

Florida Tech TODAY

A magazine for Alumni and Friends of Florida Institute of Technology

WINTER 2013



GREEN DREAMS
**A CHILDHOOD
DREAM OF
PLAYING
PROFESSIONAL
GOLF JUST
GOT REAL**

DANIELA IACOBELLI '09

**DISCOVERING THE
HIGGS BOSON**
UNLOCKING THE EXISTENCE
OF THE GOD PARTICLE

IN THIS ISSUE
ENVISIONING A PASSWORD-FREE WORLD
U.S. DIPLOMAT MAKING A DIFFERENCE
UNDERSTANDING INFORMATION OVERLOAD

President's Perspective

Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

Hard to believe that 2013 is here! This will be a very special year in the life of your university, as FIT celebrates its 55th anniversary.

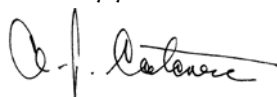
What a journey it has been from 1958 ... the tube and transistor days of early space flight to the 21st century era of cloud computing and space commercialization. But as the old adage goes, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Founding President Jerry Keuper and a small circle of colleagues established this institution to educate and innovate. We have never lost sight of those initial ideals, and today's faculty and staff remain committed to what we call "high tech with a human touch." This means our students earn the best internships, work alongside professors who are also respected researchers and, perhaps most importantly, get good paying jobs in their fields after graduation.

I hope that you'll let us hear from you in 2013. We'd love to receive an alumni note from you for the magazine—your career news, family update—we want to remain connected with you in 2013 and beyond.

Best wishes for a wonderful year.

Sincerely yours,



A.J. Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP
President and Chief Executive Officer



**"Best Homecoming
in history. Next year
even better."**

President Anthony J. Catanese

*See more Homecoming
photos starting on page 16.*

Florida Tech TODAY

<http://today.fit.edu>

Florida Institute of Technology
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Anthony James Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
T. Dwayne McCay, Ph.D.
VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS Wes Sumner

Florida Tech TODAY is published three times a year by Florida Tech's Office of Marketing and Communications and is distributed to over 50,000 readers.

MANAGING EDITOR/DESIGNER Judi Tintera, jtintera@fit.edu
EDITOR Christena Callahan, ccallaha@fit.edu
ASSISTANT EDITOR Karen Rhine, krhine@fit.edu
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Christena Callahan, Bino Campanini, Daniela Iacobelli, Ryan Jones, Lisa M. Onorato, Karen Rhine, Maria Sonnenberg, Jake Synder, Ronny Vatalaro
PRODUCTION Rob Gribbroek, Kristie Kwong
WEB LAYOUT Joshua Culver
CIRCULATION Ali Faisal
PHOTOGRAPHY Mike Bolger, Mike Brown, Jeff Daughtridge, Amanda Stratford, Symetra Tour/Scott A. Miller

ALUMNI OFFICE

ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR ALUMNI RELATIONS
AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Bino Campanini '90, '92 MBA (321) 674-8434,
bcampanini@fit.edu
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Diane Deaton '10 MBA (321) 674-7198, ddeaton@fit.edu
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Marjorie Beckett '98, '08 MBA
(321) 674-7642, mbeckett@fit.edu
ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT OFFICER Stevie Pursell '12 MBA
(321) 674-6826, spursell@fit.edu
ALUMNI RELATIONS COORDINATOR Hazel Rosskamp
(321) 674-7190, hrosskam@fit.edu

HOW TO KEEP IN TOUCH

Florida Tech, Office of Marketing and Communications, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901-6975 (321) 674-6218, Fax (321) 674-6399, fltechtoday@fit.edu

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High Tech with a Human Touch™

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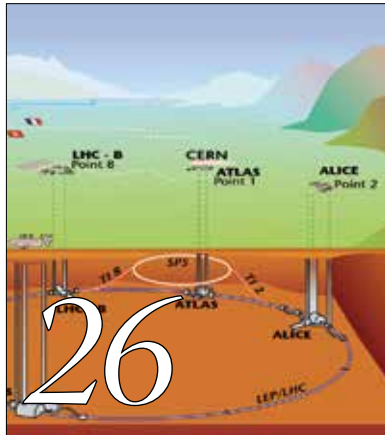


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Cover: Green Dreams



Feature: Discovering the Higgs Boson



U.S. Diplomat Making a Difference

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Daniela Iacobelli's childhood dream of playing professional golf just got real. Get her inside perspective on her road to the LPGA Tour.

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On the cover: Daniela Iacobelli during the final round of the Daytona Beach Invitational at LPGA International on Sept. 30, 2012. Photo credit: Symetra Tour/ Scott A. Miller

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Alumni Association

Alexis Loo '75 President
Pasadena, MD
alexislloo@msn.com

Allyn Saunders '76, '80, '83 Vice President
West Melbourne, FL
allynpar5@aol.com

Jim Herdt '92 Treasurer
Chelsea, AL
jimherdt@msn.com

Penny Vassar '98 Secretary
Anderson, SC
pvassar@fit.edu

Dean Smehil '74 Member-at-Large
Silver Spring, MD
dlsmehil@aol.com

Palma Young '76 Member-at-Large
Villa Rica, GA
psyoung@comcast.net

Find expanded coverage,
photos and videos at:

today.fit.edu

Feedback From Our Readers

Welcome to the "Mailbag" section, "Two Cents," where we publish reader feedback to Florida Tech TODAY. Response to our recent readership survey indicated you would like to see a return of this section. Dwindling correspondence prompted its retirement, but we are happy to revive it and welcome your input on the magazine. *Have a comment or opinion you'd like to share? Email us at fltechtoday@fit.edu.*

Who Are These College Players?

"Wow, what a 27-year Blast to the Past," says **Jeremy Dick '88**. He, along with **Marisa Correll Hueckel '87** (who directed "Soon to be a Major Motion Picture" and was a cast member of "Plots," though not photographed here) identified the following thespians, which were corroborated by several other respondents.

Left to right they are: **Bob McLamb, Rebecca Meyers, Paul Swann, ?, Joy Shearer, Jeremy Dick, Michael Dube, Chip Prester, Karen Whitehead, Brenda Carey, Mike Stickles, ?, Michele LoDestro, Michael Weaver, Larry Moore**. The two unidentified cast members are likely **Edwina Valdez** and **Jeannette Albiez**. Dick admits, "Yes, I still had the Playbill squirreled away."



What's Our Name?

I enjoy reading *Florida Tech Today*. Keep up the good work.

Some years ago I remember receiving notice that Florida Institute of Technology was changing its name to Florida Tech University. I and my fellow 1979 graduates grumbled about this but moved on. Now I notice that both names are used. The new football uniforms sport Florida Tech while playing on a field with FIT banners. So what is the school name? Do graduates receive diplomas reading Florida Institute of Technology or Florida Tech?

Diana Stoneberger Sotis '79

Editor's Note: The formal name of the university is Florida Institute of Technology, or Florida Tech for short. Earlier this year, the FIT logo was approved for use by all the university sports teams and joins the Panther logo that adorns athletics activities and merchandise. Florida Tech online education is administered under the heading Florida Tech University Online. All graduates of Florida Institute of Technology, whether in Melbourne, at our extended campuses or online, receive a diploma from Florida Institute of Technology.

Hot Topic

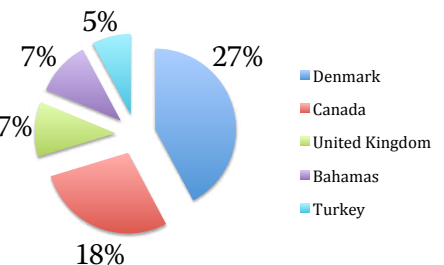
Most viewed article from the online edition of *Florida Tech TODAY*:

Surf Therapy

605
HITS

Global Appeal

The top five countries for international traffic to the fall issue were:

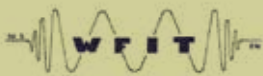


To Dr. Anthony J. Catanese,

I wanted to thank you for the positive experience my family and I had at this year's fall commencement and express my delight at the progress Florida Tech has made over the last 12 years. This was my family's second graduation they have been able to attend, and on both occasions, the school has been gracious enough to provide VIP seats. Both my fiancé and I are proud to be alumni of such a fine institution, and her recent graduation with a master's in science education is an example of both the fine benefits you provide to your employees and an institution of higher learning that is worthy of attendance.

We wish to thank you for what has been, I hope, a beneficial relationship for all of us. Best wishes to both you and your family. May you all have a happy holiday.

*Kyle B. Johnston '07 M.S.
Caroline M. Gruel '12 M.S.*



The Evolution of WFIT

From student-run radio startup to community-led alternative icon to NPR-affiliated eclectic outlet, WFIT has grown into a thriving and thoughtful voice for unbiased news, undiscovered music and uncluttered information on the Space Coast. This fall, the station moved from its humble heritage in the basement of Roberts Hall to a brand new broadcast facility adjacent to the Gleason Performing Arts Center. To commemorate this milestone, *Florida Tech Today* takes an illustrative look at the station's evolution.



1975
WFIT founded as a student-run college radio station in the basement of Roberts Hall

Mid-Late 80s
Regarded as one of the top alternative music college radio stations in the country

1993
Interconnects with the Public Radio satellite system

1995
Format changes to Smooth Jazz and station becomes a National Public Radio affiliate

1999
Power increases to 8,000 watts, extending the station's signal from Cocoa Beach to Vero Beach

2000
Studio renovation, live Internet streaming and 24/7 broadcasting

2004
First radio station on the Space Coast to broadcast in HD Radio

2006
Format changes to "Triple A" (Adult Album Alternative) with an eclectic blend of blues, rock, world, folk, electronica and roots music

2010
A \$1.57 million Public Education Outlay Grant from the Florida Department of Education initiates planning for a \$1.8 million, 6,500-square-foot broadcast facility

2012
Construction begins in February and the new facility debuts on Oct. 11. With the new WFIT Broadcast Center, the station looks forward to many more decades of greatly improved service to the community through expanded programming, cultural events and concerts.



Meet Michael Kelley

Executive Director of The Scott Center for Autism Treatment



Michael E. Kelley, Ph.D., BCBA

Michael E. Kelley, Ph.D., BCBA, joined The Scott Center for Autism Treatment this fall from the Munroe-Meyer Institute at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, where he served as director of the Severe Behavior Disorders Program in the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders. As executive director, Kelley will guide The Scott Center in its

three-fold mission of clinical service, training and research in the areas of autism and related disabilities. Kelley shared some thoughts with *Florida Tech Today* on his new role and how he spends his down time.

First impression of The Scott Center: I was very impressed with the organization of the service delivery. Specifically, The Scott Center uses a trainee model to provide clinical services. This translates to a system in which excellent doctoral-level supervisors oversee energetic, intelligent and motivated graduate students. There is an inherent positive feedback in the sense that students learn something

new every day while serving young children who are diagnosed with autism, which excites and motivates the faculty to teach even more. It is a very intellectually stimulating environment.

Favorite part of your job: My favorite part of my job is the flexibility to put my personal signature on the current operations. There are a lot of options for fulfilling The Scott Center’s mission, and I am excited to be personally responsible for how it evolves over time.

Notable achievement: I’m most proud of having been awarded the American Psychological Association’s Division 25 B.F. Skinner New Researcher Award. This is awarded yearly to someone within seven years of earning a doctorate who shows great promise as a researcher in behavior analysis.

Little known fact: I really like quiet, laid back vacations. When my wife and I lived in Maine, we spent a lot of time in New Hampshire hiking to waterfalls and simply enjoying the quiet and solitude of some of the most beautiful National Parks around.

Hobbies: Besides reading to and wrestling with my kids, I enjoy playing guitar and brewing beer.



Chief Operating Officer McCay Earns Lifetime Achievement in Technology Award

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer T. Dwayne McCay, Ph.D., was recently presented with the Lifetime Achievement in Technology Award, a congressional medal bestowed by Congressman Bill Posey (pictured above right.) The award was made at the Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida’s Second Annual TechNovation banquet.

McCay became provost and chief academic officer at Florida Tech in 2003. He was named chief operating officer in January 2011. As COO, McCay is responsible for all operating units of the university and reports directly to the president.

Keeping the Skies Safe

Florida Tech was selected by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a Center for Excellence (COE) for General Aviation. The COE will focus research and testing efforts on safety, accessibility and sustainability for the future of general aviation.

The FAA’s COE program is a cost-sharing research partnership between academia, industry and the federal government. Research and development efforts will cover a broad spectrum of general aviation safety issues, including airport technology, propulsion and structures, airworthiness, flight safety, fire safety, human factors, system safety management and weather.

“We view this honor as valuable for enhancing the reputation of the university and helpful in increasing our research opportunities,” said College of Aeronautics Dean **Kenneth Stackpoole**.

Florida Tech is also an FAA Center of Excellence for Commercial Space Transportation.

Expert Application: Cloud Computing

Cloud computing has become a mainstream mechanism for integrating our digital content with our physical location. Instead of running or storing applications in only one location, like on a personal computer, cloud computing allows users to host their applications in the cloud and access them from anywhere with a Web browser—like a mobile device or a work computer. This is the mechanism for Google's gmail, Apple's iCloud and the file sharing and storage system from Dropbox.



At Florida Tech, Professor **Scott Tilley** is harnessing the cloud for the benefit of software developers and testers. Software testing is an important part of the software engineering life cycle. It helps improve the overall quality of software products by finding errors in the code. Unfortunately, running large suites of test cases can consume considerable time and resources, which means testing is often not done properly.

Cloud computing promises efficiency, flexibility and scalability. Tilley's research on software testing in the cloud (STITC) is a new approach that leverages the power of cloud computing to facilitate the concurrent execution of test cases. The result is test cases that take minutes, rather than hours, to run.

His recent book, *Software Testing in the Cloud: Migration & Execution* (co-authored by Tauhida Parveen '05 M.S., '11 Ph.D.), explains how this work has the potential to significantly change the way software testing is done.



*Good Golly,
It's the Trolley!*

New convenience and safety rolled onto campus as two former San Francisco tourist trolleys went into operation last October.

The Gray Line and Crimson Line trolleys traverse the campus, helping faculty, staff and students get to classes and activities on time.



Career Connections

Job Hunting? Looking to connect with other professional Panthers? Florida Tech alumni have access to a variety of career-building resources.

Career Management Services: Alumni can schedule individual appointments and participate in all campus-based career events and career fairs. www.fit.edu/career



LinkedIn: Join the Florida Tech Alumni group to expand your network of Panther connections.
www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=62611&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr



Panther Career Link: Create an account with the university's main job posting system, which includes Going Global for international alumni or alumni looking for overseas jobs.
<http://fit.experience.com>



CareerShift: Access an online set of integrated applications proven to help job seekers successfully find employment. Contact Career Management Services for assistance in registering if you no longer have an FIT email address. www.careershift.com/?sc=fit

Alumni Agent: Search for jobs targeted to Florida Tech alumni at this career site dedicated to connecting employers to jobseekers from their alma mater. www.alumniagent.com

TechPoint® Training: Florida Tech Continuing Education has received a three-year grant from the Department of Labor for recruiting and training engineers in manufacturing companies in Florida's High Tech corridor. The primary goal is to place these engineers into a pipeline of workers who are familiar with advanced manufacturing processes. To learn more about this opportunity, email pdpregristration@fit.edu.

Piper Aviation Career Alliance: Piper Aircraft Inc. and Florida Tech have announced a five-year agreement to educate and provide vocational opportunities for aviation program graduates and graduates from other programs offered through the university.

ongoing arts events

I Am Nature: Paintings by Leslie Wayne
Jan. 11–March 17, 2013

Léon Herschtritt: Photography
March 23–May 12, 2013
Foosaner Art Museum
www.foosanerartmuseum.org

ReDress: Upcycled Style
by Nancy Judd
Jan. 19–April 27, 2013
Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts
<http://textiles.fit.edu>



Florida Tech's Water Polo Team Ends Season with a Splash
The water polo team completed its first season as a member of the Collegiate Water Polo Association with a win against the University of Florida Gators. The Panthers squeezed a one-point lead in the end, defeating the Gators' B-team 14 -13. From left, Travis Hunsucker, Niels Ten Cate, Alexandre Hayek, Phil Clancy, Abdurhman Ollan, Joffrey Muceli, Fabian Lopez, and coach Brandon Minnick.



Grounds for Revolution

Expected in April 2013, Revolution Technologies LLC, will move its corporate headquarters to The Florida Tech Research Park at Melbourne International Airport. The company has signed a 10-year build-to-suit lease agreement for a 17,000-square-foot facility. Revolution Technologies offers IT, engineering and professional services to over 100 of the Fortune 1000 firms and the federal government nationwide. Clients include Lexmark, McDonald's, Turner/CNN, Northrop Grumman, Deutsche Bank, John Deere and Publix.

Pilot Trainer Lands Dream in Naval Flight Program

After **Kristopher Jackson** '12 graduated a semester early last December, he joined the other cadets in Pensacola who were selected for the prestigious Naval Flight Program. Here he hopes to realize his lifelong dream to fly fighter planes for the United States military.

The son of two marines who served as air traffic controllers, Jackson would watch jets take off and land at the base in Fort Worth, Texas. As long as he can remember he knew he wanted to fly. "In the Navy, I will be flying the fastest, most powerful planes in the world ... this is what I always wanted," said Jackson.



Kristopher Jackson

He cautions that to get into the program, "You have to work really hard, and really want it." Making every effort to achieve his goal, he impressed his associate professor in the College of Aeronautics, retired Navy Capt. **Stephen Cusick**. In a glowing recommendation, Cusick said, "He is indeed head and shoulders above all other candidates."

Jackson called Florida Tech's flight program the most valuable tool in preparing him for this honor, giving him hands-on experience with flight. "I have gone from no flight experience to being a flight instructor," he said.

Now commissioned an ensign at Officer Candidate School, Jackson is ready to earn his "Wings of Gold."

Enriching Research

Many faculty members recently received "thumbs-up" on their grant proposals to begin key projects and one honored professor's success took him to the Philippines and Taiwan.

Military Cultural Training

A \$280,000 grant for Rich Griffith and the Institute for Cross Cultural Management funded study of cultures around the world and training material development. The work is to keep members of the military out of cultural harm's way when on international deployments.

STEM Studies in High Schools

The National Science Foundation provided \$225,000 in funding to Georgios Anagnostopoulos to support math teachers in underserved Brevard County high schools. By teaching image and signal processing, classroom activities will be developed to impart important mathematics and science concepts.

Kicking Up Dust

To support lunar modeling and simulation, Mark Archambault received a NASA grant of more than \$440,000. NASA needs to know the potential damage created by dust and debris scattered by the rocket plume of a lunar vehicle when it lands. Such blasting can affect nearby vehicles and structures.



Fulbright Faculty Scholar

Ralph Turingan earned a second prestigious Fulbright Scholar grant in 2012; his first was for 2005–06. The marine fish biologist is conducting ecophysical research on coral-reef fishes in the lesser known, but critical waters, between the Philippines and Taiwan.

King Crabs Poised to Invade

Two Antarctic cruises led by Richard Aronson will chart the progress of predatory king crabs moving into shallow marine waters due to warming temperatures. A second round of funding for this research into the potential decimation of the area's marine fauna is \$760,000 from the National Science Foundation.

etc.....



Science Guy Spectacular

Bill Nye, the Science Guy, visited campus in October as part of a roundtable discussion on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education at the Gleason Performing Arts Center. When asked why he chose to speak at Florida Tech, Nye began, **“Well, FIT is the greatest place in the whole world.”** Cheering and applause erupted as the scientist/engineer/comedian/author/inventor went on to explain the importance of inspiring scientific literacy in young people.



Hometown Pride

Panther pride is swelling in Brevard County. During the holiday season, an FIT Panther Pride kiosk offered merchandise and apparel to shoppers in the Melbourne Square Mall. Long-distance Panther fans can get their gear through the Florida Tech bookstore at fit.bncollege.com.

LASER Day

Inspiring the study of science, engineering and liberal arts has been the focus of Florida Tech’s LASER Day for 21 years. High school students visit campus each fall for the opportunity to observe working research laboratories and attend presentations about chemistry, engineering, the space sciences, marine biology, media, music, languages and computing.

Space Cyclers

During fall break, members of the Florida Tech Cycling Club attended the Tour de KSC, a bike tour of Kennedy Space Center to benefit the Combined Federal Campaign. The cyclers enjoyed a 38-mile ride that included laps around the launch pads, a stop at the VAB and Orbiter Processing Facility where Atlantis was being prepared for its move to the visitor complex, and a lap up and down the 15,000-foot-long shuttle landing runway.

The riders, from left: Ryan Warner, Spencer Freeman, Brian Ruh, Christopher Hansen, Wade Dauberman '12 and Seth Wofford.



YouTubular Science

Florida Tech conservation biology students are spreading a sustainable message on YouTube through a series of modern

multimedia projects that are engaging and entertaining, while carrying a serious message. View them at bit.ly/webshorts

Planned Giving

Sometimes Getting in Touch With Your Past is All You Need to Look to the Future

The Picornells both attended Florida Tech in the 1980s, but they didn't meet until about six years after graduation. Patricia graduated in 1985 with a degree in electrical engineering, and Francisco earned a B.S. in 1985, an M.S. in 1986 and an MBA in 1988. "We had a lot of the same friends, but we never met," says Pat. "We were eventually introduced by mutual friends, and just thought how funny it was that we both went to FIT."

Their fondness for the university continued through the years. Francisco served on the Alumni Board from 2002 to 2004. And three years ago, Pat earned her pilot's license. "I was running into the kids and instructors, and it really brought back some camaraderie," she recalls.

So in 2009, the Picornells decided to invest in the future of Florida Tech by sharing some of their own success. In their will, they designated the university as a beneficiary of their IRA funds.

Today, Pat is a certified financial planner and wealth advisor at UBS Financial Services. She says though some might feel overwhelmed at the prospect of putting their estate together, it's actually a pretty simple process. "Any sort of planned giving is an easy component of estate planning. And, isn't it nice to know that while alive you get to decide what happens to your stuff?"

"As we get older, it's our intention to increase our gift," she continues. "I'm so proud of what FIT has brought to the community."

Lisa M. Onorato



Florida Tech Planned Giving Opportunities

- Bequests
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Life Insurance
- Retirement Plans
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Real Estate

Planning your estate is an opportunity to transfer assets to the people and organizations you care about most, in the proper amount and with the proper timing—all in the most tax-efficient way possible. Call the Office of Development at (321) 674-8962 or visit www.fit.edu/plannedgiving for more information.



Michael Seeley Joins Office of Development

Michael Seeley joined the development team as vice president in September. He comes on board as President Anthony J. Catanese and executive staff gear up for the next capital campaign.

Seeley most recently served as executive director of development and alumni relations at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Prior to that, he was senior director of development at Yale-New Haven Hospital. In both positions, he played a major role in capital campaigns, including CWRU's \$1 billion capital campaign and Yale-New Haven's campaign for completion of the \$467 million Smilow Cancer Hospital.

Recruited by **Susan St. Onge**, senior vice president for development and chief development officer (who supervised Seeley at both CWRU and Yale-New Haven), Seeley said the university's focus on cutting-edge technology was a huge draw. "I'm a computer scientist by training, so I loved the idea of being at an engineering and technical school—I feel very at home here," he said. He has been most impressed with the university's commitment to its students. "From the senior staff to the deans and especially the faculty, the synergy between the university and its students is far-reaching. Faculty are truly excited about their work and communicating it to the next generation."

Since joining Florida Tech, Seeley has traveled around the U.S. meeting alumni. "It's been great interacting with alumni and hearing their stories and experiences," he said. Seeley admires how much the university has achieved in its 55-year history and looks forward to continuing to make Florida Tech a world-class institution that also remembers and celebrates its significant progress and explosive growth. "With how far we've come, it's hard to imagine that 60 years ago this institution simply didn't exist. I encourage alumni to come back to campus and acquaint themselves with the university and faculty. You'll be so impressed."

Seeley said there are myriad ways for alumni to help shape the future of their alma mater, from advocacy to mentoring to gifts for programs and scholarships. "Connecting someone's passions to reality here at Florida Institute of Technology and making a difference—that's the magic of this job. The satisfaction of positively impacting the lives of others, especially our students, is something I share with our donors and supporters."

"I encourage alumni to come back to campus and acquaint themselves with the university and faculty. You'll be so impressed."

Michael Seeley

Lisa M. Onorato

Donor Spotlight: George Maul

Most on campus know **George Maul**, professor of oceanography and DMES department head, by his research, educational accolades, easy smile and approachability, but he is also a generous philanthropist. In addition to being a university supporter since 1995, Maul is an active supporter of the Boy Scouts and his church—where he donates time, talent and treasure.

Partial to gifts that give in perpetuity, Maul has been critical in helping endow several Florida Tech funds. Endowments are invested, with the principal amount permanently remaining intact with the university and earnings used annually for the purposes the donor wishes. For a minimum of \$25,000, paid over an agreed-upon period of time, an endowment can be established and named as the donor wishes. For more information, visit give.fit.edu/endowments.

One of Maul's current philanthropic goals is to see the Deering-Irlandi Fellowship endowed. **Elizabeth Irlandi**, associate professor of oceanography and marine benthic ecologist, died in 2011. Beloved as both a professor and mentor, Irlandi touched the lives of many graduate and undergraduate students.

"She always had her door open to students, and she was always willing to stop what she was doing and talk to you," recalls **Nancy Sloan '05 M.S., '10 Ph.D.** "She was my encourager." For more information on the Deering-Irlandi Fellowship, visit give.fit.edu/deeringirlandi.

"The prosperity of this country depends on generosity," said Maul. "I graduated college without debt, and I'd like to help other students do the same."



George Maul provides safety instructions to students aboard the research ship Thunderforce as it leaves the Fort Pierce harbor.

Lisa M. Onorato

Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch™

10th Annual
CHOPPER DROPPER

Friday, March 15, 2013
Suntree Country Club

Grand Prize
\$50,000

XXI SPORTING affair
to benefit Panther Athletic Scholarships

Each ticket allows ONE PERSON to enjoy food and beverages at the Sporting Affair Cocktail Reception!

For a donation of \$100, you can have a BALL and a chance to win \$50,000!

We'll be flying high when we drop 2,000 numbered balls from a helicopter. The closest ball to the pin wins \$50,000! 2nd closest to pin wins \$10,000, and 15 lucky people win \$1,000 each!

Reserve your tickets now, before they're sold out!

www.chopperdropper.com

Friday, March 15, 2013 • 5:30 p.m. (ball drop 6:30 p.m.) • Suntree Country Club (1 Country Club Dr., Melbourne, FL 32940) Winners will be announced immediately following the Chopper Dropper reception. Need not be present to win. A representative of Florida Tech will conduct the drawing and will contact the winner if not present. All proceeds benefit Panther Athletic Scholarships.
Suggested donation: no purchase or donation necessary • Fair market value \$20

from the FTAA President

From the desk of outgoing president John A. Valente '76, '81



It is with deeply mixed emotions that I write my last letter as president of the Florida Tech Alumni Association. I am completing my second year as president and my second nine-year term as a board member. I am extremely grateful to a number of people for their support, encouragement and passion for the FTAA and the university.

First, I want to thank Anthony J. Catanese for his continued support of the alumni association and for his vision for the university.

The efforts of the Executive Board have been instrumental in making this administration successful. Alexis Loo, Allyn Saunders, Penny Vassar, Mike Gordon and Alan Prestwood have expended untold hours in support of the association, and we owe them a heartfelt thank you.

I would also like to thank the Office of Alumni Affairs for its incredible efforts on behalf of the FTAA.

I must also recognize the work of all the active board members. These dedicated people sacrifice their time and energy on behalf of the FTAA without any compensation, and often without the recognition they so rightfully deserve.

One person has made my efforts on behalf of the association more than they might otherwise have been. Former head of Alumni Affairs Ken Droscher brought a spirit and a passion to the Alumni Association, and to almost everyone with whom he came into contact.

As the worldwide recognition of Florida Tech grows, our degrees gain added value. As we alumni make our mark on the world, the recognition of Florida Tech grows. It is truly a symbiotic relationship. For me, I can directly relate a great deal of my success in life to the people of Florida Tech and the experiences gained there. The university was making "High Tech with a Human Touch" a part of its core values LONG before it became our branding.

I leave the Alumni Association in the extremely capable hands of Alexis Loo, Allyn Saunders, Penny Vassar, Jim Herdt, Palma Young and Dean Smehil.

In closing, I want you all to know it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your president. I believe participation in the FTAA has provided me a way to give back to the university (which has given me so much over the years), and more importantly to the people who have made such a difference in my life. I want to thank all of you for this opportunity, and I wish you all the best in the future!

New Jersey



1) John Wilkes '94, Daniela Natali '11, James Susini '11, Alexis Jagger '11 **2)** Kristie Powell '07, Weyni Nazon '01, Joe Caruso '73

Huntsville



1) Cheryl and Philip Kromis '98, Daniel Brown '01 and Shonda Brown '09, President Catanese **2)** Kenneth Watts '71 and President Catanese

Richmond



1



2



3



4

1) President Catanese with Tom Folliard Jr. '89 at the Carmax headquarters 2) Edward Grosso '90 with Bino Campanini
3) Lynn and Bill Yoke '08 4) Mary Folliard '92, Ann and Peter Pastore

Atlanta



1



2



3

1) Bill Fricke '83, Senior Vice President of Development Susan St. Onge and President Catanese 2) Tracy Schoppy and John Schoppy '89 3) Undia Earl '11 with Bino Campanini

Boston



Greater Boston Alumni Social Sept. 26, 2012

Several members of the Greater Boston Alumni Chapter met at Amhreens in September for beer, snacks, camaraderie and a great clam chowder. Doug Schuler, Bernie Fuchs, Duane Stichfield, Tom Menino, John Chappell and Gregory Hunter brainstormed opportunities for expanding chapter membership and agreed that some of the best work of the chapter is providing assistance at college fairs for the local high schools. Connect with the Greater Boston Chapter on Facebook at <http://bit.ly/bostonalumni>

2012
HOMECOMING

Going for the

“I was really impressed with Homecoming ... the concert downtown was awesome!”

Tom Folliard Jr. '89



Listen to the Mighty
Mighty Bosstones on WFIT
www.wfit.org/post/rockin-sound-waves-mighty-mighty-bosstones

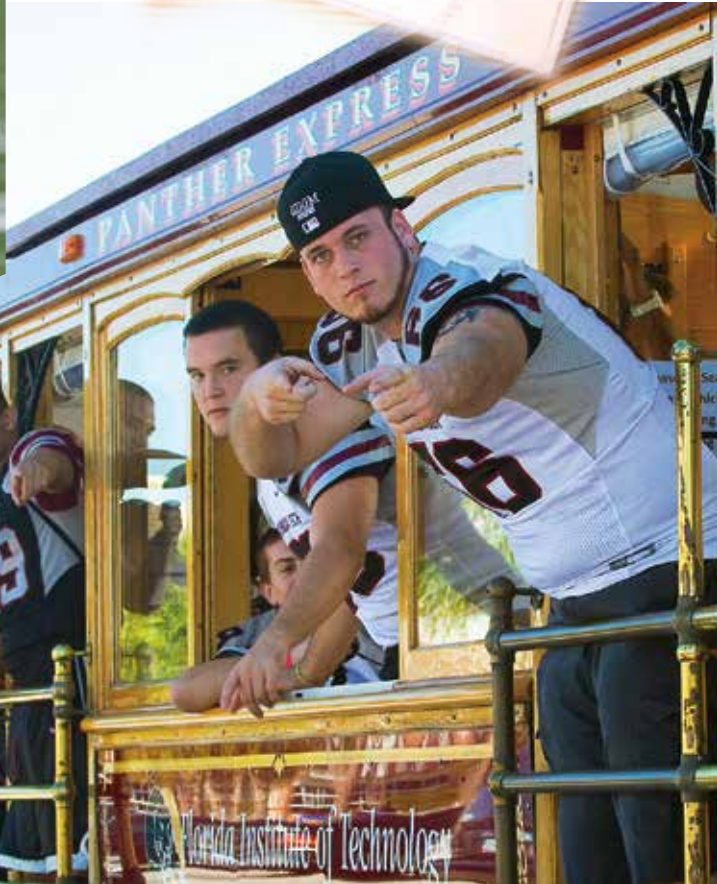


Gold



“Best Homecoming in history. Next year even better.”

President Anthony J. Catanese



2012 HOMECOMING

Going for the

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**ALUMNI AWARD
WINNERS**

Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni Award
Thomas Folliard Jr. '89

G.O.L.D. Award
Chrishanth Fernando '02

College of Aeronautics Skurla Award
David Byers '78, '04 Ph.D.

Outstanding Alumni Awards:
Nathan M. Bisk College of Business
Joseph Caruso '73

College of Engineering
Travis Proctor '98

College of Psychology & Liberal Arts
Candace Leigh Bowering '99

College of Science
Max Mutchler '90



Gold





Green Dreams

Daniela Iacobelli's childhood dream of playing professional golf just got real.

She joins the LPGA Tour in 2013 and tells Florida Tech Today about her road to the tour.



“I’m excited to see where this road goes, and happy to have such a huge support system and fan base in Melbourne.”

Daniela Iacobelli '09



Symetra Tour/Scott A. Miller



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Growing up, the thought of being a professional golfer seemed very simple; play well, get paid. While that phrase is true, achieving that goal has been a bit more complicated—becoming a memorable, and more recently, rewarding journey.

Growing up just north of Detroit, golf was a household activity in my family. My parents noticed my natural abilities early on, and as I grew up, they were convinced I had potential that seemed unrealistic to most. My father took a risk and decided to move our family to Florida, where a year-round golfing season could give me an opportunity to succeed.

I played high school golf, and excelled. I earned a full athletic scholarship to Florida Tech, where I achieved the unthinkable—winning the NCAA Division II National Championship and gaining validation that my dream of playing professional golf may be attainable.

After graduation, I decided to follow that dream.

I qualified for the Symetra Tour and played in six events my first year. It was an eye opening experience. No longer was my “natural talent” enough to separate me from the field. Expenses came out of my own

pocket, and the luxury of traveling with a team became staying in hotel rooms alone. After an unsuccessful attempt, I decided to regroup.

Panther Achievements

- ★ Recorded 29 Top 10 finishes, including eight wins, in collegiate competition
- ★ Named the 2005 Sunshine State Conference Freshman of the Year
- ★ Individual winner of the 2007 NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship
- ★ Named the 2007 Florida Tech Female Athlete of the Year

I took a job as the head golf professional at Baytree National Golf Links in November of 2010. By spring 2011, I had the opportunity to chase my dream yet again, this time with my best friend Tyler Del Buono in tow as my caddy. We ventured around the country for as long as my savings account let us. After realizing my true passion was on the golf course and not managing one, I gave up the position as head pro and determined I would get it right in my third year.

My goal in 2012 was to play my first full season. With \$3,000 to my name, I sent out

the check to cover the first two events. I managed to make my way around the country—Winter Haven, FL; Sarasota, FL; Puerto Vallarta, Mexico; Fishers,

IN; Marion, IA; Decatur, IL; Harris, MI; Concord, NH; Syracuse, NY; Albany, NY; South Bend, IN; Richmond, VA; Myersville, MD; Charlotte, NC; Vidalia GA; Daytona Beach, FL—by winning enough to cover expenses and entry fees. After finally getting into a routine, things started to fall into place.

A typical week looked like this:

Monday: Travel Day/Laundry Day—The most we traveled in season to an event was 13 hours. After the drive, we usually Pricelined a hotel and got some rest.

Tuesday: 5:30 a.m.—Wake up call for the practice round and breakfast
6–11 a.m.—Practice round
11 a.m.—Registration
11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.—Lunch
1–4 p.m.—Practice
7–10 p.m.—Pro-Am dinner/function

Wednesday—

Thursday: Pro-Am or Practice Round/Practice

Friday—

Sunday: Tournament

During every event in 2012, my caddy and I talked about winning. Making the cut was never the goal any more. We knew our game was up to par and we had the ability to win.

Everything came into place at our last event in Daytona Beach, Fla. The only way to obtain my LPGA card was to win that last event—it would launch me up the money list and land me inside the top 10. We knew we had a chance, though we never talked about it on the course. Then, all the hard work and preparation paid off. The goal that seemed so unrealistic to many was finally reached—an invitation to the LPGA tour.

The coming months will be about networking and preparation. There are a lot of opportunities next year and I want to be able to experience every one of them!



The Back Nine with Daniela Iacobelli

1. Tell us something most people don't know about you.

I'm basically a seven year old—my favorite food group is fruit roll-ups.

2. If you could trade places with anyone for a day, who would it be and why?

No one! I don't want someone else's problems.

3. Do you have any superstitions or tokens for luck on the course?

I only like playing odd number golf balls (1 or 3)—unless I'm running low on golf balls then I play whatever I can. This entire season I used a Florida Tech ball marker—that will be put into play next year!

4. If you could choose anyone to be paired with on your first tee, who would it be?

Honestly, I think me and Christina Kim for Solheim Cup. Let's be serious, that will make for great TV!

5. Who is your role model?

It's cliché, but my parents. They are the epitome of the American Dream.

6. Name two things you consider yourself to be really good at.

Arguing and being sarcastic.

7. If your life were made into a movie, who would you want to play your character?

Melissa McCarthy from Bridesmaids or Ellen DeGeneres.

8. What has been the best piece of advice you have ever received?

Fall in love with putting.

9. One piece of advice for people following their dreams?

Don't ever let anyone convince you that you're not good enough.

Includes excerpts from Quick 18 with Daniela Iacobelli,
www.symetratour.com/golf/blogs/2012/10/quick-18-iacobelli.aspx



LARRY CIACCIA:

Envisioning a Password-Free World

Imagine: There's no need to remember a password to access your bank, email or social media accounts yet your information is as secure as ever. This is not a theoretical technology of the future, but only about 10 percent of notebook PCs shipped in the world today have this capability—fingerprint ID.

AuthenTec CEO and alumnus **Larry Ciaccia** '83 MBA would like to see that change and has spent his work-life laying the foundation.

Reveling in a successful, fast-paced career spanning more than 30 years, Ciaccia now welcomes the opportunity to explore a new path. Apple's purchase of the Melbourne, Fla.-based AuthenTec in October 2012 for \$356 million provides the opportunity to switch gears—or not.

"I can't comment on Apple's plans, but if there is any company that can take AuthenTec technology to the next level, Apple can certainly do it," he said. Ciaccia is excited about that next level: mainstream biometrics, that is, most people using fingerprint sensing rather than passwords for their communication devices.

He has been involved in the technology to make this possible since he arrived in 1980 at Harris Corp.'s Semiconductor Division. As a leader in pioneering the wireless business—helping name and develop the emerging technology known today as Wi-Fi—he is no stranger to revolutionizing a market through technology.

"To literally make and market what didn't exist before, and is now ubiquitous, was a great opportunity," he said.

In 2005, Ciaccia was invited to join AuthenTec, a company with its roots at Harris that began as a provider of a sensor that could create clear electronic images of a person's fingerprint using semiconductor technology. After a working prototype was created, AuthenTec spun off from Harris, continued to evolve its technology and eventually went public in an IPO in 2007.

Three years later, Ciaccia became AuthenTec CEO.

The company refined its touch-type sensors and later introduced swipe-type sensors, in which a user simply slides a finger across a much smaller sensor area. This makes the sensor more compact, less expensive and more attractive to notebook manufacturers and mobile phone companies seeking convenience and value-added security.

"I can't comment on Apple's plans, but if there is any company that can take AuthenTec technology to the next level, Apple can certainly do it."

*Larry Ciaccia '83 MBA
AuthenTec CEO*

An acquisition brought the company a large portfolio of encryption technology to help protect mobile and network devices, and a merger the same year added large-area touch sensors for government access control.

The company has gone global with development centers added in the Netherlands, Czech Republic, China and Japan. Today, at its Melbourne headquarters, about a half dozen of the 70 staff members are Florida Tech alumni.

Guiding the company during its dizzying years of growth, Ciaccia, with the luxury of now considering options, said, "The job here has been all-encompassing. I'm looking forward to having a life more in balance."

On his agenda is getting more involved in the community. He's also an avid sport and offshore fisherman and a big Florida Gator football fan. So, there might be more time for that. And he is following what is happening with fledgling Florida Tech football.

"Florida Tech has changed so much. I've watched it grow culture- and athletics-wise and it has certainly broadened its appeal."

Planning to enjoy a little more personal time, however, doesn't mean he's not still enraptured by biometric sensors.

"The idea of using your fingerprint instead of a password can instantly change a market and most people aren't even aware of the technology, yet. We're all strong believers here (at AuthenTec) and we use it ourselves," he said.

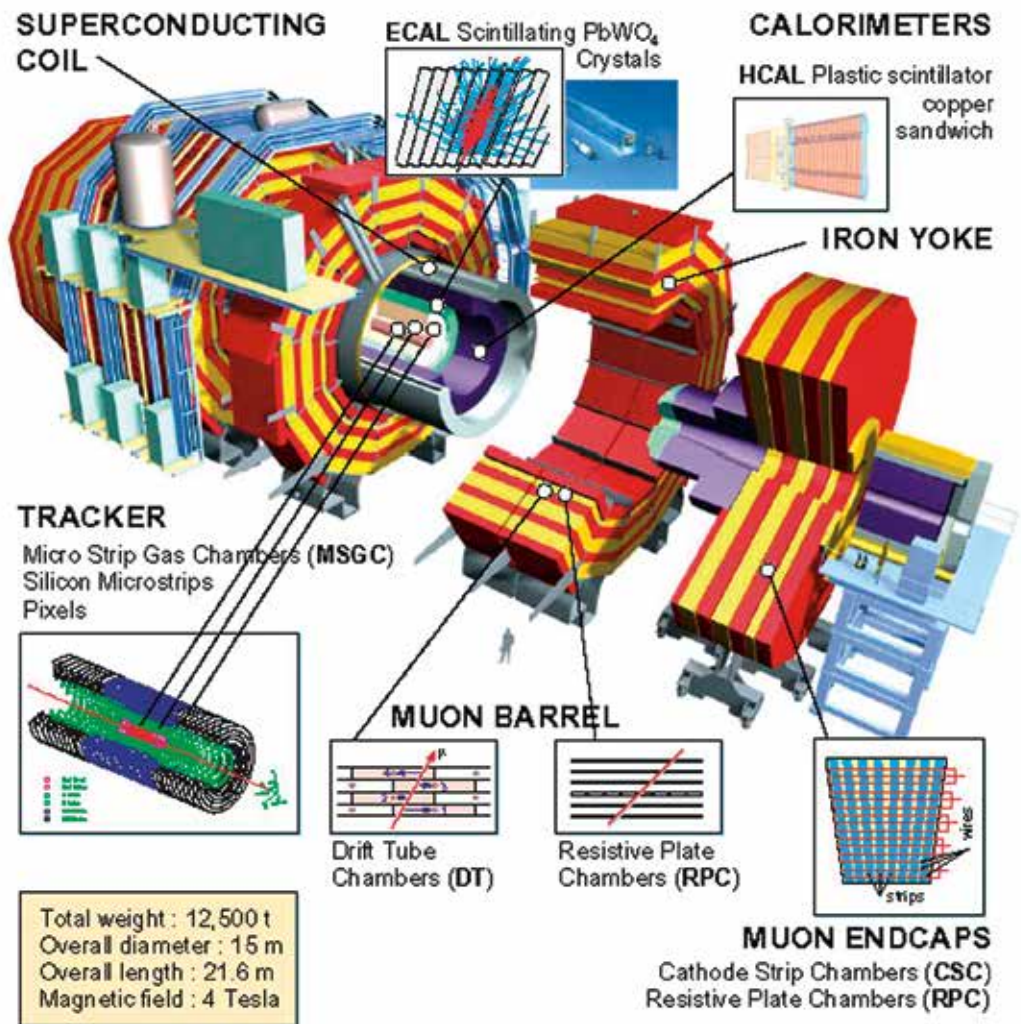
Karen Rhine

Beyond the P@55w0rD

The December issue of *Wired* featured an article on password failure and the future of online security—where a password, combined with biometrics, combined with two-factor authentication, such as a login that prompts a text to your phone with a code to continue, might prevail. Apple's purchase of AuthenTec was noted in the article.



CMS layout and detectors



Florida Tech's contribution to this remarkable piece of equipment is in two components—the optical calibration system of the Hadron forward calorimeter, a device that measures the energy of particles, and the alignment of the tracking chambers that detect the passage of particles known as muons.

DISCOVERING THE HIGGS BOSON

Florida Tech Researchers Help Unlock One of Science's Great Mysteries

Last summer, the discovery of a new subatomic particle captivated the collective psyche—and not just that of the science community. This mystery particle fit the criteria for the long-sought Higgs boson, the “God particle” that would tie a bow on the Standard Model of particle physics, validating our theories about the interaction of elementary particles and furthering our understanding of the world around us. But why did this particular particle—invisible to the eye and operating within a complex theoretical framework—inspire such broad curiosity? Was it the length of the search? Its grandiose moniker? Its key to the origin of mass?

For such an infinitesimally small particle, the role of the Higgs boson is expansive. Simply put, it gives mass to other elementary particles allowing them to combine. Quarks combine into protons and neutrons, which combine with electrons to form atoms, which combine together into molecules and so on.

“Without the Higgs boson, we would not exist,” says **Marc Baarmand**, professor and head of the Florida Tech High Energy Physics team.

On a subatomic level, everything begins with quarks, leptons and force particles. But without mass, without a mechanism to bind them together, they would float around freely and independently.

The Higgs mechanism, proposed by Peter Higgs and others in the 1960s, bridged this gap in the Standard Model.

“As particles move through space, they travel through the Higgs field,” explains Baarmand. “If they interact with the Higgs field, they acquire mass. The larger the interaction, the more massive the particle.”

For example, think of a skier and a hiker moving through the snow. As more snow accumulates on the

“The detectors look at these collisions and reconstruct what happened,” says Baarmand. “If there is a new particle produced, what are its properties—its mass, energy, momentum, electric charge and other variables.

The detectors are super complex systems of many different technologies that we use to make these measurements.”

And to take these measurements, the CMS detector must be calibrated and aligned precisely, says **Marcus Hohlmann**, associate professor of physics.

The Florida Tech research group has spent many years working on these technical details that enable the CMS detector to identify the Higgs signal from a large number of collisions, happening as frequently as every 25 to 50 nanoseconds.

The irony in looking for a subatomic particle, quips Baarmand, is the need for a gigantic apparatus, easily the size of the three-story F.W. Olin Physical Sciences Center, to “see” the particle.

Florida Tech’s contribution to this remarkable piece of equipment is in two components—the optical calibration system of the Hadron forward calorimeter, a device that measures the energy of particles, and the alignment of the tracking chambers that detect the passage of particles known as muons.

These sophisticated components help ensure the colorful, firework-display of data reported by the CMS detector is an accurate representation of the phenomena that occur within. Billions of collisions are scrutinized to look for rare or new phenomena by many scientists and graduate students, says **Francisco Yumiceva**, assistant professor of physics.

While the recent particle discovery is not yet conclusively labeled as the Higgs boson, it is very promising. Teams of scientists at both the CMS detector and a second LHC detector, ATLAS, made comparable observations distilled from the analysis of collision events. Yet, the work is only just beginning.

“It took more than some 20 years to build the accelerator, build the detectors, collect the data and discover this particle, but we have to be patient,” explains Baarmand. “We still have to collect more data. We still have to analyze this particle in all the different aspects that we know. This will really be the beginning of all that effort.”

And what lies ahead may be beyond the Standard Model, introducing new areas of study and new theories.

“The effort goes on, the physics goes on, and we have to keep answering the next questions about the inner workings of nature,” says Baarmand.

“Without the Higgs boson, we would not exist.”

Marc Baarmand, professor and head of the Florida Tech High Energy Physics team



From left, Igor Vodopiyanov, Francisco Yumiceva, Marcus Hohlmann and Marc Baarmand in the CMS center at Florida Tech.

hiker’s snowshoes, he experiences more resistance, more mass.

While the Standard Model of particle physics has been tested to excellent precision, says Baarmand, no physical evidence had confirmed the existence of the Higgs mechanism.

Until now, perhaps.

The global effort to unlock this mystery involves thousands of scientists working at the European Center for Nuclear Research (CERN) in Switzerland, home to the world’s largest and most powerful particle accelerator, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). Since 2001, Florida Tech has been a member of the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) project, a \$550 million detector along the LHC ring that collects data from the experiment’s proton-proton collisions.

To look for evidence of the Higgs boson, protons must collide at super high energies breaking them down into their fundamental building blocks—allowing scientists to measure phenomena not otherwise observable. The resulting particles decay almost instantly, but the CMS detector captures the data.



Christena Callahan

CARL DERRICK '83:

U.S. Diplomat Making A Difference

An early love for languages, undergraduate work in international business and graduate study in procurement laid the foundation for Carl Derrick's distinguished career in the foreign service.

In 2012, in a widely attended ceremony presided by El Salvador's Foreign Minister, Derrick was publicly recognized as the Grand Officer of the Order of Jose Matias Delgado, the nation's highest honor decreed by the president.



In 1987, he joined the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and launched a 25-year career that spanned the Middle East and Western Hemisphere and took him to the ranks of the Senior Foreign Service.

USAID, created by President John F. Kennedy, provides economic development and humanitarian assistance around the globe. With less than 1% of the federal budget and operating in more than 100 countries, USAID advances U.S. foreign policy goals of strengthening democracy, promoting economic prosperity, providing access to quality social services and responding to disasters (man-made and natural), benefiting hundreds of millions of people.

"You're building bridges of common understanding to improve human progress, building prosperity and stability for generations to come," he says.

"Having spent most of my career overseas, I came back a different person. You see America from the outside in and develop a really rich understanding of what our country's values represent. We have so much in common with people of other countries who are striving to improve the human condition and expand cooperation. You also see first-hand how the U.S. government is part of a larger international effort to positively transform lives and societies."

Even as a child, Derrick had plenty of globetrotting experience. His father, John Derrick, held many military posts throughout the United States and Europe before he assumed the position of director of admissions at Florida Tech's School of Aeronautics in 1973, settling his family in Melbourne Village. He stayed with Florida Tech and later became a professor, retiring in 1988.

The younger Derrick's USAID career began in El Salvador as an international development intern—contracts. He later broadened his skills as project development/program officer and eventually moved into senior management. After long-term assignments in El Salvador, Egypt, Bolivia and Ecuador, he was competitively selected by USAID for an intensive one-year program at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces/National Defense University, Washington D.C., where he earned an M.S. in national resource strategy. He returned to El Salvador in 2008 and concluded his

service in 2012, ending his tour in the country where it all started and where he met his wife Carmen and his three children (Carla, Ana and Michael) were born.

Illustrating the significant impact development has in improving the human condition and stabilizing countries, Derrick recounts a story of inaugurating an outreach educational center for children and young adults in a remote village



With U.S. Ambassador Mari Carmen Aponte, Derrick led a U.S. Mission and community volunteer effort to fix up a school that was ravaged by a hurricane.



Derrick with his wife Carmen and children Carla, Ana and Michael.

in western El Salvador—an area notorious for high levels of violent crime.

“These programs give children safe space, teach values, cooperation, vocational skills, sports, and are having hugely positive results in reducing crime and the flow of illegal immigration,” he explains.

“Having spent most of my career overseas, I came back a different person.”

Carl Derrick '83

He received a handmade plaque at the ceremony, and as he was leaving, a heavily tattooed man who resembled a gang member stopped him, much to his surprise.

“He told me he had been responsible for making the plaque. He simply wanted to personally express his highest appreciation for what the U.S. government was doing to help

his community,” says Derrick.

“Another point he expressed made me deeply reflect on what is at stake for this region of the world. He said, ‘If I had the same opportunity that you are giving our children with this center, I would not be where I am today,’” recalls Derrick. “In my official farewell, I used this plaque and what he said as a vibrant symbol of the many thousands of Central Americans trapped in an endless world of violence and poverty. The plaque also signified the hundreds of thousands of more youth who are at risk of entering this growing world of violence unless we work together much more robustly to provide lasting opportunity and hope.”

One of Derrick’s accomplishments during his tenure included leveraging more than \$60 million with the nation’s private sector leadership toward El Salvador’s sustainable development.

“One of the alliances with the Salvadoran private sector is the largest in the Western Hemisphere, matching dollar for dollar contributions

Alumni Spotlight

Chrisanth Fernando '02
aviation management

Chris Fernando is a senior environmental specialist/associate at Booz Allen Hamilton in Washington, D.C., supporting the FAA’s NextGen Initiatives with a focus on performance-based navigation, environmental modeling and NEPA compliance.



He is a co-director and board member of Hands on DC, an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the learning environment in D.C. public schools. He has also been instrumental in revitalizing the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan area alumni chapter by reaching out to younger alumni, establishing the chapter’s Facebook page and organizing several events in 2012. He received the G.O.L.D. (Graduate of the Last Decade) Award at this year’s homecoming gala.

In three words: easygoing, encouraging, dedicated

Favorite Florida Tech memory: Being chased through the halls of Roberts as a freshman by my RA for breaking the rules about the consumption of adult beverages

Little known fact: My affinity for Polynesian tattoos

Notable achievement: Ran the Marine Corps Marathon twice

Hobbies: Running, biking, anything that gets me outdoors and volunteering with Hands on DC

to directly improve the welfare of the country’s poor while improving long-term stability,” he says.

Needless to say, El Salvador holds a very special place in his heart. In 2012, in a widely attended ceremony presided by El Salvador’s Foreign Minister, Derrick was publicly recognized as the Grand Officer of the Order of Jose Matias Delgado, the nation’s highest honor decreed by the president, in gratitude for his strengthening cooperation between the two countries and for his personal efforts and dedication in helping the Salvadoran people.

While his foreign service days are over, Derrick is far from retired. With a Top Secret clearance, his extensive overseas experience and languages, he has entered a new chapter in his life as a strategic planning international consultant based in Northern Virginia.

Maria Sonnenberg

What’s your story?
Send thoughts to fltechtoday@fit.edu



Did You Know?

Judith Strother has:
Served 36 years at
Florida Tech

Traveled to
26 countries

Considered interior
decoration as a career in
an alternative universe

At Jungfrau, Switzerland, site of the highest railway in Europe in the Swiss Alps

JUDITH STROTHER:

Understanding Information Overload

“The volume of information that crossed our brains in one week at the end of the 20th century is more than a person received in a lifetime at the beginning of it.”

This, according to *PC Magazine*, is the crux of information overload—the topic of a new book edited by **Judith Strother**, professor and chair of the graduate program in global strategic communication, along with **Jan Ulijn** and **Zohra Fazal** '06 M.S. This new text examines the causes, consequences and coping mechanisms for the trend of expecting individuals to operate under an ever-increasing deluge of information.

The rabid alter-ego of multitasking, information overload is the communication breakdown of excess—too much information from too many channels being received too often. Think about a typical workday: the ping of an email notification, a flashing voicemail indicator, a hefty inbox, the ping of another email notification, a jam-packed appointment schedule, a ringing telephone, a lengthy to-do list, a LinkedIn invitation, a pending deadline, a chatty colleague, a vibrating cellphone and on and on. Exaggerated? Perhaps, but not extraordinary. Technology has expanded the number of information sources, blurred the work-life boundaries and fostered an expectation of constant connectivity.

Less down time plus more demands can result in a cycle of inefficiency—poor planning, ineffective prioritizing of tasks, inattention to detail—and, eventually, burnout.

“According to some estimates, the cost to an average corporation is up to 25 percent of every workday lost because of inefficiencies,” says Strother. That translates to \$1 billion per year for a 50,000-employee knowledge-intensive company, in addition to factors such as decreased employee morale, reduced customer service quality and diminished creativity, she says.

The issue involves not just the quantity of information, but also the quality, or usability of information.

“Society is drowning in information, yet starved for knowledge,” explains Strother, citing a *Megatrends* article.

It’s a bit of irony that this perennial over-achiever would compile a tome on the plight of the overextended, or maybe it’s the epitome of the adage, know thy enemy.



In between teaching sections of global communication or linguistics and world languages, Strother may be jetting to The Netherlands to give a seminar at the Technical University of Eindhoven, where she is a visiting professor; editing manuscripts as part of the Center for Communication Excellence, of which she is the founder and director; or coordinating site visits in Belgium and Germany for the summer study abroad experience in global strategic communication, which she debuted last year.

Information Overload: An International Challenge to Professional Communication Practices is the fifth of her published books, in addition to numerous book chapters and other publications.

Uniting the poetic and the practical, Strother has combined a love of literature, a zeal for multicultural communication and a pragmatic sensibility to build an accomplished career of teaching and research spanning international boundaries—work often rooted in cultural studies.

She holds an undergraduate degree in management, master's degrees in applied linguistics and business administration, a doctorate in technology and linguistics, and has presented in such diverse locations as Finland, Hungary, Singapore and Iceland.

“Instead of submitting a paper for a local conference, I’ve always tried for an international conference, even early in my career,” she explains.

And, she encourages her students to do the same. “I always tell them to start at the top, to really think big and take advantage of the opportunities.”

Those opportunities have led to conference presentations with her graduate students in Vienna, the Netherlands, Montreal and Hawaii, and she is currently mentoring three students preparing for a London conference this summer.

After 36 years at Florida Tech, Strother has no plans of slowing down any time soon. On the heels of *Information Overload*, she is taking a deep breath, carefully considering her future research endeavors and possibly spending a little extra time on her extracurricular interests, which always include travel. She is looking forward to doing some gentle climbing in the Smoky Mountains or just gazing at the Swiss Alps.

“Society is drowning in information, yet starved for knowledge.”

Judith Strother, citing a
eMegatrends article

Christena Callahan



Inside an ice cave in the Swiss Alps near the village of Grindelwald

At Castle de Haar near Utrecht in The Netherlands

Cotswold country in England



Florida Tech

Panthers Team Up for a Great Cause

Florida Tech's student-athletes partner with The Scott Center's FIT Club

Nearly three years ago, Florida Tech head tennis coach **Bill Macom** was looking for a way to improve the serving of the men's and women's tennis teams. He came up with the idea to donate \$1 to autism services for every ace the team recorded, which he called Aces for Autism. Today, this challenge has developed into a 10-week program encompassing several varsity sports and about 20 children on the autism spectrum.

children, and the incoming students as well. They are paving the road for the people who are coming behind them."

While the program has been around for several years, this year is the first that the children have worked directly with Florida Tech student-athletes. Coxon said the experience has been nothing short of a huge success.

"It's funny because we get these football players who are gladiators," she said. "They are massive guys and they are playing with a three-foot-tall little girl with autism. They are really gentle giants. It's amazing to see these really strong, athletic people being kind and gentle and compassionate in a way that you might not see on the field or in competition."

The FIT Club also visits the zoo, plays kickball and does yoga. Coxon said all of these activities are essential in the development of the kids.

"The kids are talking more with their friends, but they are also imitating a lot of the behavior that the athletes are modeling for them," she said. "They are literally role models to these kids. They are imitating all of the pro-social behavior that they are experiencing: making eye contact, using people's names, passing the ball and sharing. These kids are expanding their skill sets by copying the behavior of their role models."

While Macom began the program with tennis in mind, he said the expansion of the FIT Club was no accident.

"It's great because there are now so many things you can get involved in," he said. "With The Scott Center being right here, it's kind of a no-brainer. You have access to the fields. The kids are right here. We can bring the community to the campus."

With goals of creating more programs to develop stronger relationships with more and more children, it is clear that the FIT Club has only just begun.

*Jake Snyder
Athletic Communications Intern*



The FIT Club was developed by The Scott Center for Autism Treatment as a way to allow children on the spectrum to interact with the Panthers. The groups engage in athletic activities from tennis to basketball, soccer, swimming, softball, volleyball and football.

"Our players really look forward to it," Macom said. "There are a couple players who always volunteer for it because they get so much out of it. It's a reality check for them. It gives them a chance to see the difficulties some children have.

"The more that our players are involved in it, the more friends they are going to tell about it and the more awareness we can raise."

Genevieve Coxon, coordinator of the social skills program at The Scott Center, has been working with the center since 2008.

"I have to say this has probably been the most exciting because all of the students who are involved with the program at this point are leaving behind a legacy," she said. "This program is going to continue to teach skills for years and years to the incoming classes of

FLORIDATECHSPORTS.COM

The official website of Florida Tech Athletics



1.

1. The Varsity Training Center opened its doors to Florida Tech's student-athletes in October. Highlights of the building include the football locker room and offices, a meeting room and weight room for all Panther student-athletes.

2. Both the men's and women's swimming teams earned their first win in the program's two-year history in the fall. The women defeated Lynn, while the men defeated Savannah College of Art and Design.

3. Gary Holmes looks to run past a defender during Florida Tech's first intrasquad scrimmage at Panther Field during Homecoming Weekend on Nov. 3.



2.

3.



The men's cross country team qualified for the NCAA Division II National Championship race for the first time in the program's history on Nov. 3.



NBA and Boston Celtics legend Sam Jones, pictured with President Catanese, spoke to basketball fans and supporters at the Panther Club Tip-Off Luncheon on Nov. 2.

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Florida Institute of Technology

The Scott Center
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5th Anniversary



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Campaign

"I can still remember sitting in Gleason waiting to make the walk over for the commencement ceremony. This is one way for us to be involved in one of the university's traditions and help support the next phase of Florida Tech. Join me and be part of the 500."

Brian Stahl, Class of 1987 and 1988
President, Infrastructure Solution Services

alumni.fit.edu/gleasonseats

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Dennis Schofield '94 recently spent a month travelling in Peru and Colombia. While on the Inca Trail, he and Pete the Panther posed in front of Machu Picchu.



1970s

Allyn Saunders '76 is a contract manager with DRS Tactical Systems. He is still playing tennis, not getting any better at golf and has started bowling and running 5k events. He was recently elected vice president of the Florida Tech Alumni Association.



Thomas Tanel '79 MBA is the proud grandfather of Jake Thomas Ariola, born to his daughter Tara. Tom is president and CEO of CATTAN Services Group in College Station, Texas.

1980s

Zvi Lavie '86 Psy.D. received the Hans Ovelgonne Award from the International Federation of Purchasing and Supply Management (IFPSM). The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the development of purchasing and supply management based on research and development studies.

Shelba Wetheral '88 M.S. retired but is staying busy. She enjoys traveling with her husband Tom. In her spare time, she enjoys painting with watercolors and acrylic media and dabbling in genealogy.

1990s

Dr. Merrie Cartwright '91 and her husband David DeSchuitener welcomed their daughter, Aurora Ada DeSchuitener, on Sept. 29, 2012.



Jeff Eisenbeis '92 M.S. was appointed court administrator for the Jackson County Circuit Court located in Kansas City, Mo. Eisenbeis joined the court in March 1998. During his 14-year tenure, he has served in several administrative capacities including deputy court administrator/director of family court services. Prior to joining the court, Eisenbeis served in the U.S. Army for 20 years before retiring as a lieutenant colonel.



Ellen Lindner '93 MBA, a fabric collage artist, completed a commissioned work for Nemours Children's Hospital in Orlando. Part of the "Florida gardens" art collection, her piece "Blessings Underfoot" features Black-eyed Susans and was designed to appeal to both parents and children. View more of Ellen's work at www.EllenLindner.com.



Zeke Losch '00 was recently in Australia training in the 767 simulator for a new job at Air Japan. He and Pete the Panther posed for a photo atop one of the towers of the Sydney Harbor bridge.

Mike Gordon '94, '00 MBA, has worked as a manager at Intersil for the last 12 years. He lives in West Melbourne with his wife Melissa and children Matthew, 6, and Abby, 4.

Rich Polhemus '94 and wife Lorna welcomed their twins, Zoey Emilyn and Jackson (Jax) Ryan on Jan. 27, 2011. Rich separated from Active Duty Air Force in 2007 and has since been flying for Delta Air Lines. He is currently based at JFK as a First Officer on the 767-400. He is still serving as a Major in the USAF Reserves at Dover AFB, Delaware, where he is an Aircraft Commander flying the C-17. The Polhemus family currently lives in Toms River, NJ.

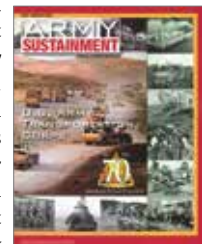


Janet Stephens '94 has been married to **Joel Stephens '93** for 17 years. They have two daughters, Jordon, 9, and Janelle, 5.

Tom Stiehle '96 M.S. has been promoted to chief financial officer and vice president of business management for Huntington Ingalls Industries' Ingalls Shipbuilding division, based in Pascagoula, Miss.

2000s

Robert Gould '01 M.S., **Robert King '00** M.S., and **Larry Lust '09** M.S. each had articles published in the July/August 2012 issue of *Army Sustainment*. Lieutenant Colonel Gould, USN Ret., is the course director of the Operational Contract Support Course at the Army Logistics University



Continued on page 36

Continued from page 35

at Fort Lee, Va. Lieutenant Colonel King is currently attending the Army War College. Major General Lust, USA Ret., is an associate professor at the Army Command and General Staff College. Each are graduates of Florida Tech's Fort Lee site.



Anneke Davis '00 and husband Dave Whitbeck welcomed daughter Audra on Jan. 26, 2012. Anneke is a project engineer at CH2M HILL in Bellevue, Wash., and focuses on integrating sustainability into transportation infrastructure projects.

Jennifer McCarthy '01 MBA was appointed chief operations officer of Health Central Hospital, the newest addition to the Orlando Health family of hospitals. She previously worked 16 years with Health First, most recently as vice president of operations at Palm Bay Hospital.



Jason Terreri '01 was named to *Airport Business* magazine's "40 Under Forty" listing. He is aviation contract administrator at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Also named were **Justin Meyer '99**, director of aviation service development for Tampa International Airport, and **Jo Damato '97**, director of educational development and strategy at the National Business Aviation Association.



Coraggio Maglio '04 M.S., PE, received the 2012 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Innovator of the Year Award, which recognizes an innovation or idea with a clear potential to transform the federal community's overall energy and environmental performance. Maglio was recognized for his improved disposal area weir decanting system design. *Above: Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, USACE commanding general, presents the USACE Innovator of the Year Award to Coraggio Maglio.*

Dawn Frye '05 MBA is an extreme commuter, traveling from Cape Canaveral to Atlanta as a consultant.

Zeeshan Usmani '06 M.S., '09 Ph.D., was named a 2012 International Eisenhower Fellow. He spent six weeks in the United States last fall studying information and communication technologies to improve Pakistan's socioeconomic standing. He met his professional counterparts at such organizations as Google, the United Nations, the U.S. Department of Defense and the World Bank to discuss projects of mutual interest and to learn best practices. He attended Florida Tech as a Fulbright Scholar.

Daniel Kovach '07, '08 M.S., has fostered a creative presence called A61dr41n (like "acid rain") in which he uses his science and mathematics background as inspiration to create electronic music and artwork. Follow his art and music projects at www.a61d.com/media.html.

Blair Kuhlman '08 M.S. recently retired from the Navy and joined the VFW. Blair is interested in starting a new business and enjoys outdoor activities.



Joshua Gauvin '09 and **Jocelyn (Sielski) '09** were married on April 28, 2012, in Dayton,



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Ohio. Joshua is a vulnerability engineer in Dayton, and Jocelyn works as an aerospace engineer at Wright Patterson AFB.

2010s

Quiana Bradshaw '10 M.S. and her husband Edward welcomed their daughter



Nicole on March 23, 2012. Quiana is an adjunct faculty member for Florida Tech University Online and a doctor of computer science candidate. She resides with her family in Goldsboro, NC.

Matt Schwanda '12 is a consultant with Armstrong Consulting.

Daniel Barnes '12 Ph.D. and his wife Sherry welcomed son Jaxen Apollo Barnes on May 18, 2012. The family lives in Cape Canaveral.



Friends

Michelle Spitzer, *Florida Today* newspaper writer, and her husband Michael



Dorn welcomed daughter Gabrielle Hannah Dorn on May 18, 2012. Gabrielle attended the uniform unveiling for Florida Tech football in September. Michelle says of her daughter,

"She's excited about being one of Florida Tech football's first and youngest fans!"

Calling all Panther Cubs!

Congratulations! 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 *Florida Tech TODAY*.

Email hrosskam@fit.edu to receive your shirt.

Alumni Spotlight

Chris Duer '00 and **Tauri (Powell) Duer '00** opened DUER High Performance Composites, an advanced composites manufacturing facility, last spring. Located just outside of Hilton Head, SC, the business focuses on research and manufacturing of components built utilizing out of autoclave prepreg and resin infusion.



Since graduation from Florida Tech, both Tauri and Chris have enjoyed many career achievements. Tauri has walked beneath a space shuttle, seen pieces of the international space station being fitted, stood on a flight deck while test weights were hurtled past, and climbed one of the largest cranes in the world.

Chris has spent his career developing composite components throughout North America. "I've run around the world for over a decade now and have been involved in some very high profile projects, ticking a lot of the dreams off the career bucket list," he said.

His career highlights include designing components for the U.S. Navy and working on automotive and architectural composites, including work with BMW Oracle Racing, PUMA Ocean Racing and building the P1 Offshore Powerboat World Champion in 2007.

Read more about DUER High Performance Composites at www.duer.com.

Q&A with Chris and Tauri:

Favorite Florida Tech Memory:

Chris: My best memories come from building the sailing team into a perennial district powerhouse and coaching the freshman team when they qualified for the national championship.

Tauri: My first ocean engineering project. I enjoyed it so much I switched my major. And, of course, meeting my husband and getting to know him through the sailing team!

Little Known Fact:

Chris: When we decided to start our business together, we got a lot of questions along the lines of "are you going to be able to work together?" Little did they know that, due to some clerical errors, when Tauri and I both took jobs at Newport News Shipbuilding we not only were in the same department, but shared a cubicle for three months! Certainly no complaining about your co-worker in the evenings then!

Tauri: When I became a stay-at-home mom, I vowed that I would never return to the workplace as someone else's employee. There is something very appealing and fulfilling to me about utilizing our hard work to build our own company. Now my days are spent juggling my roles as wife, mother and entrepreneur.

Hobbies:

Chris: Sailing, traveling and swimming

Tauri: Anything outdoors, especially on the water, traveling, photography, and playing with our two amazing kids

In Memoriam

Jim Giganti, long-time employee in administrative computing, passed away Nov. 27. "The Administrative Computing team will miss Jim because of his gentle leadership, strong work ethic, positive outlook and especially the wisdom he imparted as a mentor to his peers," said **Eric Kledzik**, vice president of IT and CIO.

Ralph Johnson, who served as director of development at Florida Tech in the 80s, passed away Dec. 4. Johnson was a strong influence at the university and a dedicated supporter of the Evans Library.

Michael Murphy '81 MBA suddenly passed away in 2010. He is survived by his two sons to whom he passed his engineering gene and a daughter who is a practicing registered nurse. Michael was an engineer at CSC in Huntsville, Ala., where he worked with his son Robert. His son Victor is studying aerospace engineering at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Susan Stackpoole, Florida Tech University Online instructor and wife of **Ken Stackpoole**, vice president of aviation programs and dean, passed away Dec. 12 after a lengthy illness. Memorial donations may be sent to the American Cancer Society.



*Bino Campanini '90, '92 MBA
Assistant Vice President for Alumni Relations
Executive Director,
Alumni Association*

Q: Homecoming 2012 appeared to be a great success. What was the impact of the introduction of FIT Homecoming Fest and football?

Homecoming 2012 was arguably the best homecoming we've had. We saw a dramatic increase in the number of folks participating, and the outreach to the community was huge. From the Florida Tech banners hanging from every downtown Melbourne streetlamp to the 10,000-plus people who showed up to see The Mighty Mighty Bosstones play a free concert, the introduction of FIT Homecoming Fest was a night to remember. The event exposed Florida Tech to the local community and provided alumni and students with a great night of entertainment. And if that was not enough of an eye opener, the next day our alumni were able to enjoy a free cookout, grab a beer and join some 3,000 fans watching Florida Tech play a football game on campus! I bet few alumni ever envisioned a weekend like that happening at Florida Tech.

Obviously having a football game was a major change and next year there will be an actual homecoming game on the schedule!

Football is a game changer and its influence will continue to grow. I think by the time we arrive at the homecoming game next year, football fever will have captured both the campus and local community and the game will be the focal point of our celebrations. Coach Englehart has done a tremendous job integrating the football program into campus life as well as encouraging his players and coaches to get involved in the local community. This outreach will have a real positive effect on the support the program receives.

Q: Will we see another national act at FIT Homecoming Fest next year?

I certainly hope we will be able to make it happen. Attracting the Mighty Mighty Bosstones to play downtown Melbourne was a real coup and created an exceptional buzz. It was great to have a band of that stature associated with Florida Tech and our homecoming. I am hoping it will be the start of restoring an old FIT tradition of getting national acts to Melbourne. Our alumni from the 70s and 80s remember the times when the likes of Jimmy Buffet and the Psychedelic Furs played on campus, and it will be cool to provide our current and future students with similar memories.

Q: Did these new attractions mean existing events got overshadowed?

Not at all. I think we were able to strike the right balance and provide events that appealed to a wide variety of folks without overextending our reach. In fact, we saw an upswing in attendance at our existing events. For example, we doubled the participation in the Homecoming 5K and had great attendance at the Homecoming Awards Gala.

Q: Overall what do you think the legacy of Homecoming 2012 will be?

I think we now have a blueprint for homecoming that is attractive to our out-of-town alumni. Our biggest goal is to bring alumni back to campus so they can see firsthand the growth and success of their alma mater and re-engage with the university. It is our job to make sure they have a memorable experience and leave with a positive feeling. I think we did that this year, and we plan to build on it and make next year even better.

Q: So the message is come back to campus for Homecoming 2013?

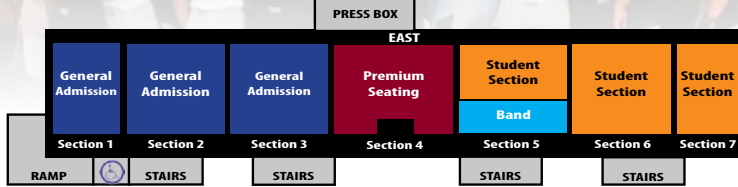
Absolutely! You will not regret it.



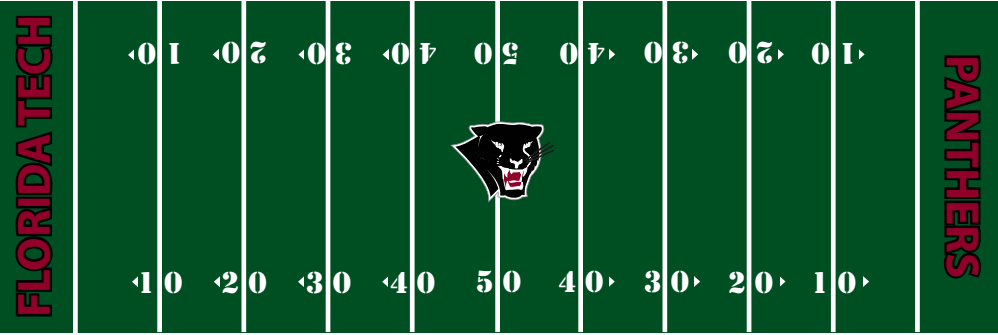
Florida Tech 2013 Panther Football

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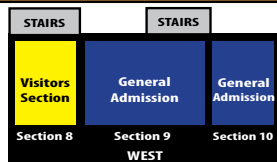
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TRACK



TRACK



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Division II

2013 SCHEDULE



STETSON
Sept. 7, 7 p.m.
Pirate Stadium



at Newberry College
Sept. 14, 1 p.m.
Newberry, S.C



WEST ALABAMA*
Sept. 19-21
Pirate Stadium



at Delta State*
Sept. 26-28
Cleveland, Miss.



at Valdosta State*
Oct. 3-5
Valdosta, Ga.



at Ave Maria
Oct. 12, 4 p.m.
Ave Maria, Fla.



SHORTER*
Oct. 17-19
Pirate Stadium



WARNER^
Oct. 26
Pirate Stadium



at West Georgia*
Oct. 31-Nov. 2
Carrollton, Ga.



NORTH ALABAMA*
Nov. 7-9
Pirate Stadium

Exact dates for GSC games TBD. All dates subject to change.
HOME GAMES IN CAPS *Gulf South Conference Game ^Homecoming Game

SEASON TICKET ORDER FORM

Ticket Type	Amount	Quantity	Total
Premium Seating			
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Florida Tech Employees	\$40		
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Children (Ages 5-16)	\$40		
Total Cost			

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WFIT Retrospective

WFIT general manager John Shaffery '82, left, and program director Kevin McLaughlin '82 with students from Woodlake Wonderland Nursery. Do you remember this broadcast? Email flatechtoday@fit.edu