

Florida Tech **TODAY**

A magazine for Alumni and Friends of Florida Institute of Technology

WINTER 2015

5000
HORSEPOWER

0 to 60
IN UNDER A SECOND

OFF TO THE RACES

NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH LARSEN MOTORSPORTS MEANS BIG OPPORTUNITIES FOR FLORIDA TECH, STUDENTS AND RACING FANS.

SPECIAL JET DRAGSTER POSTER PULLOUT —PAGE 20

Florida Tech Today



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GO GREEN, GET ONLINE!

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photos and videos at:

today.fit.edu

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COVER PHOTO: Powered by a General Electric J-85 engine, Florida Institute of Technology's new jet dragster does 0 to 60 in 0.8 seconds. *Photo by Killer Instincts*



Two F-16 fighter jets were on display at the Melbourne Air & Space Show at Melbourne International Airport in October thanks to Florida Tech faculty member—and Air Force fighter pilot—**Julie Moore**. Moore, an assistant professor of aviation science in the College of Aeronautics, spent nearly 12 years on active duty in the U.S. Air Force and remains in the Air Force Reserves as part of the 93rd Fighter Squadron at Homestead Air Reserve Base in south Florida. An Air Force major, she is also an F-16 instructor at Homestead.

Florida Tech TODAY

<http://today.fit.edu>

Florida Institute of Technology

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Look for this symbol for content appearing only online at today.fit.edu

In this issue: Resources for preserving personal collections, student videos promoting cross-cultural awareness, feature stories on new endowment donors, recipes for international dishes featured at Panther Dining Hall



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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

We are energized by the momentum that is launching us into the second half of this academic year.

It was an impressive fall season for Florida Tech football as our second-year program notched a 6-5 record, including going 3-4 in the highly competitive Gulf South Conference. Perhaps the high point was our 37-31 win against #12-ranked Tarleton State at the Dallas Cowboys' AT&T Stadium. Our outstanding athletics program remains a point of pride.

That winning spirit continues this semester, as we unveiled the Florida Tech Jet Dragster Racing Team. We are certain this new affiliation with world-champion Larsen Motorsports will yield incredible hands-on learning experiences for our engineering students. Check out the full story in this issue of *Florida Tech Today*.

And speaking of winning, don't forget about Chopper Dropper 2015 on March 13. Alumni and friends around the globe purchase tickets. All sales support Panther athletics and give participants a chance at \$50,000. You don't have to be present to win, but we hope you can join us. More information is available at www.chopperdropper.com.

I wish you much success in 2015. We value your support of Florida Tech.

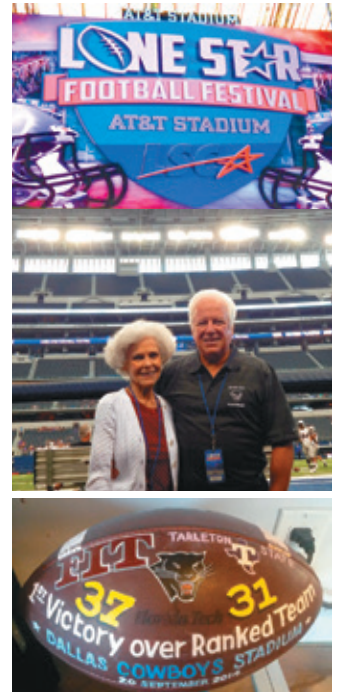
Sincerely yours,

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



FLORIDA TECH JET DRAGSTER UNVEILING

From left: T. Dwayne McCay, executive vice president and COO; Chris Larsen, Larsen Motorsports CEO; Anthony J. Catanese, president and CEO; Pete the Panther; Justin Elliott, FIT dragster crew chief; Shea Holbrook, FIT dragster driver; Elaine Larsen, Larsen Motorsports president and Miller car driver; Brian Tocci, Larsen Motorsports race operations director; Andrew Larsen, Larsen Motorsports crew chief, Matrix Systems car; Tommy Moller, FIT dragster paint artist; Front and center: Florida Tech's new jet dragster! See story on page 19.



President Anthony J. Catanese and Sara Catanese along with the Florida Tech Alumni Association hosted an alumni reception at AT&T Stadium (home of the Dallas Cowboys) in Arlington, Texas, prior to the Panthers football game, where they defeated Tarleton State 37-31.



Legendary astronaut Buzz Aldrin (center) was on campus recently to visit with former astronaut Winston Scott and President Catanese.



President Catanese and Sara Catanese receive a commemorative photo from the Thunderbirds during the Melbourne Air & Space Show in October.

Feedback From Our Readers

We welcome your input on the magazine. You asked for bigger photos, expanded campus coverage and more Alumni News, and we listened. **Have a comment about something you've read? Want to share a memory about your FIT days? Email us at fltechtoday@fit.edu.**

INTELLECTUAL INTEREST

Florida Tech Today reader **ROBERT DINDA**, of Jacksonville, Fla., so enjoyed the article "Creatively Engineered" from the fall 2014 issue he was inspired to visit campus. During his October visit, he met with faculty members and discussed ideas about interdisciplinary thinking.

FIT IS EXCELLENT

I read my son **LOWELL HUNTINGTON'S** winter 2014 issue of Florida Tech Today, and I want to comment on the short item on the aviation program. I couldn't agree more that the program is excellent! Lowell graduated in 2010 with a B.S. in aviation management with flight and has excelled in the USAF. There is no doubt in my mind that his experience at FIT is a huge factor in his accomplishments. I'm very proud of my son, and I love the opportunity to tell people he is a graduate of FIT who earned his wings in the USAF!

— Donald Huntington
Schenevus, NY

Note: Read Lowell Huntington's AlumNote on page 35.

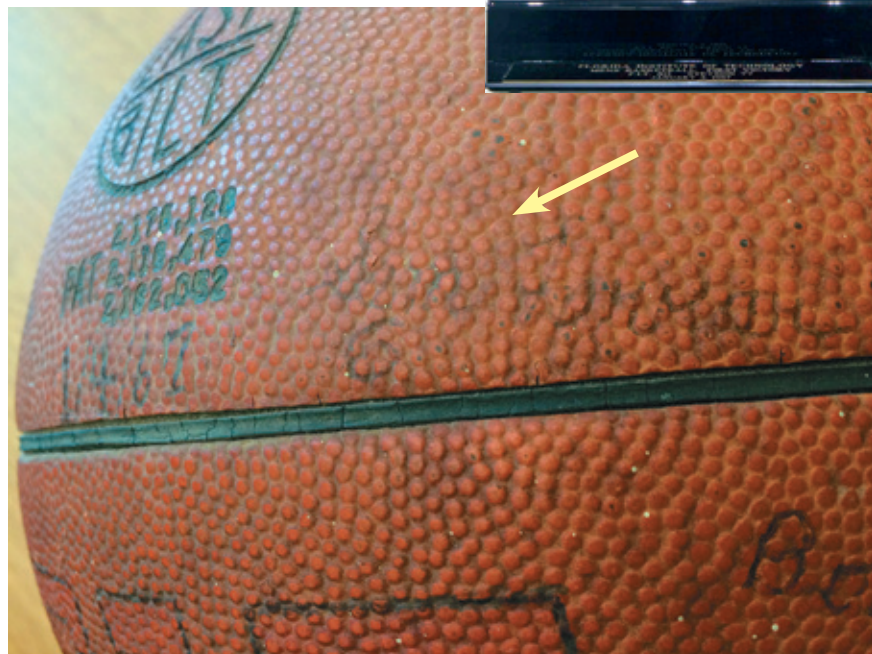


MYSTERY GRADUATE REVEALED

MARY ELLEN MAXSON '80 wrote in to clarify that she is the mystery graduate on the far left of the Nostalgia photo from the spring 2014 issue. She graduated in March 1980 with a degree in ocean engineering.

SIGNATURE DISCOVERY

When **SAM FARRAR** '69 saw news of the new University Archives exhibition, and the basketball used in FIT's first men's basketball victory, in the spring 2014 issue of Florida Tech Today, it inspired a walk down memory lane as well as a cryptic quest. Farrar was a member of that 1967 basketball team, but he didn't remember signing the victory ball.



"I'd love to be able to read all the names on that ball!" he wrote to Dean of Libraries **SOHAIR WASTAWY**.

Farrar lives in northern Virginia, so Evans Library staff, spearheaded by **KATHY TURNER**, associate dean of libraries, and **ERIN MAHANEY**, university archivist, got to work photographing the ball and having student assistant **ANTHONY PIETRA** compile a team roster of the signatures, which include:

JOHN COURTNEY, Co-captain, Forward; **JIM THIES**; **TONY VILLANTI**, Coach; **JOE KOAK**, Manager; **MEL KANODE**, Forward; **BOBBY HUBBARD**, Center; **GARY GOFF**; **MATT GODEK**; **RICHARD (DICK) RAMBERG**; **ROSS ALTEMATT**; **GREG LANE**; **BOB STREACKER**, Guard; **DANNY BOSTWICK**; **SAM FARRAR**, Guard; and **ARTIE CANTOR**.

Farrar was delighted with the results.

"I have very fond memories of my years at FIT, and BEC, and this has certainly rekindled those memories," he said.

Farrar teaches high school physics and environmental science and coaches volleyball. He plans to visit campus in the spring and donate his letter jacket to the University Archives.

Glicksman Appointed Dean of Engineering

MARTIN E. GLICKSMAN

was appointed dean of the College of Engineering. He held the position on an interim basis since January. Glicksman also serves as the Allen S. Henry Chair and University Professor of Engineering.



Martin E. Glicksman

“After an extensive search, we were pleased to find that the best candidate was already here,” said **T. DWAYNE MCCAY**, executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Glicksman, who joined the faculty in 2011, is a recognized expert on the solidification of metals and semiconductor processes, the energetics and kinetics of material interfaces and microstructure evolution. He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a bachelor’s degree and doctoral degree in physical metallurgy.

\$1 Million Harris Corporation Gift for Student Design Center

A \$1 million gift from Harris Corp. will create a Student Design Center to serve College of Engineering and College of Science seniors completing capstone design projects, the university announced on Jan. 21. The 11,500-square-foot, single-story structure will be located on the south side of campus, not far from the Harris Center for Science and Engineering. Additionally, in recognition of the gift’s significance, the university announced that the Florida Tech Commons building will be renamed Harris Commons.



From left: Joseph A. Boyd, former chairman, president and CEO of Harris; Phillip W. Farmer, former chairman, president and CEO of Harris, and current Florida Tech board of trustees chairman; William M. Brown, current Harris chairman, president and CEO; Florida Tech president and CEO Anthony J. Catanese; and John T. Hartley, former chairman, president and CEO of Harris.

Two Named to Board of Trustees

BILL BROWN, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF HARRIS CORPORATION

Prior to his career with Harris Corp., **WILLIAM M. (BILL) BROWN** was with United Technologies Corp., where he held several senior leadership roles since joining the company in 1997. He joins two former Harris CEOs who currently sit on the board: Phillip W. Farmer, current board chairman, has served since 1994; John T. Hartley has served on the board since 1987.



William M. Brown

FOOTBALL GREAT AND PHILANTHROPIST DOUG FLUTIE

DOUG FLUTIE, who was raised in nearby Melbourne Beach, played 12 seasons in the National Football League, eight seasons in the Canadian Football League and one season in the United States Football League. Following his playing career, he served as a color analyst and in-studio analyst for ABC, ESPN College Football and NBC. Most recently, he serves as an analyst for NBC Sports. Flutie is active in the community with the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism.



Doug Flutie

Enriching Research



RESEARCHING THE FINAL FRONTIER

Five professors were awarded research grants through the Florida Space Research Program, a partnership between Space Florida and the NASA Florida Space Grant Consortium. **BRIAN KAPLINGER**, **HAMID HEFAZI**, **DANIEL KIRK**, **HECTOR GUTIERREZ** and **SAMUEL DURRANCE** received more than \$60,000 to fund three projects focusing on spacecraft navigation, protecting spacecraft from debris during landing, and protein growth in space.

IMPROVING PILOT CONTROL

NICHOLAS KASDAGLIS, a Ph.D. student and research assistant in the Human-Centered Design Institute, was awarded a one-year software license from Presagis, a modeling and simulation company. The software, which is valued at about \$15,000 and allows for rapid prototyping of cockpit displays, will help Kasdaglis complete his dissertation research focusing on helping pilots avoid, recognize and recover from in-flight loss of control.



EXPERT ADVICE:

Preserving Personal Collections

Archivist and educator Erin Mahaney, Florida Tech's first university archivist, joined the university in August to oversee, organize and share the growing archives collection at Evans Library. For individuals interested in preserving personal archives, Mahaney offers the following tips.

The best and most comprehensive thing you can do for your tangible personal collections, whatever they are (papers, textiles, photographs, stamps, natural history collections), is to maintain a safe and stable environment. Physical objects will naturally deteriorate over time, but the process is accelerated when items are stored in poor or unstable conditions.

Keep items in a cool, dry place (40%–50% relative humidity and 60–70°F) and avoid fluctuations.

Do not store your collections in a place that is subject to leaks, extreme heat or damp, pests, dirt or air pollutants. The center of your house is usually better than an attic, basement or garage. Prolonged exposure to light, natural or artificial, can also irreversibly damage materials.

Handle older objects with care. Do not trust old supports like handles or

straps. Lift from a base or stable part of the object when possible.

The things we collect or hold onto are often their own worst enemy. Have you ever found a newspaper clipping in an old book and seen the stain it leaves on the page? Materials go through a chemical process as they age, often releasing gasses that can be harmful to the item itself and other things in your collection. Photos may stick together, leather can start to crumble and stain your hands (red rot), and old negatives start to smell (vinegar syndrome).

Be careful what materials you store together and store different types of items separately when possible.

Visit today.fit.edu for a list of online resources about preserving personal collections.

COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: KEMPFF'S JEWELERS

Kempff's Jewelers has partnered with The Scott Center for Autism Treatment since the inaugural An Evening of Hope event in 2009. In addition to its event sponsorship,

Kempff's donates the timepiece for the annual Rolex Raffle held in conjunction with An Evening of Hope.

Each year, the raffle raises approximately \$25,000 for projects at The Scott Center and WISH scholarships, which fund needed early intervention services for children.



"We feel the alarming increase in autism spectrum disorders diagnosis to one in 68 children now really warrants our support and the support of so many others involved with The Scott Center," said Jason Kempff, co-owner of Kempff's Jewelers.

This year's Rolex Raffle will be held April 18, at Kempff's Jewelers, 336 Fifth Avenue, Indialantic. Tickets are available for \$25 a piece at thescottcenter.org/raffle.

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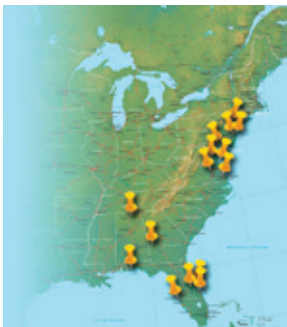


LAKE BOTTOM LESSONS

CRYSTAL MCMICHAEL, a biology research associate, was awarded a \$172,000 NASA grant for her research focusing on analyzing pollen and charcoal found in the sediment cores of the Great Lakes, which allows her to trace the movement of people and associated maize agriculture throughout the region.

BEYOND THE SUN

Research Professor **KONSTANTIN GAMAYUNOV** was recently awarded a three-year, \$310,000 grant from NASA for his research studying the outer heliosheath, the region outside of the solar system where the sun's influence ends. He will be working alongside Professor **MING ZHANG**, as well as researchers from University of Alabama in Huntsville and University of New Hampshire.



FLORIDA TECH EXPANDS OFF-SITE LOCATIONS

Florida Tech's off-campus programs, also known as the Off-Site Locations, have been offering graduate degree programs since 1972 when programs were first offered at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station in Maryland.

Today, the university's off-campus offerings include bachelor's, master's and doctoral programs at locations across the eastern United States.

Florida Tech programs are offered in New Jersey at Lakehurst, Picatinny Arsenal and Fort Dix; in Maryland at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Patuxent River and the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center; in Virginia at Fort Lee, Hampton Roads and the National Capital Region in Quantico; in Georgia at Fort Benning; in Alabama at Huntsville; in Florida at Eglin Air Force Base, Lake Nona, Orlando, the Spaceport at Kennedy Space Center and St. Petersburg College in Tampa; and online through the Virtual Site.

Beginning in spring 2015, the newest Off-Site Location, FIT Fort Dix in New Jersey, will offer bachelor's degrees in logistics management and in acquisition and contract management, an MBA, and a master's degree in management/acquisition and contract management.

"Florida Tech's Off-Site Locations continue the university's founding commitment to offer a high-quality educational experience, to support our military, and civilians, and enhance their careers and lives," said **TED RICHARDSON**, senior associate dean.

Learn more about Florida Tech's Off-Site Locations at es.fit.edu.

Create the Future Campaign News

Pilots Provide for College of Aeronautics

Kiko and Pat Picornell's legacy gift puts their IRAs to good use to benefit Florida Tech's College of Aeronautics and the university's aviation programs in perpetuity.

FRANCISCO and **PATRICIA PICORNELL** have been known to adopt a student or two since they graduated from Florida Tech. Better known as Kiko and Pat, the Picornells have spent time with Florida Tech students through the years, have gotten to know them and have even attended their graduations. The Picornells know what it is like to be a student away from home. Kiko arrived on campus in the early 1980s from the Philippines and earned three degrees from Florida Tech: '85 B.S., '86 M.S., '88 MBA. His wife Pat earned her Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Florida Tech in 1985.

Now successful professionals living in Indialantic, the Picornells wanted to do something for the students that would have a lasting impact. Kiko works for Embraer Executive Aircraft in Melbourne as a senior sales engineer, and Pat is vice president, wealth management, Sterling Wealth Management Group at UBS.

"They are both knowledgeable financial people," says Director of Development and Planned Gift Specialist **JEFF SPOERI**, "and instead of the standard bequest, they wanted to create an estate gift from their IRAs."

"We're both pilots, and we fly together. You never know what is going to happen," Pat says. "So making plans was important to us." The Picornells decided to use a portion of their retirement funds from their IRAs to make an estate gift to Florida Tech. "There are great tax advantages," says Pat, "to making a gift from an IRA. The Picornells began by designating FIT as a beneficiary of \$50,000 from each of their IRAs to be given to FIT upon their death. With Pat's expert financial management leading to a growth in their IRA assets, they have recently designated another \$50,000 a piece from their IRAs for a total legacy gift to the university of \$200,000.

"It's a really great way to fund a gift," says Spoeri, "and an example for other alumni who wish to make a legacy gift but are unsure how to proceed." Spoeri is skilled at discussing planned and estate gift options and is available to assist FIT alumni in planning for a legacy gift. "An IRA gift is perfect to fund an endowment," Spoeri adds, "and any amount can be designated to add to an existing endowment. If there is something you want to fund at FIT, you can bet there is an existing endowment to which you can designate your gift."



PRESIDENT EMERITUS ARCHIVE

LYNN WEAVER, Florida Tech's third president, who served from 1987 to 2002, has agreed to deposit his papers and related materials in the Harry P. Weber University Archives at Evans Library. His materials reflect both his leadership of the university and his standing as an international authority on energy issues and nuclear engineering. Weaver still visits campus daily while continuing his research.



Ivica Kostanic (far left) was the winner of the 3.5-mile open ocean swim race.

A Natural Fish

IVICA KOSTANIC, 46, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, won a 3.5-mile open ocean swim race from an island in the Adriatic Sea to the Croatian coast last summer, beating a small field of competitors half his age.

Kostanic visits his homeland for one month each summer, where he eats well, sleeps well and swims often, he says. He trained for just three weeks in advance of the competition, but in preparation to defend his title this coming summer, he currently trains at Panther Aquatic Center.

As legend tells it, the span, known among locals as The Canal, was first swum during World War II. The open water and ocean currents deterred subsequent attempts until 1977 when Kostanic's coach successfully crossed the span. Kostanic swam The Canal recreationally for three consecutive years before 2014's competitive race.

In memoriam *Remembering Those We Lost*

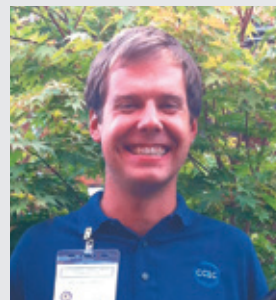
The Florida Tech community was saddened by the unexpected loss of three students and a staff member in off-campus events in the latter part of 2014. The losses of Michael Harper, Alex Brack, Nick Spiva and Phil Martinez led to gatherings and memorials, candlelight vigils and science-tinged remembrances. And they reminded us that though the university is home to thousands of people, we come together in the face of tragedy, united by our grief, embracing our resilience.

MICHAEL HARPER, 27, died in a car accident on Sept. 19 as he headed to Jacksonville, Fla. An ocean engineering doctoral student, Harper had previously earned his Master of Science in Ocean Engineering at Florida Tech.

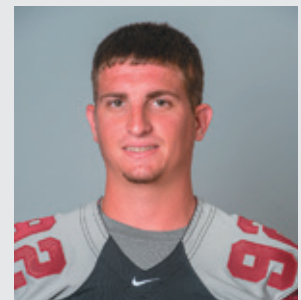
ALEX BRACK, 21, died in a car accident Nov. 2 in the Florida Panhandle. A junior civil engineering major, Brack was a kicker for three years on the Florida Tech Panthers football team.

NICK SPIVA, 25, died Nov. 10 in a motorcycle accident. A senior majoring in physics, a research assistant in the physics and space science department and a key member of the Geospace Physics Lab, Spiva was in the process of applying to graduate school.

PHIL MARTINEZ, 30, died Nov. 16 in Melbourne. A Florida Tech employee since 2013, Martinez was registration process coordinator in the Office of Continuing Education.



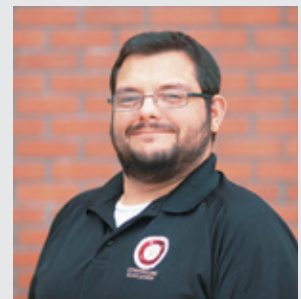
Michael Harper



Alex Brack



Nick Spiva



Phil Martinez



MUSEUM ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Florida Tech's Foosaner Art Museum has been selected to participate in the national Museum Assessment Program, a confidential process of self-study, peer review and implementation designed to strengthen operations, build capacity and enhance communication. The Foosaner will take part in the organizational assessment process that focuses on strategic planning.

ONLINE PROGRAMS AMONG NATION'S BEST

Florida Tech's online programs earned the university the No. 14 ranking among the nation's best online colleges for 2014, according to TheBestSchools.org, an independent organization. Criteria studied included academic excellence, scholarly quality of faculty, online teaching methods, cost, reputation, awards and financial aid, and number of degree programs.

Generous Friends Fund Endowments

Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Carl and JoAnn Bottcher and Lawrence and Margarete Mertens, two new endowments valued at over \$2 million have been established at Florida Tech to benefit students for generations to come.

THE CARL AND JOANN BOTTCHER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND

CARL and **JOANN BOTTCHER**'s lives are filled with examples of their personal generosity to organizations that have the power to deeply impact the lives of young people. From Massachusetts to Melbourne, Fla., the Bottcher's passion to help young people fulfill their dreams led them to Florida Tech and **PRESIDENT ANTHONY J. CATANESE**.



Carl and JoAnn Bottcher

"The Bottchers' establishment of a scholarship endowment at Florida Tech is a testament to how well Carl and JoAnn understand that education is the most empowering gift you can give a young person and how enormously education impacts our society," said Catanese.

"Here they are, not alumni of the university, but good, dear friends," Catanese stressed, "and they so value what we do at Florida Tech that they want to ensure we can continue to do it for generations of young people."

The Scholarship Endowment established by the Bottchers will support a student in the College of Engineering who shows significant promise and potential for achievement but who has limited financial means.

"Why wouldn't we give?" said Carl Bottcher. "Through Florida Tech JoAnn and I now have a slew of children. It brings us great joy."

THE LAWRENCE AND MARGARETE MERTENS ENDOWED FELLOWSHIP FUND

LAWRENCE and **MARGARETE MERTENS**' home is filled with beautiful objects gathered from their travels around the world. Each object d'art seems to call out to have its story told, and each one contributes something unique to the collection, without which the whole would be diminished.

The Mertens' lives, likewise have contributed in a unique way to society, and through the establishment of the Lawrence and Margarete Mertens Endowed Fellowship Fund, they hope to ensure that especially promising graduate students will be able to make their own unique contributions to society.



Lawrence Mertens

"These are the gifts that resonate far into the future," said Catanese. "Dr. Mertens' life story is one of pioneering achievements. His body of work—beginning with his days as an adjunct professor in the fledging Brevard Engineering College which would become Florida Tech, contributed enormously to the fields of optical oceanography, digital imaging and laser development."

Mertens earned his doctorate degree as the recipient of the BOSE Fellowship at Columbia University. In making this gift to Florida Tech, he said: "I want to help someone and inspire them to contribute to society."

—Sara Smith



Read more at today.fit.edu

Read the complete story behind each of these generous gifts and the remarkable people who gave them at today.fit.edu.

Behind the Scenes

- 1 20' x 20' acoustically tuned room comfortably accommodates up to an 8-piece band

CONTROL ROOM FEATURES:

- 2 32 channel Presonus Digital Board
- 3 Yamaha Sound Monitors
- 4 Microphones by Neumann, Sennheiser, Shure, AKG and EV
- 5 Mac Pro 6 core with Pro Tools software
- 6 Aviom Personal Headphone Mixers

PERFORMANCE STUDIO EQUIPMENT:

- 7 5-piece CP+A drum kit
- 8 Fender Deluxe Hot Rod Amp
- 9 Ampeg BA-115 HP Bass Amp
- 10 Yamaha Clavinova CLP-440 Digital Piano

WFIT's in-house recording engineer is a graduate of the Audio Recording Technology Institute and an Apple Certified Logic Pro.

For more information on performance studio rates and reservations, contact George Wilson at (321) 674-7461 or gwilson@fit.edu.



WFIT Broadcast Center

WFIT's Performance Studio is available for recordings, live broadcasts, rehearsals and interviews. The studio hosted Christian Tamburr during the recording of his most recent album "Voyage" as well as an on-air performance by FIT Homecoming Fest headliner SOJA. The studio is a convenient destination for bands touring Central and South Florida.



etc.

Goode Olde Tyme

Students, faculty, staff and their families enjoyed a medieval adventure at the 2014 President's Picnic. Panther Plaza filled with knights, damsels, roasted turkey legs and games aplenty testing the archery, jousting and even chicken throwing skills of young revelers.



Did You Know? ¿Sabias? Saviez-vous?

Students in Enrique Perez's Cross Cultural Management courses, in conjunction with the Internationalizing the Campus committee, are boosting cultural awareness on campus through a series of on-campus and online displays. Current projects explain greetings and gestures across cultures; future work will feature stereotypes, gender differences, common sayings and more. View videos at today.fit.edu.

ONLINE
EXTRA



American Football 101

International Panthers got a crash course in American Football this fall at a barbecue and pep rally hosted by International Student and Scholar Services, the International Student Service Organization and the football team. International students, many of whom had never seen an American football game, passed a football, donned team gear and learned the rules of the game. Go Panthers!



What makes a successful global leader?

All business is now influenced by globalization, yet organizations have been slow to benefit from its opportunities because they lack employees skilled to lead global initiatives. Global leaders must overcome distance. They must adapt to the followers they lead, maintain their authenticity and be able to take that show on the road. These skills differ from those of domestic leaders. Global success requires four critical leadership competencies:

Relationship Orientation—In the U.S. leaders often emerge because of their technical proficiency. But in much of the rest of the world, it isn't what you know, but rather who you know and who knows you that determines success. Trust is based on close relationships, and people will only do business with those they trust. Trust takes time. You can't rush business abroad.

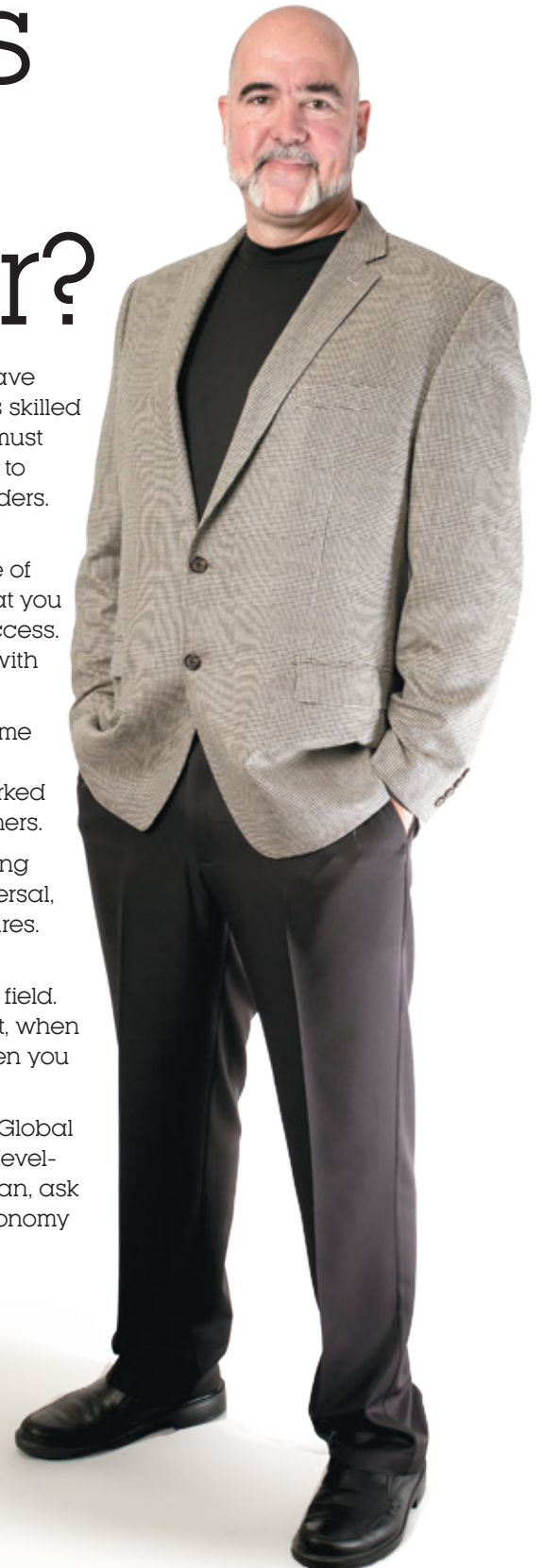
Humility—To be successful in a new cultural context, you must assume you know nothing. Effective global leaders question their own assumptions prior to speaking and acting. Rather than operate on what has worked before, capitalize on new relationships, ask questions and learn from others.

Flexibility—Effective leaders must be able to shift their style according to the expectations of their followers. Many leadership qualities are universal, but as many as 1/3 of leadership competencies vary widely across cultures. Rigid thinking and inflexibility are the marks of doom for a global leader.

Balance—There is no home team any more. We all play on a neutral field. Today's leaders must be able to read when to adapt and when to assert, when to push and when to pull. Once your team trusts you, there are times when you can ask them to adapt and try things your way.

In summary, we need more global leaders, and we need them now. Global leadership competencies differ from domestic leadership and must be developed through different experiences. As you review your next strategic plan, ask yourself whether you are developing your talent to lead in the global economy or simply to follow.

Richard Griffith, professor of industrial/organizational psychology, is the executive director of the Institute for Cross Cultural Management at Florida Tech. He provides coaching in cross-cultural competence and global leadership.





Mr. 500: Head Coach John Reynolds

Head coach John Reynolds surrounded by the Panthers following his 500th career win.

Panthers off to best start in program history

Bearing the Florida Tech name for his 28th season as a head coach and 29th coaching overall, **JOHN REYNOLDS** may be in the midst of his most special run yet. Reynolds became just the 11th active NCAA Division II women's basketball coach to reach the 500-win milestone following Florida Tech's memorable 76-60 victory over Sunshine State Conference rival Eckerd on Dec. 6.

The extraordinary achievement adds yet another honor to a laundry list of career accolades all earned on the Panthers' sideline: six SSC regular season titles, four SSC Tournament championships, nine 20-win seasons and one NCAA Division II South Region Title to name a few.

In addition, Reynolds' club is off to its best start in program history at 12-0 after their 74-63 defeat of Palm Beach Atlantic at home on Jan. 6.

"We're fortunate to be where we are at this point with the schedule we've played," he said. "Our nonconference schedule was challenging and really has helped prepare us for conference play."

Reynolds may sport the title "Head Coach," but his success extends beyond the court. Throughout his career, he has touched the lives of many and truly values the unique relationships he has formed.

"Coach Reynolds is a wonderful coach and man," senior forward **JASMIRE BROWN** said. "He means a lot to me. He believed in me when I was at my lowest. He makes me a better person on and off the court. It's not just about basketball with him. He teaches life skills that will carry on after college. I couldn't ask for a better coach, leader and friend. I respect everything about him. He's the 'Real MVC' (Most Valuable Coach) in my book."

When asked about the joy of coaching, Reynolds' said, "They challenge me daily and keep me on my toes. On a daily basis, I'm now reminded of my age."

The mood may be light, but Reynolds has had a remarkable tenure at Florida Tech and the best may be yet to come.

Top Ranked Panthers Teeing Off Against Competition

Florida Tech women's golf off to unparalleled start to season

It's often said that nobody's perfect. Evidently whoever coined that phrase doesn't follow Florida Tech women's golf, as that's exactly what the Panthers are through the fall portion of their season, perfect. The FIT women competed in four tournaments during the fall, and each time they topped the field and brought the championship back to Melbourne. The Panthers began the season by sweeping the competition at the Lady Falcon Invitational and then the NCAA Division II National Preview. They then followed up with team wins at the Myrtle Beach Intercollegiate and the Saint Leo Invitational to round out the fall.

FIT also proved to have the depth necessary for sustained success. The Panthers had three different players win individual titles over the course of the four-tournament fall season in sophomores **GURO RAMBJOER** and **JOHANNA LARSSON**, as well as junior **FELICIA LEFTINGER**. The success has certainly not gone unnoticed. The Panthers ended the fall season ranked No. 1 in all of Division II by GolfStat.com, a statistics-based website that is highly regarded by those associated with collegiate golf. Additionally, Leftinger is tied for sixth in the individual player rankings.

"Certainly, the women's team is off to its best start in school history," said head coach **CHRIS SALTMARSH**. "This is also a great team from top to bottom. We don't have just one individual leading us to victory, and it's not the same four scores counting all the time. We have a lot of depth and much more to look forward to this spring. But it's not going to be easy. The SSC has plenty of power and depth. I'm looking forward to an exciting spring coaching this team."



The Panthers celebrate their tournament win at the Saint Leo Invitational. Top Row (from left): Assistant coach Elrick Van Eck, Rachel Polson, Felicia Leftinger, Halla Ragnarsdottir and head coach Chris Saltmarsh. Bottom Row (from left): Karolyne Shieh, Johanna Larsson, Guro Rambjoer and Sarah Thomas



Following men's soccer's second-place finish in the Sunshine State Conference, head coach **ROBIN CHAN** '91, '93 MBA was chosen SSC Co-Coach of the Year in November.



The men's swimming team secured possibly its biggest win in program history, taking down NCAA Division I Florida Atlantic 144-118 in November.



JUSTIN MCMASTER, a graduate student majoring in space systems, represented FIT at the NCAA Division II Cross Country Championships in December.



PEACH BELT CONFERENCE
 — FIT's track & field program has joined the Peach Belt Conference as an associate member and will be eligible to compete this spring for the 2015 PBC Championship.



Eventual Gulf South Conference Co-Coach of the Year **STEVE ENGLEHART** motivated his players prior to the Shorter game by practicing with the team. Englehart played quarterback at Indiana State from 1996–99.

FLORIDATECHSPORTS.COM
 The official website of Florida Tech Athletics



Senior wide receiver **XAVIER MILTON** became the football program's first DAKTRONICS All-American in only its second season. He also earned Gulf South Conference Co-Offensive Player of the Year.

Women's lacrosse will debut as Florida Tech's 22nd varsity sport this spring. The Panthers will play 15 games with nine occurring on their home field at Palm Bay High School's Pirate Stadium.

Sarah Awe '04, a member of the Florida Tech Sports Hall of Fame and 2001–02 Elite Eight women's basketball team, finished second among women in the Melbourne Music Marathon on Feb. 1. Awe, who now lives in Fort Collins, Colo., crossed the finish line in the 26.2-mile race at 3:38.03.

NO RESERVATIONS

Panther Dining Hall Goes Global

Epicurean adventurers can take a passport to Panther Dining Hall this year for authentic international fare from around the globe. Diners can indulge in the traditional dishes of a new region each month—from Asia and India to the Caribbean and South America.

Chef de Cuisine **JON SKOVIERA** and his culinary team painstakingly develop each menu with the help of international students, faculty and staff who provide an insider's perspective on their native dishes and serve as expert taste testers. Native students also provide cultural entertainment for the evening, including traditional dress, music, photos, artifacts, song and dance.

**MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Spring sessions will feature:

China (Feb. 19)

South America (March 19)

Korea, Thailand, Vietnam (April 23)

Visit fit.edu/food for more information.

Some of the native dishes already enjoyed include:

Islands of the Caribbean

- Pollo en Fricasé
- Ropa Vieja
- Lechon Asado
- Stamp and Go

A fish fritter made with salt cod fish in Jamaican cuisine. The unusual name is supposed to have derived from the 18th century British sailing ships. If an officer wanted something to be done in a hurry, the order was Stamp and Go!

- Coconut Conch Chowder

Middle East

- Kanafeh
- Kibbeh
- Shattah (Hot Sauce)/Garlic Sauce/Tahini (Sesame Seed Sauce)
- Lamb Kofta in Tomato Sauce
- Koshary

Layers of rice, ditalini pasta and black lentils covered with tomato sauce and topped with fried onion

Central Africa

- Black-Eyed Pea Salad (Senegal)
 - Ivory Coast Chicken
 - Doro Wat (Ethiopia) Spicy Chicken
 - Ndole (Cameroon) Shrimp & Bitter Greens
 - Nigerian Scotch Eggs
- Hard boiled eggs covered in spiced beef, breaded and fried*

India/Southern Asia

- Carrot Raitha
 - Kachumber Salad
 - Mulligatawny Soup
- Meaning "pepper water," a soup of chicken, peppers, apples and spices*
- Biryani
 - Aloo Gobhi



KANAFEH

Mildly sweet pastry with shredded filo, heavy cream custard, pistachio, and rose water



KIBBEH

Patties of ground beef, bulgur, onions, mint and cumin.



Chicken Tikka Masala

2 lbs.	Boneless skinless chicken breast	2	Lemons
6 Tbsp.	Ground cumin, toasted	4 Tbsp.	Clarified butter
6 Tbsp.	Paprika	10 oz.	Onion, sliced (about 1 large)
4 Tbsp.	Ground coriander, toasted	1 can	Diced tomato (28 oz.)
2 Tbsp.	Ground turmeric	½ cup	Water
1 Tbsp.	Cayenne pepper	1 bunch	Cilantro, chopped
4 Tbsp.	Garlic, minced	1 cup	Heavy cream
4 Tbsp.	Ginger, minced	1 Tbsp.	Salt
1 cup	Plain yogurt		

Note: Cumin and coriander seeds can be purchased at Indian or Middle Eastern markets. Toast whole spices and grind fresh in a spice grinder. This step will greatly improve the flavor of the dish.

Place cumin, paprika, coriander, turmeric and cayenne in a small bowl and mix together, set aside. (If using pre-ground coriander and cumin, toast them in a dry pan until they just begin to smoke, stir frequently.)

Place yogurt, 4 Tbsp. of spice mix, 2 Tbsp. each garlic and ginger, and juice of 1 lemon in a bowl and mix together. Place chicken in yogurt mix, cover and marinate for a minimum of 4 hours or overnight for best results.

Heat either a grill or broiler and place chicken on grill or under broiler until chicken begins to char or slightly blacken. Turn chicken over and repeat on other side, chicken will not be cooked through. Remove chicken and let rest.

Place a large pot over medium high heat, add butter and remaining ginger and garlic and cook for 8 to 10 minutes stirring frequently until onions begin to brown.

Add 8 Tbsp. spice mix and cook for 1 minute. Add tomatoes and water and stir well to combine. Remove from heat and place in a blender, blend for 1 minute until smooth. Return sauce to pan, add half of the cilantro and place over medium heat.

Dice chicken and place into the sauce; bring to a simmer for 15 minutes to cook chicken through and for sauce to reduce.

Add the cream, salt and juice from the lemon, return to a simmer. Taste, add more spice mix to suit your personal taste. *Note:* There will be some leftover spice mix.

Remove from heat and serve with basmati rice or warm naan bread.

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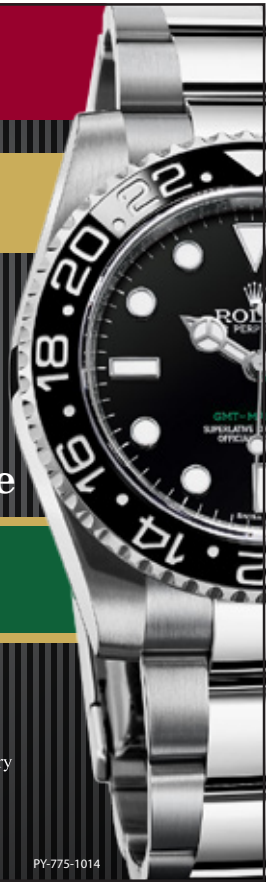
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OFF TO THE RACES

A jet engine-powered dragster can do **0-60 mph** in under a second and may approach **300 mph** within a quarter mile,

and now
your
university ...

RACES ONE!

Introducing Florida Tech's Jet Dragster Racing Team.



Florida Tech announced an affiliation with industry-leading jet dragster company Larsen Motorsports (LMS) and unveiled the beautiful, turbine-powered chariot bearing its name and logo to a crowd of enthusiastic students, faculty and staff on Jan. 29.

"We believe this addition to Florida Tech will pay educational rewards to our students for years to come," said President **Anthony J. Catanese** during his opening remarks.

LMS and the Florida Tech Jet Dragster Racing Team are now traveling the country, delighting audiences from Palm Beach, Fla., to Tuscon, Ariz., in the International Hot Rod Association (IHRA) Nitro Jam Drag Racing Series.

Continued on page 22

Thursday, January 15, 2015 3:29 AM

Hi Team,
Florida Tech is famous! Larsen Motorsports once again hit one of the big digital displays in Times Square to showcase our teams and promote the 2015 IHRA Nitro Jam season. As you can see, the Florida Tech jet dragster had its moment in the sun in the Big Apple, and it's looking good! Very exciting! See you at the races!



TURN THE PAGE
TO SEE OUR
JET DRAGSTER

Florida Institute of Technology
RACING



FLORIDA TECH JET DRAGSTER

FAST FACTS



Engine:	General Electric J-85
Fuel Economy:	2 gallons per second
Fuel:	Jet A
Fuel Capacity:	25 gallons
Range:	1/4 mile
Horsepower @ RPM:	5,000 @ 16,700 rpm
Speed:	0 to 60 in 0.8 seconds
Seating Capacity:	1



**2015 NORTH AMERICA RACING SCHEDULE
IHRA NITROJAM DRAG RACING SERIES**

<i>Date</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Track</i>
Feb. 6-7	Tucson, AZ	Southwestern International Raceway
March 13-14	Baton Rouge, LA	State Capitol Raceway
April 17-18	Bradenton, FL	Bradenton Motorsports Park
April 24-25	Palm Beach, FL	Palm Beach International Raceway
May 29-30	Cordova, IL	Cordova Dragway Park
June 19-20	Budds Creek, MD	Maryland International Raceway

<i>Date</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Track</i>
July 10-11	Airway Heights, WA	Spokane County Raceway
July 17-18	Edmonton, Alberta (CAN)	Castrol Raceway
Aug. 7-8	Martin, MI	US 131 Motorsports Park
Sept. 11-12	Elyria, OH	Dragway 42
Oct. 9-10	Memphis, TN	Memphis International Raceway

KILLER INSTINCTS photography



Meet Our Driver

SHEA HOLBROOK

"I'm proud to represent Florida Tech and for the opportunity to introduce future students to such an awesome university."

Inaugural driver of the Florida Tech Jet Dragster **Shea Holbrook** has been racing since she was a teenager. In 2011, she became the first woman to win in the Touring Car division of the Long Beach Grand Prix. Shea has been a featured athlete on Yahoo.com, *Teen Vogue*, NBC Sports Motor Sports Talk, CNN Live and Racer.com.



Hundreds of students, faculty, staff and alumni came out for the Florida Tech jet dragster unveiling on Jan. 29, 2015.

Continued from page 19

At the same time, work continues on a new headquarters for the racing company, which is slated to reopen later this spring in the Florida Tech Research and Development Center in Palm Bay, Fla.

The facility—a building donated by Intersil to Florida Tech in 2013—will house Larsen Motorsports' new state-of-the-art, 30,000-square-foot workshop and design center. It's where the company will house and maintain its vehicles, as well as design and fabricate new ones.

It's also where Florida Tech students will gain access to truly unique hands-on research and internship opportunities. LMS has a decade-long history of engaging college students in its business, and CEO Chris Larsen says the company has no plans to slow down in that regard.

"One of the reasons we approached Florida Tech is its commitment to hands-on, high-tech, real-world education, and that's what we hope to help provide," he says. "If anything, our affiliation is giving us the opportunity to involve more students, representing more majors, in more aspects of the company, than ever before."

Elaine Larsen, president of LMS and 2014 IHRA Jet Dragster World Champion, shares Chris's excitement. "We haven't been partners for very long, but we're already Florida Tech's biggest fans," she says. "Now what we're going to do is work hard to become yours."

"... our affiliation is giving us the opportunity to involve more students, representing more majors, in more aspects of the company, than ever before."

Chris Larsen
CEO, Larsen Motorsports



Sunday, February 01, 2015 11:17 AM

Hi Team,
This morning your 65 mile an hour Florida Tech rolling billboard left Florida for our first IHRA Nitro Jam National event race in Arizona. In the next 11 days the Florida Tech Jet Racing Team will cover over 4,000 miles, seven states and make an impression on about 5,000 new fans for Florida Institute of Technology. Proud to be part of your family! See you soon, Chris Larsen



Larsen Motorsports' dynamic duo Chris (CEO) and Elaine Larsen (president and driver) address their new FIT family at the unveiling event.

Follow the Florida Tech Jet Dragster Racing Team at jetdragster.fit.edu

Dream BIG

THE GATES MILLENNIUM SCHOLARS

SHAYNA BEGAY '10, '11 M.S.



The Gates Millennium Scholars Program is built around the concept of nurturing and supporting leaders. As the Gates Millennium Scholars Program took shape in 1999, the Gates envisioned an America whose leadership “would include 20,000 individuals, all people of color, who would make a significant impact on the future direction of the nation.”

Bill and Melinda Gates backed their vision with a \$1 billion gift to the United Negro College Fund

Each year some 21 million students select an American college or university to attend. Each year the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation selects 1,000 of these students to receive a full scholarship, renewable every year through graduation, to attend whatever college they choose. For Shayna Begay '10 and Tenzin Lhaksampa '15, Florida Tech topped the list of college choices.

All Gates Millennium Scholars are clearly successful academically, but then so are many Florida Tech students. What made these two young women stand out from a field of outstanding candidates? Recently we spoke with both scholars in an attempt to answer the question: why did the winners of one of the most coveted scholarships awarded in the U.S. today choose FIT?

TENZIN LHAKSAMPA '15



(UNCF), which is a partner for the program along with the American Indian Graduate Center Scholars (AIGCS), the Asian and Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF) and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF).

Florida Tech Gates Millennium Scholars Shayna Begay '10, '11 M.S., and Tenzin Lhaksampa '15 have a lot in common, starting with the close family ties that are of paramount importance in their lives. They both have mastered several

Continued on page 24

languages, demonstrated a passion for reaching out and helping others, are hard-working and are well respected by those who know them. In addition, as they ended their high school years and looked forward to college, they both displayed an uncommon degree of insight into what kind of college would suit them best. With the Gates Foundation eliminating the financial barriers to their college choice, Shayna and Tenzin both set their sights on finding—not the highest ranked, or the most selective, or the most prestigious Ivy League university—instead, both women set out to find the best academic program in their fields.



Shayna Begay '10, '11 M.S.

Aerospace engineer and Sandia National Laboratories employee Shayna Begay has never been one to shy away from a challenge, but completing the 11-essay application for the Gates Millennium Scholars Program and gathering the required recommendations was, according to Shayna, “a feat in itself.” But Shayna had known from a very early age that fulfilling her dreams would require a college degree.

As a child, she knew she wanted to be an aerospace engineer, and she set her sights on the stars.

Shayna, who is a member of the Navajo tribe, spent a lot of time on the reservation when she was growing up. She is a native speaker of English and Navajo, in addition to speaking Spanish, French and Italian. She has a history of seeking out rigorous academic challenges. After the excitement of spending a summer at a CalTech program for high school students, Shayna arrived back home in Colorado and enrolled in a dual-degree program offered by Fort Lewis College. She held down a job working for her dad, took a night course in astronomy and traveled back and forth from home to the college her entire senior year of high school and still maintained a 4.0 GPA.

At an early age, Shayna exhibited a passion for learning and for teaching and helping others learn. Her parents attended college—met there in fact—but had not graduated. Young Shayna was a persistent influence

encouraging her mother to finish her degree, which she eventually did.

Shayna tutored fellow students in math during high school and then tutored students in a wide range of subjects while at Florida Tech. “Dr. Lisa Perdigao, my English teacher at Florida Tech, marched me right over to Marge in the tutoring center,” Shayna recalls, “and signed me up. Dr. Perdigao filled out the recommendation right then and there as I filled out the paperwork.”

As a graduate student at Florida Tech working on her master’s in aerospace engineering, Shayna, driven by her fervor for teaching, developed a nanotechnology outreach program to teach local K–12 students about the field of nanotechnology that is now a required course of study for the nanotechnology undergraduate degree at Florida Tech.

Her passion for education is what led her to select Florida Tech among all of the possible colleges willing to welcome her with open arms.

“I was spending a week visiting Cornell at the moment that Florida Tech emailed me and encouraged me to apply,” she says. “Everyone offered an engineering program, but Florida Tech offered aerospace engineering. That’s really what I wanted to do, so I applied on the Cornell computers.”

She then planned a visit to Florida with her mom, scheduling it at the same time as her senior prom.

“That was a big deal,” she insists, her voice revealing even now how much she missed that rite of passage. “But, I’m so passionate about education, and I felt I would get lost at Cornell. And I knew that I wanted a whole degree program in aerospace engineering and not just a few courses which is what most colleges were offering.”

Tenzin Lhaksampa '15

For Gates Scholar Tenzin Lhaksampa, now a senior at Florida Tech, it was her college counselor who urged her forward and helped her with the application. A Tibetan in exile, Tenzin made such an impression on her middle school principal when she came to the United States and volunteered to be her teaching assistant for the Middle School Book Arts class that the principal



recommended her to the Gates Foundation based upon her record of community service.

Tenzin's journey to the United States began when she was 3 years old.

"My sister and I ran away from Tibet," she says with the pain still resonating in her voice. "We were denied education in Tibet as a result of my father's close ties to the Dalai Lama. My sister and I escaped to Nepal first and then came to the U.S.," she explains. "My dad was able to follow a few years later—in the meantime we lived with my grandmother."

Tenzin's mother and her oldest sister still live in Tibet, unable to visit or join their family here. Tenzin has not seen them since she came to the United States 10 years ago but Skypes with them frequently.

If the story of hardship early in life didn't impress the Gates Scholar reviewers, Tenzin's achievements while in school, like Shayna's, were bound to make her memorable among the applicants.

Tenzin stood out in middle school because she was an eager and compassionate volunteer—helping other students and assisting teachers in the classroom. And like Shayna, she had a flair for mastering languages.

By the time she finished high school, Tenzin was fluent in Tibetan and English with proficiency in Spanish, Nepali and Hindi.

Volunteering at the Tibetan Association of Southern California, Tenzin spent many hours helping with special events, fundraising and assisting with Sunday school.

Tenzin, who will receive her degree in forensic psychology this spring, chose Florida Tech after applying to nine different schools.

"I chose FIT because it had the best program for me," she says quite simply. "Ever since my 7th grade science teacher taught a unit on forensic science, I was hooked. At FIT, I participated in a research group with my advisor Dr. Vanessa Edkins and now I am volunteering at The Scott Center for Autism Treatment working both in behavioral services and the Family Learning Program."

The opportunity for her to do substantial research as an undergraduate and participate in giving back in a real way as a volunteer with autistic children are experiences Tenzin might not have identified in her college planning, but with laser-like focus, she was looking for and found, "the best program."

A Common Passion for Learning and Inspiring Others

Shayna and Tenzin found a place where their love of learning, their leadership talents, their passion for service and their preparation for a fulfilling career suited them perfectly: Florida Tech. Tenzin's graduation is only months away, and she is looking toward the future.

"I would like to work in law enforcement," she says, "a job with the Bureau as a profiler would be ideal."

She is also preparing to take the GRE in the hopes of going to graduate school and obtaining her Ph.D.

For Shayna, the choice of Florida Tech was instrumental to her career path. She credits her initial contact with her current employer, Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to Florida Tech.

"Sandia reached out to me while I was a student at FIT," she says. "After offering me a summer internship, they offered me a full-time job."

With Sandia's blessing she is still an integral part of the Gates program—now as a mentor to new scholars.

Thanks to the involvement of mentors like Shayna, the Gates Millennium Scholars boasts a better than average freshman and sophomore retention rate at 96 percent and a six-year graduation rate of 87 percent—well above the national average of 59 percent. The adjustment to college for Gates Scholars is often a rocky road, but the Gates Program is proactive in tackling those issues at an annual freshman conference for which the foundation pays all expenses for the scholars' travel and attendance.

Shayna remembers attending her first conference in Washington, D.C., and the enthusiasm of meeting other Gates Scholars for the first time.

"There are a lot of tough decisions to be made and choices you encounter," Shayna explains. "For instance, a student who is used to going home for a Native American ceremony now finds that it conflicts with their studies. Even harder are money conflicts. Some scholars come from homeless families, and the issue of all that money going to their education while the family remains homeless can be a great source of stress."

Sandia has also tapped Shayna's passion for inspiring others, and she is one of the national laboratory's leaders in Sandia's Dream Catcher program, which is designed to: "inspire young minds through science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) experiences and engage the interest of American Indian middle and high school students."

Inspiring young minds through STEM sounds familiar. Sounds like the High Tech-Human Touch of Florida Tech. And the Gates Millennium Scholars program emphasizing the importance of student leadership and community service? That also sounds like Florida Tech. Considering Shayna Begay's and Tenzin Lhaksampa's passion for learning and service, it is not surprising these two talented women were selected from thousands of others by the Gates Millennium Scholars Program to pursue their dream of obtaining the best possible education. And it is not surprising they found the best possible education the Gates Foundation could buy at Florida Tech.

—Sara Smith

FROM THE FTAA PRESIDENT

DUANE E. DE FREESE '82 M.S., '88 PH.D.

Last spring, the Florida Tech Alumni Association board of directors (all volunteers) embarked on a new direction energized by a quote from President Anthony J. Catanese: "The journey begins with one goal clearly in mind, to be one of the 10 most respected private technological universities in the world."



That new direction included three performance goals for 2014 that were based on individual board member actions: 1. Reach Out—Connect; 2. Communicate — Share Success Stories; and 3. Lead by Example—Give Back. Here's an update on how we are doing so far:

FTAA board members connected with hundreds of alumni and students through email, texts, job fairs, alumni chapters, Facebook and LinkedIn posts, and handwritten notes. Thirty-five volunteer board members made over 1,000 individual contacts with our Panther family. This is in addition to the incredible alumni outreach effort under way by Bino Campanini and his staff at the Office of Alumni Affairs.

The FTAA board shared alumni success stories by attending over 50 community functions, sporting events, job fairs, college fairs, Florida Tech alumni chapter meetings and, of course, our annual 2014 Homecoming Awards Gala.

100% of our FTAA board members made contributions of their time, talent and treasure to Florida Tech in 2014. The board will expand the scope of its financial activities in 2015 with a goal to raise \$150,000 to transform the FIT Alumni House into a long-held dream to have a place on campus that alumni, students and parents are proud to call their own.

If you graduated over a decade ago (for me it's now a quarter century), I hope you are amazed, like I am, when you hear the national and international recognition that Florida Tech is receiving for academic and research excellence. Each new accolade means the value of our degrees is going up. With 60,000 alumni across the globe, imagine what Florida Tech's future could be if each of you made a contribution?

Today, I'm personally asking each of you to:

PLEASE REINVEST in FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

To make a gift to the FIT Alumni House, please contact Bino Campanini, Vice President, Alumni Affairs. Phone: (321) 674-7190. Email: bcampanini@fit.edu. Or go online and make a donation at <https://alumni.fit.edu/alumni-donation>.

To make a gift to the Create the Future Capital Campaign, please contact Susan St. Onge, Senior Vice President for Development. Email: [sstonge@fit.edu](mailto:ssstonge@fit.edu). Or go online to <https://give.fit.edu/create-the-future>.

Thank you!

YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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Jim Herdt '92 MBA | Treasurer | Chelsea, AL | jimherdt@msn.com
Penny Vassar '98 MBA | Member-at-Large | Anderson, SC | pvassar@fit.edu
Chad Shultz '96 | Member-at-Large | Indialantic, FL | cshultz@cfl.rr.com



Dream Job: Launching Orion



Growing up, **Rebecca Mazzone** '04, '09 M.S., dreamed of working for NASA but never expected it would happen.

A speaking engagement changed everything.

As Student Government president, Mazzone spoke at the October 2003 dedication of the Columbia Village residence complex, which was named after the fallen space shuttle. Among those in attendance were family members of Columbia's final crew and several NASA officials. "I didn't take being asked to speak lightly, and I still consider it one of the most important things anybody has ever asked me to do," Mazzone said.

Following the speech, Jim Kennedy, the center director of Kennedy Space Center, sent a letter to the university, thanking, among others, Mazzone, who "truly represented the remarkable quality and character of [the] students."

Soon after, NASA called the university, seeking more information on Mazzone. She began the interview process in November of 2003 and was officially offered a job in the spring, two days before graduation. She attributes the initial interest from NASA to her opportunity to speak at the dedication. "I think the significance I placed on the task and my genuine desire to be a good representative of the students I served came through," she said.

After graduating with her bachelor's in computer science, Mazzone started working on Constellation, the ambitious space initiative that included a crew capsule component known as Orion.

As various parts of the Constellation program ended and the bulk of the program was cancelled, Mazzone was in limbo. But one major component remained active: Orion.

Mazzone was offered the opportunity to work on the revamped Orion project, and she accepted. She was selected to manage her team's portion of the Orion test flight, EFT-1, and primarily focused on communication and networks that allowed the launch and mission teams to interact with Orion during the successful test flight in December 2014.

"To see Orion lift off successfully and splash down hours later so perfectly on the other side of the country was the most incredible feeling in the world," she said. "I still grin when I think about what our team accomplished."

—Ashley Carnifax

Addison Bain: Rocket Man

In the lawn at the Bain residence in Kalispell, Mont., the future was told.

It was told in the holes young **ADDISON BAIN** '69, '72 M.S., burned on the grass as he built and deployed model rocket after model rocket.

Eventually, Addison was banished from the lawn and told to take his rockets into the fields nearby. By age 12, he was building a model of the V2 rocket, the groundbreaking vehicle designed by German rocket scientist Wernher von Braun.

By age 24, Bain would be working with von Braun at the Army Ballistic Missile Agency.

It was a career trajectory, straight up and fast, that mimicked the rockets that were such a key part of Bain's life.

He got to those rockets via the military. When financial issues stalled his college career at Montana State, he entered the Army and, after basic training in California, was asked what he'd like to do. Given his childhood infatuation, the answer was not a surprise: rockets.

"What I learned later was that I got a perfect score on the aptitude tests," Bain said.

So off he went to a series of military labs, working on materials, wind tunnels, guidance control and more. "I just went from one neat thing to another," he said.

Then in the early-1960s a colleague headed to the growing space operation at a swath of former Florida

swamp land called Cape Canaveral.

Bain arrived to watch some early Mercury program activity. His colleague, who was heading up the ground gases operation for NASA, asked Bain to stay and work for him.

In 1965, Bain began working with gases and propellants. His affiliation with those materials, NASA and Kennedy Space Center would unfold over the next 30 years.

He would end his NASA career as a world-renowned and influential expert in hydrogen, as a visionary who created the Propellants North and Propellants South concept at KSC and as the winner, on behalf of NASA, of one of the industry's most prestigious awards, the International Association for Hydrogen Energy Konstantin Tsiolkovsky Award for, as the citation noted, "pioneering the applications of hydrogen for space exploration."

Throughout his career, Bain kept education at the forefront. Whether it was the manuals and safety guides he helped create or his own classroom time, getting an education was "number one in my mind," he said. "There were interruptions, but I was intent on going all the way."

So that's why, for months during his early days at the Cape, he could be found driving in his un-air conditioned Rambler to Brevard Engineering College in Melbourne.



Addison Bain '69, '72 M.S.

In night classes at first following his 12-hour workdays, and then during a hiatus when he was allowed to attend school full time, Bain earned two degrees from what became Florida Institute of Technology: bachelor's and master's degrees in space and systems management, and then pursued a doctorate in engineering management.

His ongoing expertise in hydrogen has brought him full circle to his early days on the Space Coast. In 2014, Bain wrote *Hindenburg: Exploring the Truth*. That follows the 2004 publication of *The Freedom Element: Living with Hydrogen*. He is donating proceeds from the sales of both books to help fund aerospace scholarships at Florida Tech. Both books are available at bluenotebooks.com. Buyers should indicate their orders are to benefit the FIT scholarships.

—Adam Lowenstein



From left, Martha Williams, Trent Smith and Nahid Mohajeri

ALUMNI WIN PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR HYDROGEN DETECTION PRODUCT

Three Florida Tech alumni who worked under University Professor **GORDON NELSON** in the College of Science's Polymer Laboratory were part of a team that won one of R&D Magazine's prestigious R&D 100 Awards for a hydrogen detection product they helped develop.

NAHID MOHAJERI, now associate research professor in Solar Technologies Research at the University of Central Florida's Florida Solar Energy Center, **TRENT SMITH** of the Kennedy Space Center Utilization and Life Sciences Division of International Space Station Ground Processing, and **MARTHA WILLIAMS** of KSC's Materials Sciences Division helped develop a tape featuring what NASA described as a "chemochromic sensor" that indicates the presence of hydrogen by changing color. The invention was "a critical safety technology for the Space Shuttle Program," NASA noted, while now being used primarily in oil and gas production industries. Known as the "Oscars of Invention," the R&D 100 has been presented by R&D Magazine since 1963.



By the Numbers

- 319 participants at Homecoming 5K
- 12,000–15,000 estimated crowd at Homecoming Fest
- 44-9 win over Mississippi College at Homecoming Football Game
- 500+ alumni and friends at Homecoming Gala

HOMECOMING



Homecoming 5K overall male champion Chris Cacciapaglia and overall female champion Sara Trane with Pete the Panther



FOOTBALL



Our Distinguished Alumni Award Winner had a busy Homecoming weekend serving as Grand Marshal of the parade and handling the coin toss for the football game.



Tailgating



Brian Ashley, of Orlando, won a 2015 Audi A3, courtesy of Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, Audi of Melbourne, during the Punt-Pass-Kick contest.



Parade

JEROME P. KEUPER DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD
Ann Dunwoody '88 M.S., the U.S. military's first female four-star general, accepts the award from Bino Campanani.

"I am truly honored and humbled to be the fourth recipient of the prestigious Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni award. While I would have loved to have attended graduate school on the main campus at Melbourne, the quality of my FIT education at Fort Lee was exceptional. As a logistician in the Army, the M.S. degree in logistics I received from FIT complemented my operational experience in the field. It was tailored and designed to give me a better understanding of the business side of the Army."

— excerpt from *FLORIDA TODAY* article by R. Norman Moody, published Oct. 24, 2014

See other award winners on page 31.



Downtown



A special reception to honor the 2014 alumni award winners was held at Yellow Dog Café.





Outstanding Alumni

AWARDISTS

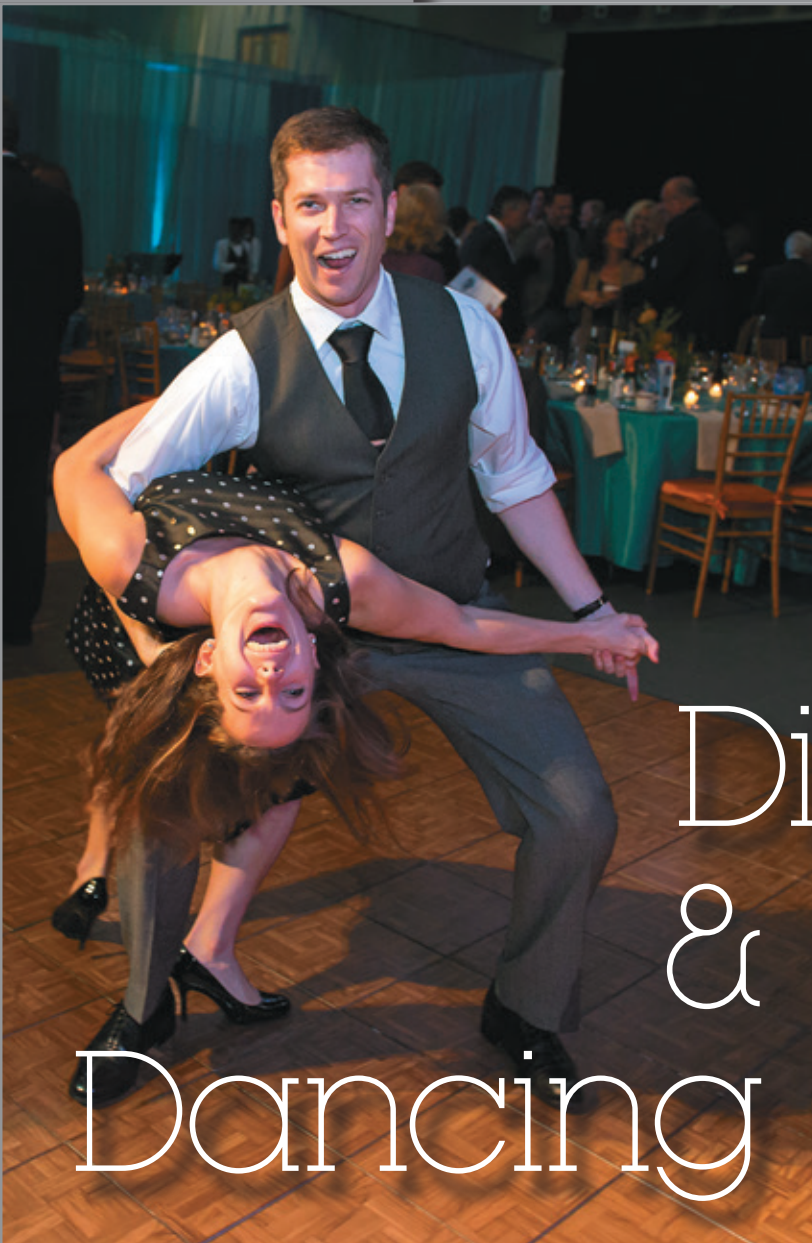
1
Mr. Bill Johnson '76
College of Aeronautics
 – Skurla Award

2
Mr. Alan Prestwood '73, '80 MBA
Nathan Bisk
College of Business

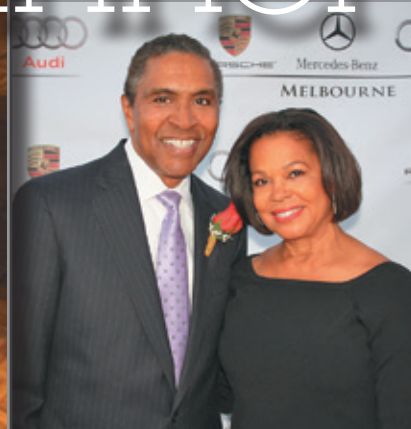
3
Dr. David Mazurek '82, '84 M.S.
College of Engineering

4
Mr. Jim Taylor '89
College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

5
Mr. Tracey Bailey '88, '95 M.S.
College of Science



Dinner & Dancing



share your news!

Submit your AlumNotes to alumni@fit.edu

1950s

We Could Not Fail, a book by Richard Paul and Steven Moss, profiles the first African-Americans in the space program, including **JULIUS MONTGOMERY**, one of Florida Tech's first African-American students. Montgomery courageously withdrew from classes when integration threatened to shutter the fledgling university. Today, Florida Tech honors Montgomery each year with the presentation of the Julius Montgomery Pioneer Award, given to an important leader in the Space Coast's African-American community. We Could Not Fail, publishing in May, is currently available for pre-order on Amazon.

1970s



JIM CARLETON '75 shared a photo of Pete the Panther at Mark Twain's Study taking

Panther Pride: Then and Now
Kay '09 and **Elyse Rowe**, daughters of **Bob Rowe '87 M.S.**, associate director of undergraduate admission, and **Jacqui Rowe**, programmer analyst in Florida Tech's Office of Information Technology, have been Panther fans since birth. In fact, each attended her first Panther Basketball game at just 3 months old! "After the first buzzer, they were fine," quips Bob. In 1991, the girls, ages 5 and 3, posed for a photo with Pete the Panther. This fall, they continued the tradition—joining Pete in the stands as Panther Football pummeled Ave Marie at Pirate Stadium on Sept. 13.



summer classes on the campus of Elmira College in upstate New York.

1980s



MARK KEELER '80 has been named vice president and general manager of BAE Systems' Integrated Electronics & Warfare Systems business within the company's Intelligence & Security sector. Keeler joined BAE

Systems in 1986 as an engineer and has since held numerous leadership positions in engineering, program and operations management.



TIM KAIN '82 shares a photo of his grandson **Korben Dallas Kain** (2 months old). His parents are **Jason** and **Kristina Kain**. Tim and his wife **Mary** (office manager at Northern Illinois University, School of Nursing) live in

DeKalb, Ill. Their son **Jason** and his family live in **Sycamore, Ill.** Jason is a special effects makeup artist and his wife **Kristina** is a cosmetologist.

JEFF MOSELEY '83 recently moved to **Dallas** as an MD-80 captain for **American Airlines**.

RACHEL A. POWLESS '86, '90 M.S., is president and co-founder of **Native Territories Avian Research Project (NTARP)**, which works to educate, train and establish programs to involve **Native Peoples** with birds, bird studies, interconnected species and related environmental topics as they may impact native lands. Her husband **Carl Pascoe** is vice president and research director and master bander. Both hold permits from **Ottawa** to band

ON THE ROAD

Dallas



Coach Steve Englehart, wife **Carrie Englehart** and son **Ty**



Brad Moravec '95 with wife **Gwen** and daughters **Molly** and **Kate**



Bino Campanini, **Andy Kirbach '90**, **Chad Shoultz '96**, **Duane De Freese '82 M.S., '88 Ph.D.**

songbirds, hummingbirds, hawks and owls. Rachel is the only native in the U.S. and Canada to be banding hummingbirds. Their funding comes from grants and donations. Rachel and Carl celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in December. They were married at Florida Tech by the VP of Financial Affairs, **PERRY CLENDENIN**.

KEVIN DILALLO '86 is CEO of Manatee Healthcare System and group vice president, UHS of Delaware, Inc. in Bradenton. He previously served the American College of Healthcare Executives as regent for Florida—Eastern and as a member of the finance committee.

KEITH MCCULLAR '88 MBA and his wife Julia are expecting their second grandchild in November. Keith is a school administrator for the Department of Defense Schools.

1990s



ALVARO FUSTER '92 welcomed his second child Beatriz on April 26, 2014. He says his future Florida Tech student is healthy and already looking for trouble.

LT. GEN. GUSTAVE PERNA '92 M.S. assumed duties as the U.S. Army's Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, on Sept. 18, 2014. He oversees policies and procedures used by 240,000 Army logisticians throughout the world. He earned his master's in logistics management from FIT Fort Lee.

ALEXANDER B. RAULERSON '92 M.S., a 38-year Army veteran, was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in October at a ceremony at the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes. He will serve as the director of the Army G-4's Corporate Information Office, overseeing information technology policy for all Army logisticians. He earned his master's in logistics management from FIT Fort Lee.

PAULETTE KING '94 has won the Melbourne Independent Film Festival (MIFF) Best Picture People's Choice Award for four years in a row. Her films include: "Love All We Got" (2014), "Betrayal Squared" (2013), "Forgiveness Lesson of Life 101" (2012), "Incredible Banana" (2011) (Jamaica Cine award, 2012) and "False Sense of Security" (Florida Today's newspaper short film contest, 2010).

BRIG. GEN. KRISTIN K. FRENCH '95 M.S. assumed the duties of commanding general of the Joint Munitions and Lethality Life Cycle Management Command and Joint Munitions Command (JM&L LCMC) in 2013 and was recently featured on the cover of Ground Combat & Tactical ISR magazine. She earned her master's in logistics management from FIT Fort Lee.

Spotlight: Scotty Rushing

Scotty Rushing '14 is no stranger to the concept of beating the odds. He has worked as a sports agent and written about poker. He chose to return to school in his mid-40s, just a handful of years after he lost his job and home and was forced to live for a while in his car. And just three years ago, he was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.



His diagnosis, in part, inspired him to focus on his education, but he was slow to reveal his condition to instructors or classmates.

"I did not want to allow even the slightest possibility that I would be treated any differently than any other student," he explains.

While he acknowledges there were difficult patches, he excelled as a student—he was honored for his academic achievements by the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts and was inducted into the international honor society, Psi Chi.

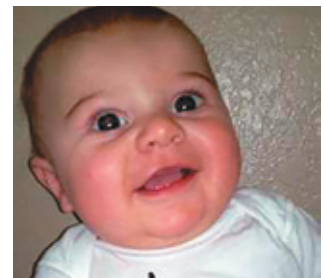
"If I had to take the experience as a whole, I would say being diagnosed with MS was actually a positive. It inspired me to do a lot of things that I had always wanted to do, and I also accept and own the responsibility that comes with having this kind of disease. I really believe those of us who have MS are obligated to encourage others with illnesses and disabilities by setting a good example. MS is not a death sentence. MS is just a blip on the radar screen," says Rushing.

This fall, he earned his associate degree in applied psychology. He plans to continue his education and ultimately teach at the college level.

"I want to find ways to assist other adults in returning to school," he says. "I want to be a voice for online education."

Read more about Scotty Rushing at today.fit.edu.

CHARLES ADLER '96 MBA is employed as a manager for a contractor. He resides in Bayville, N.J. with his wife. They have three children and three grandchildren.



REBECCA TAGG-FERGUSON '96 and husband Brian

Submit your AlumNotes
to alumni@fit.edu

Continued on page 34

ON THE ROAD

New Jersey



Vincent Russo '88 completes the Alumni Endorsement Grant form for a prospective student



Suketu Patel, Julia Cooper, Prashant Patel, Melissa Fenske '12



Joanne Damato '97, Bino Campanini and Mark Lewin '01

ALUMNOTES

Continued from page 33

welcomed their first son, Radley James, on Feb. 20, 2014. He weighed 9 lbs., 1 oz. and was 21 inches long. The family lives in northern California.

JOANNE DAMATO '97 and **ROB DAMATO '92** reside in New Jersey with their two children. Joanne is director of educational development and strategy at the National Business Aviation Association.



JENNIFER BUKO '98 M.S. and her husband **JOHN MCLAUGHLIN '05** M.S. welcomed their son Hunter John McLaughlin on Dec. 29, 2013.

TIMOTHY STEVENS '98 is a pilot with Express Jet and lives in Tyrone, Ga.

FRED STROHM '98 M.S. is retired and enjoys traveling.

2000s

MARK LEWIN '00 is a pilot with Southwest Airlines. He and his wife reside in New Jersey with their two children Amelia and Juliet.



LETA MEERMAN '01 M.S. is employed locally as a medical social worker at CHS Wuesthoff Health System, specializing in grief and crisis counseling in the ER and ICU. She lives on the ocean in Satellite Beach and enjoys exercising, golfing, tennis and traveling.



DEBORAH ANN BAKER '03 M.S., '04 M.S., PMA-234 Chief of Staff, Naval Air Systems Command, received the 2014 Women of Color Career Achievement—Government award at the 19th Annual Women of Color Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Conference this fall in Baltimore. In 2013, Baker was honored with the organization's Managerial Leadership—Government award.



LORNA LANGONE '03 welcomed daughter Juliet Evangeline Langone on Oct. 31, 2013, at 6 lbs., 13 oz. and 20.5 inches long. Lorna is a geotechnical engineer in Boston; her husband is a project manager for an elevator company.

JACK SABBA '03 is a pilot for Endeavor and resides in Minneapolis, Minn.

ROBERT STEELE '03 is a pilot for Express Jet.



DANIEL BAINS '04 M.S. and wife Rhonda welcomed daughter Charlotte Hannah Bains on April 7, 2013. The family resides in Huntsville, Ala.

ROBBY FINKLEA '04 is a captain and line pilot for Express Jet. Robby was a flight instructor from 2004–2006 and was hired at Express Jet in 2006 after two years of flying a King Air 200. He was promoted to captain in February 2012. He lives with his wife in Jacksonville, Fla.



RONALD GICKA '07 and his wife Courtney welcome daughter Genae Victoria on Feb. 28, 2014. Ronald is a systems engineer with Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab.

BRANDON COWLEY '08 is a pilot with Envoy Air.



MAJ. BRANDON ELLIOTT '08 pictured here with his daughter Brice is a supervisory contract specialist in Raleigh, N.C.

ON THE ROAD Richmond



Edward Grosso '90, Noelle Grosso, Donald Weir '87, Brenda Weir



James Pottala '92, John Petri '91, Gus Anderson '91, Chris Deegan



Robert Herbst '03, Laura Herbst, James Olvera '04, Leigh Ayers



TIM GONYER '08 and **CASSIE (MOLL) GONYER '08** welcomed their first baby, Lucillia "Lucy" Marie, on April 9, 2014.



ANDREA (CROSS) '08 and **FREDERIC KREIT '09** introduce their son Lysander Marvin Kreit, born on May 7, 2014. Andrea is taking a break from work as a fisheries biologist to be with Lysander. Frederic is a mechanical engineer and project manager with Altran. The family lives in Birmingham, Mich.



BRIAN HUNTER '08 and **SAMANTHA YOST '08** were married on May 25, 2014, at the Adventure Aquarium in New Jersey in the company of family and friends. Brian also completed his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Rutgers University in 2014 and is currently working with the U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center. Samantha is in her fifth year of Ph.D. research in microbiology and molecular genetics at Rutgers University.

NICHOLAS DAVID AUSTIN '09 is a Foreign Service officer of the U.S. Department of State. He accepted his first tour of duty in Lagos, Nigeria, as a political and economic officer beginning in July 2014. Austin earned degrees at Florida Tech in astrophysics, physics, and mathematical sciences. He then attended George Washington University where he earned a Master of Arts in Energy Policy. Austin was formerly with SRA and CTC where he worked as a government contractor at the Pentagon.

2010s

EDGAR BLANCHETTE '10 M.S. earned his first degree black belt in Kempo Karate from MetroWest Martial Arts Academy in Westborough, Mass., at 65 years of age. He has been involved in the martial arts for 50 years (1964) and holds various belts in multiple styles, including a black belt in taekwondo. He is retired from Raytheon Company as a senior systems engineer. He and his wife live in Northborough, Mass.



KIMBAL (KIM) FATICA '11 MBA was named chief marketing officer for Keystone Property Services. He continues to serve on the executive board of the American Marketing Association of Tampa Bay and was named Volunteer of the Year for 2013. He recently spent time on Capitol Hill with the Mortgage Bankers Association as a member of their Mortgage Action Alliance, talking to congressional leaders about mortgage reform. He resides with his wife Judy in Tampa.



LOWELL HUNTINGTON '10 graduated with a bachelor's in aviation management with flight. After graduation, he worked with Avports at Albany International Airport before enlisting in the USAF. He earned the top stick award in the T-6 and was selected to train in the T-38. He is currently at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio training to become an instructor in the T-38. In February, he will go to Whiteman Air Force Base to fly the B-2 Stealth Bomber.

BRANDON BOURNE '13 is a first officer for PSA airlines and loves every bit of it.



NICOLE KNOX '13 Psy.D. and her husband Joe Knox celebrated the first birthday of their beautiful baby girl, Cambria Grace Knox, on Oct. 30, 2014.

GREGORY POULIN '13 is a first officer for Express Jet.

Calling All Panther Cubs! Congratulations! If you've recently welcomed a Panther Cub to your family, contact us for your free Panther Cub apparel item. Then send us a photo of your child in their Panther swag, and an AlumNote about yourself for an upcoming issue of this magazine, Email hrosskamp@fit.edu for details

ON THE ROAD Vero Beach



Michael Gabriel '76, Trish Gabriel



Kris Caldwell, Katherine Nall '11 Ph.D., Robert Nall



Russell Greenberg '90 wins a T-shirt from President Catanese

Make your own memories abroad with Pete the Panther

FIT partners with Brevard Zoo for educational adventures in Botswana and Ecuador in 2015.



An educational adventure awaits in 2015! FIT Alumni Association has partnered with the Brevard Zoo to offer these two unique opportunities.

Join the Brevard Zoo and FTAA in Botswana: Animal Kingdom's Water Wilderness in Spring 2015. Watch the sandy Botswana desert suddenly burst into life from a bird's-eye view as you descend into the Okavango Delta by small plane to begin your journey.

Six hundred miles off the coast of Ecuador, Charles Darwin used the Galapagos Islands as his living laboratory to gather evidence for his theory of Natural Selection. In Summer 2015 you can swim and snorkel with sea lions and come within mere inches of Blue-footed Boobies and iguanas while aboard M/Y Letty/Eric/Flamingo 1.

Contact the Alumni Association for more information at alumni@fit.edu.

In Memoriam

FREDERICK LITTLETON LEMOSY '63, '66, one of the first students at FIT, passed away at his new home in Oviedo under hospice care on Aug. 10, 2014. Fred spent most of his working life in the space industry at Kennedy Space Center, using his FIT degree in electrical engineering to move from being a lead technician to an electrical engineering post (changing companies over the years). He is survived by his widow, Joan (also an FIT alumna and a librarian there for a number of years) and three daughters.

EUGENE ANTHONY BUZZI '65, a former Alumni Board member passed away Sept. 12. After serving four years in the U.S. Air Force, he worked for the Lockheed Missiles & Space Division on the submarine-launched Polaris

Missile System for six years. He then worked for North American Rockwell on the Apollo Spacecraft Program. He was assistant Spacecraft Chief on Apollo 12, the second lunar landing. He earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Florida Tech and a master's in business management from Florida State University. He was a fellow in the Radio Club of America, a senior life member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and a director in the Florida Tech Alumni Association.

THOMAS WYNNE GEORGE '68 M.S. passed away Sept. 30, 2014, at Holmes Regional Medical Center. He received a B.S. degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Maryland and an M.S. degree in space

technology from Florida Tech. He worked as an aeronautical engineer for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, Chrysler Corporation and NASA where he retired in 1997.

RONALD GEORGE THOMAS '72, one of seven inaugural African-American students to attend Florida Tech, passed away on Aug. 22, 2014. He was a mathematics major focused on the burgeoning field of computer science. He later completed a M.S. degree at the University of Central Florida. While attending FIT, he met his soulmate, Carolyn Reagan '70, '87 MBA, and they were wed three years later. Ronald and Carolyn were married 23 years before her passing on Sept. 1, 1993. Together they raised three sons, R. Derrick, Michael and Reggie. Ronald worked for 30-plus years in

the aerospace and defense industries.

ROBERT "BOB" BROUGHTON '99 passed away Sept. 4, 2014. He attended Brevard Community College prior to enlisting in the military. He joined the U.S. Air Force, served four years stationed overseas and earned the rank of Staff Sergeant. As a hydraulic technician, he serviced F-4 and B-52 aircraft. Returning to Brevard County, he continued his education and graduated from Florida Tech with a degree in chemical engineering. Bob was employed for over 10 years at the KSC/CCAFS working for Wylie Labs and United Space Alliance.

DIANE DEATON '10 MBA, associate director of alumni affairs, passed away on Dec. 16, 2014. (See page 38.)



Legacy Breakfast

President Catanese with the Stilson family, Monica, Adam, Kathy and David



The O'Connor family, Alex, Chris and Lisa

*This summer, **GREG DONOVAN** took the helm of Melbourne International Airport. His airport management experience spans from Texas to Wisconsin to north Florida, where he served as the airport director for Pensacola International Airport (PNS) prior to joining MLB.*



Meet Greg Donovan

Executive Director, Melbourne International Airport (MLB)

Greg Donovan, left, with Doug Pattison '91, a Delta Air Lines first officer based out of JFK flying B-757 and B-767 equipment mostly to Europe. Last July, Pattison flew a leg into Pensacola International Airport (PNS) when Donovan was airport director and the two had an opportunity to visit. Pattison was best man at Donovan's wedding and a fellow Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity brother.

“Serving as executive director of MLB is a professional opportunity of a lifetime, considering the industry-leading business development taking place. Responsible for a \$28 million budget, MLB has an annual economic impact of over \$1 billion with over 7,000 people working every day on the airport campus. Aircraft final assembly, aerospace, engineering, heavy maintenance, flight training and support of Department of Defense programs are incredible opportunities for our community, with MLB providing the infrastructure for success.

It is very important that we keep momentum of bringing companies and new air service to the growing Space Coast. I appreciate the user perspective of being a pilot, a customer or a company that must achieve the most competitive edge from a pricing standpoint. I also fully appreciate our military service members and their families. In addition to providing flight and operational support, many of our passengers are military members who are deploying or returning from a mission.

Having served in several honorary commander programs at Eglin AFB, served on the USO board of directors for several years and selected as a community ambassador by Gen. Davis, I place an importance with our organization's goals to support our military and their missions.

Beyond leading MLB into future successes, I look forward to teaching at FIT someday as a second job, hoping to communicate my 23 years of airport management experience to students considering the same professional track. It is an incredibly rewarding field that encompasses a wide range of disciplines such as planning/engineering, regulatory compliance, marketing, finance, facilities maintenance and emergency management to name a few.

The bottom line is that my education gained at FIT opened the doors to achieve a career that I specifically aimed for. The return on investment for a quality education, from an industry recognized and leading aviation university is invaluable. Combine this with actual work experience and it is a winner. For this reason, I am starting an internship initiative at MLB by the spring 2015 semester that will provide an undergraduate and graduate level paid internship. In the years to come, we will further utilize FIT's resources for airport research and want to eventually establish a “working school” program at MLB for aviation management majors.”

DEGREE: '91 B.S. Aviation Management

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS: Selected as the 2011 Aviation Professional of the Year by the Florida Department of Transportation and served as president of the Florida Airports Council (FAC) in 2012

FAMILY: Married to Jennifer (Hessel) Donovan '91; two sons, Ryan, 13, and Kyle, 10, brother-in-law John Hessel '87 also an alumnus

PRIOR EXPERIENCE: Airport operations at Houston Hobby Airport (HOU) in Texas and Dane County Regional Airport in Madison, Wisconsin; assistant airport director at Pensacola International Airport (PNS); director of three airports in Okaloosa County—Northwest Florida Regional Airport (VPS), Destin Airport (DTS) and Crestview Airport (CEW)

News from the desk of

Bino Campanini '90, '92 MBA

Vice President for Alumni Relations
and Executive Director, Alumni Association

2014: A LOOK BACK

This year saw the FTAA continue its outreach to students with our Real World 101 program and the launch of Grad Bash. We also worked with student groups for Homecoming, hosted our Legacy Breakfast and introduced a recognition program for participants in the Brazil Scientific Mobility Program—all part of our Panther4Life initiative to let students know they are and always will be Panthers!



Florida Tech's ROTC team took first place in the 5K.

HOMECOMING

From the starter's gun at Thursday night's Homecoming 5K through to the last note the band played at Saturday night's Homecoming Awards Gala, Homecoming 2014 was sensational.

FIT Homecoming Fest had a more relaxed vibe this year as our headline act was roots reggae artist SOJA. Having just returned from a successful European Tour and coming off a #1 record on the Billboard Reggae Chart, SOJA were on the top of their game for the large crowd in downtown Melbourne. With an estimated crowd of 12,000–15,000 enjoying the concert, and other activities in the downtown area, it was a great night for both the FTAA and music lovers.

Participation in the 5K almost doubled from the previous year, and the addition of team awards proved to be a great success. The Florida Tech ROTC team took the first place award followed closely by the Nathan Bisk College of Business's SMART team. I was unable to defend my victory from last year, in the 45–49 age group, but came in a close second and enjoyed the new race course immensely. Our friends at Meg O' Malley's Irish Pub once again hosted the post-race party and provided free beer and food to the delight of all the race participants.

BINO CAMPANINI SETTLES IN TO DALLAS

The football team's game against Tarleton State of the Lone Star Conference provided Panther fans an opportunity to watch their team play in AT&T Stadium—the home of the Dallas Cowboys. A party of 50+ travelled to Dallas from Melbourne and toured the stadium the day before the game and had the rare opportunity to spend time on the field throwing passes and sitting in the locker room.

On game day 150+ alumni from the greater Dallas area attended the alumni reception held in the Club Lite room and cheered on the Panthers to an exciting victory. On a personal note, a visit to Dealy Plaza and the Sixth Floor Museum was memorable as was the opportunity to sit on a genuine Texas bull.

FTAA BOARD

The past couple of years have seen major changes on the FTAA board of directors with 19 new members joining the board and many longtime members terming out. This year also saw a transition in our leadership with the election of Duane De Freese as FTAA president. De Freese installed a new vision and purpose to the FTAA that has challenged board members. One goal is to raise \$150,000 to renovate and upgrade the FIT Alumni House. I am pleased to report the board has accepted the challenge, and we are making great progress on many fronts.

It is important to know that 100% of our FTAA board members made contributions of their time, talent and treasure to Florida Tech in 2014 and continue to support the efforts of the Office of Alumni Affairs. 2014 was a banner year for the FTAA and 2105 promises to be even better!

In Memoriam

December 16 was a very sad day for all of us in the Office of Alumni Affairs as we lost our dear friend and colleague **Diane Deaton**. She will be missed not only by our office but by all the present



and past members of the Florida Tech Alumni Association Board whom she worked with over her many years with Alumni Affairs.

But Diane's reach went well beyond just working with alumni. She was well known throughout our campus through her work on the President's picnic as well as a wide variety of other activities. She was an FIT graduate as well as an adjunct faculty member and worked closely with student groups on campus.

Diane served Florida Tech well for 20+ years. She was instrumental in the growth and reach of the Florida Tech Alumni Association and her contributions are innumerable. She epitomized the Panther4Life motto and she will be sorely missed but never forgotten.

ON ALUMNOTES ...

We want to hear from you! Surveys show ALUMNOTES is one of your favorite sections of the magazine, so I encourage you to help us expand it.

Send your news to ALUMNI@FIT.EDU. We will share it with the 60,000+ alumni worldwide!



Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch™

12th Annual

CHOPPER DROPPER

Friday, March 13, 2015

Suntree Country Club



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!

Grand Prize
\$50,000

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SPORTING
to benefit Athletic Scholarships
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Reserve your tickets now, before they're sold out!

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

Friday, March 13, 2015 • 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 Florida Tech representative will contact winners if not present. All proceeds benefit Panther Athletic Scholarships. Suggested donation: no purchase or donation necessary • Fair market value \$20



Florida Institute of Technology

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Melbourne, Florida 32901-6975

Casino Night

In February 1980, students enjoyed Casino Night during homecoming week.



Are you pictured here? Do you remember this event?

Email us at fltechtoday@fit.edu. Relive this year's homecoming magic on page 28.

Tell us about it at fltechtoday@fit.edu