

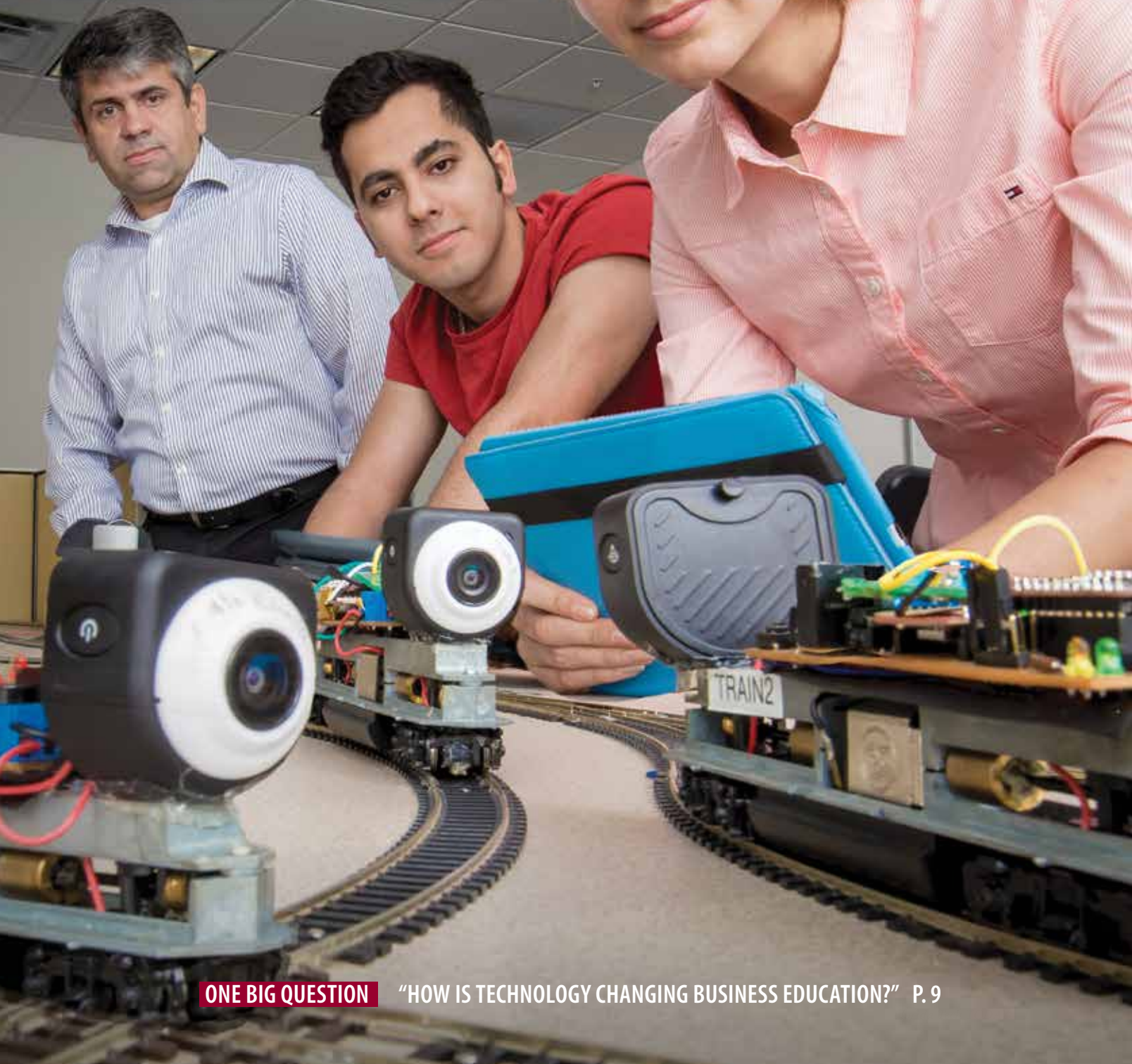
Florida Tech **TODAY**

A magazine for Alumni and Friends of Florida Institute of Technology

FALL 2016

GAINING MOMENTUM

NEW SCHOOL OF COMPUTING IS COMING OF AGE



ONE BIG QUESTION "HOW IS TECHNOLOGY CHANGING BUSINESS EDUCATION?" P. 9



In This Issue

FALL 2016 • Volume 25, Issue 2

Departments

President's Message.....	4
On Campus.....	5
Day of Giving.....	12
A Closer Look.....	14
Etc.....	16
Athletics.....	18
First Person.....	38

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today.fit.edu

Features

- 9 How is Technology Changing Business Education?**
Christian Sonnenberg, assistant dean of online programs and academic chair in information technology in the Bisk College of Business, explains how technology initiatives are enhancing the business curriculum.
- 20 Gaining Momentum**
Florida Tech's School of Computing is coming into its own as an educational and research leader supporting the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security and high-tech industry partners in computing collaborations.
- 24 Inauguration Day**
T. Dwayne McCay was formally installed as the fifth president of Florida Institute of Technology on Sept. 9, championing a new era of success.
- 26 Tim Wakefield: Baseball Legend, Panther for Life**
Tim Wakefield is the 2016 Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni Award Winner. He will be recognized at the Homecoming Awards Gala on Oct. 15.



President Dwayne McCay and event emcee Megan Finnerty, of the *Arizona Republic*, discussed innovation in education at *USA Today's* One Nation: American Innovation event held July 13 at Port Canaveral. The event showcased thought leaders reflecting on the future of American innovation on the Space Coast. McCay discussed Florida Tech's innovative student opportunities, including projects like the 2016 student design showcase President's Cup winner, a 3-D printed prosthetic arm.

Florida Tech TODAY

<http://today.fit.edu>

Florida Institute of Technology

PRESIDENT

T. Dwayne McCay, Ph.D.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Wes Sumner

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MANAGING EDITOR/ART DIRECTOR Judi Tintera, jtintera@fit.edu

EDITOR Christena Callahan '07 M.S., ccallaha@fit.edu

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Stephanie Bacon, Christena Callahan,

Jameson Carter, Shelley Preston, Wes Sumner

PRODUCTION Rob Gribbroek, Kristie Kwong

WEB LAYOUT Christena Callahan, David Smith

CIRCULATION Ali Faisal

PHOTOGRAPHY Dominic Agostini, Boston Red Sox, Mike Brown,

Ryan Seeloff, Amanda Stratford

Alumni Office

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ALUMNI RELATIONS

AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Bino Campanini '90, '92 MBA

321-674-8434, bcampanini@fit.edu

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR Stephanie Bacon

321-674-7198, sbacon@fit.edu

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT OFFICER Stevie Pursell '12 MBA

321-674-6826, spursell@fit.edu

Have a Story Idea?

Email fittechtoday@fit.edu

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Alumni News

- 28 Wyclef Jean Headlines Homecoming Fest 2016
- 30 Alumni Perspectives:
Historic Downtown Melbourne
- 32 From the FTAA President
- 33 AlumNotes and On the Road
- 37 Alumni Spotlight: Mission OSIRIS-REx

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COVER PHOTO: From left, Marco Carvalho, acting dean of the School of Computing and executive director of the Harris Institute for Assured Information with computer science graduate students Nima Aghli and Atefeh Mahdavi. Photo by Dominic Agostini

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

If you are reading this magazine, you more than likely know Florida Tech is a good university. You know that our faculty are renowned, our students are curious and hard-working, and our campus is a subtropical oasis.

You know that we are one of the top 20 small universities in the world, according to London-based *Times Higher Education*, and again among the best national universities in the country according to *U.S. News & World Report* rankings just released.

So yes, by our own standards, by the measurements of the top college ranking publications, by the success of our alumni, we are a very good university.

But I want us to be a *great* university.

I want us, within the next decade, to be home to one of the top 50 engineering colleges in the country and for us to be one of the top 100 universities overall. I want to ensure we continue to occupy a place on the international stage of academia that says, "This is one of the best schools that you can attend in the world." I want Florida Tech to be there with CalTech and MIT among the top-rated technical institutions in the land.

But wanting something does not make it so. We know what we need to do to get to where we want to be. That work has begun.

I look forward to collaborating with you as we continue our journey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T. Dwayne McCay".

T. Dwayne McCay, Ph.D.
President



President emeritus Lynn Weaver stopped by recently to chat with the new president.



Glenn Sjoden, Air Force Technical Applications Center chief scientist, was on campus Aug. 3 to formalize a new research agreement with faculty. The deal will tap the university's renowned computer science and engineering expertise to help strengthen the center's data processing and analytics capabilities.



President McCay officiates at his first new student welcome convocation Aug. 16.



President McCay greeted freshmen at Columbia Village Aug. 16 as they moved into their new homes. Here, he welcomes Deirdre Kyle and her son, student Darius Wilson, who is majoring in chemistry and will be on the rowing team.

Color Wars

is a weeklong on-campus competition of challenges between six teams made up of freshmen, transfers, on-campus and commuter students. This was the biggest turnout ever with around 100 participants building creations out of balloons and running through blow-up obstacles courses. This orientation week event is great way for students to get acquainted and jump-start their Panther Pride.



Meet Mary Helen McCay

MARY HELEN McCAY is the wife of Florida Tech's president, T. Dwayne McCay. She is a native of southeast Florida, born in West Palm Beach and raised in Fort Pierce. She attended Florida State University (B.S. and M.S.) and the University of Florida (Ph.D.).

Watching launches from the Space and Treasure Coasts instilled in her a desire to pursue engineering and to join NASA and the space program. At NASA, she was a payload specialist astronaut (alternate), was principal investigator on a Microgravity Laboratory I flight experiment, three other flight experiments and received the NASA Scientific Achievement Medal.

Mary Helen is the former director for the National Center for Hydrogen Research and a professor emerita of mechanical engineering at Florida Tech. Prior to Florida Tech she was chairman of the Center for Laser Applications and received the Chancellor's Award for Creativity in Research at the University of Tennessee. She holds 16 patents and has over 100 technical journal articles.

Her primary outside interests are tennis, reading and her husband Dwayne. Their daughters and granddaughters reside in Arkansas and Tennessee. She has an M.S. in Christian Theology and is a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Community in Melbourne. She also is coordinator of the Centering Prayer Group at St. John's Catholic Community.



Moving Party and Open House

On the afternoon of July 1, the campus community was invited to "come over and check out President McCay's new digs in the president's office, lend a hand and enjoy light refreshments."

Many well-wishers stopped by including (left to right) **MARY BETH KENKEL**, dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts; **ASHOK PANDIT**, civil engineering department head; **DONA GAYNOR**, career management services director; and **STEPHANIE ENSTICE**, international admission associate director.



“Florida Tech was again ranked among the nation’s best universities for return on investment 20 years after graduation. The university ranked 53rd overall among more than 1,340 schools listed on the annual report, 27th among the 505 private universities ranked, and 36th among more than 420 research schools across the country.”

—2016 PayScale College ROI Report

Introducing the Executive Council



MONICA BALOGA, PH.D.
Senior Vice President for Accreditation, Academic and Student Affairs; Chief Academic Officer

Baloga, longtime Florida Tech associate professor of chemistry, has most recently served as vice president for institutional effectiveness and international programs. She holds a doctorate in organic chemistry from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



GABY HAWAT, ED.D.
Senior Vice President for Operations and Global Initiatives

Hawat joins Florida Tech from Valencia College in Orlando, where he served in progressively responsible positions for nearly three decades, most recently as special assistant to the president and senior executive for strategic initiatives and economic development. He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in electrical engineering from Florida Tech, and a Doctor of Education with specialization in higher education from Nova Southeastern University.



FRANK KINNEY
Chief of Staff and Vice President for Government Relations

Kinney has served as Florida Tech’s vice president for research since 2006. He earned his master’s degree in government from Florida State University.



WINSTON SCOTT
Senior Vice President, Office of External Relations and Economic Development

Former NASA astronaut and retired U.S. Navy Captain, Scott has served as Florida Tech’s senior vice president for external relations since 2012. He holds a master’s degree in aeronautical engineering from the United States Naval Postgraduate School.



SUSAN ST. ONGE, J.D.
Senior Vice President for Advancement

St. Onge joined Florida Tech in 2012 from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, and led Florida Tech’s successful Create the Future campaign as senior vice president for advancement. She holds a Juris Doctor degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.



CATHY WOOD
Senior Vice President for Financial Affairs, Chief Financial Officer

Wood joined Florida Tech in 2015 from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. She holds a bachelor’s degree in accounting and business administration from Geneva College in Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in finance from the University of Maryland.

Other members of the leadership team include **ANNIE BECKER**, vice president for research; **GARY HAMME**, vice president for enrollment management; **WES SUMNER**, vice president for marketing and communications; **JENNIFER CHARRON**, facilities security officer; **BILL JURGENS**, athletics director; **MISCHKA MAXWELL**, executive director for compliance and risk management and **JONI OGLESBY**, chief diversity officer/Title IX coordinator.



Solutions Through Science: Engineering Answers to the Indian River Lagoon's Woes

The Indian River Lagoon (IRL), one of the world's most diverse estuaries, has always offered a spectacular backdrop to the student experience at Florida Tech for both recreation and marine studies. But years of poorly managed human activities have brought the IRL close to collapse. With a massive fish kill earlier this year and frequent algal blooms, scientists say the lagoon is in peril.

Thanks to a lobbying effort to bring attention to the wounded waters, government agencies promise over \$4 million to Florida Tech researchers to pinpoint sources of the lagoon's problems and hopefully find real solutions to the once thriving estuary.

One major research effort is examining a big problem below the lagoon's surface: muck. Throughout the IRL, thick pockets of black, viscous goo made from decaying organic matter such as suburban yard waste not only prevents sea grass from growing where it settles, but saturates the lagoon with nitrogen and phosphorus that feed algae.

Dredging the muck out of the lagoon is one option. Florida Tech scientists are currently monitoring

a dredging operation in Turkey Creek and studying its impact on native plants and animals.

On the engineering side, Florida Tech researchers are investigating ideas such as a weir that would flush out the lagoon with periodic infusions of fresh seawater, looking at ways to prevent contaminated storm water from reaching the lagoon in the first place and aeration systems for when oxygen dips to fish-kill levels.

One of those engineers, **TOM WAITE**, university research professor says, "Florida Tech is in an excellent position to make a difference. Not only are we looking at the lagoon's problems as scientists, but we have the resources to come up with engineering solutions."

And, as a service to the community, more than 20 Florida Tech faculty members formed the Indian River Lagoon Research Institute. The group offers the public expertise on developing sustainable solutions for the revitalization and care of the Indian River Lagoon. Find them here: <http://research.fit.edu/irlri> and on Twitter: @IRLRI_FIT

—Shelley Preston

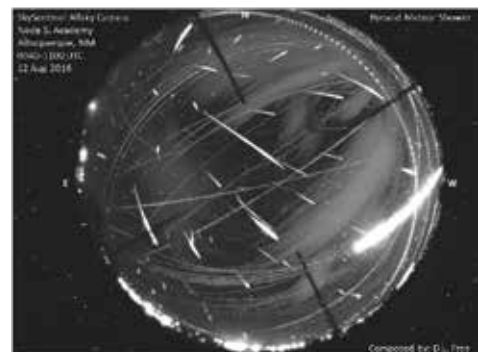


Students Collect, Hone Data for Scientists

Time-lapse images captured during the peak of this summer's Perseid meteor shower have been released by the SkySentinel project, in which students at Florida Institute of Technology monitor the night sky from a network of up-looking, wide-angle cameras around the globe.

There are currently 58 SkySentinel Allsky cameras, developed by Sandia National Laboratories, in the United States and Canada, and additional cameras in other countries.

The entire network of Allsky data is uploaded to the SkySentinel server at Florida Tech's Geospace Physics Lab, where it is permanently archived. Florida Tech students are also contributing upgrades to the camera system's software, enhancing trajectory calculations and improving the system's astronomical accuracy.



How is technology changing business education?



We often associate the study of technology with traditional STEM degrees, but in today's world everyone needs a fundamental grasp on technology to remain competitive. A business student who leverages technology will be one who builds enterprises and pursues new opportunities. Understanding technology can be challenging, which is why it needs to be intellectually motivating. The Nathan M. Bisk College of Business promotes technology through a number of new and rewarding initiatives:

INNOVATION THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Our commitment begins in our freshmen-level course "Foundations of Creativity, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship," which includes a module devoted to technology and idea creation. Students work with Raspberry Pi computers, sensor kits and programming tools to construct a product of their own choosing. The Raspberry Pi's price, flexibility and portability make it ideal to explore rapid prototyping as a tool for innovation. Students work in teams exploring the basics of programming, computational thinking and technology integration to compete for prizes in our Student Innovation Challenge.

DATA ANALYSIS AND MAKING THE PITCH

Technology is further defined by the power it provides to make better decisions. Data analysis, transforming volumes of data into valuable information, is an essential skill a business leader needs to tackle competitive forces. We've introduced IBM Watson Analytics and SAP Lumira, two software solutions that provide data analytics tools, into our information systems courses. Students take huge data sets and develop beautiful visualizations to identify trends and patterns, culminating in the worldwide DataGenius contest.

ENTERPRISE SOFTWARE: THE BIG PICTURE

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems are mega-software suites that handle all elements of the business environment, from accounting and finance to marketing and sales. The sheer scope allows business leaders to make extremely important decisions with high-level perspective. Business students gain hands-on experience with ERP systems, specifically SAP, in a series of modules across accounting, marketing and IS courses. We launched the SAP Scholar Program to help students enhance their ERP knowledge, teach other students and provide skills to make them marketable.

As a university with "technology" in our name, we owe it to our students to impart a certain level of appreciation for it. Through our college's initiatives, we provide the business leaders of tomorrow the tools and experience they need now.

Christian Sonnenberg is the assistant dean of online programs and an academic chair in information technology in the College of Business. His research covers such areas as handheld and mobile usability, modeling/simulation, data visualization, and online learning models and systems.

ON CAMPUS

2016 Farmer Scholar Named

DANIEL GRIESSLER, from Indian Harbour Beach, is the 2016 recipient of the Farmer Scholarship, Florida Tech's most prestigious financial award. He graduated this year from Satellite High School with a 4.37 GPA and a long list of accomplishments, including membership in the National Honor Society, winning the Intel Science Award, serving as president of the Mu Alpha Theta math honor society and receiving the Semper Fidelis Award for Musical Excellence presented by the U.S. Marines Youth Foundation and the Marine Corps.

With an eye toward a career in network security, Griessler is majoring in computer science this fall. He received a full, four-year scholarship under the Phillip W. Farmer Scholars Program that covers all tuition and university fees, a room in Harris Village's Farmer Hall and the regular

university meal plan. Additionally, he will be given a stipend between his junior and senior years for enrichment through Florida Tech's summer study abroad program at Oxford University in England.

Each year, the Farmer Scholars Program selects a Florida resident and high school graduate who is among the top 5 percent of his or her class and demonstrates exceptional academic achievement and outstanding personal character. The program began in 2009, when Phillip W. Farmer, retired chairman, president and



“What exactly is going on when I hit that button? I want to be able to answer that.” — Daniel Griessler

CEO of Harris Corp. and current chairman of the Florida Tech board of trustees, donated \$1.5 million to establish this endowed scholarship.

EXPANDED EXTENDED STUDIES SITES

Florida Tech's off-site locations now number 18, including the Virtual Site. The university's newest Extended Studies sites are FIT Whiteman, located at Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri, and FIT Roanoke, located at the Roanoke Higher Education Center in Virginia.

<p>ALABAMA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Huntsville <p>FLORIDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eglin Lake Nona Melbourne Orlando Titusville 	<p>MARYLAND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aberdeen Patuxent River Southern Maryland Higher Education Center <p>MISSOURI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whiteman 	<p>NEW JERSEY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Dix Lakehurst Picatinny Arsenal <p> Virtual</p>	<p>VIRGINIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantico Fort Lee Hampton Roads Roanoke
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[Learn more about Extended Studies locations and programs at es.fit.edu.](http://es.fit.edu)

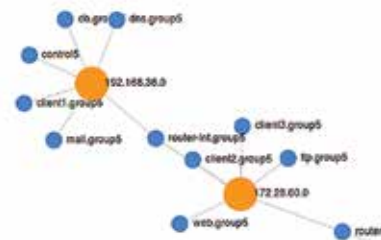
Enriching Research

BETTER TEAMS, STRONGER NAVY

Florida Tech's **PATRICK CONVERSE**, **JESSICA WILDMAN** and **ERIN RICHARD** were awarded a grant funded by the Office of Naval Research to examine teamwork within and across the various aircraft and ships that make up a carrier strike group. The project is part of a larger effort to improve training and performance management for sailors and aviators within the U.S. Navy.

CYBER SECURITY VINE IN THE CLASSROOM

Originally developed as a research tool, the Virtual Infrastructure for Network Emulation (VINE) developed by **MARCO CARVALHO**, **THOMAS ESKRIDGE** and research associate **EVAN STONER** is being used to create exercises that mimic realistic cyber security threats in the classroom. Computer science and cyber security students apply concepts learned in class to test their ability to both defend and carry out cyber attacks on the platform.





EXPERT ADVICE:

On Leading a Team of Engineers

Florida Tech's Extended Studies Division recently sponsored a white paper highlighting essential skills for leading a team of engineers. Leadership is more than management, and a successful leader can inspire the best from his/her team. Tips for success include:

1: Understand Your Team

Getting to know your team and learning about each member's strengths and weaknesses will help you direct the right person to the right work for optimal success.

2: Understand Project Details

A foundation of engineering knowledge helps you understand the processes involved in a project and inspires respect from your team. Your ability to understand how and why tasks work will be key to your ability to direct your team toward the overall goal.

3: Don't Micromanage.

One of the most difficult aspects of moving into a leadership position is transitioning from a task orientation to focusing on

processes and workflows. Trust your team and empower them to work independently.

4: Be Flexible

Not every project goes smoothly. Learn to manage change well, and build in time to work with contingencies.

5: Focus on the Big Picture

Engineers often do task-oriented work. As a leader, you need to see how each task affects the overall project and keep progress on track. Focusing on the end goal helps you lead your team to success.

6: Communicate Well

Clear and concise communication ensures both your team and senior management understand what you are doing and why.

PEGASUS Fellows Seek to Advance Aviation Safety

Three Florida Tech students earned fellowships as part of PEGASUS, the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Center of Excellence for General Aviation, this summer.

INDIRA CHAMBERS, ADAM HRUSZCZYK and MATTHEW RHONEY

worked with FAA researchers and colleagues at other PEGASUS universities to further advance aircraft and airport safety and other technical areas related to general aviation.

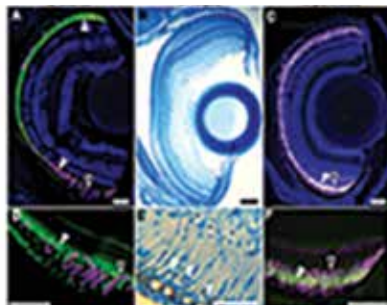
As the first cohort from the Partnership to Enhance General Aviation Safety, Accessibility and Sustainability (PEGASAS) Center of Excellence Fellows Program, the students gained a better understanding of the potential FAA career paths and technical strengths of various FAA technical facilities.



Florida Tech is **one of the top 150 universities** in the United States, according to a new ranking from *Times Higher Education*, the respected London-based provider of data and analytics on higher education.

SUPERHUMAN FISH EYE

MICHAEL GRACE and his team of researchers have discovered evidence that tarpon retinas have an amazing ability to physically optimize vision in different light environments as the fish age. The research shows an adult tarpon's color vision may be 10,000 or more times better than human vision. Grace and his team are now delving into the how and why this ability is possible.



MICRO-MACHINES WITH BIG POTENTIAL

The National Science Foundation recently awarded Florida Tech's **STEVEN SHAW** \$300,000 to develop techniques that will contribute to the design and optimization of specific micro-electro-mechanical-systems that use resonant vibrations. Potential applications include time-keeping, frequency conversion and inertial sensors.

Save the date!

11/29/2016

THE COUNTDOWN



#ParticipationMatters

As proud alumni, show that you care on 11/29



—DAY OF—
GIVING
—Florida Tech—
11.29.16

STARTS NOW!

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

On November 29, 2016 beginning at midnight, Panthers from around the world will come together again to support Florida Tech in our second annual Day of Giving.

LAST YEAR, you helped rocket the alumni participation rate into the stratosphere, and this year we want to extend that reach even farther!

THIS YEAR, on social media and our interactive website, tap into your competitive spirit to help your favorite college or campus unit prove they have the most committed and enthusiastic supporters.

HELP YOUR COLLEGE WIN the \$15,000 grand prize! Or donate to your favorite athletic team, university museum, Evans Library, Botanical Garden, weVENTURE or WFIT!

**DAY OF
GIVING
2015**

Donors: **1,499**

Winning College:
AERONAUTICS

Top Classes:
2014 & 2015

Increased
alumni
participation

**THANKS
TO YOU!**

DayOfGiving.fit.edu



Lightning Storm Recorded at 7000 Frames Per Second



Florida Institute of Technology

Subscribe 1,831

1,534,229 views

Lightning Footage Sparks International Interest

Florida Tech scientists used a high-speed camera to capture amazing lightning flashes from a May thunderstorm about six miles from the Melbourne campus. The flashes, recorded at 7,000 frames per second, captivated viewers around the world thanks to extensive media coverage on the BBC, *Popular Science's* Australia edition and *The Washington Post*, among others.

The video was captured using a high-speed camera purchased with a \$456,000 grant from the National Science Foundation obtained by **NINGYU LIU**, associate professor in Florida Tech's Geospace Physics Lab and the principal investigator for the project, and **HAMID RASSOUL**, dean of the College of Science and the project's co-principal investigator. The work also involves graduate students **LEVI BOGGS**, **JULIA TILLES** and **ALAN BOZARTH**.

The camera's ultimate use will be as part of a spectrograph used to capture footage that will allow for the study of the dynamics and energetics of the upward electrical discharges from thunderstorms known as transient luminous events, or TLEs.

Find the video at https://youtu.be/QUIpltFo_fg.



SUMMER BUZZ

Florida Tech hosted dozens of programs to hundreds of campers this summer keeping the campus abuzz during break time. The university itself offered more than 30 programs in academics, sports and art in addition to providing the space for a variety of other organizations from barbershop singers to Boy Scouts.

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

On view at the Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts this fall is *Transformers: Re-contextualizing Our Material Culture*. **Learn more at textiles.fit.edu.**

The Foosaner Art Museum is showing *Radiant Messenger: Drawings by China Marks* exploring the tangled nature of social relationships and human imperfections through visual iconography.

Visit foosanerartmuseum.org.

A CLOSER LOOK AT

Florida Tech is becoming a model of campus energy efficiency, environmental stewardship and sustainability awareness. Take a closer look at the many sustainability-focused activities on campus.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Through Florida Tech's partnership with Siemens Energy Performance Contracting services, the university has saved 8 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually—reducing our environmental footprint by more than 6,500 tons of greenhouse gas emissions per year.

6,500
TONS



STUDENT LIFE

RESIDENCE LIFE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

This committee sets the vision for sustainable living on campus and hosts a variety of sustainability-themed programs to highlight campus environmental impacts.

SGA BIKE SHARE PROGRAM

Need a short-term lift? Florida Tech's Student Government Association (SGA) offers a bike share program for students.



For more information visit:

Sustainability on Campus

ACADEMICS and RESEARCH

Florida Tech's sustainability major and minor programs are two of the first such academic offerings in the Southeast. By May 2017, our sustainability graduates will number more than 100.

100+
STUDENTS

SPEARHEADING SUSTAINABILITY

Capstone projects in sustainability are sparking eco-friendly initiatives on campus and around the Space Coast, and many students gain hands-on experience in sustainability issues through internships with Space Coast nonprofit organizations, businesses and government agencies



LOW-IMPACT DINING

A cook-to-order process fulfills each student's order without wasting pounds of leftover food.



LEAVE GREEN INITIATIVE

Initiated as a student capstone project, this program has grown to become a campus-wide recycling effort through which students can donate usable materials during move-out. In its second year, more than three truckloads of usable items, weighing over 9,000 lbs., was donated to local charities and diverted from the county landfill.

9,000
POUNDS

COMMENCEMENT

Spring 2016 graduates wore eco-friendly caps and gowns made using 100% post-consumer plastic bottles. With each gown containing about 23 bottles, more than 7,000 plastic bottles avoided the landfill.



7,000 BOTTLES

CARDBOARD RECYCLING

Dining Services recycles over 54 tons of cardboard annually.



54 TONS

SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH

Our research initiatives include:

- ecosystem monitoring
- renewable energy
- coastal management
- purification of landfill gas
- groundwater quality
- storm water management
- recycled road materials
- hurricane risk assessment
- aquaculture
- cyber-security
- green chemistry
- transportation
- ecotourism



RESPONSIBLE CLEANING PRODUCTS

The university uses Green Seal-certified cleaning products throughout campus—an eco-conscious effort considering the size of our physical plant, which totals 2.1 million square feet.

CAMPUS FACILITIES

Buildings can be among the biggest energy consumers and pollution generators in society, but that is changing.

LEED-certified buildings save money and resources and have a positive impact on the health of the occupants while promoting renewable, clean energy.

LEED: Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design by the U.S. Green Building Council



Florida Tech has three such buildings on campus:

THE SCOTT CENTER FOR AUTISM TREATMENT
First building formally built to LEED specifications.



HARRIS STUDENT DESIGN CENTER

Currently seeking LEED Silver certification.



PANTHER AQUATIC CENTER

One of the only LEED (Silver)-certified campus pools in Florida.





Speed Showcase

This summer, Elaine Larsen and the Florida Institute of Technology jet dragster were featured on Jay Leno's CNBC program *Jay Leno's Garage*. Leno toured the Palm Bay facility and met with student intern team members. Then, in a showcase of speed, Larsen bested the former *Tonight Show* host at Orlando Speed World Dragway. See the segment: bit.ly/lenorace

(photo credit: NBCUniversal)

See Jay race Elaine at: bit.ly/lenorace



Florida Tech



Study Abroad Program: Netherlands

Florida Tech's Netherlands Study Abroad program included a preliminary travel stop in Reykjavic, Iceland, for three days en route to the Eindhoven University of Technology in The Netherlands. Travelers included Jenn Wayne, Audrey Gangloff, Anushka Boyd, Sulaiman Al-Kalbani, Janie Lowing, Mohamed Al-Sabri, Riley Geeskie, Matthew Roof, Shrivana Jamunar (not pictured) and associate professor Heidi Hatfield Edwards pictured here at the Sun Voyager sculpture.

WELCOME CLASS OF 2020



A snapshot of the incoming class by the numbers, based on deposits paid by students enrolling for the first time in fall 2016:

Incoming freshmen—

857

Average SAT score—1177

Average ACT score—26.8

Average GPA—3.76

Female (%)—30.8

Florida (%)—31.5

International (%)—29.6



2016 Florida Tech Football Schedule



TICKET INFORMATION

Individual game tickets:

- \$16 Reserved seating (\$20 on game day)
- \$12 General admission (\$15 on game day)
- \$6 Seniors ages 65+, children ages 5–16 and FIT employees with school ID (\$10 on game day)
- Children ages 4 and under free.

BUY ONLINE:

<http://floridatechsports.com/sports/2016/7/26/tickets.aspx>
or through the FIT Ticket Office at
321-674-6228

Tickets are available on game day 1.5 hours prior to kickoff at Florida Tech Panther Stadium.



DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Sept. 3	Newberry	Newberry, S.C.	w 42-28
Sept. 10	Mississippi College*	Melbourne, Fla.	w 41-0
Sept. 17	Shorter*	Rome, Ga.	w 40-0
Sept. 24	Presbyterian College	Clinton, S.C.	7 p.m.
Oct. 1	West Florida*	Pensacola, Fla.	7 p.m.
Oct. 8	North Alabama*	Melbourne, Fla.	7 p.m.
Oct. 15	Fort Valley State^	Melbourne, Fla.	1 p.m.
Oct. 22	West Alabama*	Livingston, Ala.	7 p.m.
Oct. 29	Valdosta State*	Melbourne, Fla.	7 p.m.
Nov. 5	West Georgia*	Carrollton, Ga.	2 p.m.
Nov. 12	Delta State*	Melbourne, Fla.	2 p.m.

Dates and times subject to change. All times ET. **Home Games in Bold**

* Gulf South Conference Game | ^ Homecoming Game



Florida Tech

Florida Tech pitcher Rachel Pence set single-season program records in: innings pitched (283.1), strikeouts (229) and wins (31), while leading the team to a single-season, program-best 39 wins along the way in 2016.



In April, tight end Gabe Hughes signed as an undrafted free agent with the Miami Dolphins, becoming the first player in Florida Tech history to sign an NFL contract.



Felicia Leftinger capped her illustrious collegiate career with a sixth-place finish at the NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship, the best for a Florida Tech player since Daniela Iacobelli did so back in 2009, earning her second consecutive First Team All-American recognition in the process.



Former Florida Tech baseball star, and current board of trustee member, Tim Wakefield was inducted into the Boston Red Sox Hall of Fame in May.

Following a torrid start to the season, former Florida Tech All-American catcher Austin Allen was selected to the Midwest League All-Star Game in June.



Rising sophomore Tereza Sedlakova shed the Crimson and Gray, and instead donned her nation's colors this summer as a member of the Slovakian U20 Women's Basketball National Team. This year marked the fourth straight that Sedlakova represented her country on the hardwood, as she also participated as a member of the U16, U17 and U18 Slovakian national teams.

In only year two of the program's existence, women's lacrosse head coach Corinne Desrosiers captured Sunshine State Conference Coach of the Year honors, while junior Allie Modica earned the league's Player of the Year award.



Florida Tech's track & field teams wrapped up the 2016 Peach Belt Conference Championships by garnering seven total medals, including the program's first-ever gold medals earned by Nathan Knox and Kevin Delgado.



A local product of Satellite Beach, Florida, Terence Brookins earned the first bid in Florida Tech men's track & field history to the NCAA Track & Field Championships in May. His provisional qualifying time of 47.46s in the 400m dash at the Peach Belt Conference Championships also set a new school record.

Women's rowing head coach Adam Thorstad was named the Sunshine State Conference Coach of the Year, the third nod of his career and first since 2009.



One year after men's swimming's Nir Barnea became the first Panther to receive All-American status, the junior was joined by six teammates on the College Swimming Coaches Association of America's (CSCAA) prestigious list in 2015-16.

“As a dedicated school, we can take a more holistic view of computing education and research beyond the functional approach of simply applying a tool to a specific engineering or science application.”

—Marco Carvalho, executive director of the Harris Institute for Assured Information



Gaining Momentum

FLORIDA TECH'S NEW SCHOOL OF COMPUTING IS COMING INTO ITS OWN AS AN EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH LEADER SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND HIGH-TECH INDUSTRY PARTNERS IN COMPUTING COLLABORATIONS.

It's 2 p.m. on a Tuesday and, although classes are not yet in session, orientation is well under way. Nearly a dozen students are toiling away at workstations on the third floor of the Harris Center for Science and Engineering. Others are deep in conversation, standing amid two rows of cubicles, laptops in hand, a shelf of high-tech toys at their backs—robotic tanks, custom-built quadcopters, programmable radios.

Down the hall, another small group of students mans workstations surrounding a model train set. Tiny rails crisscross a tabletop and numerical labels mark junctions where a hobbyist might place a miniature tree or park bench. But these

are no ordinary trains. Three prototypes round the tracks—each a student-built machine of circuits, microchips and cables propelling a smokestack camera down the rails. The team is conducting distributed systems research, high-level machine learning, running adaptive algorithms to allow the trains to coordinate with one another, optimize tasks and respond to changing circumstances.

The scene is the same whether it's Friday night at 9 p.m. or Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m., summer break or spring term, says **MARCO CARVALHO**, executive director of the Harris Institute for Assured Information (HIAI).

“Students enjoy being here, working in the labs,” says Carvalho. “They are participating in funded research projects. They are coming up with their own solutions and contributing to the projects.”

The enthusiasm is evidence of the university's growing prowess in the field of computing and burgeoning resources dedicated to enhancing its reputation as an educational and research leader in the field.

This summer, Carvalho took the helm of the Florida Tech School of Computing, an independent academic unit focused on degree programs in computer science, software engineering, cybersecurity, data sciences and computer information



systems as well as a research unit, Harris Institute for Assured Information.

Computer sciences, Carvalho explains, spans the theory and practice of solving complex problems through computation, with immensely interdisciplinary applications—from statistical modeling for business applications to data mining in the biological sciences to mapping social dynamics in psychological studies. It is not surprising that, traditionally, instruction in these topics was established in departments where their benefit was most immediately felt.

“The formation of the School of Computing is an indicator that these disciplines have matured enough and have

gained enough presence and inertia, both on the educational and the research sides, that it justifies bringing them together under the same organization,” he says.

The change is a transformational step for Florida Tech, who joins peer institutions like Drexel and Georgia Tech in establishing distinct schools of computing. It allows for greater interaction with other disciplines across campus, while also creating the opportunity for a more integrated growth plan.

“How can we build our students, our research and our service to the community in a more cohesive view of computing?” queries Carvalho. “As a dedicated school, we can take a more holistic view of

computing education and research beyond the functional approach of simply applying a tool to a specific engineering or science application.”

COMING OF AGE

The School of Computing boasts a faculty of 22 and a student body just over 500. But the unit’s contributions in the research sector are most notable.

Currently managing funded research totaling \$5.7 million, the School of Computing handles projects across the spectrum of computing disciplines from complex networks to visualization to security applications for the Department



“The main benefit is that the students can focus on the research part of their project instead of building the environment from scratch.”

—Adrian Granados, HIAI research associate

of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, military labs and other industry partners. The school is designated as an NSA/DHS National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance—Research, one of 10 universities in the country recognized for its significant engagement and dedication to information assurance research.

Students, from the undergraduate level and beyond, have the opportunity to participate on any of these projects, and they gain hands-on experience that translates directly to the workplace after graduation.

With the distributed systems research on model trains, for example, students build the machines, write the algorithms, test the software, and collect and analyze the data.

“The main benefit is that the students can focus on the research part of their project instead of building the environment from scratch,” says **ADRIAN GRANADOS**, HIAI research associate.

And, practical applications are built into every facet of the curriculum.

In the network security class, for example, students construct fully operational virtual companies. Through the

course of a semester, they mount cyberattacks against competitor companies while defending their own—learning not only how to act, but how to recognize a malicious action on their own company’s servers.

“Because students use these tools and they see activity on the network that has specific signatures, they recognize that and can respond,” explains Carvalho. “Through this attack and defend process, they start to learn the traces that are only gained through experience.”

Such experience makes our students very desirable to future employers.

“There is a tremendous value and demand that industry and government place on our students,” says Carvalho, citing a nearly 100 percent employment rate post-graduation.

In fact, one of the school’s challenges is retaining students through the course of their studies who secure pre-graduation employment offers.

“It is not uncommon to see students being hired by industry before they finish,” explains Carvalho, “and we work with them to make sure they complete and finalize their studies.”

Not only are there employment opportunities available to the students, but these offers are coming from some of the industry’s leaders. Top companies looking for qualified employees look no further than the Florida Tech School of Computing.

Students from the School of Computing are highly sought after by top employers including Google, Facebook, Harris Corporation, Northrop Grumman and many other national and international companies, according to **DONA GAYNOR**, director of Career Management Services at Florida Tech. “95 percent of students from the School of Computing are employed or enrolled in graduate school six months after graduation,” she says.

POISED FOR GROWTH

Beginning this fall, the computing-related undergraduate degree programs will restructure to include specializations in the areas of cybersecurity and data sciences.

“The decision to expand to different specializations, such as cybersecurity and data sciences, will allow students to receive an education focused in specific areas on the cutting edge of technology,”

“Students from the School of Computing are highly sought after by top employers including Google, Facebook, Harris Corporation, Northrop Grumman and many other national and international companies.”

—Dona Gaynor, director of Career Management Services at Florida Tech

says **PHILLIP CHAN**, professor of computer science and cybersecurity.

By fall 2017, the School of Computing will introduce a graduate degree in data sciences. This program will focus on the ways data can be analyzed and used to provide benefit to humans. Because of the increased prevalence of technology throughout society, the amount of data being produced and stored has grown dramatically. This degree program will allow students to develop ways to effectively analyze that data and use it to provide benefit to users.

Ultimately, the school intends to offer doctoral programs in all the computing disciplines.

“The creation of the School of Computing will be a benefit to both the students, who will have a wider variety of opportunities in their degree, and the university as a whole, whose reputation of dedication to research and education will be strengthened,” says **HEATHER CRAWFORD**, assistant professor of computer science and cybersecurity.

—Christena Callahan





Inauguration Day

T. DWAYNE MCCAY was formally installed as the fifth president of Florida Institute of Technology on Sept. 9, championing a new era of success.

“Momentum at Florida Tech has been building for several years,” McCay said. “That momentum has carried us to be ranked one of the top 20 small universities in the world. It has aided us in attracting talented faculty and students and additional donors to even further build that momentum.

“Now we are prepared to climb even higher in the ranks of great universities, both small and large,” McCay added. “The student body is increasing in quality, expert faculty are being hired in critical areas and plans are under development for an expansion of programs and facilities to meet the demands of our modern era.”

The inauguration ceremony at the university’s Clemente Center, attended by approximately 900 faculty, staff, students and community leaders, and underwritten by donations, was a unique opportunity to discuss the university’s role in technological education. **DAVA NEWMAN**, the deputy administrator of NASA, was on hand to offer the keynote address, representing the university’s long-standing relationship with the space program dating to its founding in 1958 as a “night school for missilemen.” **PHIL FARMER**, chairman of the Florida Tech board of trustees and retired chairman, president and CEO

of Harris Corp., discussed the university’s remarkable history and performed the installation on behalf of the institution.

Other universities sent representatives to take part in the ceremony and academic processional, including the University of Florida, St. Leo University, Barry University, Eckerd College and Palm Beach Atlantic University.



John Trefry—Processional March Grand Marshal leads the processional march from Gleason Performing Arts Center to the Clemente Center.

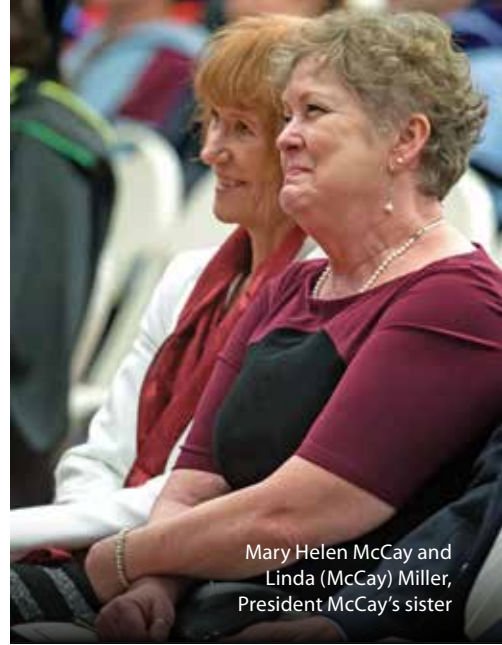


Keynote speaker Dava Newman from NASA.

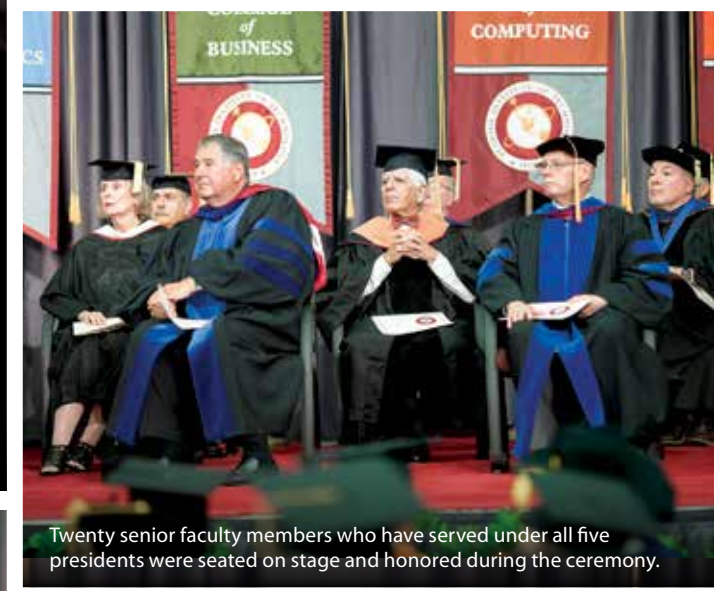




Phillip Farmer bestows the presidential medal.



Mary Helen McCay and Linda (McCay) Miller, President McCay's sister



Twenty senior faculty members who have served under all five presidents were seated on stage and honored during the ceremony.





TIM WAKEFIELD: BASEBALL LEGEND, PANTHER FOR LIFE

Two-time World Series Champion. American League All-Star. Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer. Roberto Clemente Award winner. Robert F. Kennedy Award winner. National League Rookie Pitcher of the Year. American League Comeback Player of the Year. Two-time MVP Florida Tech. Florida Tech Sports Hall of Famer.

Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni Award Winner.

TIM WAKEFIELD is a testament to perseverance, professionalism and humanitarianism. Most sports enthusiasts would agree, there has never been a player like Wakefield in major league history. In today's headlines where there are questionable sports characters dominating the news, Wakefield is heralded as one of the best to ever play the game for his efforts on and off the field.

His 19-year major league career is one that is hard to believe. As a pitcher—he has started, closed, been ousted from the rotation, left off a playoff roster, started a World Series game and through it all, he does what needs to be done and sacrifices himself for the best outcome for the team.

Wakefield was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates (eighth round, 1988) out of Florida Tech, believe it or not, as a power-hitting first baseman. His university records are still standing today. Shockingly, he quickly discovered his bat wasn't good enough for the major leagues.

Fortunately for Wakefield, after being watched in a game of catch by a manager for the Gulf Coast League Pirates, Woody Huyke, the idea was born to make him a knuckleball pitcher. "Looking back, I was just throwing the ball warming

up the way my father used to throw it to me after work in our backyard, those years of just having fun with the ball, changed my life," reminisced Wakefield. He underwent a drastic makeover to master the trick pitch. His knuckleball was instantly successful and led the Pittsburgh minor leagues in all the stats that matter—wins, innings pitched and complete games. This success catapulted him into the major leagues in 1992. His season was so good, he nearly led the Pirates into a World Series appearance. It would seem that the next season would be far and away his best year yet—not so.

Instead devastation. He lost control of his pitches and ultimately returned to the minor leagues. The following season, a baseball player's nightmare, he was released. As luck would have it, the Boston Red Sox saw potential. Determined to return to the glory of the Majors, he tapped into his Panther pride. Coach **LES HALL**, Florida Tech's legendary baseball coach who recently passed away, taught him valuable lessons early in his Panther athletic career. Hall did everything he could to get the Panthers and fields ready for practice—acting as head groundsman, pitching coach, setting the pitching areas and batting coach. Coach expected the same level of



Tim Wakefield, center, with participants in Wakefield Warriors. The program brings young hospital patients to Fenway Park to spend time with the award-winning pitcher. *Boston Red Sox photos*

dedication from each of his players. Hall even sat his star player (Wakefield) during a game versus UCF in Orlando, while there were scouts in attendance to prove a point. “Witnessing Coach’s devotion to work and the integrity of the game had a lasting influence—how to become a man and the right and wrong in life,” shared Wakefield. Knuckleball coaching and dedication revived his baseball career. For the next 17 years, he provided the Boston Red Sox baseball team with whatever pitcher they needed at the time. He is the franchise leader in starts with 430, and innings pitched with 3,006. And as any baseball fan knows—he was part of the team who broke the “Curse of the Bambino” and helped lead the Boston Red Sox to the World Series championship in 2004. He again was a World Series champion in 2007. Personally, he recorded his 200th career victory, 2,000 strike-outs and 3,000 inning milestones which mark him with the other baseball pitching legends.

Off the field, Wakefield helps those less fortunate and his community. The Boston Red Sox nominated him eight times for the Roberto Clemente Award, which is presented to the player who best reflects the spirit of giving back to the community. He won the award in 2010. Whether it is raising millions of dollars, visiting the Jimmy Fund Clinic, creating the “Wakefield Warriors” Program with Franciscan Hospital for Children or the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to meet patients, volunteering for New England’s Pitching In for Kids organization or Touch ‘Em All Foundation founded by Garth Brooks, Wakefield seeks to make a difference. In Brevard, it is well known that he played a major role to save the Space Coast Early Intervention Center by holding an annual golf tournament that continues on to this day. For his fellow ballers, he spent time on the field in the off-season with the Panthers. His contributions along with others made the Andy Seminick/Les Hall Lighted Field a reality. He continues to lend his time to his alma mater through his board of trustees work.

His name is remembered in more than the Florida Tech Batting Cage Facility and the historic confines of Fenway Park, his actions and service perpetuate his philosophy that it is our responsibility to include and help everyone. Jerome P. Keuper would be proud.

—Stephanie Bacon



The true measure of a university’s greatness can be found in the achievements of its alumni. Florida Institute of Technology has established a worldwide reputation for developing leaders and innovators across diverse fields, from academia to private industry to government. In that stratum of “the best of the best,” FIT alumni have gained their unique distinction through successes in their professions, service to the university and contribution to their communities.

The Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes an alumnus whose career accomplishments honor the university’s legacy of excellence.

This year’s recipient is Tim Wakefield who will be presented with the award at the Homecoming Awards Gala on Oct. 15.

FIT Homecoming 2016

Party Like It's 1958



October 13–15, 2016

Featured Events:

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 12

HOMECOMING KICKOFF sponsored by Greek Life, Crawford Green

7 p.m. **MEN'S SOCCER** vs. Nova SouthEasten, Stottler Field

9:45 p.m. **HOCKEY** vs. Embry Riddle

THURSDAY, OCT. 13

6 p.m.

FIT HOMECOMING 5K RUN/WALK

Downtown Melbourne at Meg O'Malley's
Cool tech shirts, goody bags and a
post-race party at Meg's with food,
drinks and music



7 p.m. **STUDENT TALENT SHOW**, Clemente Center

FRIDAY, OCT. 14

6 p.m. – 1 a.m. **FIT HOMECOMING FEST FREE CONCERT**
featuring **Wyclef Jean** (see accompanying story)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, OCT. 15

11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

HOMECOMING COOKOUT AND TAILGATE PARTY

Panther Den and Varsity Training Center Practice Field

1 p.m.

FOOTBALL GAME – FLORIDA TECH
VS. FORT VALLEY STATE

Panther Stadium, shuttles provided
to the stadium from campus



SATURDAY EVENING, OCT. 15

6 p.m.

Awards Gala

Clemente Center, Main Campus

8 p.m. **CARNIVAL (STUDENTS)**

Crawford Green

All Weekend:

Transformers: Re-contextualizing Our Material Culture, **Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts**
• Open 12–4, Thursday, Open 10–4, Friday and Saturday

Harak Rubio: Symbols and Guardians • **Foosaner Art Museum** • Open 10–4, Thursday,
Friday and Saturday,

HOMECOMING.FIT.EDU

FIT HOMECOMING FEST

Wyclef Jean

Coach Fitzgerald “Fidgi” Haig ’92, soccer icon, was bigger than life in a quiet, humble way. Hours of training on and off the pitch, Fidgi fostered our community—one player, one team, one university, one country, well actually two countries, United States and Haiti. His artful soccer skills enabled him to leave Haiti for the land of opportunity. Those same skills are what he gave back. After the horrifying earthquake, he returned to Haiti to help those in the rural areas and teach soccer. It is this that Wyclef remembers. Respecting Fidgi’s legacy and what Fidgi loved is the goal for Homecoming Fest 2016.



Recently, Bino Campanini, VP Alumni Affairs, spoke with Grammy award winning, multi-platinum artist, Wyclef Jean.

Q. Alumni are wondering why you are playing a homecoming concert in Melbourne, Florida?

For me it is very important in terms of legacy—being born in Haiti and coming to America—you barely had role models, trying to find stars that you can identify with—Michael Jackson, Bob Marley. Fidgi represents a humanitarian. When I heard of his passing, I came down on the DL (down low) and that was important to me because he was not about the hype. It was important how I showed up and respected his legacy.

The sports and music go hand-in-hand where we come from, it’s personal for me and I want the world to understand who this man was.

Wyclef sang an original compilation of church hymns during Fidgi’s memorial service. After the memorial service, Wyclef met with the family and Campanini. He agreed to perform at Homecoming Fest to honor Fidgi and the place he called home.

Q. Florida Tech Homecoming Fest is unique in that downtown Melbourne is closed to traffic and we invite students, alumni and the community to a free concert. Have you ever played in a similar type atmosphere?

Yes, definitely—Dave Chappell’s Block Party in Brooklyn, in Haiti with Akon and another in Africa. It is going to be very exciting to be done in Florida.



Clef, man behind the music

Q. What can our students and alumni expect from your show?

They call me the man behind the music.

Wyclef has many musicians featured in his music like Mary J. Blige, Akon, Lil Wayne, Paul Simon and Santana. Destiny's Child, Gloria Estefan, Shakira, T.I., Black Eyed Peas and Snoop Dogg all featured Wyclef.

The beautiful thing is I can start in the time of The Fugees—1996 and finish in 2016. I am going to be taking you on what we call the whirlwind of the carnival.

Q. Listening to your new single, Hendrix, tell us about your influences?

What is funny is my foundation is jazz. I was a jazz major in high school. Four forms identify me: 1. Jazz—having the love and wanting to play jazz; 2. Reggae—gave me the voice to talk; 3. Hip Hop—did the same thing, the voice and 4. Rock influence—bands that could identify with the struggle, for example U2, Pink Floyd, as well as Bob Dylan—I love his poetry and what he stands for.

It is a melting pot of sounds.

Q. When is your new album Carnival 3 going to drop and what can we expect?

Three EPs are leading into the full album—the first EP is coming out Sept. 30 and is called J'ouvert. J'ouvert is when the carnival starts. Everybody who loves the Hips Don't Lie record, it is a continuation of that record. That EP is purely inspired by the West Indies, Caribbean and Africa.

Q. You are known for your collaborations ... Young Thug on the album Jeffrey, Shakira, and one of my heroes, Bono. Tell me how that was and who would you like to get together with in the future?

Every music I track is from the point of view of a composer first, like Gershwin. It's like writing a play and see who fits the cast.

Collaborations ...

Bono has inspired me, I looked up to him, he was one of my mentors. Quincy Jones—like a godfather to me. I am inspired by people who do more than just talk.

Would like to work future collaborations with ...

Drake, Kendrick Lamar—big fan, Walk the Moon—Nick the lead vocalist, Magic! and Apple Jack.



FRIDAY, OCT. 14
6 p.m.–1 a.m.
DOWNTOWN
MELBOURNE



Q. You are present in social media ... how has this changed how you interact with your audience?

It is beautiful because it cuts out the middleman, like for an artist like me who is self-expressive and always has an opinion about things.

I think that music is something that we do 24/7. I think it gives the fans clear eyesight into who we are, we do not have to put on a reality show on TV, you can get a reality of how we are from the socials.

Q. Of course the rumors are flying, its been 20 years and everyone wants to know if the Fugees are getting back together?

Yes—I get that every day. It's a good thing, right, because it just means fans care and they would love to see that. I always tell them I have my fingers crossed that I am willing to play whenever The Fugees are willing to play. You know that is my original high school band.

— Stephanie Bacon



Historic Downtown

Federico Arocena '93

ON JUST BEYOND East New Haven Avenue

“What’s better than vacationing at a laid-back, relaxing beach getaway within minutes of an eclectic downtown scene? Living there—I’m talking about Downtown Melbourne. If you haven’t visited in a while, like since our college days, let me be the first to tell you, it is thriving and is the heart of the city. I recently moved from Miami because downtown exudes character and has “the place to be” opportunities. I’ve witnessed it bounce back with a wide variety of restaurants, shops, bars, Crane Creek promenade,



1
“Everything has changed since the 80’s when I was an FIT student, downtown is happening—day or night. You can’t go wrong with anything on our menu—everything has an Irish flair. Guinness anyone?”
LJ Burr
Owner/Operator
Meg O’Malleys

2
“I’m a firm believer in supporting local business. When my husband, **Brandon '99** and I first started dating, he asked me to meet him at the Sun Shoppe after work and I knew he was a keeper. Perfect place to hang out and enjoy a good cup of coffee.”
Jody Palmer '07



Melbourne

art festivals and, of course, our Homecoming 5K and Fest. And our fellow alumni are everywhere downtown creating this vibe as owners, city officials, volunteers and area residents. The historical buildings are blossoming. It is just a matter of time before new modern buildings are constructed offering business offices and cool apartments with lofts and rooftop entertaining as part of the scene. Since Melbourne continues to be a top “tech” city in the U.S., expect this trend to grow. Come back and visit the new place I call home.

“I really can’t say enough about the dedication and investment into downtown. During the Fest, it could not look more beautiful with the lights, lightpost banners, energy and people.”
Jarin Eisenberg
 Director of Melbourne Main Street

5
 “I commend the Florida Tech Alumni Association for partnering with Melbourne Main Street. This collaboration contributes to the economic vitality of downtown.”
Kathy Meehan '92
 Mayor of Melbourne



- Locations:
- 1 Meg O'Malleys**
812 E. New Haven Ave.
megomalleys.com
 - 2 Sun Shoppe**
540 E. New Haven Ave.
thesunshoppe.com
 - 3 Tallulah 9**
2018 Melbourne Court
facebook.com/tallulah09
 - 4 Downtown Yoga**
532 E. New Haven Ave.
yogadowntownmelbourne.com
 - 5 Meehan's Office & Art Supplies**
900 E. New Haven Ave.
meehans.com

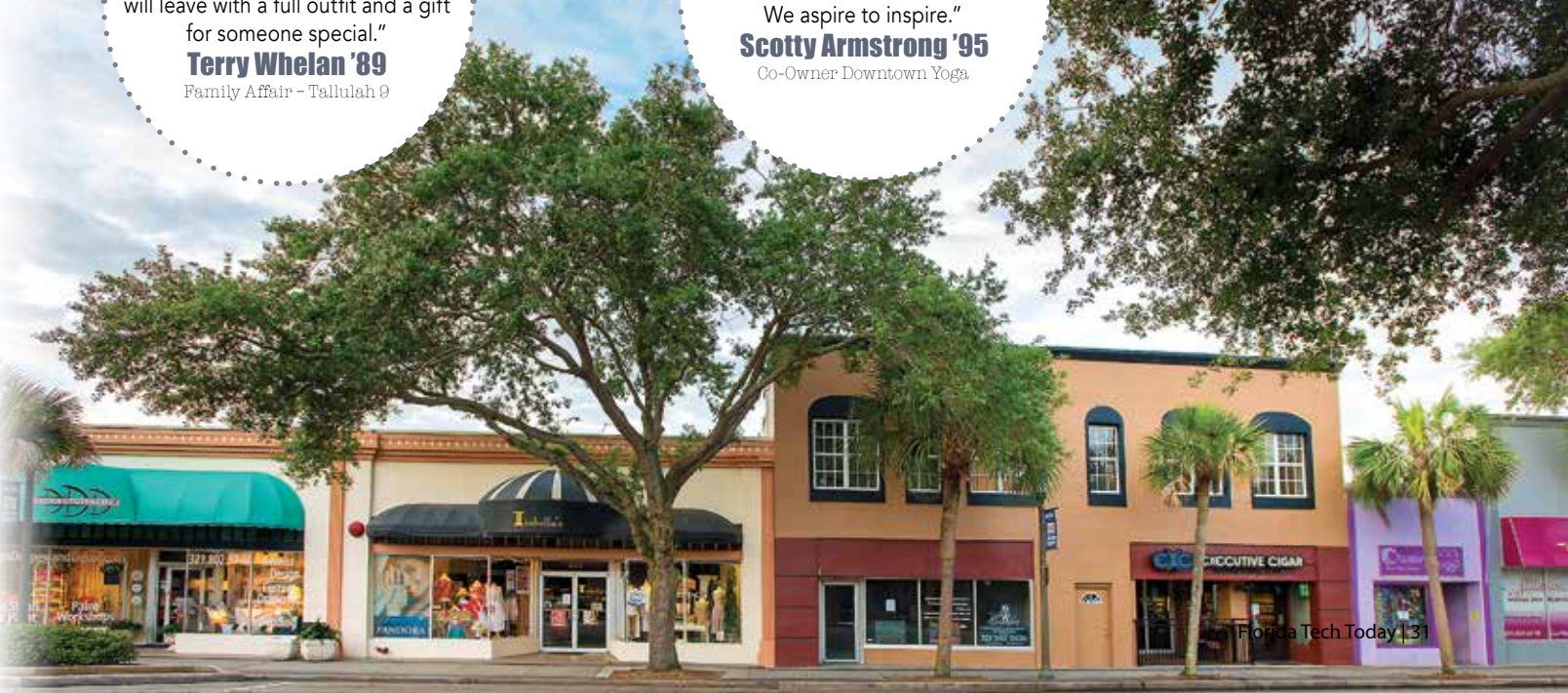
DowntownMelbourne.com



3
 “Think of us as your local ‘Anthropology’ store in beautiful downtown, where in one stop you will leave with a full outfit and a gift for someone special.”
Terry Whelan '89
 Family Affair – Tallulah 9



4
 “We understand wellness bliss ... join us for a single class or series. We aspire to inspire.”
Scotty Armstrong '95
 Co-Owner Downtown Yoga



ALUMNI NEWS

News from the desk of

Chad C. Shoultz '96

Florida Tech Alumni Association President



READY OR NOT ... HOMECOMING IS HERE!

This fall is an exciting time at Florida Tech. Dr. McCay has assumed the leadership of the university as Florida Tech's fifth president, and we are fast approaching Homecoming 2016. There is no better time to return to campus than during Homecoming, and this year the FTAA has another great three days planned.

Since its inception in 2012, FIT Homecoming Fest has grown into the biggest one-day event in Melbourne, with attendance growing each year. Along with a vibrant street fest, we have attracted national recording artists, from old school stalwarts The Mighty Mighty BossTones to indie darlings Matt and Kim.

But this year will be one to remember as international superstar and nine-time Grammy winner Wyclef Jean will headline FIT Homecoming Fest in honor of his friend and FIT soccer legend Fidgi Haig. From the revolutionary sound of The Fugees, the international flavor of his solo album *Carnivale*, to the multiple collaborations with artists such as Shakira, Wyclef Jean has been involved in record sales in excess of 100 million. Having such a renowned artist play in downtown Melbourne is a huge coup for the FTAA and to be able to honor one of our alumni makes it extra special.

Another celebrity will be part of Homecoming weekend as Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer, Tim Wakefield, will receive the Jerome P. Keuper

Distinguished Alumni Award at the Homecoming Awards Gala. Tim will be joined at the gala by five of his fellow alumni who will be recognized as their college's Outstanding Alumni for the year. The evening is a celebration of Florida Tech and the achievements of its alumni, and all alumni are encouraged to attend.

As usual, there will be a Panther Football game and alumni tailgating as well as other events including the Homecoming 5K, which this year you can run virtually and so can participate even if you are not in Melbourne. A full schedule of events can be found at homecoming.fit.edu.

Join us for Homecoming 2016 and show your Panther Pride!

YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Chad Shoultz '96 | President | Indialantic, FL | cshoultz@cfl.rr.com
Andy Kirbach '90 | Vice President | Melbourne, FL | akirbach@gmail.com
Rhodie Humbert '82 MBA | Secretary | Melbourne, FL | rhodiehumbert@aol.com
Brian Stahl '86, '88 M.S. | Treasurer | Satellite Beach, FL | brianmstahl@gmail.com
Kim Bozik '87 | Member-at-Large | Chandler, AZ | kim.b.bozik@intel.com
David Murphy '91, '01 M.S. | Member-at-Large | Winter Garden, FL | davemurphyrr@hotmail.com

We Need More Panthers!

The Office of Undergraduate Admission needs alumni volunteers to cover recruiting events.



Ed Triebell '83 talks about how rewarding it is to bring new Panthers into the fold:

"Since graduating from FIT, I have been honored to represent the school at several local and regional college fairs in San Diego, Orange County and the metro Los Angeles area to support Admissions in recruiting new students. It's really fun to have eager high school students come talk to you about their degree aspirations, their interests and life passions, and outline how FIT would be a great fit for them. And, of course, to address the parents' questions and concerns about costs, safety and student life on campus.

"When I was a student at FIT (1978–1983), I was a proud member of the Student Recruitment Corp (SRC) that was created by the Admissions Office to help give tours of the campus to prospective students and their families visiting the school. I also attended several college fairs to represent FIT and to talk with interested students and their parents. It was a wonderful way to meet interested students and their families and to talk about the school, campus life, the Melbourne community, things to do and see, and to offer an open dialogue about the joys and challenges of attending FIT."

If you wish to become an alumni admission volunteer or would like more information about the program, please email admission@fit.edu.

Thanks and Go Panthers!

Submit your AlumNotes to alumni@fit.edu
 share your news!

1970s

KENNETH SHEPARD '79 MBA received a Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) from Capella University with a major in global operations–supply chain management.

1980s

DEBORAH DEWEY '80 who most recently served as president of Growth Alliance for Greater Evansville has been named the new president of Indiana American and Michigan American Water. She started her career at Westinghouse Electric Corp., where she led more than 1,100 employees.



EDWARD PETER DONOVAN, Ph.D., '82, adjunct professor of biology and physical science at the University of South Carolina Upstate, has been accepted into NASA's "Lunar Workshop for Educators" program. In 2015, he became an official NASA MAVEN

Ambassador upon his completion of the Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN) program at the Goddard Space Flight Center. MAVEN is the space probe that arrived at Mars in 2014 to explore the planet's upper atmosphere, ionosphere and interactions with the sun and solar wind. Data from MAVEN will provide insight into the planet's atmospheric history, climate and planetary habitability.

PETER SCHMITZ '82 an aviation industry veteran with 31 years of experience advising clients and structuring insurance programs has been named senior vice president and Aviation Practice leader for Lockton. Lockton is a global, privately held, independent insurance broker. He began his career as a commercial pilot and is still a licensed commercial and instrument-rated pilot.



JOE WALDEN '88 MBA, '89 M.S., followed his World Championship in Powerlifting last November with a world record-setting National Powerlifting

Championship this summer. He has set three world records and one American record in the 165 lb. weight class.

PAUL CECALA '85 and **DAN NAZZARO '85** are celebrating 10 years married and 20 years together.

LARRY BENSON '89 MBA, director of strategic alliance for LexisNexis Risk Solutions, produces fraudoftheday.com. He is a researcher and developer of solutions for identity theft and fraud.



RAMON TORRES MORALES, Ph.D., '89 MBA is an associate professor for international finance and global logistics at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico. He is also the vice president and senior consultant of IDEAS, a research and consulting firm. Currently, he serves as the president of the academic senate and elected by faculty members to become the 26th vice president of the University Council.

Submit your AlumNotes to alumni@fit.edu

1990s



DEVIN SWANSON '90 with Pete the Panther at the summit of Snowdon, the highest mountain in Wales at an elevation of 1,090 meters.



ROBIN CHAN '91, his wife Ellie and big brother Christian welcome their new panther cub, Collin.

Judge **JOHN ANTOON II '93 M.S.** received the 2016 American Inns of Court Professionalism Award for the Eleventh Circuit.

Continued on page 34

ON THE ROAD

Boston



Chrissy Fritsch, Matthew Grossi, Laura Canham '08, Stephen Canham, Elizabeth Snape '12



Elizabeth Rhyne, Andrew Rhyne '02 M.S., '06 Ph.D., panther cubs



Jennifer Pamphile, Max Bastien '09

ALUMNOTES

Continued from page 33



MICHAEL ELLICOTT '93 assumed command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Memphis District in downtown Memphis this summer. His wife Richele, daughter Jessica and sons Brandon and Fletcher are proud to be part of the event.

In his new book, *An Unfortunate War*, **JOE EAST '98** M.S. depicts Earth's discovery of a new planet, Haven, and the resulting clash between the two worlds. East proudly served in the U.S. Air Force as a communications

specialist. In the civilian world, he taught logistics, program management and contracting to soldiers. He resides in Madison, Alabama, with his wife.



JONATHAN WILSON '98 recently became the Maryland executive director for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. In honor of supporting patients, survivors and their families, he personally competed in an event on the treadmill to help raise awareness and money.

Continued on page 35

Video Game Journalist: Angelina Bonilla

Angelina Bonilla '14 is a video game journalist and a feature correspondent for the site GameSkinny. She's written several articles on both GameSkinny and other sites, covering a wide variety of subjects involving video games as well as other internet phenomena such as the violinist Lindsey Sterling. She's interviewed people all around the world about their games or videos and has grossed several million hits on her articles.



MEET ANGELINA BONILLA:

CURRENT CITY: Satellite Beach, Florida

BY DAY: Middle school substitute teacher focused primarily on English and history; lecturer for Eastern Kentucky University

HOBBIES: Writing, Reading, Research, Archery, Fencing, Video Games

FAVORITE FLORIDA TECH MEMORY: Resurrecting the Florida Tech Kaleidoscope, running it (I was the editor-in-chief for several years) and being part of The Crimson.

Angelina primarily works with independent game developers by playing their games, interviewing developers, helping draw awareness to the games and then writing reviews of the games once they're completed. She also writes editorials about the video game industry that carefully dissect popular opinions as a whole. Lately, she has started to adapt some of her article ideas into YouTube videos under the name Red Angel and has been slowly gaining a following all around the world.

The last time **CHRISTIAN D'AUBIGNY, Ph.D., '96** was on campus was 20 years ago on his graduation day (shown here, third from left). He stopped by this summer, during a trip to Kennedy Space Center, to visit his friend and previous professor Hamid Rassoul (second from left in the photo). D'Aubigny is the deputy instrument



scientist for the OCAMS instrument for the OSIRIS-REx mission. He returned to campus again this fall to discuss the OSIRIS-REx project; read more about his role in the mission of page 37.



JOEL STEPHENS '93 is the winner of the 2016 Betty Tribble Citizen of the Year Award for his volunteer efforts, leadership and commitment to the Tampa Bay area. The Tampa Connection began the tradition of recognizing the "Citizen of the Year" and naming the prestigious award after its first recipient Betty Tribble. For over 14 years, Stephens has served on the board of directors, executive committee for the Hillsborough Education Foundation, he sits on the Professional Advisory Council on Planned

Giving for the Straz Center for the Performing Arts as well as many other volunteer roles. He has been recognized by the American Red Cross as a hero in their "Heroes—Changing Lives in Tampa Bay" campaign. His efforts have no doubt left a positive impact in the community.

New York



Oladunni Oladosu '14, Bradley Higgins '96, Stacey Hodge '15, Rutendo Kainga '14



Elizabeth Lunny '93, President T. Dwayne McCay, Mary Helen McCay



Steve Lynch '86, Melissa Lynch



Ben Burnett '09, Lisa Burnett '08, '10

Continued from page 34

2000s

ANTHONY DELICATI '02 M.S. has been named chief of the Army contracting command. In his new role, he will supervise employees who perform acquisition planning and contract close-out functions.

LUCITA KAHN '04 M.S. was recently awarded ASQ fellow status based on her leadership, pre-eminence in the technology, theory, education, application and management of quality control. She recently retired from the U.S. Army and is also retired as a Master Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.



DOUGLAS KELSEY '06 MBA, '09 M.S., joined the Department of Homeland Security, Customs and Border Protection, Air and Marine Operations as program manager with Domain Awareness Standards and Analysis.



HEATHER (SOMMERS) ESTES '07 and **CONRAD ESTES '05** were married in Mooresville, North Carolina.

STEPHANIE GROLEAU '08, '09 M.S., and her husband **CHRIS PETERS '09** now reside in Washington, D.C., where she works as a marine safety engineer as a member of the U.S. Coast Guard, and he is a pilot for the American Airlines Group. She has also been chosen to be in the

pilot program at the Notre Dame of Maryland University's first risk management degree.

MATTHEW GROSSI '08 has been working in the Ocean Observation Laboratory at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth School for Marine Science and Technology where he oversees Slocum underwater glider operations and high frequency radar for coastal ocean surface current monitoring systems throughout southern New England. He was recently accepted into a Ph.D. program in meteorology and physical oceanography at the University of Miami, which will bring him back to Florida this fall.



JENNIFER (JOHNSON) KRAJCIK '09, '11 M.S., and her husband **RYAN KRAJCIK '09, '12 M.S.**, welcome their panther cubs, James and Katelyn.



ELIZABETH SNAPE '09 recently left Marianapolis Preparatory School after four years for a new job opportunity at Notre Dame High School in West Haven, Connecticut. She is now living in Stratford, Connecticut.



PATRICK VIAFORE '09 and **KENDALL (HINNAH) VIAFORE '09** welcome their son, Zane.

2010s



JENNIFER GILLETTE '10, '12 MBA, former Florida Tech soccer player and rower, has a commission in the U.S. Air Force and recently graduated from pilot training. The Second Lt. will fly the F-15E Strike Eagle fighter aircraft.

ANTHONY HARNESS '10 is now studying for his Ph.D. at the University of Colorado.

Continued on page 36

Submit your AlumNotes to alumni@fit.edu

SpaceX Landing Team

"I thought you may enjoy this picture. Myself (wearing the crimson FIT shirt) and Nathan Higgins, B.S. '04 (standing to my right) both went to FIT and graduated together. Currently we both work as leaders on the landing/recovery team—I am a lead recovery and landing operations engineer and Nate works as a lead recovery specialist."

*Joe Bussenger, B.S. '03
Aerospace Engineering*

ALUMNOTES

Continued from page 35



THOMAS GRITENAS '16 MBA is engaged to Lauren Austin. He is currently working at Wyndham Hotel Group in Parsippany, New Jersey, as a project manager of financial systems and reporting.



KELLY REARDON '16 is the first meteorologist for cleveland.com. She comes to the position after two years with the National Weather Service.

Staff



CYNTHIA PIERRE, banquet chef at the SUB Café, welcomed daughter Aura in fall 2015.

Calling All Panther Cubs!

Congratulations! If you've recently welcomed a Panther Cub to your family, contact us for your free Panther Cub apparel item. Choose from a T-shirt, bib or onesie. Then send us a photo of your child in their Panther swag, and an AlumNote about yourself. We will proudly display it in *Florida Tech Today*.

For details, email alumnotes@fit.edu

In Memoriam

TERRY GILLETTE '84 died June 16, 2016, at his home in Melbourne Beach. He is survived by his wife Pam and daughters Georgia and Paige.

LES HALL, 80, of Satellite Beach, beloved Florida Tech baseball coach, passed away Sept. 9, 2016. He served 25 years as Florida Tech's head baseball coach and associate director of athletics, mentoring players on and off the field. He was inducted into the Florida Tech Sports Hall of Fame in 1996, and the university's baseball field—Andy Seminick-Les Hall Field—was dedicated in his honor in 1999. Tim Wakefield recalls many fond memories of his college coach, saying, "He taught me some valuable lessons I took with me to the major leagues, like respect the game, respect my teammates and honor yourself." Athletics director Bill Jurgens said, "He was the blueprint for what a coach should be." Hall will be buried in Georgia. He is survived by his wife Jo Ann, daughter Jennifer and several other family members.



ROBERT SHEARER, associate professor in the School of Arts and Communication (SAC), passed away Sept. 18. He was a faculty member for 35 years, long-time secretary of the Faculty Senate and played concert piano at the annual Honors Convocation. Described as a modern-day Renaissance man, Shearer was a pianist, a novelist, a philosopher and a teacher. Gordon Patterson said, "He was a good man, a scholar and one of Florida Tech's stars. He brought energy, enthusiasm and intelligence to his work, his students and our university."



JIM SHELTON '89 died on July 10, 2016, from cancer. He is survived by his wife Megan (1990), children Kailey, Connor and Hunter.

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Artist concept of OSIRIS-REx. NASA Photo.

Frontiers in Space Exploration:

Mission OSIRIS-REx

NASA's Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security, Regolith Explorer (OSIRIS-REx) program is the space agency's ambitious mission to travel to a near-Earth asteroid (Bennu), extract materials from it and return the sample to Earth for study. Launched Sept. 8 from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, the OSIRIS-REx spacecraft will reach Bennu in 2018 and return to Earth in 2023. Three alumni involved in the project spoke on campus before the launch about their work:



Amy Simon, Ph.D.

FLORIDA TECH DEGREE: '93 B.S. space sciences

TITLE: Senior Scientist, Planetary Atmospheres Solar System Exploration Division, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center; Deputy Instrument Scientist for the OSIRIS-REx Visible and Infrared Spectrometer (OVIRS)

ROLE ON OSIRIS-REx:

Simon's role was to help design, develop, build and test the OVIRS instrument, which will be used to map the chemical make-up of the asteroid's surface. This provides science for comparison with asteroids and meteorites as well as aid in picking the best sample site. She has been involved in the mission for more than seven years. This is the first mission where she helped to build some of the science hardware.

Christian d'Aubigny, Ph.D.

FLORIDA TECH DEGREE: '96 B.S. space sciences

TITLE: OSIRIS-REx/OCAMS Lead Optical Engineer; Lunar and Planetary Laboratory, University of Arizona; Deputy Instrument Scientist for OSIRIS-REx camera suite (OCAMS)

ROLE ON OSIRIS-REx:

d'Aubigny is part of the team that developed the mission's camera suite. This includes three cameras: the PolyCam, an 8-inch telescope that will help locate and navigate to Bennu; the MapCam that will search the area around Bennu and map the asteroid shape; and the SamCam that will document the sample acquisition process.

Kerri Donaldson Hanna, Ph.D.

FLORIDA TECH DEGREE: '99 B.S. space sciences

TITLE: UKSA Aurora Research Fellow, University of Oxford; OSIRIS-REx Collaborator: Chondrite Meteorite Working Group and Software Analysis Group

ROLE ON OSIRIS-REx:

Hanna is measuring a suite of carbonaceous chondrite meteorites and minerals using an environment chamber that simulates the conditions on Bennu's surface to measure the heat these materials emit. This laboratory data is important for (1) testing software algorithms before ever reaching Bennu and (2) interpreting Bennu's surface composition by comparing the lab data with data from the spacecraft.

“We are finding the building blocks of the solar system.”
—Amy Simon

“Sometimes I’m the crisis negotiator that helps them brainstorm when the concept doesn’t quite translate into reality.”

SO MUCH MORE THAN A WORKSHOP—It’s nearly 12,000 square feet of pure enjoyment. Sure, it has tools and specialized work centers with safety requirements and regulations. It benefits from a hardworking and dedicated machine shop next door. There are constantly expanding campus resources like the new Digital Scholarship Lab (DSL) and COE Maker Space. It has fit-for-purpose facilities that would make many industrial operations green with envy.

The Harris Student Design Center (HSDC) is a new kind of experience for students where they collaborate, work in a way that parallels industry, and approach their projects with an entrepreneurial mindset. The facilities allow many disciplines to work side by side so that the projects are greater than a collection of subsystems. There is an ideation room for design work, project meetings and external collaboration. For many students, the HSDC becomes their second home. It’s a place where the engineering gets real, the theoretical becomes tangible.

Our project teams do not work in isolation—cross-collaboration is possible, mutual support is given, and some well-deserved admiration is shared. Oh yes, and a bit of healthy competition. It becomes a hub for the project, its team, their faculty advisors and collaborators to come together.

As a dedicated home for Capstone Senior Design, the HSDC is able to leverage past projects. We are able to improve the life cycle of project components and subsystems in a way not previously feasible. This process of up-building and component harvest extends the scope of carefully planned project budgets.

Partnerships with advisors outside Florida Tech are highly valued. We enjoy relationships today with local companies and individuals, though we always encourage more community collaboration. There are many benefits for the teams—they get to pitch their projects, learn how to cope with setbacks and seek expert opinions from those who experience similar project work firsthand. If working with our projects sparks an interest in you, I invite you to come out for a visit.

As the student project director, I’m not faculty, and I’m not in their peer group ... not quite yet. When our

seniors graduate, they will work across generational groups and forge relationships with people who influence their budgets, scope and their success. In this role, sometimes I’m the PM that connects them to resources. Or the financial controller that ensures they respect their budgets and use them to maximum effect. Sometimes I’m the crisis negotiator that helps them brainstorm when the concept doesn’t quite translate into reality. Other times, we’re simply peers working toward the same end.

I enjoy when students discover the art of influence instead of leveraging hierarchal leadership. They learn that team members make different contributions, the value of ground rules ... and communication. I see frustration frequently—I’d be worried if I didn’t. Capstone Senior Design projects are challenging, often in areas where there is only concept without proof. The projects are, by design, difficult. Their faculty advisors and departments place high expectations upon them, and they are correctly placed. It’s the journey to own the expectations at heart and at home in the HSDC.

It’s probably no coincidence that the HSDC is located at the crossroads of Engineering Street and Psychology Place. There is something wonderful in discovering that while age and other things differentiate us, we have something to learn from one another every day. In its first outing, the HSDC produced flight projects, vehicles, robots and humanitarian projects among the haul. I’m proud the students leave their mark on all their amazing projects. Above all, I aim that each day they walk out a little stronger, happier, safer and more prepared to go forward on their own life journey.

—Laurie Guiser



Laurie Guiser is the student project director in the Harris Student Design Center—a facility made possible by a \$1 million gift from Harris Corporation. She joined Florida Tech in 2015 from from Janssen Pharmaceuticals.

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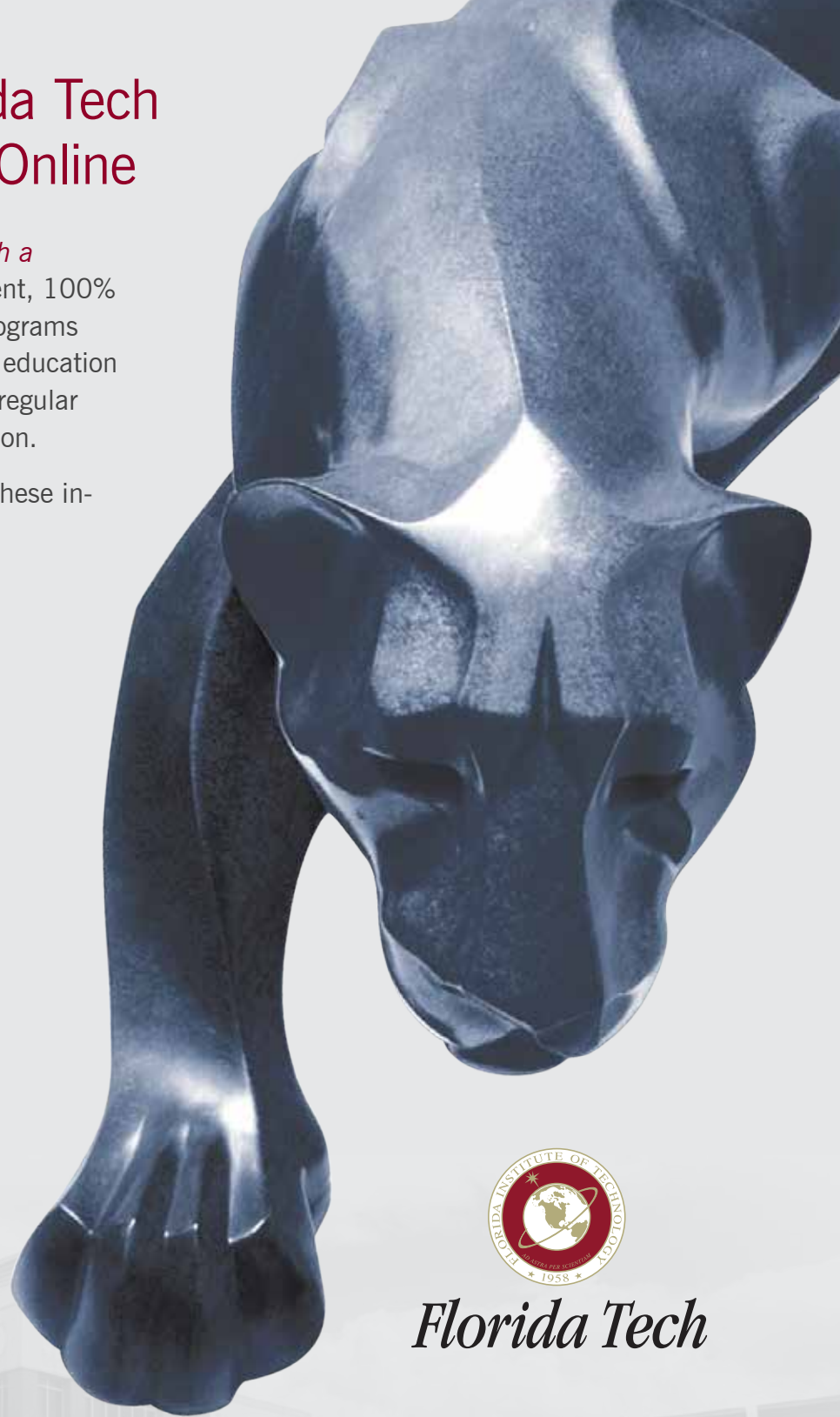
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Save the Date!

On November 29, 2016 beginning at midnight, Panthers from around the world will come together again to support Florida Tech in our second annual Day of Giving. See page 12.

DayOfGiving.fit.edu