

Florida Tech TODAY

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

"The story of Florida Institute of Technology is an improbable one. In 1958, a young physicist named Jerry Keuper, drawn to Cape Canaveral by the space program, decided to launch a university.

The first contribution to the school was 37 cents."

President's Perspective

Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

Welcome to a very special edition of the *Florida Tech TODAY* magazine. In this exciting issue is the announcement of the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech. This new campaign, the most ambitious in the university's history, is the perfect way to close the university's first 50 years, and serves as a fitting beginning to the next 50.



In this very special issue, you will learn why we've embarked on this Golden Anniversary Campaign as part of the university's 50th anniversary celebration. You'll also learn the campaign's goals and objectives, and find out what we've accomplished so far.

This campaign has the opportunity to be transformative, in much the same way the F.W. Olin gifts transformed our campus. Its goals are far reaching, affecting each of our six colleges with plans for new buildings, more scholarships and fellowship opportunities for our students, and endowed chairs to lure the best and brightest faculty to campus. I'm confident that the Golden Anniversary Campaign will boost Florida Tech toward reaching its goal as one of the 10 best institutes of technology in the world.

Capital campaigns are, of course, about much more than capital. All great campaigns, at their heart, are about people. Our Golden Anniversary Campaign is no exception. Inside this issue you'll meet several donors who are making a difference in the lives of students and faculty at your alma mater. We hope their stories will inspire you to make a difference, too.

So, I hope you will enjoy this issue of *Florida Tech TODAY*. Inside, you see our dreams for the future. I trust that you'll share them with us. I invite you to join us in making them a reality.

Sincerely yours,

A.J. Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP
President

High Tech with a Human Touch

Florida Tech TODAY

Florida Institute of Technology
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Open for Entertainment
President Anthony J. Catanese wields the giant, ribbon-snipping scissors to officially open the Panthereum at the first “Jazz at the Panthereum” concert. From left are fellow cool cats in shades, **Thomas G. Fox**, senior vice president for advancement; and **Ken Revay ’82**. Far right, **Clifford Bragdon**, associate provost and dean, University College. **Curtis Moore** of the TD Daniel Trio is on bass guitar.

In Memoriam

Benefactor Acopian Dies

Sarkis Acopian, a Florida Tech benefactor whose legacy will live beyond him, died at age 80 on Jan. 18, 2007. A prominent businessman and philanthropist, Acopian was the first individual to donate \$1 million to the university, and he did it with one gift in 1990.



Sarkis Acopian

For the past 30-plus years, Acopian maintained a small branch of his Acopian Industries, a maker of power supply products, near the Melbourne International Airport. On one of his monthly fly-in visits from his home in Pennsylvania, he made it known to the university that he wanted to make a financial impact.

Then-President **Lynn E. Weaver** and **Robert Fronk**, currently interim dean of the College of Business, approached Acopian with several ideas. He accepted Fronk’s proposal to fund environmental education, one of his interests, with an endowed chair.

Acopian’s \$1 million donation later that year made the Sarkis Acopian Endowed Chair in Graduate Environmental Education a reality. In 1992, **Thomas Marcinkowski** accepted the position in the department of science and mathematics education, where he remains today.

Acopian continued to give to the university, for other causes, as well as to many other institutions and organizations over the years. “Mr. Acopian was a very generous man throughout his life. His passing will be a loss to all the people and communities he

cared about,” said **Thomas G. Fox**, senior vice president for advancement.

\$820,000 Funds Space Weather Modeling

Florida Tech, a member institution of the Center for Integrated Space Weather Modeling (CISM),



Ramon Lopez

has earned an \$820,000 subcontract over five years to participate on a CISM project. The CISM is a National Science Foundation (NSF) Science and Technology Center chartered to understand the dynamic sun-Earth system and how it affects life and society.

One of 11 member institutions, Florida Tech will direct the diversity in space sciences efforts of the center as well as take a lead role in science education programs and curriculum development. Florida Tech also will use simulation models to gain a better understanding of the magnetosphere and ionosphere and will test and validate these models through comparison with observations. The university will also provide opportunities for undergraduate research and support for the CISM-wide graduate education program.

Ramon Lopez, Florida Tech professor of physics and space sciences, is the principal investigator on the project and will work with graduate students and other Florida Tech faculty.

Among other member institutions are Stanford University, University of California at Berkeley, Rice University, Dartmouth College and University of Colorado, Boulder.

The CISM Science and Technology Center is headquartered at Boston University.

University Names New Trustee Brandon

Harry Brandon has been named a member of the Florida Tech board of trustees. He was welcomed to the board at the fall trustees meeting on campus.



Harry Brandon

A Melbourne-area real estate investor, Brandon is a past vice president of marketing for Harris Corporation and has 26 years of computer marketing and marketing management experience. He led worldwide marketing for the Controls Division and Composition Systems Division at Harris, following careers at Control Data, UNIVAC and University Computing. He left Harris in 1982

to start his own commercial real estate investing business in Brevard County.

Brandon earned a bachelor's degree in communications from the University of Washington. He was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the Founders Forum in 2005.

Stackpoole Is New College of Aeronautics Dean

Kenneth P. Stackpoole was named dean of the College of Aeronautics in February. He most recently was vice president for university relations at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

At Embry-Riddle for 25 years, Stackpoole was responsible for marketing, communications, and corporate and government relations for the university system, which enrolls 30,000 students annually. During his career there, he also was chairman, flight technology department, and director, business development, of a NASA-led Small Aircraft Transportation System Program.

Stackpoole holds the FAA Airline Transport Pilot Certificate and has 4,600 hours of flight time. He earned his doctoral degree in public affairs from the University of Central Florida. A certified flight instructor for single and multi-engine training, and instrument airplanes, he also is a pilot examiner. He was 2005–2006 chair, National Research Council, Transportation Research Board, committee on inter-governmental relations in aviation, and 2005–2006 chair, Daytona Beach Chamber Congressional Action Committee.



Kenneth P. Stackpoole



Colorful Threads

"Uncommon Threads," the university's annual on-campus textile lecture series, explored the textiles of Southeast Asia. **Mattiebelle Gittinger, left,** research associate for Southeast Asian Textiles at the Textile Museum of Washington, D.C., shared her knowledge at an evening lecture and luncheon symposium. **Ruth Funk, second from left,** helped start "Uncommon Threads" in 2004. Also shown at the luncheon are: **President Anthony J. Catanese; Thai dancer Intuorn Brown; Sara Catanese; Indiafest Director Nina Gadodia; and Phyllis Long, widow of Trustee Robert L. Long.**



Commemorating King

Charles W. Jackson Sr., right, receives the 2007 Julius Montgomery Pioneer Award for community leadership. Montgomery, at left, one of Florida Tech's first African-American students, received the Pioneer Award during the 2006 commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and achievements. The award was since named for Montgomery. President Anthony J. Catanese is at center.

Grant Funds Remote Sensing, Robotics Curriculum

A \$423,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, will support a curriculum in remote sensing systems and moving robotic platforms. **Charles Bostater**, associate professor of physical oceanography and environmental sciences, won the grant. This continues support of a cooperative international effort with Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BME) and the Royal Military Academy (RMA) in Brussels, Belgium.

In this new effort, faculty and students are developing an interdisciplinary curriculum that directly focuses on remote sensing systems, moving robotic platforms and the system risks associated with the detection of unexploded ordnance and with humanitarian de-mining. The technology to detect these materials may also be used in marine and coastal environments.

Balint Kiss of BME and Yvon Baudoin of the RMA are co-investigators with Bostater, the principal U.S. investigator. "The project will help to develop the necessary international and interdisciplinary talent vital today and in the future to meet the needs of securing sustainable safe environments," said Bostater.

Lightning Research Sparks \$420,000 Grant

Although 250 years have passed since Ben Franklin's kite experiment, lightning still holds great mystery. Out to discover lightning's secrets is **Joseph Dwyer**, professor of physics and space sciences. He earned a \$420,000 National Science Foundation grant to continue and expand his research.

"Scientists still struggle to understand the most basic facts about how it works," said Dwyer, who has brought the study of lightning research into the laboratory. He and his team in 2005 made the discovery that laboratory-generated sparks make X-rays, too.

Dwyer's co-investigators are Florida Tech professor **Hamid Rassoul** of the same department and professor Martin Uman of the University of Florida. The researchers will conduct their studies at both universities and at the International Center for Lightning Research and Testing at Camp Blanding, Fla.

Dwyer's previous breakthrough findings have earned extensive media exposure, including a PBS "NOVA ScienceNow" program and features on Discovery and National Geographic Channel TV programs.

Need for Ethics and Values Curriculum Technology

Cem Kaner, professor of computer science, is taking a multimedia approach to teaching ethics and values in engineering and technology with the support of a \$268,000 National Science Foundation grant. The grant will fund the development of three to six learning units by Kaner and his collaborators—Florida Tech computer science faculty members **Richard Ford** and **Scott Tilley**, and University of Illinois computer science faculty member Keith Miller.

"There is ongoing, rapid change in the laws that these units will address," said Kaner. "Each topic can be studied in terms of ethics issues that the student might face while conducting research as a student, or later, as a faculty member."

His project will cover the topical subjects of whistle-blowing, reverse engineering, security vulnerabilities in computing and intellectual property rights. These are those associated with university labs and faculty-owned businesses that commercialize university-developed research.

Kaner is an attorney whose principal legal focus is computer-related law. He is also a widely known author on software quality control.



Researchers Boost County Science Programs

The university has earned a National Science Foundation (NSF) continuation grant of nearly \$1.7 million over three years. The grant, from the NSF's Graduate Teaching Fellowship (K-12) program, enables the university to continue the work with Brevard County high school integrated science teachers, which was begun in fall 2005. The new funding will focus on using the mobile laboratory, SEAS: Science Exploration at Sea, and supporting teachers in taking full advantage of the project activities and modules developed under the previous grant. Additionally, the funding will continue to support free science seminars, led by university faculty and other internationally renowned researchers at public schools throughout the county.

"We hope that the program will serve as a model for K-12 outreach programs throughout the county," said **Richard Tankersley**, program director. **John Windsor**, professor of oceanography, is co-investigator on the grant. The project, Integrated Science Teaching Enhancement Partnership (InSTEP), is designed to improve science instruction and increase student enthusiasm for scientific inquiry and discovery. Partnering with integrated science teachers in grades 9-11 are interdisciplinary Florida Tech graduate students, or Fellows.

History Under Glass at Melbourne International Airport

Ken Droscher, assistant vice president for advancement and executive director of the alumni association, shows off a banner from the early days of Florida Tech, when it was Brevard Engineering College. Droscher is in the newly opened aviation museum at the Melbourne International Airport, where the university displays a large collection of memorabilia.



Ken Droscher and Karen Rhine, assistant director of university communications, provide perspective standing under a huge sign that greets visitors to Melbourne International Airport.



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Short security lines
Free wireless internet



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from the FTAA President

From the desk of Association President Jim Downey '74



Ad Astra Per Scientiam

Fifty years ago there was no college nearby to provide academic support to the growing number of scientists and engineers flocking to Cape Canaveral. There was no opportunity for them to grow academically. It was a challenge. And when challenges surface, visionaries do as well. Enter **Jerry Keuper**, a young engineer working at the Cape. He had a vision—a dream—of a world-class engineering college that would grow with the Cape and the nation's space adventure. Keuper joined with a few colleagues and made the decision to found Brevard Engineering College and its motto took hold, "to the stars through learning."

But it wouldn't be easy.

From Keuper's decision, the excitement began. On Sept. 22, 1958, nighttime classes started in "borrowed" classrooms, with all non-traditional students—commuters, already working full time, and many with families.

It wasn't easy.

And now, once again, it's time to "reach for the stars." Therefore, in this special commemorative issue of your alumni magazine, we are announcing the launch of the public phase of the comprehensive campaign. The silent phase of the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech is completed with more than half of our \$50 million goal already met.

It wasn't easy.

And now we begin the public phase of the Golden Anniversary Campaign with the intention of celebrating the successful completion of "50 for 50!" It's grand and somewhat daunting but ambitious plans demand ambitious goals.

And it won't be easy.

It will however be well worth the effort as we start our second 50 years of amazing success.

As alumni, here's where our stewardship role and pride come into play. Make a gift to the campaign. Restrict it to a scholarship, an endowment, to bricks and mortar, initiate your own named scholarship or one in the memory of a loved one, think long term with a planned gift, initiate an annuity for lifelong income, make a gift of stock or property or choose from many other options to benefit your alma mater while providing tax benefits to you. Or, make an unrestricted gift. These resources go where the need is the greatest and most urgent at the time of your gift.

Here's another way to help. Identify decision-makers at your place of work, graduates or non-grads, who may make a corporate gift to the campaign. Open the door to these influential colleagues and provide contact information to the professionals in the Office for Advancement.

Present and future generations of students are counting on us to deliver. Let's join together and celebrate the special meaning of our 50th anniversary and the successful completion of the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech.

Again it won't be easy but so what? It's certainly not as difficult as starting a university!

Go Panthers! ... 50 for 50! ... "To the stars through learning!" ... Ad Astra! ... Jim Downey

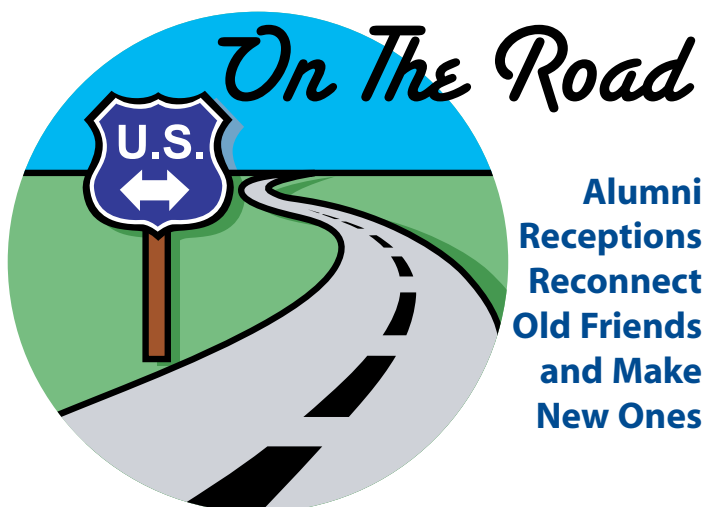
On Campus Reception



Dean Thomas Waite held a brief gathering of engineering alumni in the F.W. Olin Engineering Complex lobby in December 2006. Left, Allyn Saunders '76, '80 M.B.A., '83 M.S. chats with Frank Leslie, adjunct professor of marine and environmental systems, and President Anthony J. Catanese.

Center, Mary Fox (center) hears about DeAnna Pierce's educational plans. Also pictured, Deanna's dad, Dale Pierce '76.

Right, Melanie Keuper, daughter of founder Jerome P. Keuper, returns to the campus where she grew up. She is pictured with Sara Catanese.



Alumni Receptions Reconnect Old Friends and Make New Ones

Miami



Of the approximately 40 people attending the Miami alumni reception were, from left, Kevin Abergel, development associate; (no name available); Brian Hollenbeck '90; Edward Cheng '95; Thomas Waite, dean of the College of Engineering; and Charles Cheng '90. Frank Cheng '91 also attended.

Orlando



Top left, Senior Vice President for Advancement Tom Fox visits with Andre '03 and Angela Coulter.



Bottom left, Kenny Patterson '05 and Michelle Burke put their heads together for a nice picture.



Richard '06 M.S. and Patricia Gordon look ready for a fun evening.

Alumnus Helps Keep Helicopters Flying

Travis Massa '05, a native of Western Kentucky, was looking for a way to pay off his college loans and earn a living. Never did he imagine he would become an Army civilian and then volunteer to serve in Iraq.

After graduating with honors from Florida Institute of Technology, earning a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering, Massa accepted a position with the Army Materiel Command (AMC) as an AMC Army Civilian Training, Education and Development System intern in the program of systems planning, research, development and engineering.

"I have to admit that I took the job not because I wanted to serve my country, but because I was a young college graduate itching for that first paycheck," Massa said. However, it wasn't long before Massa gained a new appreciation for what his chosen

career path would mean to his country and him.

"On my first day as a DA civilian I soon understood my responsibility to fully support our soldiers as I took the oath of office. Today, it is a job which I take pride in and it is worth more than just a paycheck," he said.

Massa works for the Maintenance Engineering Division in Corpus Christi, Texas, which is part of the Aviation Engineering Directorate of the Research Development and Engineering Center at Redstone Arsenal. His division is responsible for providing maintenance engineering support to aviation maintenance activities throughout the world. One of their largest customers is the Corpus Christi Army Depot which is the Aviation and Missile Lifecycle Management Command's overhaul facility for Army helicopters and components.

"Our division also staffs liaison engineers throughout the U.S. and OCONUS (outside the continental



Travis Massa

U.S.) to provide direct engineering support to Army aviation units. Since 2003, our division has staffed an engineer in Balad, Iraq, to handle any request coming from Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

In 2006, the Maintenance Engineering Division created an assistant liaison engineer position and Massa volunteered. "On Sept. 11, 2006, I arrived at Camp Anaconda in Balad, Iraq, as the assistant liaison engineer. Exactly five years after the 9/11

continued on page 54

Bill Jurgens, Still Enthusiastic After All These Years

After almost 38 years at Florida Tech, legendary crew coach and Director of Athletics **Bill Jurgens** has lost none of his enthusiasm for either the sports program or the university.

In 1969, soon after graduating from Jacksonville University, Jurgens moved to Melbourne for an unpaid position as Florida Tech's rowing coach. The job provided a room at the Anchorage and the opportunity to get up at 5 a.m. every day to work with the rowing team before he left to teach at Central Junior High School. After school, he would return to coach individuals.

Jurgens was a member of the Vesper Boat Club's varsity eight in 1974 that

competed in the Grand Challenge Cup at the Henley Royal Regatta in England, and also that same year he rowed the pair-with-coxswain event in the World Championships in Lucerne, Switzerland. In 1980 Jurgens was selected as the head coach for the National Lightweight Rowing Camp that competed in Hazewinkle, Belgium.

Jurgens relates that when he came on board as rowing coach, **Bob Dunlap** and **Ray Work** furnished him with the parameters by which he still abides: "Florida Tech wanted me to excel and wanted the programs here to excel. The university then, as now, also had limited resources

in achieving that excellence, but they wanted it to happen."

So, Jurgens made it happen.

The first year his team won its first five races. In 1972, Florida Tech became one of the first colleges in the state to have a women's rowing team. By 1974, the men's varsity eight captured first place in the Florida State Rowing Championship.

Jurgens became director of athletics in 1976 while continuing to coach rowing. In 1982, the team won its first Varsity Eight National Championship as well as the combined overall award at the Dad Vail Regatta in Philadelphia. To this day, no other team from the South has won the Dad Vail Varsity Eight.



Bill Jurgens, center, pictured in 1982 with the rowing team that won the Men's and Women's Overall Trophy at the Dad Vail Regatta.

Presently Bill Jurgens serves on the following boards and committees:

NCAA Women's Rowing Championships Committee, Member

Sunshine State Conference Finance Committee, Chair

Sunshine State Conference Sportsmanship Committee, Chair

Sunshine State Conference Marketing Committee, Chair

Dad Vail Regatta Board of Trustees, Member

After winning the men's overall in both 1986 and 1987 and the combined overall in '87, Jurgens relinquished his rowing coach position.

He credits several people along the way who helped make things happen. One was soccer coach **Rick Stottler**, who won two national championships for the university.

Other coaches of particular note that Jurgens recalls were **Tim Wakefield's** baseball coach, **Les Hall**; **Tom Foliard**, who had the highest winning percentage of all men's basketball coaches; and **John Reynolds**, who coached the women's basketball team to four Sunshine State Conference Championships and five regular season championships.

Jurgens says he is particularly proud of winning the Men's All-Sport Champions Award for 1991–92.

Over the years Jurgens has become philosophical about his job. He says, "We're very blessed in America that our colleges have athletic teams. Sports teach young adults values. Those values, combined with their education, serve these young people well throughout their whole lives.

"What I mean by values is determination, sacrifice, teamwork, a positive attitude and cooperative relationships. I also mean persevering through adversity because they can strive for a reward at the end. The reward is gratifying, but the striving together as a team is the most meaningful experience.

"I think these are the reasons why you have sports."

Joan Bixby '75 M.S.

The Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech

The Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech is the single most ambitious undertaking in the university's 50-year history. Our goal, \$50 million, is the largest ever for a Florida Tech campaign, and each of the university's six colleges will benefit. This is an extraordinary time to be a part of the Florida Institute of Technology family.

Special Campaign Section



Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

It's my privilege to announce the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech. Under way now and scheduled to conclude in September 2009, this \$50 million campaign will help transform Florida Institute of Technology from a good American institution to one of America's great universities.

When you think about it, Florida Tech has accomplished an extraordinary amount in a very short time. Founded in 1958 with an initial donation of 37 cents and launched by a bold dream, the university has grown well beyond what our founders could have dared hope. Today, Florida Tech is coming of age as an established university, and the goals of our campaign reflect its maturing character.

When I was the CEO of Harris Corporation, we were driven to build upon past successes with an eye toward brighter tomorrows. As chairman of the Florida Tech board of trustees, I feel the same way about this university. We stand today with a terrific opportunity to make a second great leap forward, building on the momentum of the gifts from the F.W. Olin Foundation and others over the last 10 years.

During this campaign, we will focus on building the resources and infrastructure that will allow us to compete with the top universities in the world for both faculty and students. Growth in scholarships, fellowships and faculty chairs will enable the university to compete for great minds on a global scale. New facilities will give those students and faculty excellent places to live, teach and learn.

Inside these pages, you'll learn more about the priorities of the campaign, and the people who have already decided to make a difference in the lives of today's students and the generations to come. You'll also learn how you can join them, by taking advantage of a naming opportunity for a new building, establishing a scholarship, joining a giving society or by making a contribution to the annual fund. Everyone can make a difference. Everyone can help build on the terrific vision of Florida Tech's founding pioneers.

Looking forward to your help,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Phillip W. Farmer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Phillip W. Farmer
Chairman, The Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech



“The Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech is the single most ambitious undertaking in the university’s 50-year history. Our goal, \$50 million, is the largest ever for a Florida Tech campaign, and each of the university’s six colleges will benefit. This is an extraordinary time to be a part of the Florida Institute of Technology family.”

With these words, Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese heralded the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the university. The wide-ranging Golden Anniversary Campaign will, over the next two-and-a-half years, bring dramatic change throughout the campus and at Florida Tech’s sites around the country.

“The Golden Anniversary Campaign at Florida Tech is all about the university’s transition to a new era,” said Catanese.

Florida Tech Campaign Chairman Phillip W. Farmer believes this is the right campaign, at the right time, for the university.

“Florida Tech has reached a key stage in its development as it prepares for its 50th anniversary,” said Farmer. “All organizations pass through several stages—formative, struggling, growth and maturing. Florida Tech is now an established university, with excellent faculty, students and facilities. But we must begin the maturation process and become the great university that we want to be.”

For Farmer, this campaign is all about choices.

“The Golden Anniversary Campaign is the answer to the question: What’s the next step? To make this next step, Florida Tech must have the resources to meet its wishes,” said Farmer. “By the end of the campaign, I expect that we will be able to make some choices. What choices we make are not that important; we need to have the ability to make those choices that in turn make a difference.”

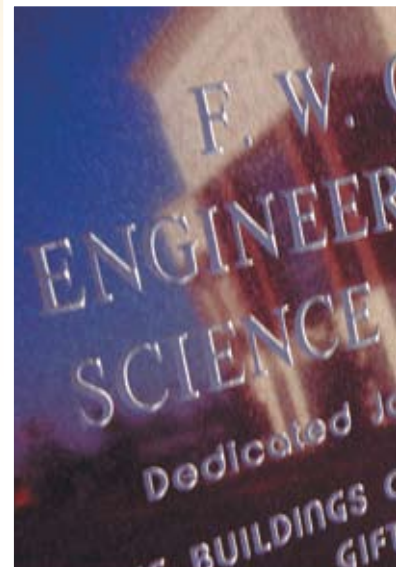
Some of the choices will focus on new scholarship and fellowship recipients, and hiring decisions to fill new faculty chairs. For Allen S. Henry, former chairman of the board of trustees, these scholarships, fellowships and chairs are a vital part of the campaign.

“We’re focusing on the continuing growth of Florida Tech. We hope to grow the student body by 1,200 as part of the 10-year plan,” said Henry. “In order to do this, we must grow our scholarships, faculty chairs and facilities. You can’t just grow one; you have to grow them all together in balance.”

Florida Tech’s last campaign was a transformational one for facilities. Thanks to the generosity of the F.W. Olin Foundation, new state-of-the-art facilities for engineering, life sciences, physics and chemistry dot the landscape of south campus. A donation from Florida Tech trustee Charles Clemente made possible the recreation center that bears his name and the name of his late wife, Ruth.

These four buildings, along with the baseball, softball and soccer complex at the southern end of campus, dramatically changed the character of Florida Tech’s physical campus. Now, more changes are in the offing with the Golden Anniversary Campaign.

Thomas G. Fox, senior vice president for advancement, said these four buildings raised the standard for construction on campus.





“The Golden Anniversary Campaign will generate bricks and mortar projects that will allow us to build on the infrastructure created by the F.W. Olin gifts,” said Fox. “The new facilities we have planned for this campaign will lead to more research funding and help the university attract the best and brightest students and faculty.”

Several new facilities have already been funded during the quiet phase of the Golden Anniversary Campaign. The College of Aeronautics and F.I.T. Aviation will soon welcome the Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Research and Education. The \$5 million Buehler Center, already under construction, will feature a 12,000-square-foot instructional facility and a 14,000-square-foot hangar on eight acres at the southern end of Melbourne International Airport.

A new building for University College will soon be under construction. Made possible by a \$10 million gift from educational entrepreneur Nathan Bisk, the new building will allow Florida Tech to dramatically increase its offerings in lifelong learning.

For athletics, two new facilities will be sought. The National Rowing Center on Canal 54 in Fellsmere would provide Panther rowing teams with a world-class competition facility. It will serve as the home course of the Keuper Cup and Governor’s Cup regattas.

Also new will be a \$5 million boathouse and conference center on the Indian River Lagoon. This new building will provide space for the rowing teams, as well as conference and seminar facilities for the Colleges of Engineering and Business.

In addition, naming opportunities exist for three new residence halls, a dining facility, a natatorium and diving well. While these facilities are being built through university funding sources, donations will be sought to offset these costs.

While many of the campaign’s early gifts climbed high into the six and seven figures, there’s an important role to be played by every Florida Tech alumnus and friend.



Future University College building



Future National Rowing Center



Naming opportunities exist for three new residence halls

"In every campaign, 85 percent of the money raised will come from individuals," said Fox. "With planned giving and opportunities like the Florida Tech Legacy Society, the money builds over time, and even an average donor can have a major impact on the institution."

For Farmer, also chairman of the board of trustees, the heart of the Golden Anniversary Campaign is to better the lives of Florida Tech students.

"There is no requirement for our alumni and friends to give to this campaign," said Farmer. "We want each of our donors to feel a sense of satisfaction that they have contributed to something that has the capability to make a very real difference. That's what this campaign is all about."



THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN FOR FLORIDA TECH

Strategic Goals

FACILITIES:

College of Aeronautics and F.I.T. Aviation

College of Business

Research and Classroom Buildings

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

University College

Boathouse and Executive Conference Center on the Indian River Lagoon

Textile Arts Gallery

International Cultural Center

*Naming Opportunities for New Residence Halls,
Dining Facility, Natatorium*

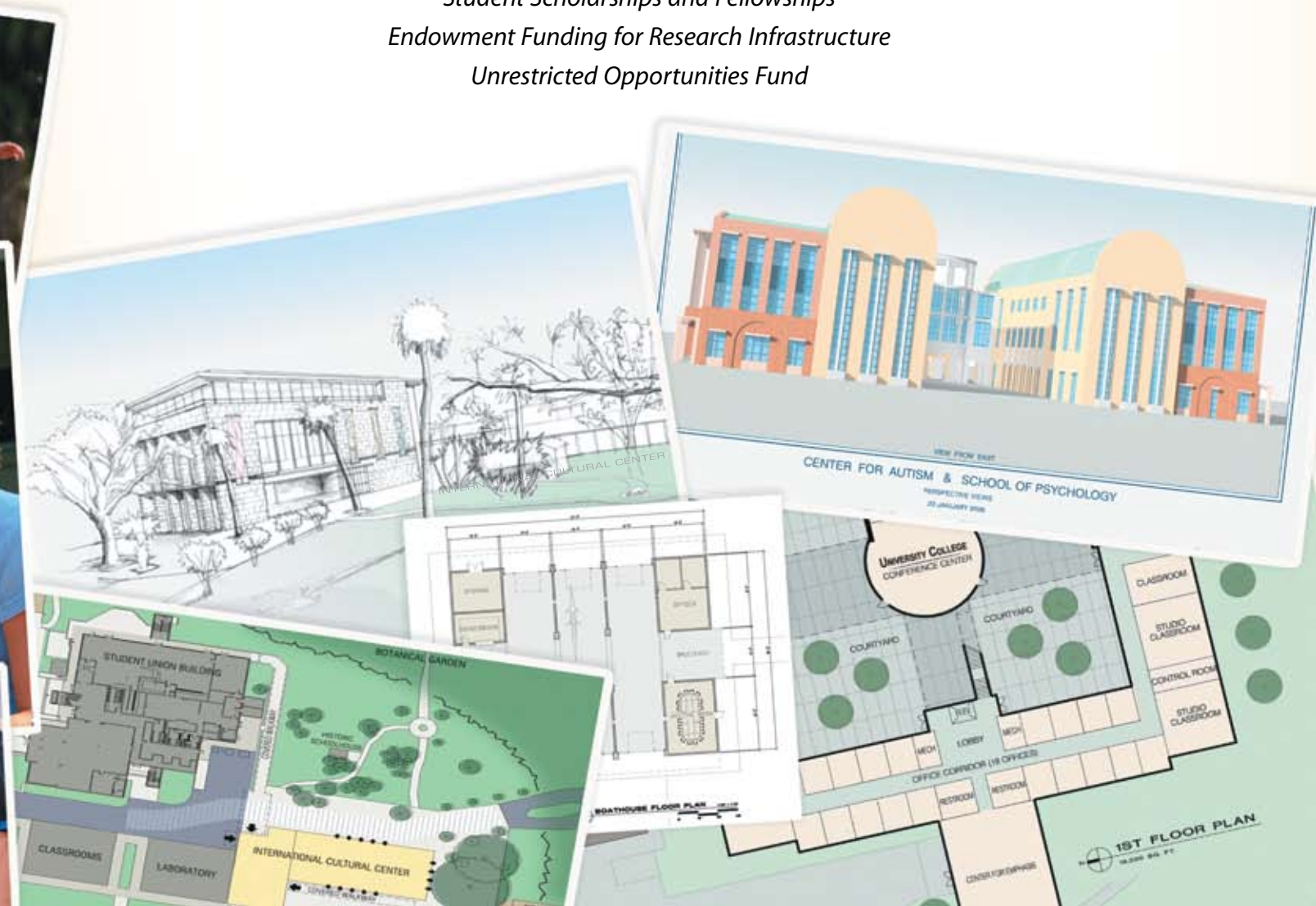
GROWTH IN THE ENDOWMENT TO MORE THAN \$50 MILLION:

Faculty Support including New Endowed Chairs

Student Scholarships and Fellowships

Endowment Funding for Research Infrastructure

Unrestricted Opportunities Fund



Unparalleled Experiences, Unbelievable Students

Undergraduate research opportunities are a staple of a Florida Tech education. It's what distinguishes our university and helps us attract the best and brightest scholars for a journey of lifelong learning.

Chemical engineering major Jerry Buhrow, a junior from Ripon, Wis., is one such shining star in Florida Tech's galaxy of outstanding students. Buhrow embraced his opportunity at cutting-edge research from his first days on campus.

Buhrow's research involves scanning tunneling microscopy (STM) of molecular monolayers. STM is a revolutionary technique invented in 1982, which allows the direct observation of atoms and molecules. As a second-semester freshman, Buhrow made the first ever STM observation of tryptanthrin molecules.

"I have always been interested in what things are made of," said Buhrow. "To be able to actually see the atoms and molecules that make up the things we use in everyday life was an opportunity I could not pass up."

He recently co-wrote a paper in the scientific journal *Surface Science* discussing his findings. His work, supported by the National Science Foundation and the Florida Solar Energy Center, is a collaboration with professors Joel Olson, Clayton Baum and Mark Novak.

"I absolutely love being here at Florida Tech," said Buhrow. "I have been given opportunities that I would never have dreamed of elsewhere. And I plan to continue my education further and attend graduate school—something that didn't cross my mind before coming to Florida Tech."

Contributions to our capital campaign help Florida Tech continue to attract promising students like Buhrow. Florida Tech is also committed to building a dynamic experience in every facet of student life from residence halls to recreational activities. This campaign supports Florida Tech's growth on a universal scale—enhancing the resources that help attract and retain the best students for an unparalleled educational experience.







Illuminating Studies, Luminous Faculty

Planetary lightning, cosmic rays, space weather and the human exploration of space are some of the showiest aspects of Florida Tech's space sciences curriculum. They are in the capable hands of the faculty of the Geospace Physics Laboratory (GPL) group. These department of physics and space sciences faculty members concentrate their research on space phenomena within the solar system. Also well-known for stunning grant-garnering success, the six brought in 61 percent of their department's external funding, or \$6.8 million last year.



Pictured above, faculty Ming Zhang, Niescja Turner, Hamid Rassoul (founder, former director 1991–2006), former astronaut Sam Durrance, Ramon Lopez and Joseph Dwyer (current director) lead the programs for students who want to pursue space-related careers.

It's a given that students experience hands-on, resume-enriching research. Students design space missions or space instrumentation and analyze observations from current NASA spacecraft, such as ACE (Advanced Composition Explorer), Wind and Ulysses. They measure solar energetic particles and the impact of solar eruptions on the geospace environment and observe X-rays from lightning discharges.

In the GPL, the flash, dazzle and zap! is sometimes in the laboratories. It's always in the faculty.

And through the Golden Anniversary Campaign, Florida Tech can ensure our dynamic faculty remain and grow with the university. Campaign contributions will support endowed chairs—recognizing that stellar faculty is key in attracting excellent students and building a world-class university.

Masterful Minds, Revolutionary Research

Born in the age of exploration during man's race for space, Florida Tech still embraces the joy of discovery and a dedication to remarkable research.

In the chemistry department, Joshua Rokach investigates chronic inflammatory diseases through funding provided by the National Institutes of Health. One current program in his laboratory involves isoprostanes. These byproducts of free radical damage to lipids and fatty molecules were discovered in human urine by Rokach and his collaborators.

Free radicals cause toxicity in the body and attack body tissues. Rokach's research utilizes an innovative technique to measure the level of isoprostanes in body fluid, which then is used as an index of free radical damage in disease states—work which has received a U.S. patent.

Florida Tech graduate students enjoy the distinctive opportunity to share in groundbreaking research like this. Chemistry doctoral student Namin Kang is pictured here reviewing thin layer chromatography results with Rokach. Kang's research focuses on the total syntheses of biologically important molecules for the development of synthetic probes designed to identify and isolate enzymes and receptors.

The Golden Anniversary Campaign will support such research and other endeavors to increase Florida Tech's presence as a world-class research university—building a dynamic program that supports faculty excellence and encourages student innovation. Currently, funded research within the university's six colleges totals \$35 million. Other active investigations include examining the origin of lightning, producing and purifying hydrogen and harnessing that resource for fuel cell performance, improving understanding and treatment for autistic children and adults, creating and deploying artificial reefs, and implementing computer security solutions.

An expanded commitment to undergraduate research is a principal goal over the next decade, providing all undergraduate students at Florida Tech the opportunity to work on funded research projects. Generous support of this campaign today—through investments in infrastructure, equipment and facilities—will help make this long-term commitment a reality ... inspiring the discoveries of tomorrow.







DECK

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Reaching Out with Words and Deeds

President Anthony J. Catanese believes that American higher education is based on a tripod of teaching, research and service—each leg equally strong. As a result of this commitment to service, he made Florida Tech a certifying organization for the (U.S.) President's Volunteer Service Award. In spring 2006, two student organizations won it as did the Division of Student Affairs staff. One staff member, Sara Mayer, individually volunteered 723 hours.

But, Florida Tech takes service further. It goes out to the community through mentor-partnerships, research studies, free courses, free lectures and free concerts.

Faculty John Trefry (left) and John Windsor coordinated the on-campus 25th Anniversary of the Future of the Indian River System Symposium in 2006, 25 years after presenting the first one. The two have persevered all those years, continuing research on this vital, nationally significant estuary.

The university offers state-of-the art facilities, technical training courses, professional enrichment and networking opportunities, free of charge, through the National Center for Small Business Information.

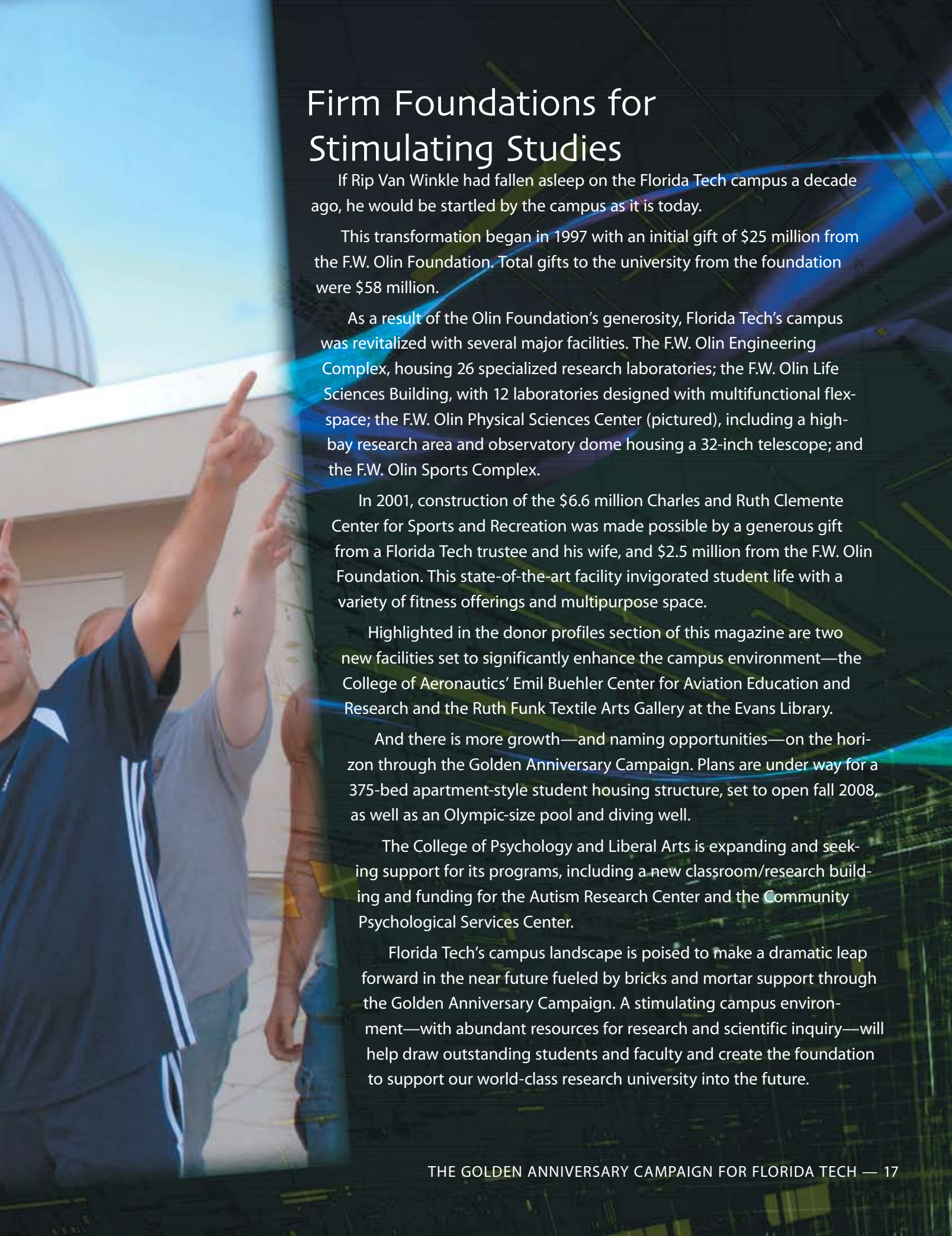
The Integrated Science Teaching Enhancement Partnership (InSTEP) earned a second \$1.7 million, three-year grant from the National Science Foundation in 2007.

Brainchild of Richard Tankersley and John Windsor, the program creates curriculum and teaching tools for high school integrated science teachers around Florida as well as a free public science lecture series. Additionally, the university collaborates with the Brevard Zoo on Science Café Chats led by Florida Tech faculty.

Add to this free humanities and astronomy lectures, a textiles gallery and programs, a beautiful, public botanical garden and numerous concerts during the year through WFIT radio.

The third—service—leg of the tripod is quite sturdy indeed, and the generosity of our friends and supporters, through gifts to this campaign, ensures its strength remains.





Firm Foundations for Stimulating Studies

If Rip Van Winkle had fallen asleep on the Florida Tech campus a decade ago, he would be startled by the campus as it is today.

This transformation began in 1997 with an initial gift of \$25 million from the F.W. Olin Foundation. Total gifts to the university from the foundation were \$58 million.

As a result of the Olin Foundation's generosity, Florida Tech's campus was revitalized with several major facilities. The F.W. Olin Engineering Complex, housing 26 specialized research laboratories; the F.W. Olin Life Sciences Building, with 12 laboratories designed with multifunctional flex-space; the F.W. Olin Physical Sciences Center (pictured), including a high-bay research area and observatory dome housing a 32-inch telescope; and the F.W. Olin Sports Complex.

In 2001, construction of the \$6.6 million Charles and Ruth Clemente Center for Sports and Recreation was made possible by a generous gift from a Florida Tech trustee and his wife, and \$2.5 million from the F.W. Olin Foundation. This state-of-the-art facility invigorated student life with a variety of fitness offerings and multipurpose space.

Highlighted in the donor profiles section of this magazine are two new facilities set to significantly enhance the campus environment—the College of Aeronautics' Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Education and Research and the Ruth Funk Textile Arts Gallery at the Evans Library.

And there is more growth—and naming opportunities—on the horizon through the Golden Anniversary Campaign. Plans are under way for a 375-bed apartment-style student housing structure, set to open fall 2008, as well as an Olympic-size pool and diving well.

The College of Psychology and Liberal Arts is expanding and seeking support for its programs, including a new classroom/research building and funding for the Autism Research Center and the Community Psychological Services Center.

Florida Tech's campus landscape is poised to make a dramatic leap forward in the near future fueled by bricks and mortar support through the Golden Anniversary Campaign. A stimulating campus environment—with abundant resources for research and scientific inquiry—will help draw outstanding students and faculty and create the foundation to support our world-class research university into the future.

Supporting Scholarships, Realizing Dreams

Bill Morris '87 died 15 years ago when the helicopter he was piloting malfunctioned. His mother, Margaret Plum of Boston, Mass., thought it a fitting tribute to return to the place where her son spent so much time and loved so much—Florida Tech. She was one of several donors who attended the scholarship reception held in their honor Feb. 15.

Morris loved flying and he loved training others to do the same. He graduated from Florida Tech with a bachelor's in aviation management flight option, and then taught flying for the next four years. He left Florida Tech and was selected for officer's training with the Air Force the following month when tragedy struck. He accomplished a lot in 26 years, but still had so much to offer. The Bill Morris Advanced Flight Scholarship was established by his family and friends to give others a chance to do what he loved.

Since 1992, Morris' family and friends kept the scholarship going. Plum decided to reach out to Morris' former students and classmates after receiving a letter from a scholarship recipient's parents last year. The letter expressed gratitude for giving their son, Ryan Plumeau '06, the opportunity to achieve his dream of flying. It just happened to arrive on the same day that Morris died 14 years earlier. "The letter was very moving. It gave me my answer that we should publicize the scholarship to keep it growing in order to offer it to more students," Plum said. "I could not believe the letter was mere coincidence.

"He was tough on himself and expected the best of his students," Plum said. "He shunned publicity. He preferred to be in the background—to be the wind beneath his students' wings." Plum considered these traits before she decided to publicize the scholarship last year. "I think this captures his spirit and he would be pleased to use his name for this effort."

Pictured here, Plum got a chance to visit with Plumeau, a two-time recipient of the Bill Morris Advanced Flight Scholarship, at the scholarship reception. Plumeau graduated in December with a bachelor's in aviation management flight option. He had already taken a commercial flying job in Houston, Texas, but returned to Florida Tech to meet Plum. She noted her son and Plumeau were both captains of the Falcon Flight Team. "For many of these fine people, this would not be possible without help," Plum said. "It could be a turning point in their lives."

Scholarships, such as this, are indispensable in helping Florida Tech students achieve their dreams. Generous contributions to the Golden Anniversary Campaign will help build these invaluable resources.

KURLA HALL
AERONAUTICS





College of Aeronautics

Tell us about the College of Aeronautics.

The College of Aeronautics is recognized as one of the top university-based aviation programs in the nation. The programs and faculty have earned an international reputation for excellence in the education and preparation of aviation professionals. The college is responsible for graduate and undergraduate programs in the aeronautical sciences, aviation management, pilot/flight crew, computer science, meteorology, airport aviation management and development, human factors, and aviation safety.

Kenneth P. Stackpoole, Dean

What will be your focus during the Golden Anniversary Campaign?

The campaign is already bearing fruit for the College of Aeronautics with the funding of the Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Education and Research at Florida Tech. This new \$5 million facility will be located on eight acres at the Melbourne International Airport. We hope to build upon this excellent foundation with the construction of housing for flight students, summer program participants and flight instructors at the center. To make our flight training program even stronger, we plan to raise the funds to modernize our fleet of training aircraft and simulators.

Many students enroll in the college not wanting to fly, but to work in the aviation industry. How will the Golden Anniversary Campaign meet their needs?

We plan to modernize the Air Traffic Control Laboratory, enhance the equipment for the Airport Design and Development Laboratory, build a new Airline Operations Lab and Dispatch Center, and upgrade our existing Center for Aviation Human Factors.

Is scholarship funding a priority for the campaign?

We hope to add to existing or create new endowed scholarships to assist our

undergraduate students. We plan to add endowed fellowships for graduate student research and an endowed chair for faculty.

Do you have any other priorities set for takeoff during the campaign?

I would be remiss if I did not mention our intention to find funding for a new Advanced Aircraft Systems Lab and endowed support for our Falcons Flight Team.



College of Business

Tell us about the College of Business.

With its focused commitment to management of technology and operating technology-oriented organizations in both local and international environments, Florida Tech's College of Business is transforming the way business students and business professionals compete in the global marketplace. Partnering with world-class technology professionals and internationally renowned business scholars, the College of Business connects a culturally diverse student and faculty population with business and technology leaders who are helping to shape the global markets of today and tomorrow.

Robert H. Fronk, Interim Dean

What is the main priority for the college during the Golden Anniversary Campaign?

Our primary need in the college is new classroom and office space. Toward that end, we plan on raising the funds for the creation of a new building that will provide the college with a central location.

As you mentioned, the college continues to attract excellent new faculty. How will the campaign help this process?

We plan to raise endowment funding in two key areas. First, we hope to underwrite our excellent Center for Ethics

and Leadership. Second, we hope to further strengthen our faculty with endowed chairs in global business and business technology.

Are there other priorities for the college?

Given our large graduate student population, we hope to dramatically increase the number of endowed fellowships to ease their financial burdens.



College of Engineering

Tell us about the College of Engineering.

The College of Engineering was Florida Tech's first college, and is still the university's largest, with more than one-third of all enrollees in a College of Engineering program. We offer programs at all levels, from baccalaureate through postdoctoral, and work hard to serve the greater good through a dynamic approach to higher education that merges traditional values in teaching, research and professional service.

Thomas D. Waite, Dean

How can a donor best serve the needs of undergraduate students in the college?

We really need to have mainline funding for our most important component of the undergraduate experience: the Senior Design Project. Today, students are required to do their own fundraising for each individual project, and this is done on a year-by-year basis. We hope to build a large endowment for these projects so that this critical and unique undergraduate experience is properly funded in perpetuity.

Are there also plans to help build opportunities for graduate students?

Absolutely. The primary limitation to growth in

graduate student enrollment is lack of fellowship support. For the college to continue to develop its status as a world-class research center, it's important to build the fellowship endowment. In this way, we can continue to attract the best and brightest engineering minds to Florida Tech.

As you enter the campaign, what do you see as the strengths of the college?

While that's like being asked to name your favorite children, I'd say that our departments of mechanical engineering and electrical engineering are really strong. That's why we are going to be raising money for endowed chairs in these departments during the Golden Anniversary

Campaign. Creating these chairs will elevate these departments to an elite academic status.

Are there any other major needs for the college?

We'd like to build a state-of-the-art student design fabrication facility. The current support facilities for the senior design projects limit our students' ability to create high caliber projects that can be nationally competitive. That's the bottom line, really, on all of these things. We're looking to take the next step for our students and our faculty. With the help of our alumni and friends, I know we'll succeed.



College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

Tell us about the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts.

Building new programs that address societal needs and interests in art and music, the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts has doubled its enrollment in the past five years. From its distinctive forensic psychology major to its communication program focused on technical fields, the college prepares students for careers of the future.

Mary Beth Kenkel, Dean

The School of Psychology has long had a strong Doctor of Psychology program. Tell us about the other graduate programs in psychology.

The graduate programs in behavior analysis, clinical and industrial/organizational psychology prepare researchers and practitioners dedicated to improving the functioning of individuals, families and organizations. We're proud to have a very strong program in industrial/organizational psychology, ranked among the very best in the nation, as well as nationally renowned applied research in autism.

Community outreach is a large part of the college's mission. How

do you hope to support this outreach through the Golden Anniversary Campaign?

Our highest priority during the campaign will be the construction of a new 24,000-square-foot facility for autism treatment and research. With this new facility, we will be able to help local children and families cope with the effects of autism, while adding greatly to the body of knowledge through applied research.

The arts are growing by leaps and bounds at Florida Tech. How will you nurture these new programs during the Golden Anniversary Campaign?

We hope to provide funding for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships to help us recruit talented students in these new academic fields. The construction of the Ruth Funk Center for Textile and Fiber Arts will be a significant addition to the campus and give these fledgling programs an important boost.

What other needs are you focused on during the next two and a half years?

We would like to develop funding for a new classroom building, as well as new endowment funds for our humanities lecture series.



College of Science

Tell us about the College of Science.

The College of Science is the second largest on campus in terms of students, but with nearly 50 percent of the university's current grants and contracts, our faculty members fuel Florida Tech's research engine. Included in the college are departments of biological sciences, chemistry, physics and space sciences, mathematical sciences, and science and mathematics education.

Gordon L. Nelson, Dean

What are the strengths of the faculty in the College of Science?

Nearly a third of Florida Tech's faculty members are in the College of Science. They are outstanding teachers, leading to an excellent retention rate among our students. Faculty members also conduct cutting-edge research in fields ranging from the ocean's depths to the far reaches of the solar system.

What does the college need to grow its research capabilities?

During the Golden Anniversary Campaign, we are focused on funding two new buildings that would go to the heart of our research goals. First, we hope to fund and build an interdisciplinary

research facility that would dramatically upgrade our ability to conduct multimillion dollar research across the spectrum of sciences. This would truly be a transformational gift for the college. Second, we are planning a facility for our marine sciences and aquaculture research. This building would augment the work being done at our Vero Beach Research Facility, and give our outstanding marine biologists the tools they need to pursue powerful new research opportunities.

In what other ways can donors to the Golden Anniversary Campaign help the college reach its ambitious research goals?

This campaign gives donors a wonderful opportunity

to make a difference in the research efforts of our faculty and students by providing funding for cutting-edge instrumentation.

Finally, what are the other needs of the college?

We continue to seek funding for undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships and endowed faculty chairs. This funding will enable the college to attract top students and faculty to our halls.



University College

Tell us about University College.

University College focuses on preparing students for work in the global society. We provide nearly 30 percent of the total academic enrollment at the university by offering 37 master's degree programs at our 10 off-campus sites and through distance learning. As part of our outreach to the community, the college also offers consulting, applied research and professional development for business and governmental partners.

Clifford Bragdon, Dean

What is University College's main priority for the Golden Anniversary Campaign?

We hope to construct a new building for University College in the heart of campus. This new facility would include a multimedia auditorium for conducting and presenting professional development programs, symposia and conferences. Also included in the building would be additional classroom space for Florida Tech and office space for University College administrators who are currently spread across campus.

How will the campaign serve the 10 University College sites away from campus?

We plan to create multi-media classrooms for each of the Extended Studies sites. These classrooms will connect to the University College network.

Community outreach plays a large role in the University College. In what way will the campaign help enhance this vital part of the college's mission?

We plan to build a state-of-the-art facility that outside clients in the public and private sector can use for strategic planning and team building exercises.

A Future for Athletes to Cheer About



The Florida Tech athletics program has come a long way. Now, in the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech, the university is asking donors to step up to the plate to take it further to meet three priority needs.

Florida Tech razed the former, unsafe boat house on its Crane Creek property in 2006 to make way for a modern, two-story, multifunctional facility. This is priority number one.

The new, creek-side Melbourne boat house is expected to cost about

\$5 million. It will offer space to rowing team members for meetings and to videotape and evaluate their performances. All university-owned shells will be stored here, where rowing teams will be able to train comfortably indoors in any weather and stay at the top of their sport.

“Nationally recognized athletes with the success and tradition of the Florida Tech rowing teams deserve a quality boat house. Accommodating this need has been high on my list since I arrived at Florida Tech,” said President Anthony J. Catanese.

The multipurpose structure will also house an executive conference center where the university may host alumni gatherings, special lectures and offer space to the College of Business’ Executive M.B.A. program.

Rowing is also the subject of the second priority—the National Rowing Training Center. To be located at Canal 54 in Fellsmere, its price tag will be about \$3.2 million. Initially, this facility should be funded by gifts. Usage fees will support ongoing maintenance.



Priority number three is the Athletics Field Lighting Project. "This is a critical need," said Director of Athletics Bill Jurgens, "and we have already begun fundraising."

Lighting the baseball, soccer and softball fields will cost an estimated \$850,000. The light project will allow greater flexibility in avoiding athletics class conflicts for practices. Lights will extend the time available for playing games delayed by inclement weather conditions. Third, lights are expected to increase fan and sponsor support by students and the community at night games.

"When we added lights to Rick Stottler Field around 1990, there was an immediate impact on the level of support for the soccer team. The attendance grew from 50 to more than 500 spectators on a regular basis," said Jurgens.

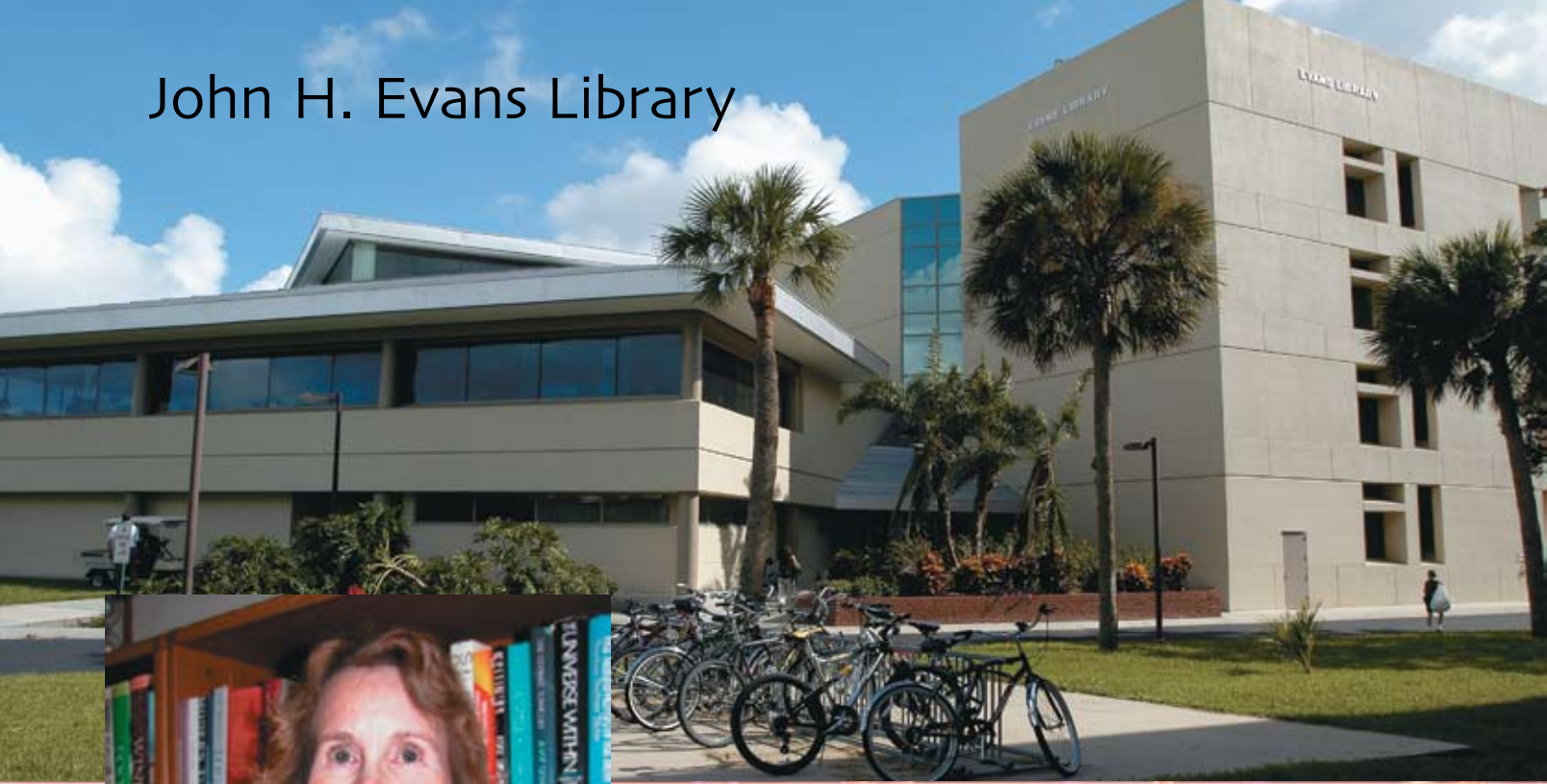


Lighting the baseball, soccer and softball fields will cost an estimated \$850,000.



Architect's rendering of the new, creek-side Melbourne boat house

John H. Evans Library



Celine Lang, Dean of Libraries

Tell us about the Evans Library at Florida Tech.

The Evans Library was dedicated in 1984 and serves as the intellectual and cultural heart of the university. Designed by the architectural firm Skidmore, Owings and Merrill and renowned architect James DeStefano, the library building is an important campus and community landmark.

How does the library serve the campus community?

The library offers research and instruction services onsite and houses collections relating to engineering, space, physics,

biology, aeronautics, business, psychology, humanities and the arts. Overcoming artificial limits of time and place, the library provides our students access, from anywhere in the world, to information resources from around the globe.

What needs will Evans Library be focused on meeting during the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech?

We plan to raise funds for a transformation of the interior of the library building as befits a premier university research library of the 21st century. Projects include a grand space for research, study, teaching, exhibitions and cultural events; a café; multimedia classrooms; and special collection spaces.

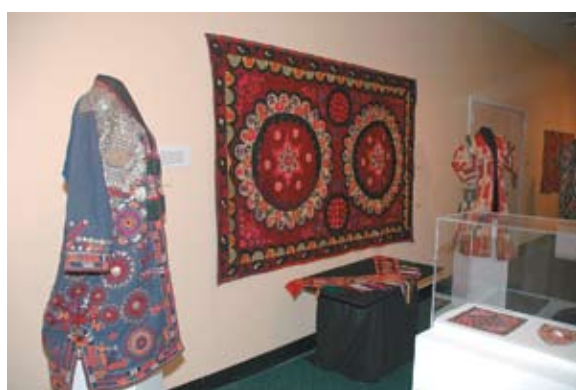
How can the campaign help the library as it transforms itself in an information age?

We plan to raise funds to help us develop current and new collections of electronic information resources. Included in this vision is the creation of an endowment for special services, projects and collections.

Ruth Funk Enhances Fabric of Florida Tech



President Anthony J. Catanese publicly thanks Ruth Funk.



An exhibit of items from the Ruth Funk Textile Collection.

Some people give gifts. Others, by their continuing generosity, are gifts. One of these special people is expert and philanthropist of the textile arts, Ruth Funk. She first began her relationship with Florida Tech in 2003 when she heard of the Dream Weavers textile arts display to be mounted on campus.

Since her exhibit at that first show, Funk has given to the university. And given and given.

The artist, teacher, therapist and international collector first donated hundreds of items of kaleidoscopically colored ethnic textiles and wearable art from around the world, and jewelry and cultural artifacts of artistic and historic value. She also enriched the Evans Library's holdings of art and design material by almost 500 volumes. The books, collected over a lifetime, encompass needlecrafts, clothing, folk art, ornamentation, art history and jewelry.

Funk has inspired, led and supplied the raw material for several events and programs. Her collection has made possible a fashion show of wearable art, a Central Asian textiles exhibit at a local art museum and “Traditional Textiles of India,” the first exhibit in the on-campus Funk Textiles Gallery.

She funds the annual textiles program, Uncommon Threads, which brings to Florida Tech international experts in the textile arts. This includes a free lecture and fundraising luncheon symposium with exhibits and entertainment. Last February, Mattiebelle Gittinger, research associate for Southeast Asian textiles at The Textile Museum in Washington, D.C., came to present “Cloth that Speaks: The Intricate Roles of Indonesian Textiles.”

Funk’s generosity has made possible Florida Tech’s first textile course, “History of World Textiles,” as well as the annual Ruth Funk Visiting Professor

in Textiles. The first, Christel Baldia, an expert in the use of colorants in Native American prehistoric textiles, taught Native North American Textiles in spring 2007.

But, in fall 2006, Ruth really put the beads on the collar, the appliqué on the pocket and the trim on the hem. She announced a \$1.25 million gift to the university for a textile arts museum. With an additional \$250,000 from the university, plans are now under way to make what will be the only textiles museum in Florida a reality.

“Ruth is truly an inspiration because of her creativity, passion and energy,” said Carla Funk, director of special projects (no relation). “I’ve also learned a lot from her—not just about the textile arts but also about the rewards of collecting art and sharing it through philanthropy.”

Two of a Kind: Farmer, Henry Make Scholarships Their Legacy

Allen Henry and Phil Farmer both enjoyed remarkable careers, serving as captains of industry and chairmen of the Florida Tech board of trustees.

Along the way, Farmer was the CEO of Harris Corp., while Henry was the CEO of Broadband Communications Products Inc. And both say that college scholarships were critical to their success.

That’s why both men donated \$500,000 to the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech. Their gifts will fund undergraduate scholarships, making a Florida Tech degree possible for future generations of students.

“The only way I could have gone to college was with scholarship help,” said Farmer. “If I can help even one person come to Florida Tech who could not afford to do so otherwise, it’s a form of repayment that warms my heart.”

Henry tells a similar story about his college education.

“My higher education was largely self-supporting,” said Henry. “Scholarships and student loans were a big part of that. I also worked a lot. Scholarships were most important for me at the undergraduate level.”

Their gifts will create scholarships for as many as five or six Florida Tech students each year. Henry



Allen Henry and Phil Farmer

and Farmer both believe that a strong scholarship base will make Florida Tech an even better university.

“Scholarships are at the very heart of making the resources available to students who are qualified,” said Henry. “We need a robust scholarship base to succeed in our fundamental mission of attracting and teaching the best in science and technology.”

“The quality of a university is measured by the quality of its students, and scholarships provide a significant way to attract the best and brightest,” Farmer said.

One important strategic goal for the Golden Anniversary Campaign at Florida Tech is the establishment of new scholarships and further funding of existing ones. For Farmer, building the base of scholarship money is at the core of what the campaign is all about.

“The ultimate strength of any university is its students, who become its graduates. We can make a difference in their lives by providing needed scholarships. It’s the best way of giving back.”

Legacy Society Ensures Future Gifts

When Linda Vopicka’s husband, Ronald ‘68, passed away in 2001, she decided on two ways to honor his memory. To celebrate his sense of whimsy and love of sports cars, she refurbished his dream car, a 1967 Porsche 911 that had sat in their garage for 23 years waiting for the perfect time to be rebuilt. She gave the car to her son when it was finished.

“I did this because the university meant so much to him and I think his years there were a pivotal time in his life. This was a way to remember him and honor him.”

Linda Vopicka

This was a way to remember him and honor him,” she said.

Linda is not alone in her gift to the Legacy Society. Founded in 2004, the society has grown to more than a dozen members who have pledged over \$8 million to Florida Tech. Thomas G. Fox, senior vice president for advancement, said the actual

“But it’s still here at my house (in West Florida),” she said. “My son, Charlie, lives in Montana and ‘Porsche’ doesn’t like the cold.”

And the other way of honoring Ronald and preserving his legacy as a Florida Tech alumnus, was to make a pledge in her will to the university that he loved. Her gift to the Legacy Society will help future generations of students to achieve their academic goals as Ronald did.

“I did this because the university meant so much to him and I think his years there were a pivotal time in his life.



Linda Vopicka, left, shows off her husband Ronald's refurbished dream car to Elaine Taylor from advancement.

number of alumni and friends who have remembered Florida Tech in their wills may be much higher.

“We know that the national average for alumni who give to their alma mater via a will bequest is 14 percent,” said Fox. “Remarkably, 80 percent of those who leave a gift to their university don’t tell the institution.”

One legacy member, Ruth Funk, determined that her planned bequest to the university might be better sooner than later. In 2006, she announced a \$1.25 million gift to the university for a textiles museum, which will soon become a reality.

If you plan to leave a gift to your alma mater and wish to be noted as a member of the Legacy Society, please contact Beverly Sanders at sanders@fit.edu or call (321) 674-6155.

Reaching for the Stars—Anonymously

Sometimes a worthwhile project must capture the interest of several entities to be completed. Back in 2004, the university obtained National Science Foundation (NSF) funding to build a 24-inch telescope atop the newly completed F.W. Olin Physical Science Center. Terry Oswalt, head of the astronomy program, thought that was pretty great.

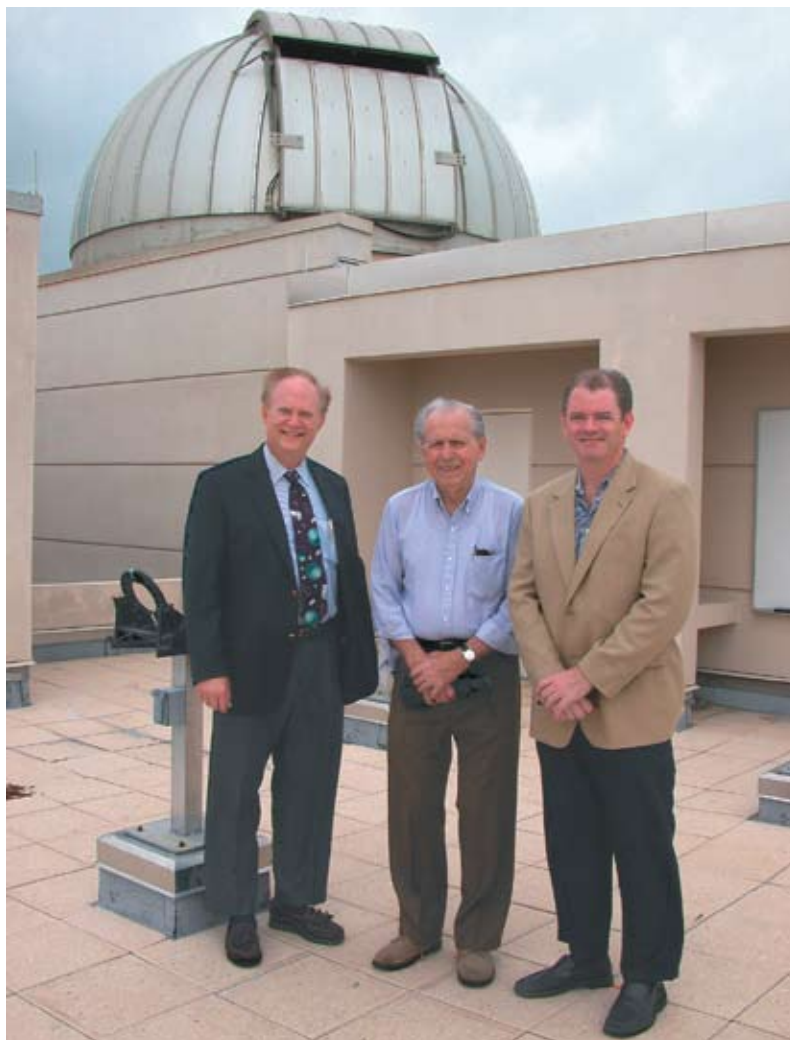
But, what would be even greater, he envisioned, would be a 32-inch telescope. “This would allow us to collect nearly twice the amount of light. Also, the increased size would allow faculty and students access to double the number of objects in space as a 24-inch telescope.” But this dream would require \$150,000 more.

Among those sharing Oswalt’s enthusiasm was Melbourne Beach resident Jim Ortega, who had retired from the University of Virginia to Florida in 1998. Ortega and his wife, Sara, stepped forward with the needed \$150,000—*anonymously*. This made possible what will be, when installed by this summer, the largest research telescope in Florida, to be named the Ortega Telescope.

“I always wanted to be an astronomer,” said Ortega, who earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from Stanford University. “I began my college education as a physics major and I never lost interest.” Since retirement, he has done considerable reading in astronomy and astrophysics and has sat in on a Florida Tech astronomy class.

At Virginia, Ortega had been, among other things, Charles Henderson Professor and chairman of the departments of applied mathematics and computer science. He had been visiting the department of mathematical sciences at Florida Tech since the 1980s and helped it prepare a successful NSF proposal in the early 1990s.

Ortega remained anonymous for more than two years after he made the donation. He and Sara allowed their contribution to be known only after



Terry Oswalt, Jim Ortega and Matt Wood in front of the telescope dome.

much prodding from the university. “I was planning to go public when the telescope is dedicated, but when Terry asked me to do this story, I decided that now was the time,” he said.

An anonymous gift like the Ortega’s is an example of one way to make a contribution—privately.

“Some people want to remain anonymous forever and this is fine,” said Thomas G. Fox, senior vice president for advancement. “It’s not necessary to be named to help realize a dream.”



The Emil Buehler Trust Helps Elevate the College of Aeronautics to New Heights

Emil Buehler (1899–1983) was an aviation visionary, architect and engineer who left a lasting legacy to aviation science and technology. During his lifetime, Buehler believed that the majesty and mystery of flight was a vision to be shared. Today, it is that vision that continues to drive the philanthropic involvement of the Buehler Trust, established in 1984 to perpetuate Buehler's memory.

At Florida Tech, the Buehler Trust's generosity will initiate a renaissance in the College of Aeronautics. Through a \$1.5 million grant, work will begin this year on the Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Education and Research. This \$5 million facility, comprised of a 12,000-square-foot main building and a 14,000-square-foot hangar, will be located on eight acres on the south side of the Melbourne International Airport. In addition to flight training, students and scientists will enjoy state-of-the-art research centers in human factors and simulation research and take advantage of valuable hands-on opportunities in the growing aeronautics field.

"We're delighted that the Emil Buehler Trust placed its trust in us to build upon a strong tradition of educating our remarkable students in the College of Aeronautics," said Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese. "This new center will provide the aeronautics students with the strength of resources that our students in engineering and the sciences now take for granted."

The center, which is estimated for completion in spring 2008, will serve approximately 275 students each semester. It will be instrumental in helping to recruit the best and brightest students, while also advancing Florida Tech's profile within the aviation community.

Thanks to the Buehler Trust, Florida Tech aeronautics students will enjoy a top-notch research and learning environment and honor the memory of their facility's namesake as they share in his vision and his passion for flight.



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Faculty Contribute Resources to Florida Tech

Members of Florida Tech's faculty contribute greatly to the university's success, not only through their work, but through financial donations. More than two dozen faculty members have donated to the university for 15 or more consecutive years. Three of those long-term supporters shared their thoughts on why they continue to give.

Randy Alford, associate provost for graduate and international programs, is excited about Florida Tech and wants to do what he can to ensure its continued success. "We're getting better every year," Alford said. "When I retire, I would love to look back and say I was a part of Florida Tech's success."

Alford joined Florida Tech in 1983 as an associate professor in humanities and communication and has donated to the university for the past 20 years. He donates to the library, scholarships and various student causes.

Gordon Patterson, humanities and communication, voiced similar thoughts.

"Donating to the university is an act of friendship for the future. Many of our students will be shapers of that future." Patterson also donates to scholarships and the library. He's been doing this for 15 years.

One reason Richard Turner, biological sciences, donates financial resources to the university is to recognize

outstanding people who have made Florida Tech what it is today. "The strength of the university is conveyed through its people," said Turner who has taught biology at Florida Tech for more than three decades. "I appreciate all those who have maintained and built the university."

Turner donates primarily to the library and the Dr. Kerry Bruce Clark Endowed Scholarship in Marine Biology. "Kerry was an incredible character," Turner said. "He was one of the founders of Florida Tech's marine biology program." Donating to the Kerry Clark scholarship is Turner's way of recognizing his former colleague's contributions. Turner has donated to this scholarship and the library for the past 20 years.

"Giving back is an investment for future generations. It pays dividends years later."

— *Randy Alford, associate provost for graduate and international programs*



Randall Alford, Gordon Patterson and Richard Turner are among more than two dozen faculty members who have donated to the university for 15 or more consecutive years.



Giving Societies

The Galaxy Society

When it comes to learning, there is no final frontier. The possibilities for enlightenment and discovery remain as limitless as space itself. But if there is one lesson history teaches us about all legendary explorations and great discoveries, it's that it takes resources to fuel innovation.

That's why membership in Florida Institute of Technology's Galaxy Society is so important—and rewarding. These special patrons who contribute \$1,000 or more in unrestricted funds each year to Florida Tech are helping to lay the foundation today for the exciting discoveries of tomorrow, next year and decades to come.

The Galaxy Society consists of Florida Tech's most elite group of donors who give at least \$1,000 to the university over the course of one fiscal year. There are three levels of the Galaxy Society:

- ◆ Andromeda \$1,000–\$2,499
- ◆ Centaurus \$2,500–\$4,999
- ◆ Hercules \$5,000 +

Members receive invitations to all university functions and all publications from Florida Tech, including the alumni magazine, *Florida Tech TODAY*. They are also given special recognition in the annual Honor Roll of Donors.

Ad Astra

Ad Astra is a lifetime giving society that consists of individuals who have given a minimum of \$10,000 to Florida Tech. Ad Astra members receive the same benefits as Galaxy Society members as well as other special recognition.

The Legacy Society

Individuals who have remembered Florida Tech through estate planning via a will, trust arrangement or insurance policy compose the Legacy Society. Members of the Legacy Society also receive Galaxy Society benefits.

For more information about Florida Tech's giving societies, contact Rosalind Weiss, director of annual giving, at (321) 674-6849 or rweiss@fit.edu.

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• **Florida Tech Online Community**

Register online and search for former classmates, post résumés, look for new job opportunities, receive a permanent e-mail forwarding account and more. Visit www.fit.edu/alumni and click on Alumni Online Community.

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• **Vacation Rental Properties**

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• **American Insurance Administrators**

Offering a full line of insurance products such as short-term health insurance and long-term health care policies. Call (800) 922-1245 and mention the Florida Tech Alumni Association.

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• **Alumni Endorsement Grant**

Full-time undergraduate students are eligible for a \$1,000 grant, renewable for up to four years, when referred by a Florida Tech graduate.

• **Legacy Grant for Children of Alumni**

Sons and daughters of Florida Tech graduates, enrolling in a full-time undergrad program at Florida Tech, are eligible for a \$2,500 award, renewable for up to four years.

Alumni Membership Application

Please sign me up for membership in the Florida Institute of Technology Alumni Association.

Membership Levels:

- | | | | |
|--|------|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Annual Membership | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual LIFE Membership | \$500 |
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| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend LIFE Membership | \$1,000 |

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1976

Paris Michaels, current doctoral student in the College of Aeronautics, was recognized for holding a world aviation speed record over a commercial air route in excess of 6,500 km. Michaels broke the former record when clocked at 990.57 km./hr. while flying an Airbus 330-300 on a Philadelphia-to-Rome flight.

1978

Steven Stein, M.B.A., was recently honored as the second recipient of the Robert E. Bathen Award by the Orlando office of management consulting and engineering firm R.W. Beck Inc.



1980

David Anderson, M.S., had his first novel, *Kingdom Come*, published by Zumaya Publishing. It is the first in his Sorcerer Series, and more information can be found at www.davidlynnanderson.com and amazon.com. He and wife, Jane, live in Melbourne, Fla.

1984

Russell Mosher teaches biology, anatomy and physiology, as well as coaching basketball, baseball and soccer, at Livonia Central School in Livonia, N.Y. He and wife Sharon are parents to two daughters, Kirstie Lynn, 12, and Corrine Elizabeth, 11. Classmates can reach Russell at SRMo1121@aol.com.

1986

Michael Sole was appointed to the position of secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by Gov. Charlie Crist. He has been with the agency more than 16 years.

1987

Joseph Namour '91 M.B.A. and wife Jennifer own a commercial printing and publishing company, Gulf Coast Printing, in Fort Myers, Fla., that was recently awarded the designation of "#1 Printer in North America" by the National Printing Association. They have three children, Danielle, 13, Jesse, 12, and Bethany, 10. The family can be reached at joe@gulfcoastprint.com.



1988

John Rosseland is a hazardous materials specialist for Hamburg-Sud North America in Morristown, N.J. He and wife Mary Kate and their son can be contacted at jrosseland@optonline.net.

1989

Michael Banks is employed as a security guard for Pinkerton Government Services in East Granby, Conn.

1994

Robert Freeman, M.S., now serves as Mayor of Van Buren, Ark. A retired U.S. Army lieutenant colonel, he is now vice president and branch manager for Citizens Bank & Trust. He and wife of 30 years, Terry, have two children, Sarah, who attends law school at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and David, who attends the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

Leonardo Ferrari, M.S., is brewmaster/part owner of Antares, located in Mar de Plata, Argentina.

1996

Omer Poroy, M.S., has been promoted to the position of navigation business unit leader at Teledyne RD Instruments in Poway, Calif.

1997

Michelle (Boehmke) Fillingim is a GIS Specialist at Alan Kropp & Associates, a geotechnical firm in Berkeley, Calif. She and husband Matt have two children, Kiara and Drake. They can be reached at michelle_fillingim@yahoo.com.

Miguel Torres is president of Cosmo-Musical Productions and Entertainments in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He and wife Veronica have three children.

1998

Dan Deppen '02 M.S. and wife **Jennifer (Kolhoff)** '04 M.S. are parents to Emma Clair, born June 2006. The family resides in Erie, Colo.



1999

Dennis Lorenson received his discharge from the U.S. Army after 7 1/2 years of active duty service. He is now a first officer with NetJets Aviation in Los Angeles, Calif.



Send us your news!

www.fit.edu/alumni/ftaaform.html

Steve Medeiros completed the Idaho Ironman Triathlon in 16 hours, 40 minutes and 25 seconds.

2001

Jose Andrade was recently named a new Face of Civil Engineering by the American Society of Civil Engineers. He is an assistant professor at Northwestern University, department of civil and environmental engineering.

2002

Ellis Christian is a U.S. Air Force Senior Airman who recently graduated from the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Technical Training School at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C. Graduates serve as ceremonial guardsmen in ceremonial functions in the D.C. area and around the world. He is the son of Ellis and Judith Christian of St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

2003

Daniel Heath is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program at Ohio State University.

2004

Mark Heavner is a graduate research assistant at West Virginia University in Morgantown, W.V.

2005

Heather McQuillen reports that she passed her FE (fundamentals of engineering) exam recently. She is presently employed as a project engineer with Jenkins, Stanford & Associates in Destin, Fla. She can be reached at hmcquillen@jsaengineering.com.

2006

Alejandro Osorio is currently working for Schlumberger in the western coast of Africa in Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea.

Lisa Stapleton is a chemical engineer in the explosive detection section for the Naval EOD Technology Division in Indian Head, Md.

IN MEMORIAM

Donna (Kochanowski) Shannon '84 passed away in December 2006 in Georgetown, Texas. After a successful engineering career, she attended Texas Culinary Academy, graduating as the valedictorian in 2002. She is survived by her husband, Christopher '80 and son, Robert. Memorial contributions may be made in her honor at Heifer Project International online at www.heimer.org.

Welcome New Panther Cubs



Miranda Wilson, daughter of *Florida Tech TODAY* Editor Jay Wilson, poses in the latest Florida Tech attire. If you'd like a T-shirt for your favorite Panther Cub, please contact the alumni affairs office and we'll ship you one right away. Then send us a photo and we'll include it in a future issue of *Florida Tech TODAY*.



Herb Raybourn '89, '91 M.S. and wife Christina welcomed Theresa in August 2006. They have two other daughters, Rebecca, 4, and Victoria, 2. The family lives in Kissimmee, Fla.



Douglas DiCarlo '94, and wife Annabelle announce the birth of Camille, born in November 2006. The proud parents continue to plan and design airports for competing consulting firms and live in Christmas, Fla.

Calling all Panther Cubs!



Congratulations on your new arrival! If you've recently welcomed a new Panther Cub to your family, contact us for your **free infant T-shirt**. Your only obligation is to send us a photo of your baby wearing the shirt—we will proudly display it in this section of *Florida Tech TODAY*.

Email hrosskam@fit.edu to receive your shirt.



Tanja (Sluzenski) Glynn '97, '99 M.B.A. and husband Damien welcomed their daughter, Fiona Nel, in December 2006. Fiona has a brother Dylan, 2. Both parents work at Rockwell Collins where Tanja is a senior financial analyst and Damien is a senior reliability/safety engineer. The family resides in Indialantic, Fla.



Kelli (O'Donnell) Butler '03 and husband Michael welcomed Akayla Rain in December 2006. Kelli is a stay-at-home mom and a dog trainer, and Michael works as a police and personal protection K-9 trainer and restaurant manager. Akayla has a half sister, Serenity, 3. The family resides in Palm Bay, Fla.

“SAVE THE DATE” EVENTS | HELD ON CAMPUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

April

- 27—Astronomy & Astrophysics Public Lecture Series: “Invisible and Inaudible Universe,” 8 p.m.
- 29—Jazz Goes to the University, 3 p.m.

May

- 4—Commencement Celebration
- 5—Spring Commencement
- 9—Alumni Reception, Chicago
- 11–12—Alumni Reception, Dad Vail Regatta, Philadelphia

June

- 5—College of Engineering’s Capstone Classic Golf Tournament
Turtle Creek Golf Club, Rockledge, Fla.
- 19—Alumni Reception, Seattle
- 20—Alumni Reception, Los Angeles
- 21—Alumni Reception, San Diego

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.

Professional Development Programs and Seminars
Visit <http://uc.fit.edu/pdp/programs.html>

continued from page 9

attacks, I landed in a foreign country to help support the Global War on Terror. Never in my wildest imagination would I have thought that I would be in Iraq five years after those devastating attacks.

“As a civilian, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity to go to a war-stricken country and provide direct support to soldiers fighting the war on terror,” Massa said.

Massa’s service overseas has been in keeping with that of his fellow AED employees who served before him. “I have the greatest respect for Travis and his willingness to volunteer for this critical assignment,” said Kevin Rees, maintenance engineering division chief. “He is serving as the tip of the spear for AED and is delivering outstanding engineering support to the flight line in a very hostile environment.

“Massa’s duties in Iraq have him working at least 12 hours a day, seven days a week to accomplish the mission. Life here at Camp Anaconda is intense and our work is demanding because of the sheer number of Army helicopters in Southwest Asia. There is only one thing that you have to focus on here and that is your work. Your food is taken care of and your clothing is always the same: desert camouflage uniforms,” Massa said.

Despite the long hours, or maybe because of them, he feels proud to be part of something bigger than himself. “I feel that this job is important and worth the intensity. Supporting the soldiers and the Global War on Terror is a privilege and an honor,” Massa said.

The AMC internship is a two-year program in which Massa was hired as a GS-7. After one year he became a GS-9 and at the end of the program he will be promoted to DB-3. In addition to his duties on the job, Massa is to complete Defense Acquisition, Leadership and SPRDE courses both online and onsite as well as other local training

Merv Brokke, AMRDEC public affairs



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There is an Opportunity for Alumni in the Golden Anniversary Campaign.

Generally regarded as the father of American rocketry, Dr. Werner von Braun, called our university, "Countdown College." We ask you to count down together a new launch as the university continues to be recognized as one of the top technological universities in the world.

Being alumni and trustees of this great university, we're proud of the education we received and the preparation it gave us for the challenges we face every day. Those college days are still fixed in our minds and hearts as we consider our college experience from time to time.

Now, it's our turn to reconnect with our history and to add to the university's success! With a new passion, we embrace the legacy of our pioneers, professors emeriti and alumni. As trustees, our responsibility is to ensure that the future vision of our alma mater responds to the global challenges that lie ahead preparing student to exceed expectations!

Compared to other universities, ours is young in years yet rich in history. Our first five decades have elevated the university in the eyes of the world of science and business, and the next five years will ensure our place in academia.

We look back on our history with great pride and at our institution for what it has become. Just as the first 50 years has been exciting, the future holds even more potential. Florida Tech continues to be visionary and innovative.

What began with a 37 cent gift is now a \$50 million campaign in celebration of our first 50 years as a university.

As the public phase of the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech launches, join us in supporting our university as it continues on its destiny to become one of the top 10 technological universities in the world. As we've done in the past, together, we can make a difference. Your financial support will make history.

Ad Astra Per Scientiam!

Bino Campanini '90 B.S. Business Communications, '92 M.B.A.

Human Resource Management

Joe Caruso '73 B.S. Management Science,

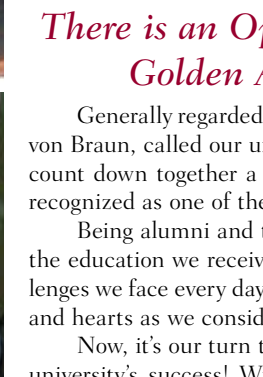
'75 Business Administration

Dale Dettmer '71 M.S. Electrical Engineering

Henry Heflich '73 B.S. Electrical Engineering

Ken Revay '82 B.S. Mechanical Engineering

Jim Thomas '72 B.S. Mathematical Science



A special request—call the university's Development Office at (321) 674-8962 if you know of any other organizations that may have an interest in supporting our university's Golden Anniversary Campaign.



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