

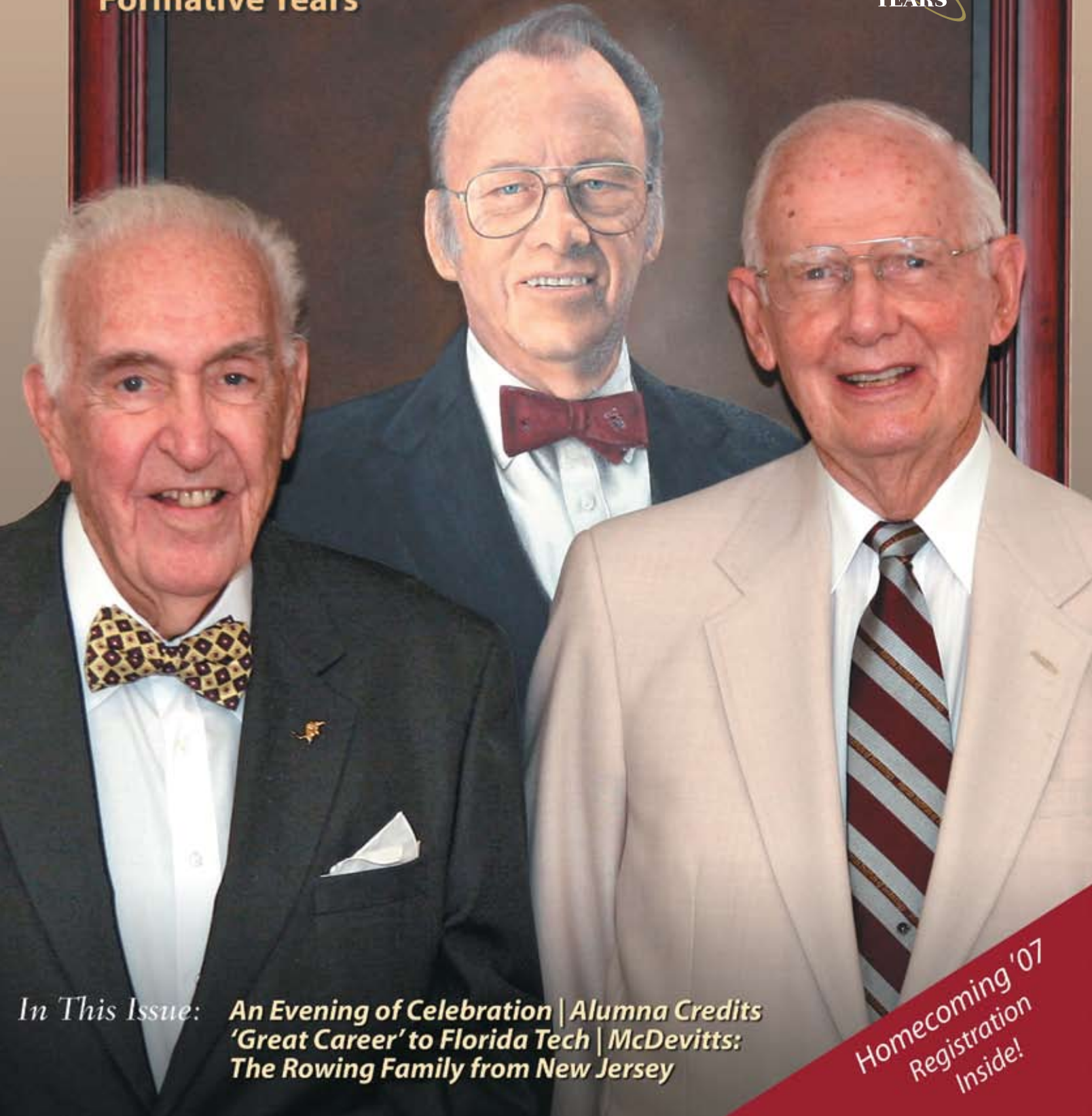
Florida Tech TODAY

A magazine for Alumni and Friends of Florida Institute of Technology FALL 2007

Cover Story

A Glimpse into Florida Tech's Formative Years

CELEBRATING
50
YEARS



In This Issue: **An Evening of Celebration | Alumna Credits
'Great Career' to Florida Tech | McDevitts:
The Rowing Family from New Jersey**

**Homecoming '07
Registration
Inside!**

President's Perspective

Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

Welcome to the fall issue of the *Florida Tech TODAY* magazine, and the beginning of our two-year celebration of Florida Institute of Technology's 50th anniversary. We start our celebration in this issue by taking a look back at the founding years of Brevard Engineering College. Interviews conducted by the Florida Tech History Project of early board chairmen and founding trustees George Shaw and Denton Clark give rare insight into the time and place of the beginnings of Brevard Engineering College.

We also take a look back into the not-so-distant past with a photo essay of our Golden Anniversary Campaign Gala. This issue contains more information on the campaign itself, including exciting naming opportunities for the university's South Village complex. The campaign is off to a strong start, with more than two-thirds of the \$50 million goal already raised.

Florida Tech takes pride in its alumni, and in this issue we feature several who do us proud. At the Dad Vail Regatta in Philadelphia last May, I had the good fortune of meeting the McDevitt family of rowers. In this issue, you'll be able to do the same. We also have alumni profiles on Florida Tech Trustee Joe Caruso and Jill Andrews. Joe is taking minor league baseball to the big time, while Jill is one of America's top sleuths with the National Transportation Safety Board.

I would be remiss if I did not offer my congratulations to rising junior golfer Daniela Iacobelli, who earned the university's first individual NCAA championship last spring. You can read about her tremendous accomplishment in our athletics section.

Finally, a note to our sharp-eyed readers: be on the lookout for five amazing facts about the first 10 years of Florida Tech. They're sprinkled throughout the issue. It's just another way we're paying tribute to our first 50 years.



Sincerely yours,

Anthony J. Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP

Florida Tech TODAY

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High Tech with a Human Touch



Feature Story: An evening of celebration



Feature Story: NTSB Investigator



On the Road with alumni in Seattle

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Two of Florida Tech's early board chairmen share their thoughts and experiences on founding a university.

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The Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech kicked off with a grand gala celebration.

30 **Alumna Credits 'Great Career' to Florida Tech**

Jill Andrews '99 credits her great career with the National Transportation Safety Board to choosing Florida Tech for her undergraduate studies.

32 **McDevitts: The Rowing Family from New Jersey**

Four of seven siblings came to Florida Tech and the rowing team. Now, the second generation of McDevitt rowers may continue the family's Florida Tech tradition.

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This issue's cover: The first two chairmen of the board George Shaw(left) and Denton Clark with a portrait of university founder Jerome P. Keuper.

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Catanese is Sunshine State Conference President

Florida Tech President **Anthony J. Catanese** was named president of the Sunshine State Conference (SSC), an NCAA Division II multisport organization. His two-year term began last spring.

President of Florida Tech since 2002, Catanese is credited with augmenting the university's participation in the SSC with five more competitive sports. They are men's and women's golf and tennis, and women's soccer. His goal is "to continue the work to make the SSC the best Division II Conference in America."



The Sunshine State Conference, formed in 1975 to offer basketball, today also includes baseball, men's and women's golf, women's rowing, men's and women's soccer, softball, men's and women's tennis and women's volleyball. Member institutions are Florida Tech, Barry University, Eckerd College, Florida Southern College, Lynn University, Nova Southeastern University, Rollins College, Saint Leo University and the University of Tampa.

Catanese continues his lifelong interest in sports by competing in road races locally and statewide as a Master's Runner. He recently completed his 30th marathon.



image courtesy of Florida Trend

Electric Car Student Project Captures Honors

A student project, Florida Tech's Racing Electric Vehicle (REV), won the Florida Electric Auto Association's "Best

Design" at the organization's international conference at Florida Atlantic University in Jupiter. In May, the student team built on that success at the 2007 Formula Hybrid Competition at the raceway in Loudon, N.H.

In Jupiter, the Florida Tech REV vied against 10 other cars. Teams came to compete from as far away as Oregon and Canada.

"Our team made an excellent impression on the electric car enthusiasts, especially because, after they worked on the design for months, they built the car to the display level in only three weeks," said **Frank Leslie**, environmental science faculty member.

By May, the team had readied the car to accelerate from 0 to 60 mph in about five seconds and it was able to reach a top speed of 85 mph. At the competition in New Hampshire, the car took top records in acceleration and autocross. They also won the

Best Designed Hybrid in Progress award.

Key REV team members and College of Engineering students were **Elizabeth Diaz**, team leader; **Jason Miner**, mechanical lead; and **Matt Reedy**, electrical lead. Advisers included **Pierre LaRochelle**, associate professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering; **Barry Grossman**, professor of electrical and computer engineering; and **Stephanie Hopper**, director of College of Engineering laboratories.

Diaz, for her academic, engineering and



General Speaks at Commissioning

A founder of Army aviation as a distinct service area, retired Lt. Gen. Jack V. Mackmull, addressed cadets at their commissioning as second lieutenants following commencement last spring. Flanking him in the front row, from left, are: Christine Miller, Michelle Leonard, President Anthony J. Catanese, Wilmarie Greer, Genevieve Engelmeyer and Lt. Col. Freida Oakley, head of the department of military science. Back row, from left: Cody Starken, Jared Porritt, Joseph Dietz, Joshua Daneault and Forest Woodbury.

extracurricular success, was singled out by *Florida Trend* magazine in May as one of the state's top graduating seniors.

Summer of Machine Learning

Ten select students from universities nationwide, including Virginia Tech and the University of Puerto Rico, participated in a National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) experience. The REU was held at Florida Tech and the University of Central Florida (UCF) during summer 2007.



From left, faculty senate president Jim Brenner with Georgios Anagnostopoulos.

The program, in machine learning, is funded by NSF REU grants totaling \$299,451 to the universities. The principal investigator is **Georgios Anagnostopoulos**, assistant professor in Florida Tech's department of electrical and computer engineering, pictured above at right.

The students conducted research in machine learning and displayed their work in a symposium at the end of the program. They are expected to present their results at interdisciplinary conferences and, potentially, will publish the results in technical journals.

Machine learning is traditionally considered a broad subfield of artificial intelligence. The discipline draws concepts from a variety of other fields, including cognitive sciences, information theory, statistics, mathematics, physics, philosophy and biology. Its cutting-edge applications include automatic target recognition, earthquake prediction, gene expression discovery and intelligent credit fraud protection.

At Florida Tech, faculty member **Veton Kepuska**, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, was also involved.

Less than 10 percent of the annual applications for the prestigious NSF REU programs are funded.

Richardson Named to Associate Dean Post



Theodore R. Richardson III

and Distance Learning Divisions.

Theodore R. Richardson III, Ed.D., has been named associate dean of University College. In his role as associate dean, Richardson will oversee all University College master's degree and graduate certificate programs

under both the Extended Studies and Distance Learning Divisions. "Dr. Richardson brings a wealth of experience to Florida Tech's University College," said University College Dean **Clifford R. Bragdon**. "He will serve as my right hand as we transition the college into a 21st century learning environment."

Previously associate dean for external affairs at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y., Richardson was active in strategic initiatives and programs. These include enrollment management, marketing strategies and new graduate program development for the M.B.A. and E.M.B.A. programs; involvement in the business school capital campaign including endowed chairs and a Center for Non-Profit Management; collaborations with the city of Rochester; AACSB and regional accreditation committees; and faculty recruitment.

Passion for Particles Finds Funding

It's a nightmare. A post 9-11 scenario of concealed nuclear material surreptitiously making its way to U.S. ports is enough to scare anyone into wakefulness. The possibility spurred the Department of Homeland Security to establish the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) in 2005. The office's mission is to reinforce the nation's ability to detect and thwart such attempts.

Associate Professor **Marcus Hohlmann** earned DNDO funding for his project. Under a one-year initial grant of \$230,000, Hohlmann is adapting an existing technology developed for high-energy particle physics experiments. With good progress, the financial support should grow to \$1.3 million over a projected three years.

The effort involves muon radiography. Muons are naturally produced by cosmic rays. They arrive from deep space and constantly bombard the Earth's atmosphere. High-energy elementary particles, they are much heavier versions of electrons and are difficult to block by concrete or lead. Although muons are deeply penetrating,

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(left) Marcus Hohlmann checks the laser alignment system for the muon endcaps of the Compact Muon Solenoid detector at CERN.

Studying the Microstructures of Alloys

Ke-Gang Wang, professor of physics and space sciences and principal investigator, will undertake a project with the support of the National Science Foundation (NSF) to study the three-dimensional (3D) microstructural evolution of alloys.

The NSF Materials World Network Program is funding the project with \$265,000 over three years to Wang and the same amount to the principal investigator at Pennsylvania State University. Two additional universities in Germany are each receiving the same funding from the German National Science Foundation, bringing the project's financial support to \$1.06 million. Florida Tech is the leading institution in the international collaborative research. Students and junior researchers participating in this project will travel to counterpart institutions across the Atlantic for one month every summer.

"We will use scientific instruments to capture images of the 3D microstructures of alloys and use computer simulation to create digital microstructures of materials," said Wang. A goal of the project is to see, by theoretical, computational and experimental means, how the microstructures form and evolve in materials.

It's hoped the work will advance the state of the art of simulation and experimental tools for 3D microstructural evolution. In addition, the results may help engineers to make improvements in armor protection, and the theoretical and computational tools will save money and time for alloy modification.

continued from page 5

heavy nuclei that would be present in smuggled nuclear material could deflect them. The heavier the nuclei, the more the muons scatter.

Hohlmann will apply a novel type of micro-pattern particle detector, a gas electron multiplier (GEM). The GEM was initially developed at CERN, the European Laboratory for Particle Physics near Geneva, Switzerland.

"Our ultimate plan is to use the GEM micro-pattern detector for particle tracking to measure the deflection of muons and apply it to the overseas shipping arena," said Hohlmann. "The detectors could be physically installed at the nation's ports or integrated into the actual cargo containers. Or, the detectors might be placed on the ships themselves."

Here is how the project would work: Following computer modeling, Hohlmann and his team will develop detectors, electronics and software for a data acquisition system and online data analysis. They'll design, build and test the GEM prototype detector in a simulated cargo container.

Associated signal readout electronics will provide information about the scattering angle of the muons as they pass in and out of the material. The wider the angle is, the bigger the nuclei inside and the greater the likelihood that the material is dangerous nuclear contraband.

"The Department of Homeland Security believes there is a great need to train young people in this kind of protection," said Hohlmann. "I agree that we must use our knowledge to check the evil consequences of nuclear technology. That's what motivates me."



Ke-Gang Wang



Hakeem Oluseyi

New Telescope to Participate in Global Hands-On Universe

Florida Tech's new 32-inch research telescope, which will be installed this fall, was named a partner facility for the award-winning Global Hands-On Universe (HOU) project. Just two other universities are program partners. They are the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Chicago.

Hakeem Oluseyi, an astrophysicist and professor in the Florida Tech department of physics and space sciences, has been instrumental in introducing astronomy education and research into Kenyan schools through HOU. This international educational program is funded by the National Science Foundation and based at the Lawrence Hall of Science in Berkeley, Calif. Oluseyi is HOU's Africa regional coordinator.

The HOU teaches astronomy, math and science to primary- and secondary-level school students by bringing them professional-grade telescopic images of the universe. Last May, HOU held an Internet teleconference workshop for nearly a dozen teachers at Kenya High School, a national residency school for girls. This was the first HOU workshop to be held on the African continent.

The project was initiated by Carl Pennypacker at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, who runs HOU; Susan Murabana, who has volunteered for several years on improving science education in Africa; and Oluseyi.

According to Murabana, "I became interested when Hakeem described HOU to me as an opportunity to introduce cutting-edge research education into Kenyan schools. The fact that it was Hakeem who recommended it gave me confidence that it was worthwhile."

Oluseyi said that completion of the HOU teachers' workshop is a crucial first step to bringing Kenya High and other African schools in the future into the global network of research-based science educational programs.

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Florida Tech is one of the few universities in the United States to offer an online professional development program in ABA for those seeking certification.

The course developer is **Jose A. Martinez-Diaz**, Ph.D., BCBA, (above) associate professor and chair of Behavior Analysis Programs, Florida Tech



College of Psychology and Liberal Arts. He provides instruction for all courses.

Courses meet the instructional requirements for certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst™ (BCBA®) from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc.® (BACB®) and the Board Certified Associate Behavior Analyst™ (BCABA®) examinations.

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Josh Pritchard, '02 B.S. psychology, '05 M.S. applied behavioral analysis, said, "To summarize from the FAB (Florida Association for Behavior Analysis) Web site, career opportunities for board-certified

behavior analysts are abundant. There are about four openings for each job applicant. Salaries in the field are comparable to other professionals in the human services, with reported ranges for new master's degree graduates between \$40,000–\$60,000."

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Coral Comeback

Robert van Woelik, professor of biological sciences, published his reef research from Palau, Micronesia, which showed that bleached coral reefs are more resilient than once thought. They can bounce back if subjected to good management practices and 10 years or so of pristine conditions. His research, first published in the journal, *Coral Reefs*, was also noted by *Science News* last May.

Influencing Shoppers

The Economist (England) and the *MIT Technology Review* ran a feature story on **Ronaldo Menezes**, associate professor of computer sciences, about his research into swarm theory (flocking, schooling or copycat behavior) and smart shopping carts. Canada's CBC Radio also picked up the story, broadcasting a six-minute piece all over the country.

Old as Dirt

Professor of Biological Sciences **Mark Bush** continues to investigate prehistoric climate change and its effect on life. His studies on pollen in Andean mountain sediment cores were published most recently by *National Wildlife* magazine.

Shuttle News Heard 'Round the World

When Florida Tech alumni **Joan Higginbotham** and **Sunita Williams** went to space aboard Space Shuttle *Discovery* last December the news made the papers all over the world. *The Boston Globe*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Houston Chronicle*, *International Herald Tribune* and FOX News were a few of the many media outlets covering their stories.



Did you know that Apollo Astronaut Virgil "Gus" Grissom and Florida Secretary of State Tom Adams received the college's first honorary doctorates?

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Campaign Momentum Builds

With \$31 million already raised toward our \$50 million goal for the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech, we are making great progress. Donors may continue to choose a variety of ways to give. One is to select a named gift opportunity.

A naming opportunity sends a strong message to our campus and external community that an individual, business or organization has loaned their name to the university's effort to add distinction to its endeavors. Right now, several specific options exist with the South Village project, termed such because all facilities will be located south of University Blvd.

"Our new plans for expanding the south campus will be transformational," said Provost **T. Dwayne McCay**. "I would not be surprised if these changes have an even larger impact on the university than did the F.W. Olin buildings."

The project encompasses Florida Tech's most immediate construction plans. At the top of the list is the 382-bed residence hall complex, which will

overlook the university's athletics fields and offer 250 new parking spaces. Each of the complex's three, five-story buildings will be opportunities for naming.

"We're building this complex especially for upper classmen to encourage them to stay on campus," said McCay. "It's well-known that living on campus can have a positive impact on the quality of education as well as benefit grades." The new halls are scheduled to open in time for the new school year in August 2008.

Second will be a new food service facility and banquet center under one roof. Food service will include a food court, all-you-can-eat dining and 600 seats, primarily for students, on the first floor. A 500-seat banquet center with full catering capabilities will be on the second floor. Naming opportunities for student food service and the banquet center are also available.

Next in line is a much-needed 350-space, three-level parking deck.

Another key priority, carrying a naming opportunity is a new marine ecology center to be built near the F. W. Olin buildings. The two-story, 15,200-square-foot center will update teaching and research on marine biology and aquaculture.



T. Dwayne McCay



Finally, a 52-meter, NCAA competition pool and diving well are slated to be located next to the Clemente Center for Sports and Recreation. “The student body has shown an incredible interest in a swimming facility for as long as anyone can remember,” said McCay. “This will be a good chance to combine recreation and competition.”



Botanical Garden Needs a Name

Florida Tech’s restful, 30-acre Botanical Garden is an attraction for miles around and a treat for the campus community. Taking advantage of a naming opportunity will create an endowment to maintain the leafy retreat and keep it a joy to experience for many years to come. Additionally, the garden was recently approved as an entry in the American Automobile Association (AAA) Florida guidebook, to be published in December 2007.

Additional naming opportunities abound. Gifts can put a name on laboratories, classrooms and conference rooms, or even benches, fountains and outdoor plantings. For more information, contact **Thomas G. Fox**, senior vice president for advancement, at (321) 674-6400 or at tfox@fit.edu.

Honoring a Faculty Member

Florida Tech alumnus **Jonathan B. Zung** ’86 has made an initial donation to establish an annual Department of Chemistry Award. The **Dr. J. Clayton Baum** Chemistry Award recognizes an outstanding junior chemistry major based on academic and research achievements. The recipient will be selected by the awards committee during the spring semester of the junior year. The award

was established by alumni in recognition of Baum’s dedication, devotion and service to the Department of Chemistry and to the university.

Professor Baum has taught and conducted research at the university since 1979. He has also served as a mentor and adviser to numerous undergraduate and graduate students. Baum earned his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Princeton University and received his undergraduate degree at Williams College.

Zung has pledged to match alumni contributions until the scholarship is funded at \$25,000. His donation is part of the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech.

Holder of a bachelor’s degree in chemistry, Zung currently is vice president, project management, for Bristol-Myers Squibb in Princeton, N.J.

“Nearly all chemistry graduates since 1979, who have taken courses from Dr. Baum, realize how much he has contributed to the university,” said Zung. “The education I received at Florida Tech was superb and would never have been possible without the dedication of faculty like Dr. Baum. The award will begin a legacy of giving by chemistry alumni at Florida Tech.”

For more information on the Golden Anniversary for Florida Tech, visit <http://campaign.fit.edu>.



Jonathan B. Zung



J. Clayton Baum

Raising the Bar for the Annual Fund

Rosalind Weiss, development associate and annual fund director, smiles a lot these days. The annual October-to-spring drive for FY’07 took in more than \$4 million—all contributing to the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech. This compares to \$3.5 million in FY’06 and represents an increase in the percentage of alumni giving from 17 percent to 19 percent.



Rosalind Weiss

continued on page 12

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“In the FY’02 annual fund drive, 9.5 percent of alumni gave to their alma mater,” said Weiss. “So, we’ve come a long way and that makes us feel pretty good.”

Each year the university sets out to garner much needed financial support through the annual fund campaign, a combined phone-a-thon and letter-writing effort directed to alumni. Florida Tech uses the money donated to the annual fund for its most vital student needs, such as better financial aid, newer laboratory equipment and expanded library resources.

A major portion of the recent annual fund success was from the spring Sporting Affair, a series of activities to support athletics scholarships, which Weiss called “hugely successful.” Led by Weiss and director of athletic partnerships **Jennifer Neuhard**, Sporting Affair 2007 brought in \$300,000.

“My goal right now,” said Weiss, as she begins preparing for a letter to go out in September and the phone-a-thon to start in October, “is to hit 25 percent of alumni personal giving. But, who knows? We might even go beyond that.”

She adds that alumni may make a donation now and they won’t be called later.

Send an e-mail message to makeagift@fit.edu to receive a postage-paid, self-addressed envelope to mail your gift. For more information, contact Weiss at rweiss@fit.edu.

Good News for College of Aeronautics

About the time Marjorie Hayes of the Washington, D.C., area was seeking a worthy cause to support, she met with an old friend, **Paris Michaels** ’76 B.S., ’83 M.B.A. A commercial pilot and graduate of the College of Aeronautics as well as current doctoral student in that college, Michaels had a good idea what to suggest.

Hayes liked his idea. Last spring she made a \$250,000 donation to the college. With \$50,000, the university will establish a new scholarship endowment, to be called the Marjorie Hayes Scholarship. The endowment will provide funds each year for eligible flight students in the College of Aeronautics. The university will work with the college to select students based on merit and financial need.

The remaining \$200,000 will name a flight simulator laboratory facility within F.I.T. Aviation,



Paris Michaels, Marjorie Hayes and Ken Stackpoole, dean of the College of Aeronautics, meet for lunch in Washington, D.C.

Florida Tech’s training facility at Melbourne International Airport. The Marjorie Hayes Simulator Lab will be put to use by Florida Tech’s faculty and students.

Michaels, who also has a master’s degree in national security from the Institute of World Politics in Washington, D.C., met Hayes at the institute, where she has also funded scholarships.

“Mrs. Hayes doesn’t just donate to any worthy cause, she invests in America,” said Michaels. “She views her donation to the College of Aeronautics as an investment in youth and in our students, who will master the future of U.S. global aviation. She credits aviation with contributing immensely to this nation’s progress.”

He added that she believes that a U.S. flag should hang in every university classroom.

Going the Extra Mile

Cynthia Smith, development associate, finalized the details of this donation. Smith was also instrumental in helping a graduate student fulfill a dream of attending a summer program at the prestigious von Karman Institute of Fluid Dynamics in Brussels. **Michael Vergalla**, an aerospace engineering student, had his acceptance in hand, arranged a place to stay, but did not have the funds for the plane ticket. He turned to the Office of Development and to Smith. After exhausting several potential resources over several weeks, Smith found a campus staff member who offered a Delta Airlines buddy pass, a roundtrip standby ticket.

A senior in fall 2007, Vergalla wrote, “Cynthia went way beyond the call of duty and personally assisted me in accomplishing my task with a pleasant attitude throughout the discouraging process. I cannot fully express my gratitude for her efforts, positive attitude and willingness to persevere on my behalf.”

from the FTAA President

From the desk of Association President Jim Downey '74



Preparations for the Golden Anniversary are well under way by your alma mater and your alumni association. A lot of energy and passion is being spent to create 50th anniversary festivities that you will not want to miss.

Opening and closing ceremonies, galas, a 50th anniversary coffee table history book, memorabilia including old photos from the past, library displays, nationwide receptions, a blowout homecoming, audio/video pioneer interviews at a special Web site, a special edition of the alumni directory, a Presidential Lecture Series, college lectures—we'll have them all and more!

Festivities will begin on Founder's Day, Sept. 22, 2008, and the 40-plus members of your association's board of directors are focused on the yearlong celebration that will continue through Sept. 22, 2009. I assure you that events and activities will be the best that any university has feted for its 50th. You will find many of your surveyed suggestions have been included in the planning.

At the core of the celebration is the legacy and footprints left by you, the alumni. I enthusiastically invite all of you to come home to your alma mater to celebrate with classmates and family, renew "old" acquaintances and relive the fond memories you have of your alma mater whether you called her Brevard Engineering College, FIT and/or Florida Tech.

And speaking of "old" acquaintances, the Office of Alumni Affairs has developed a list of student groups that were active over our 49 years. The number came to about 200, plus all of our athletic teams; you'll see them listed in the homecoming section of the magazine. If we missed your group, let us know. More importantly, if you've been a member of any of these organizations, I want you to consider organizing some activity on campus for that group for the 50th. If you have interest in bringing together your "old" group, the Office of Alumni Affairs can help.

The second invitation for you to get involved is in the funding of these events via individual/group/corporate/company sponsorships. The board is looking for business support from the advertising, marketing and promotions line item to defray costs. Many opportunities exist for individuals and enterprises to gain great visibility. An underwriting or sponsorship document is available by e-mailing Ken Droscher at gopanthers@fit.edu.

Your Office of Alumni Affairs is your resource and the staff is eager to help. Call toll free at (866) FLA-TECH with any suggestions or questions that you might have.

Make plans to join us for the Golden Anniversary!
Go Panthers!



California Alumni Say "Cheese"
The close-knit L.A. alumni chapter gathers at Griffith Park in Los Angeles for its third annual chapter barbecue and softball game.

Back row, from left: Anne Riquier '02, Cindy Pratt '97, Sarah Dunsford '00, Joyce and Mark Legg '73. Front row, from left: Jean and Keith Milbrandt '70; Bob Pratt '95, '97 M.S.; Frank Guttieri '98, '01 M.B.A.; Kirstin DeGeer '99, '04 M.S.; John "Doc" Oakes '70. Chapter members not pictured are Debbie (Goss) '99 and Musfik Dogancay '94.



**Alumni
Receptions
Reconnect
Old Friends
and Make
New Ones**

New York



President Anthony Catanese and wife Sara get to know Linda Demarest '86 and Don Diorio.



Happy to be here are, from left: Greg Hodge, Carolyn Kinebrew Bosa '83, Sia Schatz '84 and Ronaldo Richardson '02.



Reunited at the reception are, from left, Ronaldo Richardson '02, Alexandra De Los Santos, Melvin Madera '04 and Greg D'Esposito '04.

Chicago



Florida Tech held the first-ever alumni reception in Chicago last May at the historic Palmer House Hilton. With President Anthony J. Catanese at right are Kashyap Kamdar '98 M.S. and Wafaa Gobba '84 M.S., '91 Ph.D.



At the inaugural Chicago event were, from left: Jan Cavalla, administrator, budget and event planning, Mike Brisbois '86 and his wife Joan.

Washington, D.C.



Gathered here are College of Aeronautics alumni, who Beverly Sanders, director of development, calls "very enthusiastic." At Harry's Tap Room in Arlington, Va., from left front: Paris Michaels '76,'83, M.B.A.; Beverly Sanders; Anamaria Michaels; Ken Monroe '89 M.B.A.; Susan Stackpoole; Ed Scerbo '90; Ryan McAfee '97 on his way to Iraq; Berty Damato '91; and Jo Damato. Right side, from front: Paul Rice '78; Kent Duffy '98; Evan Futterman '78; College of Aeronautics Dean Ken Stackpoole; Jim Blessing '92; Kathy Blessing; Wendy Glorioso '96; and Marc Glorioso.

Seattle



(Two photos at left)
Tuesday, June 19
found alumni, spouses
and guests gathered
for an enthusiastic
reception at Seattle's
Tap House Grill.



(Above) Simone Helsel,
Brett Helsel '82 and
Geoffrey Smyth '86



Los Angeles



L.A. Chapter members met with President Catanese for a great evening reception at the Fairmont Miramar in Santa Monica on Wednesday, June 20.

San Diego

On Thursday, June 21,
a cozy atmosphere at the
Dana on Mission Bay
greeted alumni to hear
President Catanese share
the latest news from
their alma mater.



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EX-314-607



Did you know that the Florida Tech Alumni Association is on Facebook?

Search for Florida Tech Alumni Association or FIT groups and look for Pete the Panther. Join the group and invite others to join with you. Check out the current reception schedule, events calendar, join the alumni online community and more. Contact ftaa@fit.edu for more information.



New Alumna, New Recruits
2nd Lt. Christine Miller just earned her bachelor's degree and was commissioned in the U.S. Army the month before this photo was taken at Space Coast Stadium in Melbourne in June 2007. Army recruiters asked for a volunteer to swear in the 30 active duty soldiers before a Florida Manatees game. Miller complied.



Show your support!
Ride with Panther Pride!

Fraternally Speaking

At the conclusion of each year, the fraternities and sororities are recognized for excellence in their chapters and as individuals. A committee of faculty and staff selects the recipients based on the information and nominations received. Each year at the Student Leader Awards Banquet, those awards are presented. We would like to congratulate the following individuals and chapters.

Faculty Member of the Year:	Stephanie Joy, Gamma Phi Beta
Chapter Adviser of the Year:	Jason Sperry, Tau Kappa Epsilon
New Member of the Year:	Jamie Huffman, Alpha Phi
Living the Ritual Award:	Muhammad Furqan, Tau Kappa Epsilon
Fraternity Man of the Year:	Matt Hopkins, Chi Phi
Sorority Woman of the Year:	Kelly Reda, Gamma Phi Beta
Partnership Award:	Alpha Tau Omega
President's Cup:	David Skoog, Chi Phi

Chapter Awards

House Corporation Board of the Year:	Pi Kappa Alpha
Recruitment and Retention Award:	Alpha Phi
Scholarship Award:	Fall 2006 Gamma Phi Beta
	Spring 2006 Gamma Phi Beta
	Fall 2006 Tau Kappa Epsilon
New Member Class Scholarship Award:	Tau Kappa Epsilon
Academic Progress Award:	Pi Kappa Alpha
Community Service Award:	Pi Kappa Alpha
Philanthropy Award:	Pi Kappa Alpha
Campus Service Award:	Alpha Phi
Educational Programming Award:	Alpha Phi
Educational Program of the Year Award:	Tau Kappa Epsilon
Alumni Relations Award:	Pi Kappa Alpha
Campus Involvement Award:	Alpha Tau Omega
Progress Award:	



A Party of Pikes

The Zeta Sigma chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha reunites at Joe Caruso's '73 Moorestown, N.J., home. Attending the annual gathering are, from left, Dan Luongo '68, Charles Chiodo '70, Ron Polillo '68, Dave Munion '77, Mike Cona '69, Joe Caruso '70, John Masturzo '70, Chip Goen '70, Bob Ross '69 and George Morstatt '68. The Pikes came from as far away as Atlanta.



Did you know that Edward Teller, the nuclear scientist noted as the father of the hydrogen bomb, taught at Florida Institute of Technology?



The Lightweight Freshmen beam with joy over their first place win, from left: Logan Sailor, Mateo Arimany, Mark Mayou, Van Van Etten, Charles Pearson IV, Christa Blaisdell, Mike Matthews, Matt Strand, Travis Schramek and Coach Tim Watson.

Another Successful Dad Vail

The annual Office of Alumni Affairs sojourn to the Dad Vail Regatta in Philadelphia offered a 25th anniversary commemoration of the university's 1982 overall Dad Vail win. Many of the victorious rowers from that year joined the celebration with a ceremonial row down the Schuylkill River.

Between 200 and 250 Florida Tech families and friends attended the university's own reception there.



President Anthony J. Catanese checks the racing schedule, with Mike Ussak '72 looking over his shoulder. Cliff Bragdon, associate provost and dean of University College, stands far right.



Florida Tech Varsity Eight rowers, from left, Mikaela Devaux and Laurel Borgias row away from the dock.



Director of Athletics Bill Jurgens was assistant coach, Men's Varsity, at Dad Vail.



The Delta Delta Tau brothers and little sister wear denim and cream colors to promote their upcoming reunion at the university's Golden Anniversary Homecoming in 2008. From left: John "Doc" Oakes '70, Alexis "Sandy" Loo '75, George Poidomani '73, Russ Ballagh '74, Dean Smehil '74, Garry Miller '70 and Mike Ussak '72.

Carlos Barba: A Long Way from Cuba

Jerome P. Keuper, our founding president, surrounded himself with many “go-to” guys and gals.

Carlos Barba, assistant controller, was Keuper’s go-to guy for anything that required command of the Spanish language.

Keuper, always ahead of the curve, anticipated an enormous influx of folks into the United States who spoke Spanish and wanted to prepare himself and the university for the influx. It was inevitable that Barba would become one of Keuper’s right-hand men.



Barba was born in Havana, Cuba, in 1930, grew up there and received a law degree from the Universidad de la Habana. In 1966 when he

admitted he could no longer embrace the political system in Cuba, he found himself cutting sugar cane as a political prisoner.

Separated from his wife Esther and his daughter Lourdes, he lived a terrible life until 1969 when Castro included him and his family with a group he allowed to emigrate to the United States. (His son, Charlie, was born later in the United States.)

Esther Barba’s relative, Hector Sylvestre, was in the U.S. military service, stationed at Patrick Air Force Base. Sylvestre talked the family into coming to Melbourne. When they arrived, neither could speak English, and Barba says, “There were probably no more than 10 families in all of Brevard who spoke Spanish at that time.”

He vividly recalls his first Christmas in Melbourne. As he was driving down U.S. 1, it really hit him that he had left a thriving metropolis to move to a little town he never heard of, that didn’t even have traffic on its streets.

Finding a job was not an easy task. He rejected the idea of becoming a CIA operative. Radiation Inc. (now

Harris) sent him an application, but offered no employment after he listed his occupation as “lawyer.”

He finally found day work with Chester Gonzalez who owned an air conditioning company, and a night job with the owner of a Colombian restaurant in Melbourne Beach who hired him to clean the kitchen after hours. In the meantime, he and his wife studied English at Brevard Community College.

Finally in 1971, Florida Tech beckoned, and the man who once hoped to be a college professor, jumped at the chance to have steady, salaried employment as an assistant controller.

The relationship between the Keupers and the Barbabs reflected the high regard in which the family was held. Each year the Keupers entertained the Barbabs in their home on Jan. 12, celebrating the birthday shared by both men. And when the Barbabs became citizens, the Keupers insisted upon driving to Orlando to be their witnesses.

Carlos Barba chuckles when he talks about all of his “volunteering” at the college. He often was called upon to perform work that had absolutely nothing to do with his controller position—translation, writing and hosting. For example, he taught Keuper Spanish, and also helped him write a dictionary of Spanish slang.

One Friday at 2 p.m., Barba was given an English version of an article that Keuper wanted translated and published in the Miami newspaper, *Diario Las Americas*, that weekend if possible. Barba had a contact there and was able to get the article published, but first his journalist friend, Fernando Allonza, wanted to know, “Carlos, where is Melbourne?”

On another occasion, a *Miami Herald* columnist gave Barba some press after he hosted a Venezuelan dignitary on a trip to Sea World. The visitor, the assistant secretary of education, would not be convinced that Shamu, the killer whale at Sea World, was real and

kept insisting how remarkably intelligent Americans were to conceive of a computerized sea monster like Shamu.

El Doctor Barba also represented Florida Tech as an admissions director on several Spanish-speaking student recruiting trips. By this time, Barba had been recognized by the University of Florida in their Cuban-American lawyer’s program to practice law in the United States.

Barba is especially proud of convincing Keuper to extend retirement benefits to administrative personnel. It seems that they were on a business trip when Keuper asked him if he was happy at Florida Tech. Barba wisely replied that he would be considerably happier if his benefits included a retirement program. When they arrived on campus, Keuper turned to Barba and said, “I will take care of this. You’re right.”

“By July, we had it,” says Barba.

Carlos Barba not only loves America, but he also loves the university he retired from in 2000. He says, “I recommended to each new employee at Florida Tech that before they go home at the end of the workday they ask themselves, ‘What have I done for the university and its students today.’”

Joan Bixby



President Emeritus Lynn E. Weaver (left) honors Barba in the late 90s.

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Fall '07 Homecoming Registration Form

To register by credit card or check (payable to Florida Tech Alumni Association), fill out this form and send to: Florida Institute of Technology, Office of Alumni Affairs, 150 West University Boulevard, Melbourne, FL 32901-6975

You may also register online at www.merchantamerica.com/fit/echopay

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Saturday, Oct. 20

Banquet Reception in 2nd Floor Lobby Denius Student Center

Attendees ___ @ no charge

Homecoming Banquet in the Hartley Room – Buffet Service 7:30 p.m.

Attendees ___ @ \$35 each = \$ _____

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See pages 22–23 for schedule

An Evening of Celebration

The public phase of The Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech kicked off with a grand gala celebration held April 27 at the Clemente Center. More than 300 guests enjoyed dinner and a program unveiling the university's ambitious plans to propel the institution ahead both in service and stature.

Lush tropical arrangements designed by Link Johnsten of Eau Gallie Florist adorned the reception area and framed a vibrant work by Frits van Eeden, "Botanical Garden." Van Eeden contributed the work to the evening's silent auction. He also designed the original illustration, "Panther," for the gala's invitation and program. Harpist Petra Trevino Flick of the Brevard Symphony Orchestra greeted guests with her delicate music during the reception, while Florida Tech's student choral group, Players in Harmony, serenaded attendees during dinner.

Significant contributors to the university were also honored at the event. Dale and Pamela Dettmer, the late Robert and Phyllis Long, Charles and the late Ruth Clemente, Phillip and Jeanne Farmer, Ruth Funk, John and Martha Hartley, Allen and Sandra Henry, Bjørnar and Bjørg Hermansen and Edward and Cheryl Scott received gifts of appreciation from President Anthony J. Catanese. Corporate donors, the Emil Buehler Trust and Harris Corporation, were also recognized.

Following presentation of the video, "A Celebration of the Golden Anniversary Campaign," Campaign Chairman Phillip Farmer delivered the closing remarks—reiterating the goal of making Florida Tech one of the top 10 technological universities in the world and thanking donors for their continued support in making this dream a reality.

President and Mrs. Anthony J. Catanese with Mrs. Ruth Funk in the reception area at the Golden Anniversary Campaign gala event.



Seated, from left: Mrs. Sandra Henry, Mrs. Christine Henry, Mrs. Bjørg Hermansen, Mrs. Sara Catanese, Ms. Suzanne Sagorski; standing, from left: Dr. Allen S. Henry, Mr. Howard Lance, Mr. Bjørnar Hermansen, Dr. Anthony J. Catanese, Mr. Charles Clemente



Mr. Phil Farmer, campaign and board of trustees chairman, delivered the evening's closing remarks.



Head table, from left: Mr. and Mrs. F. Alan Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brandon, Drs. Dwayne and Mary Helen McCay, Mr. and Mrs. Bino Campanini



Head table, from left: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Scott, Mr. and Mrs. John Hartley, Mrs. Helen Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Farmer, Mr. George Weaver, Mrs. Ruth Funk



Seated, from left: Mrs. Phyllis Long, Mrs. Carolyn Baney, Mrs. Pamela Dettmer; standing, from left: Dr. Ray Armstrong, Mr. Dale Dettmer, Mr. Joe Flammio, Mr. Richard Baney



Seated, from left: Mrs. Judy Feucht, Mrs. Jane Kirschenbaum, Mrs. Mary Fox, Ms. Nancy Austin; standing, from left: Mr. Al Feucht, Mr. Malcolm Kirschenbaum, Dr. Tom Fox, Mr. Louis Korahais



President Catanese recognized donors who have contributed \$1 million to Florida Tech at the Golden Anniversary Campaign gala.



Florida Tech's own singers, the Players in Harmony, performed after dinner at the gala.



View more photos online at <http://campaign.fit.edu/gallery>



LET

GAMES

2007 HOMECOM

Wednesday, October 17

- 5:30 p.m. Homecoming Kick-off Event—Office of Student Activities
- 7:30 p.m. Wacky Wars—Southgate field—alumni teams invited

Thursday, October 18

- 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Aeronautics Alumni in Classroom
- 5:30–7 p.m. Welcoming Reception—Rathskeller
- 7 p.m. College of Aeronautics—FITSA Hospitality reception—Tapps
- 7–9 p.m. Talent Show—Gleason Performing Arts Center—nominal admission fee (*donation to charity*)

Friday, October 19

Alumni classroom presentations—various locations

- 8:30 a.m.–Noon Alumni Association Board Meeting
- 9 a.m.–Noon College of Aeronautics Symposium
- 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Office Decorating
- Noon–3 p.m. George Skurla College of Aeronautics
- 1 p.m. *Tin Cup Golf Tournament—College of Aeronautics
- 3–6 p.m. FITSA/Industry Board of Advisors
- 6 p.m. CAB Night
- 7–10 p.m. FITSA Hangar Party
- 8:30 p.m. Ice Hockey Game

For a complete schedule of activities and information for college, department and other groups, please contact the following: _____

Athletics—(321) 674-8032 • Caribbean Students Association—Weyni Clacken '01, (917) 343-8359 or Weyni.clacken@gs.com; Greg Tuckett '00, (407) 356-3162 or Gregory.tuckett@gs.com
Delta Delta Tau Fraternity—George Poidomani '73, (215) 969-0540 or VoiceTypeG@aol.com • *Contact the Department of Athletics—Coach Pat Cappola, (321) 674-7388



MAIN SCHEDULE

Friday, October 19
 Meeting—Board of Trustees Room
 Symposium—Skurla Hall
 Aeronautics Awards Luncheon—Hartley Room
 The Duran Golf Club
 Professors Meeting—Skurla Hall

Saturday, October 20

Aviation Day, flight competition with prizes—open to public

9 a.m. Alumni Rowing Races—Boathouse
 9 a.m.–Noon Men's and Women's Tennis Matches—Campus
 9:30 a.m. Buehler Flight Training Center Groundbreaking
 11 a.m. Homecoming Parade—Begins at University Park Elementary School and ends at Panther Plaza
 Following Parade: Community Barbecue—Panther Plaza—free admission
 Aviation Day at FIT Aviation
 Women's Soccer Alumni Game—Stottler Field
 Men's Soccer vs. Eckerd College—Stottler Field
 6:30–7:30 p.m. Professors emeriti, faculty, alumni, staff, family and friends reception
 Second floor lobby, Denius Student Center
 7:30–9:30 p.m. **Alumni Association Banquet—tickets \$35 each—Hartley Room
 9 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Homecoming Dance—All welcome—Clemente Center, small gym

**Registration Form
 on page 19**

Vision, Value

A glimpse into Florida Tech's formative years

By now, anyone connected in any way to Florida Institute of Technology is familiar with the story (legend?) of the famous first donation of 37 cents. While the impetus for the formation of the university may have come from a mythic moment in time, the process of its creation was an arduous one.

The university's first 10 years saw many challenges, but its founding president, Jerry Keuper, stayed true to his vision during those formative years. Serving as witness to his drive, as well as providing much needed help along the way, were the first of two chairmen of the board.

and Victory!





BEC's first board of trustees meeting took place on Feb. 25, 1959, at the college's offices at the University of Melbourne building. Shown here, from left are Harold Dibble, Garrett Quick, Clifford Mattox, Jerry Keuper, Norman Lund, and Chairman George Shaw. (courtesy Evans Library)

As founding trustees, both **George Shaw** and **Denton Clark** had a vested interest in the success of the university. Now, as part of the university's history project, launched in conjunction with the 50th anniversary, they have given all who hold the university dear an inside glimpse into these formative years.

Shaw was a founder of Radiation Inc., a telemetry company that later became known as Harris Corp. Clark worked for RCA, later serving as the president of its Canadian Division. During his time in Melbourne, Clark managed the RCA missile test project at Cape Canaveral and was Keuper's boss.



Denton Clark presenting Jerry Keuper with RCA's contribution to nearly complete the Crawford Science Building.

Both men were inspired by Keuper's new college and recognized the value it would bring to their companies. The college was particularly helpful at a time when the difficulty of recruiting employees to Florida led to providing incentives, often called "swamp pay."

On meeting Jerry Keuper and recognizing the need for a new college

Shaw: He was working out at the base, Cape Canaveral. He thought we needed a school, and we (at Radiation) did too. So many of the people we were trying to recruit, from M.I.T. or Georgia Tech, thought that this place was famous for alligators and mosquitoes. If there was an educational complex they could teach in or get additional degrees, it seemed like a good idea.

Clark: When it became known that BEC (Brevard Engineering College) could turn into the institution it is today, I encouraged Jerry to resign. It was the first time I ever encouraged an outstanding employee to resign from RCA. What impressed us (about BEC) was that it offered a stabilizing influence to our workforce.

On the early role of BEC in the community

Clark: Melbourne was a pretty sleepy small town. When BEC was established, it excited a lot of people here. Jerry, with his infectious enthusiasm, you couldn't help but get enthused about what he wanted to do.

Shaw: Immediately, Lansing Gleason wanted us to build the college in Satellite Beach. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough land. The area was limited by the canal structure.

On corporate ties to BEC

Shaw: Senior management at Radiation taught from three o'clock on in the afternoon and then Radiation paid the tuition of people who wanted to take courses. Keuper put together an enormous number of courses out of thin air—he did it very fast. It worked out very well.

Clark: We had three reasons to support BEC. It provided an opportunity for employee growth. It gave an academic environment for senior leadership who wanted to teach. And it became a part of our "swamp pay," helping us recruit talented employees to the region.



Did you know that Florida Tech's first million dollar building was the Crawford Building?

On early visiting faculty to BEC

Shaw: Wehrner von Braun came here several times and lectured at the university. During that time, Jerry was extremely good at getting (legendary physicist) Dr. (J. Robert) Oppenheimer to speak here. It happened only once because he was much older. (Edward) Teller also came here and lectured. They were impressed with Florida Tech because it was so strange. It was like a mushroom, it just suddenly happened in the Florida swamp.

On early challenges for BEC

Clark: I would categorize the problems in three ways. Trying to establish suitable classrooms was one initial challenge. The next challenge was funding. The last one was accreditation.

Classrooms were solved with the donation of the University of Melbourne to BEC. The early trustees were instrumental in getting that transfer done.

When you talk about funding, that was always exciting. Jerry was the kind of individual that if he had an idea that was compatible with his vision, he wanted to implement that idea now. He wanted to do it immediately.



An example I remember happened after I succeeded George Shaw as chairman of the board of trustees. Shortly thereafter, George called me one day and said, "Jerry has approached the Bank of Melbourne and wants to borrow a significant amount of money." He wanted to know if I knew anything about it.

I had to admit that I did not.

It turns out that Jerry wanted to borrow the money to buy a school of aeronautics. I told him it might be a good idea to talk to the board about it. Two days later, we held an impromptu meeting at the Eau Gallie Yacht Club.

Of course, Jerry's enthusiasm was catching, and the board approved his idea. This led to the creation of the School of Aeronautics with the full support of the board.

On Florida Institute of Technology today

Shaw: I always expected Florida Tech to be what it is today. I was disappointed that there was slow growth in the seventies and eighties without Harris's help. Lockheed Martin and other companies wondered "what's wrong with Florida Tech, and why should we help them." It had a very hard effect (on the school). That all changed when **Jack Hartley** became president of Harris. After that, under the leadership of **(Phillip W.) Farmer** and **(Howard K.) Lance**, Harris has made a positive difference. And Florida Tech has thrived.

Jay Wilson

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***Florida Institute
of Technology***

Swinging for the Fences

Joe Caruso '70 hitting his stride in the business world

It would be too easy by half to say that **Joe Caruso '70**, Florida Tech trustee, has always been willing to step up to the plate in the world of business. Too easy because Caruso's minor league baseball franchises are but two of his nine businesses under the umbrella of the Omnifirst Group.

While he enjoys baseball, it's his passion for business, not the diamond, which led him to ownership of the Trenton Thunder and the Lakewood Blueclaws.

"As an investment banker, I was contacted by a group who decided they weren't strong enough to move forward (with the teams), so my partners and I decided to do it ourselves," said Caruso. "In the early 1990s, we did a lot of due diligence and research. We were one of the first minor league organizations to introduce computerized ticketing and seat charts. We introduced bar coding to the minor leagues on season tickets to keep track of who actually attended games."

If you think that doesn't sound like the kind of romantic talk that normally surrounds the national pastime—tales of pastoral summer days and men playing a boy's game—then Caruso would agree with you.

"Anything I do is about business. If you fall in love with the product, you've missed the point. I like baseball, but it's always about managing and growing the business," said Caruso.

Caruso's latest business venture takes him far away from the diamond, into the world of servers and small business computer needs.

The business, WorldExtend, provides a product, SecureIDA, which gives employees of small businesses a way to securely and reliably access work files from remote locations. This ability, long enjoyed by larger businesses and organizations, has been a boon for the Thunder. It's a case of one of Caruso's businesses benefiting another.

"SecureIDA makes it easy to add a new remote user to the system in a matter of minutes. Once you are added to the system, it becomes simple to take care of any eventuality immediately," said Bill Cook, director of public

relations for the Thunder. "So, if team news breaks in the evening, such as a player being called up to the Yankees, I can now access the network from any location to add his photo and background to our Web site."

Much like baseball, Caruso enjoys computers, but he's quick to point out that he's not an information technology guru.

"I only involve myself in businesses I'm passionate about—technology, health care and entertainment," said Caruso. "I seldom start out as the expert so I surround myself with partners who are the experts. That's really my model."

"We believe WorldExtend has the kind of mass appeal and smart pricing to make a difference—that's the key thing I look for in any business. My core value is to be the best every day at providing broad products that are priced right and can be disruptive in our target industries. My two current business launches in the health insurance space combined excellent branded products from high profile companies offered under exclusive relationships by my companies. The path to market with my expert partners has achieved national traction that neither public company achieved on their own."

As the years have passed, Caruso has kept the lessons he learned while a student at Florida Tech and has used them to further his business success.

"At Florida Tech, the one thing you learned was discipline," he said. "To graduate on schedule and have



Caruso poses with New York Yankee legend Yogi Berra.

an active social life, you have to learn discipline and commitment to what's important to you, to what matters."

Caruso is just as passionate about his personal life as he is about business success.

"I have a terrific home life with my spectacular wife, Lisa. I have two wonderful sons from my first marriage and my first grandson was born in April," he said.

While he may be a first-time grandfather, he's also enjoying his role as a step-dad to Lisa's 14-year-old son.

"It's given me a fantastic opportunity to revisit raising children, only now trying to keep up with them in the computer age."

Jay Wilson



Did you know that among the first degrees awarded at Florida Institute of Technology was a master's degree in space technology?

Jill Andrews '99 is enjoying an exciting career with the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and she said it all began at Florida Tech.

She credits her “great job” as an air safety investigator to picking Florida Tech as the place to earn her bachelor’s degree in aviation management with flight. She explained why she chose Florida Tech: “I wanted to attend a school where the faculty took an interest in their students—where the students weren’t just numbers. I also came from a family of Florida Tech graduates. My dad received one of his master’s degrees from Florida Tech.”

Alumna Credits ‘Great Career’ to Florida Tech





Even today, eight years later, she draws on her Florida Tech education. Andrews says she has a technically challenging job, which requires knowledge in various areas of aviation and flight training. She receives specialized training from engine and airframe manufacturers.

It's not just the technical aspects of the job that make it challenging and rewarding. Andrews also uses her public relations skills. "I get into every aspect (of the investigation), including press conferences and dealing with families as their point of contact," she explained.

Her career with the NTSB began with a safety class her junior year at Florida Tech. Until then, she had assumed she would be a pilot for an airline. Interest in the class led her to check out the NTSB, and, as chance would have it, the regional office in Washington, D.C., needed an intern that summer. It was close to her hometown, too. Andrews continued training at the NTSB while on break that winter and was hired as a trainee upon graduation. She later earned a master's in aeronautical science.

The mid-Atlantic regional office in Ashburn, Va., where she now works has six investigators who work with eight other investigators in three other offices (in New Jersey, Miami and Atlanta) to cover the entire East Coast. The territory these investigators cover comprises 23 states, from Maine to Florida, and Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. They stay pretty busy. "There are a lot more accidents than people really think," Andrews said, "about 500 per year in the entire East Coast territory." But, she added, most of these don't involve fatalities. "Each investigator handles about six or seven fatal accidents per year," she explained.

She said one of the most rewarding aspects of her job is being able to "make flying safer." The purpose of the NTSB is to recommend safety changes to the industry.

And, Andrews hopes to inspire others to do the same. She is currently teaching safety courses part time in Washington, D.C. Andrews advises others to "get a diverse curriculum, such as what's offered at Florida Tech, and network—get involved in an organization." And, she added, "An internship is invaluable."

Melinda Millsap



Jill Andrews at work—investigating accidents and talking to the media (top right).



MCDEVITTS:



The Dad Vail Regatta of last May was, as always, a key rowing competition. It was also the 25th reunion of the 1982 regatta champions. Among them, rowing ceremonially down the Schuylkill River, was **Mike McDevitt '84**. He was “stroke” on the Florida Tech team, which in 1982 took first place in the Varsity Eight.

McDevitt also was on the crew that won the Freshman Eight in 1980 and, during his four Florida Tech years, he took home more than 20 medals.

Big brother, big influence

Mike started something that fond memories, deep friendships and character-building experiences are made of.

One of seven siblings from the beach town of Ventnor, N.J., McDevitt was followed to the university and the rowing team by **Kathy McDevitt Wojtas '87**, **Megan McDevitt Mellinger '89** and **Jim McDevitt '90**. Jim was on the Varsity Eight men’s team that won Dad Vail in 1988.

(Top photo) On the 1986 Women’s Varsity Eight team, shown here, are Megan McDevitt Mellinger and Kathy McDevitt Wojtas, main row, fourth and fifth from left. (Bottom photo) Mike McDevitt and Megan McDevitt Mellinger visit with Bill Jurgens at the 2007 “Vails.”

Director of Athletics **Bill Jurgens '79 M.S.** has coached hundreds of rowers since his hiring in 1969 and may not recall them all. He remembers the McDevitts.

“When Mike went down the course as stroke (lead) oar, I always knew that we would have the right tempo and length; we would get 110 percent,” said Jurgens. “He and his brother were perfect teammates on their respective crews. They were committed to the team, to working very hard and they had friendly dispositions on and off the water.”

Jurgens said he would see Mike on Sundays running to the beach and back across the causeway for an additional workout.

“I didn’t coach Kathy and Megan, but I knew that they took their rowing very seriously, too. They were always friendly, always had a smile,” said Jurgens.

Kathy, who returns the compliment, said, “Coach Jurgens is certainly well respected by everyone in the rowing community, nationwide. I’m sure the others feel the same way about him.”

It’s no surprise that the four would pursue rowing in college. Some began rowing in seventh grade and all seven siblings rowed at their high school, Holy Spirit, in Absecon, N.J.

“A top rowing high school,” Jurgens said, “where the students got used to taking competition very seriously.”

Jim was on the United States Junior National team in high school, competing internationally. Mike won



The Rowing Family from New Jersey

the lightweight national title in his junior year at Holy Spirit. Their mother, Rita, a strong supporter, started the girls' rowing program at the high school. Today a niece, Erin, rows there.

Mike and Jim now live near their childhood home in New Jersey. Kathy and Megan, currently stay-at-home moms to young children, remain close and live in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

From a career in aviation management to owner of a marine carpet business, Mike still hoists the oars. He, wife Nancy and three children, aged 10 to 13, row for the Atlantic County Rowing Association of South Jersey. Always a competitor, Mike participated in the 2007 Independence Day Race in Philadelphia. He also competes in indoor rowing events.

Jim is a fireman in Atlantic City, N.J., and father to two young boys. He runs a marine diesel business in his spare time.

At Florida Tech, Megan met and married another rower, **Paul Mellinger** '88. His marine plumbing firm employs 50-plus, including, several alumni. They drive their two high school-age children, sophomore Jessica and senior Ryan, 40 minutes each way to rowing practice each day during the season. "We're still huge fans of the sport," she said.

Kathy, who earned a degree in business, was a CPA for several years at KPMG in Fort Lauderdale before commanding the home front. Recalling her college days, she said, "We had a lot of fun and made many good friendships at Florida Tech. It was also a very good academic experience."

For university rowers, she advises, "The sport of crew helps you manage your time. You practice every morning and are supposed to work out later in the day. When you're on the team you go away a lot, but you still have to keep up with your classes. You must be very organized."

Mike advises to "not let the good times and good weather get ahead of the studying."

Kathy hopes that all four will return to campus for Homecoming 2008 and the celebration of the university's 50th anniversary in October that year. "Megan and I are trying to round up as many alumni as we can." She asks that rowing grads get in touch with her at kmw121@juno.com.

When they reunite for homecoming, the siblings may also be coming to visit the second generation who would be a freshman that fall. The Mellinger's son, Ryan, is interested in ocean engineering. He currently is giving serious thought to following in the higher education wake of his parents, aunt and uncles.

And Jurgens will still be there to mentor him.

Karen Rhine

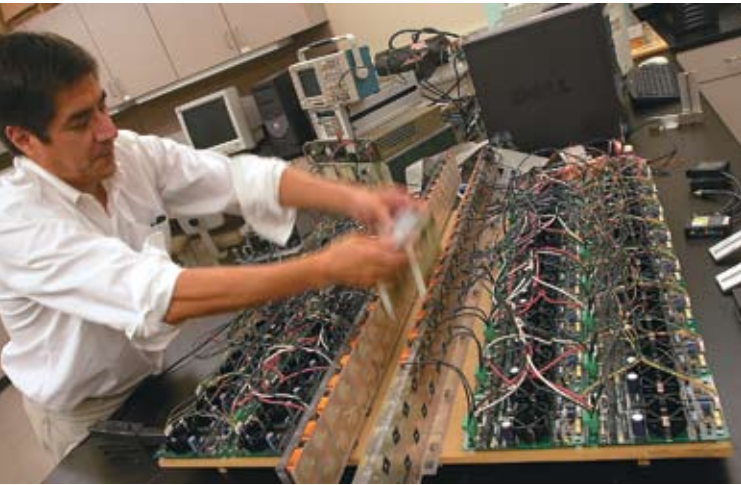


(Top photo) In the Florida Tech alumni tent at the 2007 Dad Vail Regatta, front row, from left: Kathy McDevitt Wojtas and Megan McDevitt Mellinger. Back row, from left: Mike McDevitt, Dee Dee Cronin '87 and Greg Hogan '84. Cronin and Hogan are also former Florida Tech rowers.

(Bottom photo) Rita McDevitt, Mike's mom, checks out his 1984 diploma. Greg Hogan '84, McDevitt's 1982 Dad Vail teammate, stands far right.

Electromagnetic Launch Technology

Is it an elusive promise?



After more than half a decade of research, Florida Tech associate professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering **Hector Gutierrez**'s work on electromagnetic launch systems has reached a crossroads.

"We could go in the direction in which most research is currently going (railgun technology) and try to address one or more aspects of it, or we could try an entirely different path and see how far that takes us."

Electromagnetic (EM) launch technology has two attractive potential applications. First, it may provide a cost-effective, more agile, greener way to deploy micro satellites to low-Earth orbit solely from electrical power. Considering the large costs and preparation time associated with conventional satellite launching, the potential impact of rapid, inexpensive launching to LEO from electric power is very large.

Second, EM launching would open the way to a new generation of long-range kinetic-kill weapons that would have various potential military applications and interesting advantages over conventional weapons based on chemical propulsion and pressure blast.

"Electromagnetic launching has been pursued for nearly three decades. Up to 20 different EM launch concepts have been identified by the Army ARDEC classification, which includes 12 different categories," he said. "Although some EM guns have

been successfully tested, none has yet been deployed. All previously described technologies have been bogged down by one or more unresolved bottlenecks."

By the early '90s, two competing technologies, coil-guns and railguns, emerged as leading contenders as the EM launch technology to eventually become a reality.

What happened next walked the thin line between technology, defense policy, long-term planning of defense projects, the laws of physics and the difficulty to foresee long-term problems that can be inherent to research.

"In 1995, Prof. E. R. Laithwaite from the Imperial College, London, published a paper in which the practical limitations in coilguns due to inductive heating of the projectile were estimated. He provided an analysis to estimate the maximum speeds that could be achieved before a coilgun projectile with copper windings melted by inductive heating," said Gutierrez. "His results were discouraging—practical military applications required higher speeds and shorter barrel lengths. It seemed a turning point in coilgun research—over the next few years, most coilgun projects in both the UK and the USA were abandoned, and nearly all the funding and resources for EM launching moved to railgun technology."

Railguns are impressive weapons, and a great deal of R&D effort has been invested in them—they are very attractive in their apparent simplicity and performance. Railgun technology, however, has been haunted by three main limitations.

"First, the resistive heat generated by firing the gun needs to be extracted as fast as possible before the gun can be fired again. This creates a substantial limitation in rate of fire, a deal breaker for several military applications. Second, metal-to-metal contact at very high speeds generates plasma—a fourth state of the matter in which individual atoms lose their typical electronic configuration. Plasma at high temperatures is highly corrosive, damaging the insulation layers inside of the gun's bore—which obviously creates a serious reliability and maintenance problem," said Gutierrez. "Finally, EM guns that circumvent the metal-to-metal contact problem by using AC induction are limited by inductive heating of the projectile—it can only go so fast before it melts."

Stretching the envelope of railgun performance clearly bumps into the laws of physics. Gutierrez and his collaborators, research scientist

Rainer Meinke from Advanced Magnet Lab Inc. (AML) and fellow associate professor in mechanical and aerospace engineering **Daniel Kirk**, are currently building a prototype that addresses these critical issues—heat and contact.

The proposed concept has the potential of becoming an interesting breakthrough in EM launching—it's

based on an entirely different operating principle than railguns or coilguns, and addresses some of the most critical bottlenecks of previously described technologies: metal-to-metal contact, heating of the projectile, development of muzzle arc, and heating and wear of the gun bore. During the next two years, Gutierrez, Meinke and Kirk will finish developing the concept and will build the first operational prototype.

"We've got an exciting two years ahead of us."

Jay Wilson

"We could go in the direction in which most research is currently going ... or we could try an entirely different path and see how far that takes us."

Hector Gutierrez

College of Business

LuAnn Bean received her certification as a Forensic Certified Public Accountant (FCPA). The FCPA, administered by the Forensic CPA Society, is a designation that recognizes excellence in the forensic accounting profession. Forensic CPAs assist the public and the business community in investigations of fraud, shareholder or partnership disputes related to accounting records; prepare damage analyses; and/or testify before an arbitrator, mediator or court.

Deborah Carstens' paper, "Error Analysis Leading Technology Development" was published in *Theoretical Issues in Ergonomics Science*.

B. Andrew Cudmore was a faculty adviser to students in a marketing principles class that joined in an EdVenture Partners competition to provide marketing ideas to the makers of the Cadillac. The class presented a marketing communications plan for a live case, focused on the launch of the new Cadillac CTS model, and placed fourth out of 53 schools in the undergraduate division's first round of the National Case Study Competition.

Elton Daal's paper, "Volatility Clustering, Leverage Effects, and Jump Dynamics in the U.S. and Emerging Asian Equity Markets," was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Banking and Finance*. The paper develops and tests a new model for asset returns that can capture several stylized facts that are important for risk management and option pricing.

Roger Manley's paper, "Understanding Organizational Culture and its Role in Organizational Change and Partnering," was published by Common Ground Publisher at www.cgpublisher.com.

College of Science

Ravi Agarwal has been listed among the 300 most highly cited mathematicians in the world by Thomson Scientific. The honor goes to those with the highest number of citations in mathematics over two decades.

A citation is a note in a paper by another scientist of a reference from a published work. Less than one-half of one percent of all publishing authors meets the criteria for inclusion on ISIHighlyCited.com. The Web site includes more than 5,000 researcher profiles in 21 categories. The ISI Web of Science provides the source data for the site.

Florida Institute of Technology was recognized as Stone Middle School's Business Partner of the Year for 2007. **Debra Blenis**, who serves on Stone Middle School's Advisory Council, accepted the award for the university.

This honor is part of the annual effort made by Brevard Public Schools and the Brevard Schools Foundation to acknowledge outstanding school business partners and foundation business partners.

Students from Florida Tech's science and mathematics education have tutored students, assisted with science fair projects, judged science fairs and completed their teaching internships at Stone Middle School in Melbourne.

Joe Dwyer, Niescja Turner and Ming Zhang presented papers at the American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco, Calif.

Marcus Hohlmann, adviser for the Florida Tech chapter of the Society of Physics Students (SPS), announced the organization was selected as an Outstanding SPS Chapter for 2005–2006. This is the third

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consecutive year the chapter has received this recognition. Less than 10 percent of the SPS chapters nationwide are chosen—an average of one per state.

Nasri Nesnas collaborated with Columbia University to publish a paper about the synthesis of visual molecules that are light stable, thus enabling a better understanding of vision. The paper appeared in a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Chemistry* that was dedicated to the 80th birthday of Alfred Bader, the founder of the Aldrich Chemical Co.

Hakeem Oluseyi co-wrote a paper that was accepted for publication in *Proceedings of The Total Solar Eclipse Conference on African Cultural Astronomy*, Springer Publishing Co. He said the paper, “Participation and Research of Astronomers and Astrophysicists of Black African Descent, 1900–2005,” is the most comprehensive document on the topic to date.

Terry Oswalt was re-elected to a third term as Physics and Astronomy Councilor in the national election of the Council on Undergraduate Research. He was the first astronomer elected to the council in 2000—there are now three. His current term is 2007–2010.

Virender Sharma’s paper published in the *Journal of Physical Chemistry B*: “Mössbauer Characterization and in Situ Monitoring of Thermal Decomposition of Potassium Ferrate (VI), K₂FeO₄ in Static Air Conditions.” The work described in the paper was conducted in collaboration with a scientist in the Czech Republic.

Richard Turner chaired a session on reproduction and development and presented a paper on sexual dimorphism in tropical Atlantic sea urchins at the 12th International Echinoderm Conference at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, N.H.

Robert van Woessik wrote “The Transition Zone Chlorophyll Front Acts as a Trigger for *Acanthaster planci* Outbreaks in the Pacific Ocean: a Historical Confirmation” that was published in the *Journal of Oceanography*.

Matt Wood co-wrote “The Physical Origin of Negative Superhumps” that was accepted for publication in the *Astrophysical Journal*.

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

Andrew Aberdein presented “Learning from Our Mistakes—but Especially from Our Fallacies and Howlers” at the Perspectives on Mathematical Practices 2007 conference in Brussels, Belgium.

Susanne Bahr is co-author of three papers that were accepted for presentation and publication by the 12th International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction held in Beijing, China. The

paper titles are “Nonverbally Smart User Interfaces: Postural and Facial Expression Data in Human Computer Interaction,” “Bilingual Mapping Visualizations as Tools for Chinese Language Acquisition” and “Multiple Heuristics Evaluation Table (MHET): Software Development and Usability Analysis Heuristics.”

Judy Strother attended the International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED) conference in Chamonix, France. She chaired a session on blended learning and presented a paper entitled “Acculturated Blended Learning: Localizing a Blended Learning Course for Russian Trainees, co-written by master’s degree students **Zohra Fazal** and **Michael Gurevich**. Strother serves on the International Program Committee for IASTED.

Robert Taylor is the new head of the department of humanities and communication. He is the author of seven historical works, including his most recent, *Florida, An Illustrated History*. Taylor presented a lecture on Florida in the Civil War at the Orange County History Center in Orlando, Fla.

David Wilder was appointed to the editorial board of *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, a new journal published by the Association for Behavior Analysis International. He was also appointed to a three-year term on the editorial board of the journal *Education and Treatment of Children*.

College of Engineering

Chang Wen Chen was conference chair for the International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE) Conference on Visual Communication and Image Processing 2007 in San Jose, Calif. Doctoral student **Daewon Song** and visiting professor **Rongke Liu** also presented papers at the conference.

Fred Ham and doctoral student **Ranjan Acharyya** were invited to write Chapter 3 for *Part I—Signal Processing for Remote Sensing*. The chapter, titled “A Universal Neural Network–Based Infrasound Event Classifier,” was published by CRC Press.

Lee Harris and graduate student **Christopher Flanary** presented “Nearshore Wave & Current Data for the Florida East Coast 2004 & 2005 Hurricanes” at the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Sebastian Inlet District has sponsored this research since 1996 and many DMES graduate students have worked on it. Additional information and data are available at Harris’ Web site at <http://research.fit.edu/wavedata>.

Daniel Kirk was elected as one of only two faculty members nationwide to serve on the AIAA Liquid Propulsion Sub-Committee.

Sam Kozaitis was a session chair at SPIE’s Defense and Security Symposium in

Orlando for the conference on Independent Component Analyses, Wavelets, Unsupervised Nano-Biomimetic Sensors and Neural Networks V. He presented two papers: “Improved Denoising Approach Using Higher-order Statistics” and “Wavelet-based Fusion Approach Using Unique Reconstruction Approach,” the latter with graduate student **Michel Ouendeno**.

In addition, he is presented “Signal-to-noise Ratio for Cross-sensor Fusion Approach” at the conference on Multisensor, Multisource Information Fusion: Architectures, Algorithms, and Applications with Ouendeno.

Ashok Pandit was appointed as chair of the American Society of Civil Engineering Ground Water Quality Committee for two years.

Robert Sullivan received the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Life Fellow and Life Member Pin this year for his long and distinguished service to the organization. He has been an active member for more than 20 years.

John Trefry presented an invited paper, “River-Shelf Interactions During Spring Floods in the Coastal Beaufort Sea,” at the American Geophysical Union Meeting in San Francisco, Calif.

Manolis Tomadakis’s manuscript was accepted for publication in *Concepts in Magnetic Resonance*. The paper presents a method for improving the processing of nuclear magnetic resonance data collected in fluid-saturated porous media. Applications include oil, gas and water reservoir exploration and recovery, and evaluation of the transport and structural characteristics of porous media and particle beds.

University College

Mary Bonhomme, associate provost for online learning, moderated a session titled “Using Blended/Hybrid Learning to Achieve Efficiencies in Learning: Lessons Learned from Industry and Higher Education” at the Conference on Industry and Education Collaboration in Palm Springs, Calif.

Catherine Elder, Hampton Roads Extended Studies Division, was appointed to the Learning Technology Advisory Committee of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The committee assists the council with technology enriched teaching and learning initiatives.

Kermit Zieg’s article, “Allocating Capital to Multiple Trading Signals,” was published in the November 2006 issue of *Active Trader* magazine (www.activetradermag.com). Zieg is with the National Capital Region Extended Studies Division in Alexandria, Va.



Iacobelli Becomes Florida Tech's First Individual National Champion



Iacobelli (right) poses with her coach, Janie Farina, at the championships.

Sophomore **Daniela Iacobelli** kept her eye on the big prize and grabbed the golden ring with the most consistent scoring for the 72-hole, four-round tournament as she became the 2007 NCAA Division II National Women's Golf Champion.

Iacobelli became the first golfer participating as an individual in the history of the NCAA Division II women's golf tournament to earn medalist honors. After starting the day tied for first place, Iacobelli eagled the par five 10th hole and followed with a birdie on the par three 12th en route to the title. She finished the tournament with a five-over 293 (72-74-73-74).

"It was very challenging because it was just me without the support of my teammates," said Iacobelli. "After my round, I was pacing the clubhouse and preparing for a possible playoff by practicing on the putting green. The course was nice, but it was hard when it was hot. The greens were tricky and the pin placement was difficult."

Despite her incredible season play and winning the conference tournament, Iacobelli was snubbed by the

Sunshine State Conference (SSC) voters for the 2007 All-Conference Team. This snub did not affect her play. At the NCAA, she proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that she was among the best in the nation.

One of the top moments of her four-day play came in the final round. For the second straight day, Iacobelli eagled the 10th hole after an incredible drive that landed uphill from the green. Her short game proved advantageous, as she chipped in both times. As a result of great shotmaking skill, she made two of the four eagles of the 2007 NCAA National Championships.

Iacobelli, a business administration major, earlier won the 2007 SSC Women's Golf Championship Medalist honors after a playoff at Florida Tech's home course at the Duran Golf Club in Viera, Fla. She won the four-hole playoff over Nova Southeastern's Maria Garcia-Austt to claim women's medalist accolades. She was Tech's first ever women's golfer to make the all-tournament team as well.

A local standout golfer from Satellite Beach High School, she is

a two-year member of the four-year-old program. She earned 2006 SSC Women's Freshman Golfer of the Year. Iacobelli strived under the play-off pressure after grabbing par on the 10 through 13 holes to overcome Austt in the final hole with a two-putt finish to her competitor's three-putt finish.

Iacobelli's career low round is 71, and she has won two collegiate tournaments in her short career. She is currently ranked #1 in the nation by GolfStat for par 5 scoring with a 4.91 as well as sub par strokes per round at 2.88.

"I knew she could do it ... she is a special gal with a special talent ... I have been privileged to be part of her success," said Panther's Head Coach **Janie Farina**. "This is a big milestone in my life to see Daniela earn the highest honors any collegiate golfer can win especially coming into the tournament as a long shot."

Christa Parulis-Kaye



Iacobelli tees off at the National Championships.

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1969

Addison Bain '72 M.S. wrote *The Freedom Element, Living with Hydrogen*, a book explaining the cause of the Hindenburg zeppelin disaster. The title of his book is explained on the back cover, "Hydrogen could now become our 'Freedom Element' and release us from the shackles of the Petroleum Czars." College of Science Dean **Gordon Nelson** helped Bain with his research and is mentioned in the book which is available through www.bluenotebooks.com

1974

Jim Downey, president of our alumni association, continues to recruit for Florida Tech. Here are his latest prospects for the Class of 2021 (Connor James and Kaiden Craig) and the Class of 2025 (McKinley



Edward and McKinna Belle). Jim reports that both sets of grandtwins are already showing Panther Pride

1975

Robert Gallop '02 Ph.D. is president of EPI, Environmental Professionals Inc., in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

1987

Jeffrey Hoel, M.S., recently retired from the Navy after 20 years of active duty. A graduate of the Navy's Diving and Salvage School in 1989, he served in the Navy's Ocean Facilities Program as an ocean engineer and diver. Currently, he is a lead systems engineer for General Dynamics in Northern Virginia.

1989

Edward Thomas Jr. is a tenured associate professor of physics at Auburn University in Alabama. He also directs the Plasma Sciences Laboratory. He and wife Wendy reside in Auburn and are parents of Edward, 12, and Maya, 7.



1991

Sharon (Maddock) Nader and husband Stuart are parents to Hannah Krista, born in November 2006. Mom is a first officer for American Airlines, where dad is

also employed. The family resides in New Lenox, Ill.

Glenn Clinger is the author of *Flight 412*, an aviation thriller that is offered through Barnes & Noble and Amazon.com. He also wrote a children's television show that aired in Hawaii. Glenn and wife Alicia live in Easley, S.C. His Web site is www.glennclingeriii.com.

1995

Don Davis and wife Wendy welcomed Lauren Emma in November 2006. Don works for the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan and is a U.S. Coast Guard reservist. Wendy is a stay-at-home mom. The family relocated to Waukesha, Wis., from Clermont, Fla., last year.



Judd Weaver, M.S., and wife Malia are first-time parents to Nolan, born March 2007, and live in Santa Maria, Calif. Judd is employed at ACTA Inc., and Maria is regional manager at Coasthills Federal Credit Union.



Cory Beilharz, wife Jen and 3-1/2-year-old Jack welcomed Ava Kate in January 2007. Cory works in engineering for CSXT in Birmingham, Ala.



1996

Steven Polk, M.S., was recently promoted to manager, centralized procurement, at Harris Corp.'s Government Communications Systems Division



in Palm Bay, Fla., where he has been employed for more than 22 years. He and wife Annette '93 M.B.A. live in Orlando, Fla.

1997

Michelle (Boehmke) Fillingim and husband **Matt Fillingim** '95 are the parents of Drake Edwin, born in August 2006, in Berkeley, Calif., and big sister, Kiara.



1998

Carrie (Green) Knatz and husband Ken live in Oceanside, Calif., with daughter Ava Jade. Carrie is employed by CDM, an environmental engineering consulting firm. Proud dad works for the engineering division of the City of San Clemente.

Diana (Dingfelder) Campos and husband **Reggie Campos**

'93 welcomed son Benjamin Francisco in October 2006. Diana is a software engineer at Northrop Grumman, and Reggie is an electrical engineer at Harris Corp. The family resides in Malabar, Fla.



Jose Rivera, M.S., is dean of the School of Management at Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico in San Juan. He was honored with the 2006 Higher Education Award by the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. Currently, he is working on his Ph.D. dissertation from the University of Central Florida.

Kenneth Connell '05 M.S., a member of the Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Miss., is the winner of the 2007 PIANC USA DePaepe-Willems Award Contest. His paper is titled "Modeling Navigation Channel Infilling and Migration at Tidal Inlets: Sensitivity to Waves and Tidal Prism."

IN MEMORIAM

Kenneth Zugel '88 died of injuries suffered in a traffic accident on March 7. For the past 10 years, he was employed as a pilot at Aurora Flight Sciences Corp. in Manassas, Va. Survivors include his wife, Mim, and two children, Cecilia and Patrick, of Haymarket, Va.

2001

Jason Terreri is an airport operations supervisor, working with the Landside Operations Division at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. His e-mail is Jason.Terreri@atlanta-airport.com.

Leroy Straker and wife Marcene welcomed their second son, Jadon Nathanael in December 2006. Older brother Kobe is 7 years old. Leroy is network administrator at Call One Inc. in Cape Canaveral, Fla.



2003

Daniel Chardon and wife Jessica Ramirez welcomed Sofia in January 2007. The family lives in Toa Alta, Puerto Rico. He works for a software company,

Altiris Inc., based in Utah, and is the regional manager for the Caribbean region and Bermuda.

2004

Rebecca Almeida was recently promoted to lieutenant junior grade (LJG) in the NOAA Corps. Assigned as a flight meteorologist, she will be forecasting hurricanes from inside the Hurricane Hunter planes. Rebecca is located in Tampa, Fla.

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For a complete Homecoming 2007 schedule of activities and information for college, department and other groups, please contact the following:

- Athletics**—(321) 674-8032
- Caribbean Students Association**—Weyni Clacken '01, (917) 343-8359 or Weyni.clacken@gs.com
- Greg Tuckett '00, (407) 356-3162 or Gregory.tuckett@lmco.com
- College of Aeronautics/FITSA**—Milo Zonka '95, (321) 863-1812 or milo@zonka.org
- Student Activities**—Kasey Drennen, (321) 674-8080 or kdrennen@fit.edu
- Delta Delta Tau Fraternity**—George Poidomani '73, (215) 969-0540 or VoiceTypeG@aol.com
- Office of Alumni Affairs**—Hazel Rosskamp, (321) 674-7190 or hrosskam@fit.edu

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{0107}

"SAVE THE DATE" EVENTS | HELD ON CAMPUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

2007

October

17–20—Homecoming 2007

November

Date TBA—Alumni Reception, North Brevard, 6–8 p.m., Ron Jon's New Resort

December

Date TBA—Alumni Reception, South Brevard, 6–8 p.m., On Campus

Date TBA—Alumni Reception, Orlando, 6–8 p.m., Extended Studies Site

2008

January

18–20—Alumni Reception, Puerto Rico

February

21—Uncommon Threads public lecture 7 p.m., location TBD

22—Uncommon Threads luncheon symposium, 11a.m.–2 p.m., Hartley Room

Date TBA—Alumni Reception, 6–8 p.m., Hyatt Capitol Hill

March

14—Sporting Affair

April 26–May 4

Alumni Travel Opportunity—Village Life in Tuscany

Contact the Alumni Office for more information on alumni events.

ONGOING EVENTS | HELD ON CAMPUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

NCSBI Training Courses and Networking Opportunities

Visit www.ncsbi.fit.edu for schedule.



Alumni Endorsement Grant

At Florida Tech, your endorsement counts! The deserving student(s) you refer will receive a \$1,000 grant, renewable annually for up to four years, toward their tuition for full-time undergraduate study on the Melbourne campus. You may recommend as many students as you wish.

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These awards are given in addition to any merit scholarship earned by the student. For more information and the appropriate forms, go to: www.fit.edu/alumni/services/index or www.fit.edu/ugrad/financial_aid/scholarships

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The Florida Tech Alumni Association presents these exciting group travel opportunities.



Tuscany

Beijing

Village Life in Tuscany April 26 — May 4, 2008

Join this delightful Tuscan experience and discover the stunning beauty, rich history and unrivalled artistic and cultural legacies of one of Italy's most fabled regions. Stay in the charming 130-year-old Hotel Chiusarelli, located in the heart of Siena, a perfectly preserved medieval town and UNESCO World Heritage site.

Included and optional excursions:

- World-renowned treasures in Florence
 - Enchanting medieval hamlets of San Gimignano and Montalcino, virtually unchanged for centuries
 - Siena's Piazza del Campo, where the Palio has been held since 1283
 - Tour Chianti, the legendary wine-making region and savor the delights of one of Italy's most famous cuisines
- Approx. \$1,995 plus air

Beijing City | Nov. 12—20, 2008

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9 Days | 15 Meals | 7 Breakfasts | 4 Lunches | 4 Dinners

Beijing is hosting the 2008 Olympics in August '08—this is a great opportunity to enjoy some of the new amenities added for the Olympics, after the crowds are gone.

- Visit Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City
 - Learn the art of traditional dumpling making in the home of a local Chinese family
 - Plenty of free time to explore
 - Stay in one hotel the Loong Palace Hotel and Resort in Beijing— no unpacking and packing items!
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Includes: Round Trip air from Orlando, FL MCO
Optional Full Day Tour to Xian Rate: \$499 USD pp, land and air



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For more details on these exciting trips, contact Diane Deaton at (321) 674-7198

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Or, send a check payable to the Florida Tech Alumni Association designated to the Keuper Statue Project to:

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150 W. University Blvd.
Melbourne, FL 32901



Jerome Penn Keuper
(1921–2002)

Statue Project Committee Leadership

Denton Clark, retired president of RCA
and former trustee

Melanie Keuper, daughter,
Jerry and Natalie Keuper

Gene Fetner, retired RCA administrator

Gene Buzzi '65, chair of the association's
alumni relations committee

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