science Building, then I went to Edge Hall for about 10 years,” Dr. Johnson recalled recently. During some year-long renovation work, he relocated to one of the old Music buildings, he said, before returning to Edge Hall permanently. “That was my academic home for 25 years.”

In May, when Dr. Johnson’s friends and colleagues gathered in the Eleanor Searle Drawing Room for his retirement reception, the College’s official mace bearer and longest-serving faculty member was delighted by his special gift: a framed photographic portrait of Edge Hall. It now hangs on the wall of his study in his Clearwater home.

“I’m proud to be a Moc,” the Alabama-born professor proclaimed, “and I will always be proud to be a Moc.”

Arriving at FSC in September 1972 as an assistant professor, “I kind of just moved up the chain,” he joked. At one point, Dr. Johnson led the College’s Humanities Division, then served as chair of the Department of Religion and Philosophy. Calling the United Methodist Church and FSC his two biggest influences, he praised “the incredible banquet of ideas” his career has afforded him.

Near the close of Dr. Johnson’s reception, the College also paid tribute to Provost Kyle Fedler, who is joining the Department of Religion and Philosophy.

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 1953

Renatta Filewicz Cochran has been presented the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award as an accomplished listee in the Marquis publications *Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* and *Who's Who in Florida*. She was recognized for her achievements, leadership qualities, credentials, and successes in her role as Parliamentarian with the city of Largo and with various other regional and national organizations. For her outstanding accomplishments, she has been recognized with a Distinguished Service Award from Florida Southern College.

Donald W. Schork and his wife, Sunny, live in Sierra Vista, Ariz., after retiring in 1986 to nearby Tombstone, where for 10 years, Donald played Doc Holliday in reenactments of the famous "Gunfight at the O.K. Corral." A Korean War veteran, he had worked as a history teacher and department chairman at Manatee High School in Bradenton and as a parole officer and probation officer in Manatee County.

Class of 1954

Betty Ann Moyer of Danville, Pa., is a member of the Danville Municipal Authority and is a member of the Board of Directors for the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs, having served on the Borough Council for 27 years. She has also been a trustee for 34 years at Danville State Hospital, appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania.

Joyce Evans MacDonald and her husband, **William M. MacDonald '58**, both earned M.S. degrees at the University of Tampa and spent their careers as teachers in Brandon. Now living in Durant, Joyce would be remembered

by fellow Florida Southern students as a night student librarian, and William as a student instructor in biology labs for Prof. Roy S. Kiser and Dr. Margaret Gilbert.

Class of 1958

Bob Wardell '58 of Venice wrote to report that a group of friends from the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity gathered for a Florida Southern College reunion lunch at Cafe Baci, an Italian restaurant in Sarasota. "Many stories of our days in Lakeland in the late-Fifties era were told," Wardell wrote. "Wonderful to renew friendships and reminisce." Shown, from left, are **Wardell, Bill Prescott '59, Tod Ebetino '57, Walter Trauner '58, and Bill Asbury '58.**



Class of 1959

Bill Morel recently moved to Cary, N.C.

Frances Ryder Wright of Clearwater, after working as a substitute teacher for two years, went on to work as a Certified Nursing Assistant and Certified Home Health Aide (CNA/CHHA) for more than 45 years.

Class of 1963

Thomas H. Hallick of Marina del Rey, Calif., has retired from his career as an actor.

Virginia Anne Miles-Richert of Graham, N.C., is thoroughly enjoying retirement and being her own boss, pursuing her creative muse with an online shop, Dreamspirit Creations, on Etsy.

Class of 1964

After serving in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1970 and working for Allstate Insurance Company for 35 years, **Larry Hale** of Acworth, Ga., retired in July 2002. Between 1994 and 2012, he won several Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association city championships. A certified umpire for the United States Tennis Association (USTA) from 2006 to 2018, Hale works part-time as assistant director and recreation supervisor at Harrison Tennis Center in Marietta.

Class of 1966

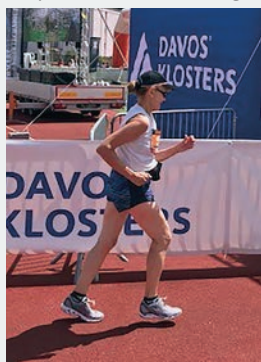
Shirley Ticknor Dominick of Greenwood, S.C., retired from Piedmont Technical College as an adjunct painting instructor in 2000 and began teaching tole painting to the wives of Fujifilm Manufacturing employees from Japan. She teaches water aerobics at the YMCA in Greenwood, and also teaches and plays mah-jongg.

Class of 1969

Robert A. D'Angio, Jr., and Kaye Jolkovski D'Angio of West Palm Beach celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

While serving in Vietnam, **Frederick L. DeLoach** of Weeki Wachee was a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, a military decoration awarded for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight. He travels monthly to The Villages to meet with other recipients of the award.

Phyllis Thomas Finger and her husband, Dr. H. Ellis Finger, of Easton, Pa., completed the Delaware and Lehigh Heritage Half Marathon Run/Walk in November 2018. In July 2019, Phyllis also completed a 30K mountain run in Davos, Switzerland, and is registered to return in 2020.



She has served as chair of the Pastoral Nominating Committee at her church and is involved with the League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

Esther Gill of Lake Placid works as an adjunct instructor in humanities at South Florida State College and teaches part-time at Lakeview Christian School at Memorial United Methodist Church in Lake Placid. She retired from the public school system after 45 years of teaching at Lake Placid High School.

Larnell Rucks Watford Merchant lives in Northeast Alabama on Sand Mountain, having retired after 30 years of teaching and administration in Florida schools.

After enjoying a long teaching career in Florida and Pennsylvania, **B. Stephanie Farmer Morrison** of Lancaster, Pa., is enjoying retirement. She earned her Master of Education from Rollins College and Millersville University in Millersville, Pa., and spent one year teaching English in the Japanese school system during the mid-1990s.

Craig Plowman of Venice has retired from his position as vice president of customer service with Mahaffy and Harder Engineering Co.

Sara Robinson of Charlottesville, Va., has written her fourth full-length book of poetry, *Needville*,

which describes coal mining in Southwest Virginia and its devastating after-effects on the people, the landscape, the culture, and the future.

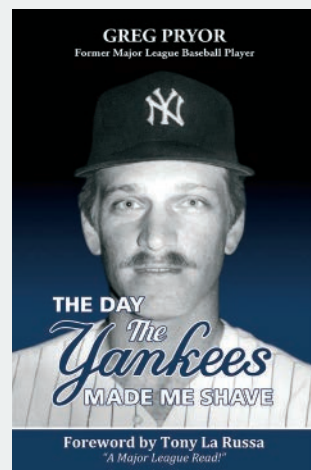
Gregory J. Scanio of Simpsonville, S.C., retired in 2013 after a 34-year career with First American Title Insurance Company, the last 22 years as vice-president and state manager of South Carolina operations.

Class of
1971

Rev. John Denmark of Melbourne Beach retired after 44 years as a pastor in the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church. Following his retirement, he was named Chaplain of the United States Secret Service in 2018.

Former Major League Baseball player

Greg Pryor, who was a member of Florida



Southern's 1971 NCAA Division II National Championship baseball team, has written a memoir about his amateur and professional career. In *The Day the Yankees Made Me Shave*, Pryor's recollections and anecdotes include details from his years as a player for the Texas Rangers, the Chicago White Sox, and the Kansas City Royals.

Class of
1972

Prior to her retirement in 2019 after 18 years with the Human Resources Department at the

Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, **Barbara Evans Hudson** became known as the bank's "wellness



guru," instituting a large number of health-related programs to benefit Federal Reserve staffers in six southeastern states: bringing in adjustable desks; expanding training options and exercise and fitness programs; and introducing healthier food options to the employee cafeteria, among other initiatives.

Dr. David K. Twigg of Miami is retired, and teaches as an adjunct instructor for Florida International University's Department of Politics and International Relations.

Class of
1975

Constance Meccarello-Gerson of Kew Gardens, N.Y., reports that her first murder mystery has been published, titled *Murder at Hassle High*. An experienced actor, mentor, and teacher, her writing has appeared in *Musings* and in the *Best American Poets* series. She lives in New York City with her husband, Alain, "a parrot named Benji, and lots of fish."

In January 2019, former Moccasin **Alan Reed** was



honored by Zephyrhills High School when the school's basketball court was named Alan Reed

Court. The winningest boys' basketball coach in ZHS history, Reed served in that capacity for four separate stints over the course of four decades. He is still a volunteer assistant for the Bulldogs. During the pre-game naming ceremony, Reed was joined at half-court by a group of family members, including his son Stephen, right, and former players and peers. Reed played basketball for the Mocs from 1972 to 1974.

Wanda Spires Smith of Fruitland Park retired in 2015 after a 40-year teaching career in Lake County schools. She was widowed in 2014 after 39 years of marriage.

Dr. Marsha Wiggins of West Palm Beach released her book, *From Heroin to Hope: Making Sense of the Loss of a Child*, in September 2018. She is executive director of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision.

Class of
1977



David Benton has retired from the U.S. Department of State, where he served as a senior international press officer. He and his wife, Judith, live in Vienna, Va.

H. Brant Mercer of Canton, Ga., retired from IBM in 2018 after 40 years of service. He is employed at Publix Super Markets, Inc.

Class of
1978

Larry K. French of Deltona is a published author, as the writer of *Grand Hotels of West Volusia County*, an *Images of America* book published in April 2018 by Arcadia Publishing.

Dr. Lucinda Lett Leugers is associate dean of instruction at Mohave Community College in Kingman, Ariz.

Arlene Venezia May of Winter Haven, retired chief financial officer of Tri-County Human Services, Inc., serves on the Tri-County Human Services Board.

Class of
1979

Trustee Evett L. Simmons, Esq. '79 of Port



Saint Lucie was one of only 19 women to be named a Phi Mu History Maker in March, in partnership with the National Women's History Museum.

Simmons, a member of the fraternity's Alpha Tau Chapter at Florida Southern, is a prominent attorney, property developer, author, and motivational speaker. A group of distinguished members is selected annually to be honored for their contributions to their respective fields, communities, and the greater society. Simmons is pictured, left, with Phi Mu sister **Nancy Konsler Zoller '80** of Oviedo, who serves as president of an Alpha Tau Chapter Association that meets at FSC every two years.

Class of
1982

After 20 years in Maryland, **Carol Pittard Hammer** and her husband, the Rev. Al Hammer, moved to Ludlow, Pa. Having graduated with a music performance major, Carol has sung in a number of major concert venues, including the Kennedy Center, the Strathmore, Washington National Cathedral, and in a featured concert spot at Carnegie Hall.

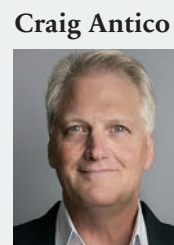
Since meeting one another at Florida



Southern, an international group of friends has reunited for three separate "FSC Summits" in New York, Berlin, and Paris, where some group members posed with the

Eiffel Tower as a backdrop in October 2018. Pictured are attendees **Kristia Berry Suutala '83** of Wilton, Calif., from left, **Marie Anne Morgan Dazzi '83** of Crolles, France, **Harald A. Kuestermann '82** of Koblenz, Germany, **Christine Blanpain Kryz '82** of Paris, France, and **Waltraut Dautermann Schulz '82** of Berlin, Germany. Not pictured: **Faith Gibson '82** of Philadelphia, Pa.

Class of
1983



Craig Antico is a co-founder and director of debt operations for RIP Medical Debt, a New York-based nonprofit that provides financial relief for people burdened by unpaid and unpayable medical bills.

Working on behalf of individual donors, philanthropists, and organizations, RIP Medical Debt works to locate, buy, and forgive medical debt. After earning his M.B.A. at Pace University, Antico was a financial industry leader for 30 years.

John Estes works as an architectural drafter/checker for a home builder in Lakeland. He published his first satire, *Pollenesia* (under the pen name "Clyde Tosolini"), in February 2014.

Class of
1984

Tim Richardson and his wife, Adele, live near Knoxville, Tenn. He is a professional speaker for associations and clients in hospitality, healthcare, insurance, telecommunications, and real estate/apartment industries, and is working on his next book, *Unlock the Block to Effective Leadership*. In 2018, Tim and Adele visited Yosemite National Park with their six children.



Barbara N. Scherer was appointed to the position of vice president of marketing for W.S. Badcock Corporation, based in Mulberry. In her new role, she oversees all marketing efforts for the Badcock Home Furniture & more brand.

Dori Hernquist Stone of Vero Beach was appointed president of Indian River County's Chamber of Commerce, assuming her new role in August 2018.

Class of
1985

Joe R. Baker, Jr., of Tallahassee was elected as a member-at-large on the Executive Committee of the Nurse Licensure Compact. He also serves as a commissioner with the Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators, in addition to his duties as executive director of the Florida Board of Nursing (FBON).

Jim Barr is regional vice president of Primerica insurance and financial services in West Palm Beach.

Dr. Cindy Robinson Campbell of Tampa



presented at an international schools conference in China — and visited the Great Wall — as a member of Southeastern University's College of Education faculty.

Leicha Rittgers SanMiguel of Palm Beach Gardens returned to Florida after a 32-year career in education in Nevada and North Carolina.

Class of
1986

Rich Rasmussen was selected as president and CEO of the Montana Hospital Association in Helena, Mont., the state's leading healthcare advocacy organization.

Class of
1987

Heidi Otto Salmon is the mayor of Melbourne Village and owner of several small businesses with her husband, Christopher Salmon. She is a certified municipal clerk, certified stenographic court reporter, and a U.S. Coast Guard-certified master captain.

Class of
1989

Tim Moore of Plant City was promoted to the position of terminal manager at the Plains All American train terminal, crude-oil unit, in St. James, La.

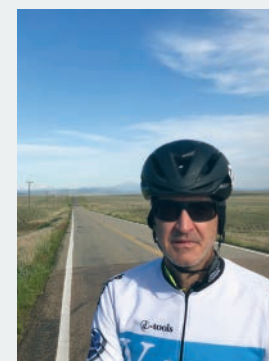
Class of
1991

The second installment of **Jennifer Hoyt Cranford's** Christian fiction series, *Marching with the Master*, was released in November

2018. Titled *The Soldiers: Donning the Armor*, the story's predominant theme is mentorship. She lives in Pontiac, Ill.

Class of
1992

In June 2019, Trustee **Dr. Keith Berend** of



New Albany, Ohio, participated in the 3,090-mile Race Across America, which he described as "the world's toughest bicycle race." As part of a four-man relay team, he completed the nonstop race from

San Diego, Calif., to Annapolis, Md., in six days and 22 hours. The team's efforts raised funds to support Operation Walk Midwest, a not-for-profit medical mission that provides hip and knee replacement to underserved residents of Guatemala.

Amy Mutzabaugh-McQuagge of Fort Myers



has joined Sanibel Captiva Community Bank as vice president and director of marketing. Previously, she had been the senior marketing and event manager for the Lee County Economic

Development Office, was co-owner of an exercise-based fundraising company from 2008 to 2015, and had worked for several advertising firms as a media buyer.

Class of
1993

In a special election, **Sara Roberts McCarley** was elected to the Lakeland City Commission in January 2019, replacing former commissioner Michael Dunn.

Christopher Karo of Versailles, Ky., is secretary and general counsel for Hornbeam Insurance Company in downtown Louisville, Ky. Formerly, he was assistant general counsel at American International Group (AIG), in its U.S. warranty division.

Class of
1994

Dr. Mark C. Caldwell of Naples was appointed to serve at North Naples Church.

Dr. Donna Laverty Lamb was named in July 2019 as the president and CEO of the National Resident Matching Program (NRMP), or The Match, a private nonprofit organization that matches the preferences of medical students who apply for U.S. residency positions with the preferences of residency program directors. She assumed leadership of the organization in October.



Heather Brown McHugh is a federal employee with the U.S. Department of State, having



served as the assistant director of the Connecticut Passport Agency since 2013. She was named Outstanding Federal Employee for Creativity and Innovation by the Federal Executive

Association of Connecticut (FEACT). Her husband, **Ryan McHugh '98**, is a federal law enforcement officer and has served in law enforcement for 20 years. They live in Norwalk, Conn., with their twins, Brooke and Brody.

Class of
1995

Jaci LiCausi Ward was honored by the



Jacksonville Business Journal as one of the area's Top 50 Real Estate Agents in 2018. Ward is president and broker at Pablo Creek Real Estate, a firm specializing in residential and vacant land.

Class of
1996

Shaun Ingraham is a social entrepreneur who has founded numerous social enterprises, including the One Eleuthera Foundation and the Centre for Training and Innovation, where he serves as president and CEO. These organizations were created to further the economic, environmental, and social goals on the island of Eleuthera in The Bahamas. Ingraham lives in the village of Tarpum Bay on Eleuthera.

Class of
1998

John V. Davis Jr. of Riverview has been named associate dean of academic affairs for Keiser University in Clearwater.

Jenna Pearce Dunaway, a member of the

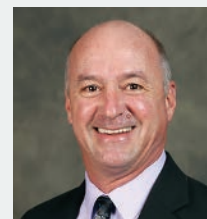


Delta Beta chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha at Florida Southern, is president of JennaBenna, an Orlando-based sorority-apparel company with an all-female staff. The successful e-commerce enterprise,

which Dunaway started about 13 years ago, was born out of a passion to highlight the positives about sororities and other campus organizations, and to inspire and empower other women "to take their next steps to personal betterment," Dunaway wrote.

Class of
1999

The City of Lakeland announced the



hiring of **William C. Anderson** as director of water utilities in June 2018. Anderson, who has been with the Water Department since 2000, was named assistant director of water utilities in 2016.

Class of
2000

Erica Burgner-Hannum and **Terence J. Hannum '01** of Parkville, Md., are members of the Baltimore-based dream-pop trio The Holy Circle, which signed with Los Angeles-based record label Deathbomb Arc to release their EP, Sick With Love.



Krista Knappman McBride earned an associate professorship with tenure for physics at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

Sarah C. Scott earned her Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Ariz., in July 2018. She is a teacher in Polk County.

Class of 2001

Michael Butler of Lakeland earned his Master of Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University, Fischler School of Education, and works as an assistant principal for the Polk County School District.

Benjamin Johnson has relocated from Fort Lauderdale to Washington, D.C., for a promotion with Interstate Hotels and Resorts, working as area director of sales and business travel.

Alice Koehler '01 (M.B.A. '14) was chosen as the next president and CEO of Lakeland Volunteers in Medicine (LVIM), an independent nonprofit organization that provides healthcare to uninsured working people and their families in Polk County. Koehler, who was hired by LVIM in 2017, has been the organization's chief development officer.

Class of 2002

Casey Meinberg of Daytona Beach works for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Class of 2003

Brett Alan Bentman is a Texas-based screenwriter and director who founded his own production company, B22 Films, with

his wife, Tiffany. In 2013, Bentman wrote and co-produced *Element*, a psychological thriller, and has written and directed four other feature films. Photographed during his recent film project, *90 Feet From Home*, are his wife, actress Tiffany M. Bentman, from left, co-writer and director Brett Bentman, actor Eric Roberts, actress Heather Williams, and actor and WWE superstar Shawn Michaels.



Amanda Curry Brown of Lakeland was hired as the senior government economist for Saint Helena, a small tropical island and British territory in the South Atlantic Ocean. Her two-year contract will focus on implementing parts of Saint Helena's sustainable economic development plan.

Samuel Harrison of Ormond Beach has published his third novel, *Bringing Back Canasta*.

Class of 2004

Four members of the Florida Southern Girls' Chorus, under the direction of **Claudia Bolaño-Becerra** of Lakeland, were accepted into the American Choral Director Association's Regional Honor Choir in 2018. Sisters Emma and Riley Stamper were also selected to perform as members of the National Honor Choir at the 2019 ACDA National Conference in Kansas City, Mo. The Florida Southern Girls' Chorus, an affiliate group of the Lakeland Choral Society, welcomes young women from grades six through twelve. The

four Honor Choir members, pictured from left with Bolaño-Becerra at center, were **Alyssa Fallaw, Riley Stamper, Veronica Provost** and **Emma Stamper**.



After teaching in the Polk County Schools for six years, **Katherine Martin Durden** moved to the United Arab Emirates with her husband, **Joseph D. Durden '05**, and their family. While there, she taught English, Math, and Science in government schools for seven years before returning to the United States. She now works as a support coordinator of the Florida Medicaid Waiver program for persons with disabilities.

Caleb Santiago of Winter Haven, a senior staff electrical engineer at Lockheed Martin in Orlando, was awarded his second United States patent related to military connector systems, support, and tactical equipment.

Class of 2006

Sarah Bliven of Cranston, R.I., graduated with a gemologist degree from the Gemological Institute of America, and is a gemologist in the quality assurance department for Luxury Brand Holdings, the parent company of Ross-Simons jewelers.

Charlie Hon of Leesburg, Va., works as a client executive for IBM. He received his M.B.A. from

Washington University in May 2016 and his M.A. in Writing from Johns Hopkins University in December 2018.

Ken Limbaugh and **Maria Cuervo '15** became



acquainted while working together for the Wounded Warrior Battalion-East with the United States Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C. Limbaugh works as a certified exercise reconditioning specialist and as the head coach of strength and conditioning, and Cuervo was working as an aquatic exercise assistant. Limbaugh received his Master of Science in Sports Medicine in 2010 from Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Ga., and Cuervo, a Lakeland native, received her Master in Educational Leadership in 2018 from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas.

Sarah Walters Ugo of Alachua works for the State of Florida as a senior human services program specialist with the Department of

Children and Families. She received her Master of Arts in Teaching from Saint Leo University in 2012 and is a 2017 graduate of the Northeast Region Leadership Academy.

Elizabeth Stephens Warren of Auburndale married David Warren of Lakeland in 2012, and in 2017 began working as a medical technologist at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando.

Class of 2008

Eamon Breslin of Dunedin, left, and **Blake Hallowell** of Sierra Vista, Ariz., were commissioned as United States Army Majors in February 2019 at the National WWI Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, Mo., following their graduations from Fort Leavenworth, Kan.



Class of 2009

Kristina Walls Kelly of Noblesville, Ind., recently published her first novel, *Trials of the Innermost*, coauthored with Jonathan Fuller. The fantasy novel is Book One in their planned *Etherea Cycle* series. "Music and instruments are sprinkled within," she said, reminiscent of her involvement with FSC's symphony and jazz bands. The book, which is available in print

at Amazon and as an e-book, is available on campus in the Roux Library.



Four longtime friends, all 2009 graduates of FSC — **Jessica Gutowski Slaydon**, from left, **Derek J. "Jake" Slaydon**, **Matthew H. Lund** and **Meggie Beckemeyer Lund** — met up in Oak Park, Ill., home of the Frank Lloyd Wright/Prairie School of Architecture Historic District. Oak Park is Matthew Lund's hometown, and he had worked on several Wright-designed houses in his neighborhood. The Lunds gave the Slaydons, of Grand Rapids, Mich., a special tour of the area, which included a stop at the world-famous architect's office.



Norlyne Thomas Saddo of Lauderhill works as an account executive at The Berkley Group.

Class of 2010

Catherine Rosekelly of DeLand is a group wellness coordinator for Florida Health Care Plans. She also serves as a United Way Generation IMPACT Board Member and was

included as a “40 Under 40” honoree by The Volusia/Flagler Business Report.

Class of
2011

In February 2019, singer **Kimberly E. Milton**



performed in Orlando for a gathering of 4,000 Christians at the 50th Annual Diocesan Convention of The Episcopal Church in Central Florida. She also played the title role

in the opera *Carmen* with the Valdosta State University Opera in Valdosta, Ga., where she is a candidate for a Master of Music Performance degree. **Joshua Mazur '13** also performed with Milton at both the Diocesan Convention and as a cast member in *Carmen*.

Christine Simone of Canton, Ga., is employed as deputy director for the Association for Student Conduct Administration and is working on her Ed.D. at the College of Saint Mary.

Class of
2012

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) selected **Dr. Stephanie Meyers Davis** of Silver Spring, Md., as a Science and Technology Policy Fellow, in a program that allows scientists and engineers to spend a year serving professionally in government agencies and congressional offices. Dr. Davis was awarded a placement in the Office of Small Business Research at the National Institute of Aging.

Class of
2013

David Blanco of Lakeland graduated from the University of South Florida in Tampa with a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering. He works as a solutions design engineer with Saddle Creek Logistics in the company's Lakeland-based corporate office.

Andrew McIntosh of Gainesville is celebrating three years of work with the University of Florida Police Department.

Joshua Mazur founded Capella Nova, a new community chorus in Gainesville. He also teaches choir at Bradford High School in Starke. His wife, Hannah Hough Mazur '12, teaches chorus, drama, and speech at Bradford Middle School. “So there's been a bit of a ‘Mazur Takeover’ here,” joked Joshua, who also conducts the Symphony Chorus for the Ocala Symphony Orchestra.

Robert Stewart of Tallahassee, a rehabilitation therapist/music therapist at Florida State Hospital, was named as an Employee of the Month. He has been accepted into Florida State University's doctoral program on the Music Education/Music Therapy track.

Class of
2014

Kaitlyn Brandt Shepard and her husband, **Connor Shepard '15**, recently relocated to



Belgium after Connor was promoted to Captain in the United States Army. He had trained with the ROTC while attending FSC. Prior to their relocation, Kaitlyn had worked as the Catering and Events Manager for the Augusta GreenJackets, a Minor League Baseball team in Augusta, Ga., and four other Minor League teams.

Lindsey Smith of Lakeland moved to Dakar, Senegal, to teach preschool and specialty classes.

Class of
2015

Clifford Ellis of Davenport received his Master of Divinity from Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

Class of
2016

Kimberly Couch is studying at the University



of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine in Gainesville. She is also pursuing certifications in Traditional Chinese Veterinary Acupuncture

and Veterinary Herbal Medicine at the Chi Institute of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine in Reddick.

Dylan Travis of Omaha, Neb., plays professional basketball for the Waverley Falcons Basketball Association in Melbourne, Australia. In 2018, he was voted Most Valuable Player of Australia's Big V Division One Men's League.

Class of
2017

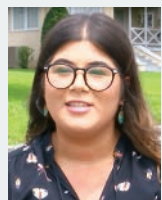
Gabriella Scoleri Headley of Orlando married her husband, Thomas Headley, in June 2018 and works as a middle-school and upper-school theater instructor at The First Academy in Orlando.

Class of
2018

Jessi Rae Varnum opened her bridal salon, Jessi Rae Bridal, in Plant City. Varnum graduated from Florida Southern with a B.S. in Business Administration and a minor in communication.



A class writing assignment for alumna **Pamela Rodriguez** was transformed into a screenplay



for a locally-produced short film. The concept for the film, titled “¡Come!,” was primarily grounded in Rodriguez’s childhood experiences of coming to understand her

Puerto Rican roots in a traditional American culture. Rodriguez received writing credits, and Assistant Professor of Film **Matthew Herbertz** served as both the executive producer and director of photography. Several students in the College’s growing film studies program were also given the opportunity to work on the project, which was filmed in Lakeland.



Frank Lloyd Wright - Usonian Faculty House



Emilie Carsell '12 married Joe Mathias in Newport, R.I., in October 2018. Her matron of honor was **Jessica Fleming Hubbard '12**, to the immediate left of the wedding couple, and her maid of honor was **Alyssa Haaker '12**, to the couple's right. **Sebastien Parisot '12** and many others with connections to FSC's Class of 2012 were also present for the two-day event. Emilie and Joe live in Massachusetts, where she works as an ER nurse and Joe is finishing his psychiatry residency. The couple plans to relocate to Atlanta, Ga., in July.



Grace Keiffer Stratton '14 married Ryan Stratton in Lake Mary, Fla., in March 2019. Other FSC alumni in attendance, at left, were **Shauna Gann Maggard '14** and **Katrina Nicoletta '14** and, at right, bridesmaid **Jordan Lamb '13** and **Katie Amick '14**. The couple resides in Sorrento, Fla.



Jason Hart '00 and **Christina De Villiers Rosas-Guyon Hart '01** live and work in Tenafly, N.J., with their children Olivia, Beatrice, and Teddy. The Harts recently expanded their private-lessons music studio, Hart Music Studios, to offer in-home lessons. While students at FSC, Jason studied piano under the late **Dr. Robert MacDonald** and Christina studied voice under the late **Dr. Beverly Wolff**, with **Diane Willis Stahl '73** as her advisor.



Ivana Murga Grimsley '14 and **Cameron A. Grimsley '14** of St. Petersburg welcomed their daughter, Avery Grace, in October 2018. Ivana is a teacher in Tampa, and Cameron works for Oldcastle, a company that manufactures and sells architectural products, as fleet manager for Florida.



Katie Luecht Schmidt '14 married Erik Schmidt in an intimate ceremony in Ojai, Calif., in November 2018. Her wedding party included three FSC alumna, **Amanda Shiner '14**, front left, **Brittany Trane Garcia '13**, standing left, and **Erin Ferguson '13**, standing right.



Jamie Lynn Wallace Blum '04 is president of the Lewis Community Spouses' Club at Joint Base Lewis-McChord near Tacoma, Wash. She and her husband, Army Major Dustin Blum, have a daughter, Addie, 7, and a 1-year-old son, Cooper. Jamie Lynn also volunteers with the Military Spouse Advocacy Network as a mentor for new Army spouses.



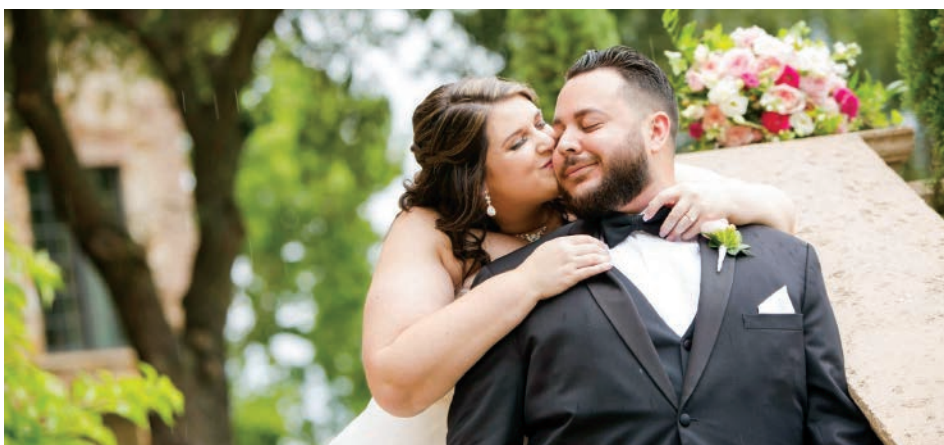
Kamalie Morales Dodson '12, M.B.A. '15, associate director of adult and graduate admission at Florida Southern, married **Jaren Dodson** at Resurrection Catholic Church in Lakeland on March 24, 2018. Six members of the couple's wedding party were also alumni of FSC: **Zakera Barnes '13**, at far left; Maid of Honor **Heather Shei Patrias '12**, to the left of Kamalie; **Han Nguyen '11**, to the right of Jaren; **Trissa Dodson '14**, third from right; **Andrew Osborne '13**, second from right; and **Adara Powell Richter '12**, at far right.



Kayleigh Likens Vaughn '17 and **Dylan Vaughn '17**, who met at Florida Southern College, were married in December 2018. Their wedding party included five other FSC Alumni: **Josh Holmes '17**, far left; **Mubarak Aluah '19**, back row, third from left; **Hank Alemañy '16**, behind Kayleigh and Dylan; **Georgia Lynn Dean '18**, behind Dylan; and **Marlie Vaughn '18**, center row, to the right of Dylan.



Danielle Caouette '14 and **David O'Neil '13** were married in New Hampshire in September 2018. More than 30 FSC alumni attended, including 10 in the wedding party: **Parker Willis '09**; **Darron Blanchard '10**; **Jordan D. Arbuckle '12**; **Portia Brewer Hall '13**; **Callie Hodgkinson '14**; **Emma Hutchinson '14**; **Lauren Loder '14**; **Desiree Magnant '14**; **Kayla Myers '14**; and **Austin MacIntyre '16**, Danielle works as an emergency room and trauma registered nurse at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and David is pursuing an M.B.A. at Dartmouth College.



Lauren Lee McLellan '10 married Manuel Antonio Usma in Montverde in July 2018.



Proud parents **Rebecca Benson McConnell '04** and **Sean McConnell** of Kennesaw, Ga., welcomed their daughter, **Lily Ann McConnell**, in October 2018.



Bill Pigozzi '79, from left, and his wife, Linda, of Longwood, celebrated the marriage of their daughter Amy to Ryan Groom in Minneapolis, Minn., in August 2018. Also pictured are Amy's brother Bill, his wife Robyn, and their daughter Zara. The wedding date coincided with Bill and Linda's 34th anniversary.



Paige Reynolds Kane '08 and her husband, Ryan, and their 2-year-old daughter, Sadie Ray, left, welcomed identical twin girls Reagan and Mayla in May 2018. The Kane family lives in Ripon, Wis., where Ryan coaches men's basketball at Ripon College. Paige also worked at Ripon College for six years, in the Office of Admission, but left her position to become a stay-at-home mom when the twins were born.

1930s

Katherine Robinson Scott '39 of Mobile, Ala., died Sept. 5, 2018.

1940s

Constance Harvey Bottger '44 of St. Petersburg died Sept. 21, 2018.

Lou Cone Ginn '44 of St. Augustine died Jan. 1, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband, **J. Art Ginn '40**, and is survived by daughter-in-law **Linda Moore Ginn '69**.

Rachel Ann Smith Murray '45 of Fort Lauderdale died Aug. 8, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Chalmers Murray '45**.

Marjorie Smith Fiske '46 of Inverness died Jan. 27, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband, the **Rev. Roy A. Fiske '53**.

Seymour A. Fine '47 of Jupiter died Dec. 3, 2015.

Betsye Kay Finch '48 of Lakeland died March 3, 2019.

Paul L. Redfearn Jr. '48 of Blue Springs, Mo., died Nov. 26, 2018.

Frances Johnston Sadler '48 of Oakland died June 11, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband, **R. Douglas Sadler '52** of Oakland.

Willam S. Earle '49 of Oviedo died Nov. 9, 2018. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Betty Dilsaver Earle '50**.

Albert L. Jeffreys '49 of Denton, Texas, died Dec. 16, 2017.

F. Morris Love '49 of Riverview died Feb. 7, 2019.

D. Katherine Fagaly Martin '49 of Bradenton died June 10, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Dr. William S. Martin '49**.

Dr. Charles J. Younger '49 of Spanish Fort, Ala., died Nov. 25, 2018.

1950s

Mary Anne Browne Burris '50 of Tampa died Nov. 15, 2016.

Spear P. Johnson '50 of Palm Harbor died June 17, 2019.

Ann Evans Livingston '50 of Tampa died June 14, 2019.

Peter M. Pullara '50 of St. Petersburg died May 16, 2019. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Harriet Hartwick Pullara '51**.

John A. Attaway, Sr. '51 of Winter Haven died April 15, 2019. His survivors include his son, **John A. Attaway, Jr.**, a friend of the College.

Robert A. Billstrand '51 of Sturgeon Bay, Wis., died Sept. 11, 2018.

Mary Jeanette "Marynette" Hatton Gray '51 of Bartow died Dec. 12, 2018.

Barbara "Bobbie" Peel Lardie '51 of Vancouver, Wash., died March 10, 2018. She was preceded in death by her sister, **Lolita Peel Meharg '48** of Satellite Beach, and by her father and mother, **James Claudius "J.C." Peel**, dean at Florida Southern College from 1944 to 1956, and **Ima Williams Peel '33** of Lakeland. Survivors include her daughter, **Kim A. Lardie '80** of Vancouver, Wash.

Julia Gibson Lewis '51 of Bartow died May 15, 2019.

Glenn F. Mock '51 of Brooksville died Oct. 14, 2018.

Harkmoon Paik '51 of Monterey, Calif., died Dec. 30, 2018. He is survived by his wife, **Taihi Min Paik '52**.

Jo Anne Watts Smith '51 of Etowah, Tenn., died Feb. 5, 2015.

Thomas C. Armstrong '52 of Buzzards Bay, Mass., died Nov. 17, 2018.

Marilyn Wehrmann Hahn '52 of Branchville, N.J., died Jan. 22, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband, **William H. Hahn '51**.

Barbara Gunning Skeen '52 of Highland City died Sept. 16, 2018.

Edward Battey '53 of Palm City died Dec. 21, 2018.

Dr. Edward L. Dinkins, Jr. '54 of Lakeland died June 9, 2019. His survivors include his wife, **Patricia Ross Dinkins '52** of Lakeland, daughter **Linda Dinkins Searle '84** of Palm Bay, and granddaughter **Megan Lee Searles** of Palm Bay, a current FSC student.

Joice Hayden-Cating '54 of Lakeland died Sept. 15, 2018. She is survived by her husband, **Harold G. Cating '50**.

Shirley Cantwell Crowley '54 of Mooresville, N.C., died Sept. 23, 2018.

Daisy Jean Mills Cumming '54 of Lakeland died March 18, 2019.

Barbara Howard MacGregor '54 of Cleveland, Tenn., died July 14, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Douglas W. MacGregor '55**.

John T. McCormick '54 of Lakeland died July 30, 2018.

Walter G. Feltz '55 of Canonsburg, Pa., died Feb. 17, 2019.

Robert B. Longwell, Jr. '55 of Sarasota died April 2, 2019.

Patricia Maxson Nason '55 of West Palm Beach died March 19, 2019.

Emmett H. "Hal" Beasley '56 of Tampa died May 5, 2019. He is survived by his wife, **Isabel Grubbs Beasley** '57.

John Bongiovanni '56 of Niagara Falls, N.Y., died Sept. 14, 2018.

Pantelis T. Kotsiopoulos '56 of New Port Richey died Oct. 28, 2018.

Charles K. Criss '57 of Winter Haven died Nov. 22, 2018.

Martha Evans Glenn '57 of Lakeland died Dec. 31, 2018.

William R. Godfrey '57 of Forest City, N.J., died June 7, 2019. He is survived by his wife, **Martha Younger Godfrey** '58.

Lt. Cmdr. Raymond N. Harris USN (Ret.) '57 of Lakeland died May 23, 2018. He was preceded in death by his brother, **Robert Wilson Harris** '56. Among his survivors are his daughter **Deborah A. Kurz**, a former FSC student, and her daughter **Christina A. Kurz** '08.

S. Gregory Kluver '57 of Melbourne died Feb. 25, 2017. He is survived by his wife, **Lois Adams Kluver** '57.

Donald J. Kolb '57 of Brooksville died Jan. 4, 2019.

Kathryn Sprague Upham '57 of Clearwater died Nov. 30, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Laurence B. Upham** '57.

Virginia Kennedy West '57 of Cropwell, Ala., died Dec. 18, 2018. She is survived by her husband, **Clayton M. West** '63.

Dennis E. Andrews '58 of Chiefland died April 17, 2019.

Verna Fraser Hunt '58 of Baldwin died July 17, 2018.

William D. Hussey '58 of Orlando died Sept. 18, 2018.

Susan Rogers Munroe '58 of Tampa died July 3, 2018.

Carl L. Schuchardt '58 of Gulf Shores, Ala., died June 22, 2019.

Dorothy Dubose Armstrong '59 of Buzzards Bay, Mass., died Sept. 9, 2018. She is survived by her husband, **Joseph D. Armstrong** '59.

Rev. Jesse L. Baker '59 of Port Orange died June 2, 2018.

John B. Becker '59 of Melbourne died Jan. 14, 2019.

Paul E. Braddock, Jr. '59 of Auburndale died April 15, 2018.

Rev. Charles W. Castles '59 of Atlanta, Ga., died July 1, 2019.

Dee Ann Kaiser Eberle '59 of San Jose, Calif., died July 26, 2018.

Neil J. Eskelin '59 of Charlotte, N.C., died Aug. 21, 2018.

John W. Hawken, Sr., '59 of Boca Raton died June 15, 2019. He is survived by his wife, **Ann Fenton Hawken** '58.

Effie Hopper Lee '59 of Decatur, Ala., died April 26, 2019.

Charles D. Lyon '59 of Palm Harbor died Oct. 6, 2018. His survivors include his wife, **Yvonne Eynon Lyon** '62, and his niece, **Gigi Lyon Devanney** '86.

Harold D. Place '59 of Brielle, N.J., died Jan. 23, 2019.

Jerry L. Rogers '59 of Kissimmee died Aug. 30, 2018.

Jack E. Sutherland '59 of Eagle Lake died March 5, 2018.

Charles R. Tedder '59 of Greensboro, N.C., died May 2, 2019.

1960s

Stuart L. Anderson '60 of Lake Mary died March 9, 2019. Among his survivors are his daughter, **Carolyn Anderson** '83, and his son, **David S. Anderson**, who also attended Florida Southern.

Benjamin B. Bennett '60 of Clearwater died Sept. 9, 2017.

Wayne B. Cushing '60 of Norcross, Ga., died April 2, 2017.

Dolores Miller Evensen '60 of St. Petersburg died Dec. 2, 2018.

Peggy Granath Feinsinger '60 of Palm Beach Gardens died Aug. 19, 2018.

Jewell Joiner Knapp '60 of Lakeland died Feb. 17, 2019. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Dr. John J. Knapp**. Among her survivors are her sons **Dr. James E. Knapp** '74 and **Stephen M. Knapp** '77, and her daughter **Susan Knapp Larson** '97.

August R. McCullough Jr. '60 of Lecanto died Sept. 23, 2018.

Elinor Anderson Mundy '60 of Bartow died April 13, 2016. Among her survivors are her husband, **Robert Wayne Mundy** '60.

Elizabeth Crane Stewart '60 of Sorrento died June 7, 2019. She was preceded in death by husbands **Robert H. Stewart '59** of Sorrento and **Robert H. Smith '64** of Auburndale.

James B. Ayres '61 of Phillipsburg, N.J., died Feb. 6, 2019.

Donald F. Clemens '61 of Floyd, Va., died Nov. 14, 2018.

E.A. "Chick" Hackney '61 of Orlando died June 17, 2019.

Margie G. Menefee '61 of Plant City died Nov. 6, 2018.

William T. Jackson '62 of Mountainside, N.J., died Sept. 16, 2018.

William H. Kirkpatrick '62 of Tallahassee died April 14, 2017.

Mary Ann Motes Stout '62 of Ormond Beach died June 21, 2019.

John T. Hardin '63 of Lakeland died Nov. 27, 2018. Among his survivors are daughters **Tina Marie Hardin Tebo '79** and **Dr. Cindy A. Hardin '82**, and grandsons **Jonathan T. Tebo-Hardin '11**, **Christopher R. Tebo-Hardin '14**, **Joseph A. Pilka '12**, and **Alexander H. Pilka '15**.

Frederick W. Ravlin '63 of Port Orange died Dec. 26, 2018.

Douglas A. Mack '64 of Durham, N.C., died Sept. 2, 2018. Among his survivors are his wife, **Elizabeth Briles Mack '64**.

Ken B. Smedley '64 of Switzerland in St. Johns County died Feb. 9, 2019.

W. Chris Williams '64 of Jupiter died May 12, 2019. He is survived by his wife, **Carolyn Donaldson Williams '64**.

Dr. Richard C. Winder '64 of Farmington, Mo., died July 30, 2018.

Donna Abbott Cotton '65 of Jacksonville died Nov. 4, 2018. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Hullian D. Cotton '63**.

David K. Jamison '65 of Andrews, N.C., died March 3, 2018.

Robert L. Bates '66 of Orlando died Oct. 17, 2018.

Charles H. Birdsong '66 of Marion, N.C., died March 6, 2019.

Robert W. Carmichael '66 of Orange Park died May 25, 2019. Survivors include his sister, **Marla G. Glover** of Cocoa, a Friend of the College.

Carole Gilbertson Garnett '66 of Arlington, Va., died Dec. 17, 2017.

Claudia K. Miller '66 of Jacksonville died Aug. 5, 2018.

Carolyn Cook Pierce '66 of Hyannis, Mass., died Nov. 26, 2018.

Robert D. "Don" Soper '66 of Gulfport died May 31, 2018.

Richard B. Steele '66 of Lancaster, S.C., died Dec. 28, 2012.

Joani Bartlett Becker '67 of Cuttingsville, Vt., died Jan. 20, 2019.

Lt. Col. Robert A. Denmark '67 of Jacksonville died Oct. 23, 2018.

Dr. Joseph E. Giurato '67 of North Palm Beach died Sept. 16, 2018.

William S. Arrington '68 of Winter Haven died Dec. 1, 2018. His survivors include his wife, **Doris Rakes Arrington '92**.

N. Perry Edge '68 of St. Petersburg died Nov. 9, 2018.

Almina Jo Lott Breuer '69 of Largo died Oct. 6, 2018. Survivors include daughter **Dr. Heidi Jo Breuer '94**.

Thomas J. Lanyon '69 of Tampa died Jan. 18, 2019.

Sarah L. McNamee '69 of Nashville, Tenn., died Aug. 24, 2018.

Carol Sheldrake Scott Robinson '69 of Houston, Texas, died June 10, 2018.

1970s

Steven L. Bryant '70 of Greensboro, N.C., died Sept. 21, 2018.

Dorene Steward Hine '70 of Lakeland died Nov. 2, 2018.

John J. Mercurio '70 of Sarasota died Aug. 23, 2019.

Ronald T. Murphy '70 of Lakeland died April 10, 2019.

Beverly Ann Daniel '71 of Lakeland died Nov. 29, 2018. She is survived by her husband, **Dr. Ronald D. Daniel '71**.

Cecil A. Secrest '71 of Edgewater Died Jan. 22, 2017.

H. Kenneth Hutchison '72 of Milton died Oct. 13, 2018.

John K. Smither '72 of Oldsmar died Aug. 11, 2018. Among his survivors are his wife, **Nancy Kershaw Smither '72**, and daughters **Jennifer L. Smither '98** and **Debra A. Smither '02**.

Lt. Col. Douglas L. Wotring, Army (Ret.) '73 of Jacksonville died Sept. 12, 2018.

Carol Gibbons Murphy '75 of Lakeland died Dec. 15, 2018.

Thomas N. Sweet '75 of Largo died Feb. 22, 2018.

Willard L. Watson '75 of Woodstock, Ga., died May 2, 2018.

M. Carol Conkling-Berry '76 of Melbourne died Nov. 23, 2018.

George C. Partin '77 of Jacksonville died Feb. 24, 2018.

Estelle Riley-Smith '77 of Cary, N.C., died April 26, 2018.

David N. Arthur '78 of Lakeland died June 22, 2017. He is survived by his wife, **Stacy A. Arthur '98**.

Ralph K. Causseaux '78 of Labelle died Jan. 9, 2019.

James H. Cerveny '78 of Gainesville died Jan. 15, 2019.

Mary Galbraith Testa '78 of Palm Beach Gardens died April 20, 2019.

Joe M. Farr '79 of Orlando died Nov. 15, 2018.

James L. Hamilton '79 of Orlando died Feb. 7, 2019.

1980s

Fred M. Phillips '80 of San Diego, Calif., died June 25, 2018.

Otto L. Traber '81 of Maitland died July 28, 2018.

Karen Wiley Woodington '81 of Lakeland died May 20, 2019. Among her survivors are her daughter **Kalyn Woodington '10** of Tampa and her son **Austin L. Woodington '13** of Lakeland.

George H. Ford Sr. '82 of Orlando died Dec. 1, 2018.

Kerry H. Kottal '82 of Umatilla died April 3, 2019.

Dr. Ralph E. Robertson '82 of Tampa died Jan. 25, 2018. Among his survivors are his brother and sister-in-law, **Dr. Daniel H. Robertson '86** and **Jeanette Owen Robertson '87** of Indianapolis, Ind.

James R. Weaver '83 of Sandwich, Mass., died April 5, 2018.

Deborah L. Trombley '84 of North Fort Myers died Jan. 17, 2019.

Claudio J. Gonzalez '85 of Albuquerque, N.M., died Aug. 4, 2018.

Carl G. Kinker '85 of Clermont died June 18, 2019.

Luke W. Nash '85 of Lake City died March 30, 2019.

Elizabeth Deaton Worner '85 of St. Petersburg died July 17, 2018.

Susan J. Ernst '86 of Lakeland died Jan. 28, 2019.

Daren M. Price '87 of DeBary died April 22, 2017.

Dr. Stephen T. Robinson '87 of Lakeland died July 14, 2018. Survivors include his wife, **Tamara Meadows Robinson '98**.

1990s

Sean P. Sellers '90 of West Des Moines, Iowa, died Oct. 25, 2018.

Warren K. Copeland '91 of Parrish died Dec. 15, 2018.

Robert L. Fontana '91 of Trinity died Jan. 11, 2019.

David F. Jackson '92 of Paxton, Ala., died Oct. 31, 2017.

Jean Jacobs Loefer '92 of Alpine, Texas, died Jan. 24, 2018.

Kathleen Walker Pennington '93 of Mount Vernon, Wash., died March 3, 2017.

Clay J. Ladouceur '94 of Kannapolis, N.C., died March 17, 2018.

Tom Barkis, Sr. '95 of Venice, Fla., died April 21, 2019.

Billy L. Meehan '95 of Lakeland died July 7, 2018.

Joyce M. Zerbe '96 of North Port died Jan. 27, 2019.

Deborah Faye Shaffer '97 of Saint Cloud died Dec. 2, 2017.

Alece Gabriella Bassett '97 of Lakeland died Dec. 22, 2015.

2000s

Matt D. Anderson '00 of Winter Haven died April 11, 2019. His survivors include his parents, **Dale Anderson** and **Mary Loope Anderson '98**.

STAFF

Cynthia B. Aplin of Lakeland died Nov. 16, 2018. Having worked as an administrative assistant for the Florida United Methodist Conference Center, she ended her working career at Florida Southern College in Admissions. She is survived by her daughter, **Jessica Aplin Gerou '09**.

Dr. A. Mitch "Poppy" Cooper of Bradenton died Feb. 8, 2019. Dr. Cooper was a professor in developmental psychology at Florida Southern College from 1970 until 1975. He also taught at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., and worked as a clinical psychologist in the Pensacola area for 27 years.

Lane M. Goodson of Lakeland died Feb. 24, 2019. He was a professor of mathematics at Florida Southern, having arrived at the College in 1966. He is survived by his wife, **Betty Jo Goodson**, a former adjunct English professor at FSC, as well

as sons **Minter H. Goodson '82** and **Lief G. Goodson '83**, daughters **Dr. Melanie Goodson Narkawicz '76** and **Robin Goodson Carr '80**, and daughter-in-law **Sally Austin Goodson '85**. He was preceded in death by his son **Dara C. Goodson '76**.

Carolyn B. Greene of Lakeland died Nov. 22, 2018. She was an employee of food services at Florida Southern College.

William M. Hannah IV of Lakeland died Dec. 25, 2018. He had worked as comptroller for Florida Southern College. He is survived by his wife, **Marie G. Hannah '84**.

Dr. Mary R. Miller of Durham, N.C., died Dec. 6, 2018. Dr. Miller, a retired English professor, taught at Florida Southern College as well as Reinhardt College, Tennessee Wesleyan College, and in the Florida public school system. She also headed the English Department at North Georgia College in Dahlonega, Ga.

Glen R. Rhoads of Haines City died Nov. 14, 2018. He worked as the bakery manager for Florida Southern College.

James F. Slutz of Terre Haute, Ind., died Feb. 24, 2019. A respected member of the Florida Southern faculty from 1969 until 1989, he served as Director of Bands, Music Education, and Music Management, and was Chairman of the Department of Music. He is survived by his wife, **Shirley McCutcheon Slutz '83**.

Jack E. Thompson of Winter Haven, a retired instructor of voice at Florida Southern College, died June 8, 2019. He studied at the Juilliard School of Music in New York and performed as a baritone with opera singers Beverly Sills and Placido Domingo, and as a guest soloist with the Florida Symphony, the Orlando Opera Gala, and the J.S. Bach Festival.

TRUSTEES

Robert A. Cattarius '64 of Lakeland died Jan. 17, 2019. He is survived by his wife, Trustee **Nancy McHan Cattarius '69**.

FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

Pauline Borders of Plant City died Aug. 31, 2018. A former Florida Southern student, she served as a Kappa Alpha Order house mother at the College for several years after her retirement.

Robert H. Hudgins of Lakeland died Sept. 2, 2018. He was an Army veteran and owner of two Lakeland-area Sonny's restaurants for many years.

Charles H. Scott of Lakeland died July 1, 2019.

Leon R. Sikes, Jr., of Fort Lauderdale died May 25, 2019. He and his brother, James "Jimmie" Sikes, were instrumental in founding Pop Sikes Golf Day at Florida Southern in honor of their father, Leon R. Sikes, Sr. This annual golf tournament, which has been held each year since 1975, serves as the biggest fund-raiser of the year for FSC's men's golf program. He also supported the women's golf team at FSC through the Hinson-Bates Tournament fund-raiser. Jimmie Sikes was inducted posthumously as a member of the Florida Southern Athletic Hall of Fame in 1982.

Emeritus Trustee **George A. Snelling** of Atlanta, Ga., died Oct. 23, 2018. He served as a Trustee from January 1995 until his death. He is survived by his wife, **Carolyn Shiver Snelling**.

Hal Stata of Sneads died Nov. 29, 2018. He was deeply involved as a driver for the Florida Southern water ski team from 1974 to 1981, traveling to all of the team's ski tournaments and driving the boat when students competed.

WATER SKIERS FOUND A HOME ON FSC'S LAKEFRONT SETTING

When you look out onto Lake Hollingsworth, you are looking at more than 70 years of history for Florida Southern's water ski club and team.

Since 1948, when the College first offered water skiing as an extracurricular activity, the natural beauty of Lake Hollingsworth has served as the practice site for countless jumps, tricks, and slaloms. FSC's long affiliation with recreational and competitive water skiing undoubtedly makes it one of the oldest such collegiate programs in the country, providing opportunities for novice and experienced skiers to better themselves on the water. The team now competes in Division 1 tournaments through the National Collegiate Water Ski Association (NCWSA).

Barbara Cooper Heddon of Haines City became the team's first water ski coach in the early 1970s. She had skied Lake Hollingsworth with the Lakeland Water Ski Club as a youth, later excelled as a show skier and world-champion competitor, and is known for being the first woman skier to jump 100 feet. "We were able to get a lot of the great water skiers to come to Florida Southern because we were able to train year-round," Coach Heddon said. "Because of the location on the lake, they could actually train between classes."

Linda Stata of Lakeland got her start as FSC's second coach by filling in for Coach Heddon as needed. After taking the job officially, she led the Mocs to an early run of wins in 1974 and 1975. "We went two years and didn't lose a single event," Coach Stata said. "We had such a powerful team because our facilities were so good here." Another highlight from her time at FSC came in 1979, Coach Stata recalled, when the men's team won the first-ever intercollegiate championship in Monroe, La.

Throughout the years, the water ski team has benefited from the leadership of a number of other dedicated coaches. Mark Richhart, who now coaches softball at Bryan College in Dayton, Tenn., knew nothing about FSC when he competed in



a Kneeboard National Tournament on Lake Hollingsworth in 1990. "One month later I was hired by Florida Southern," he said. As the team's coach throughout much of the 1990s, he was involved in organizing the water ski program's 50th-anniversary celebration, bringing in the president of Correct Craft, Inc., makers of the power boats used by the team. "It was an amazing event for alumni and for my team at the time," Coach Richhart said. "It meant a lot for me to see Florida Southern respected nationally."

Lisa St John, who coached the team in the early 2000s, now operates her own ski school, Lisa St John's Aquatic Sports Training in Orlando. The world-champion competitor and Hall of Fame inductee is a longtime proponent of wakeboarding, which she hopes to see included in the 2024 Olympics. "While I was at Florida Southern, President Thomas Reuschling allowed us to add a Wakeboard Club, and it became a collegiate event in the national championships," Coach St John said. "We started that! It was a big deal."

Coach Roger Skalko led the ski team from 2007 until his death in early 2015. Among the many FSC skiers whose lives he touched, Coach Skalko is remembered as a mentor, father figure, and friend who helped to unite FSC's ski team as a family. Together as a family, the team continues to do great things.

"We recruit internationally now," said current Head Coach Curtis Rabe. "On the team of 20, we have two students from Chile, one from Greece, one from Belarus, another from the island of Mauritius, from Switzerland, several from Canada, and skiers from all over the U.S." In his 4-1/2 years at FSC, Coach Rabe added, the team has competed in four Division 1 National Championships. "I'd like to thank all the people who have supported us. I get texts on the way to Nationals, saying 'Good luck!' It doesn't go unnoticed."

Above: As pictured in Florida Southern's 1948 yearbook, The Interlachen, some young women at the College took part in "ski school" lessons. Other athletic options for female students at that time included ping pong, badminton, shuffleboard, volleyball, softball, basketball, and a horse riding school.

Left: A member of FSC's water ski team made waves in 1984.





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A large graphic for Homecoming 2020. The background is a collage of black and white photos of students. The text "HOMECOMING" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, slanted upwards from left to right. Below it, "2020" is written in even larger, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, also slanted upwards. The bottom right corner of the graphic has a red background with white text.

HOMECOMING 2020



Save the Date!
MARCH 20-22
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