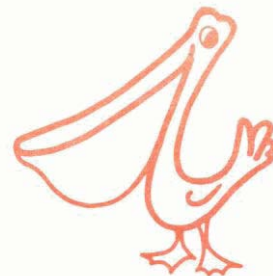


The Pelican

a newsletter for the F.I.T. family



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Trustee honored

Homer R. Denius, an honorary life member of F.I.T.'s Board of Trustees and co-founder of Radiation Inc. (now Melbourne-based Harris Corporation), was honored recently as a "Champion of Higher Independent Education" (C.H.I.E.F.).

The award is sponsored by the 18-member Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF). The C.H.I.E.F. award is presented annually by ICUF to persons who have done the most to promote independent education in Florida.

Denius was among eight persons honored at the banquet with C.H.I.E.F. awards. He was nominated for the award by President Keuper.

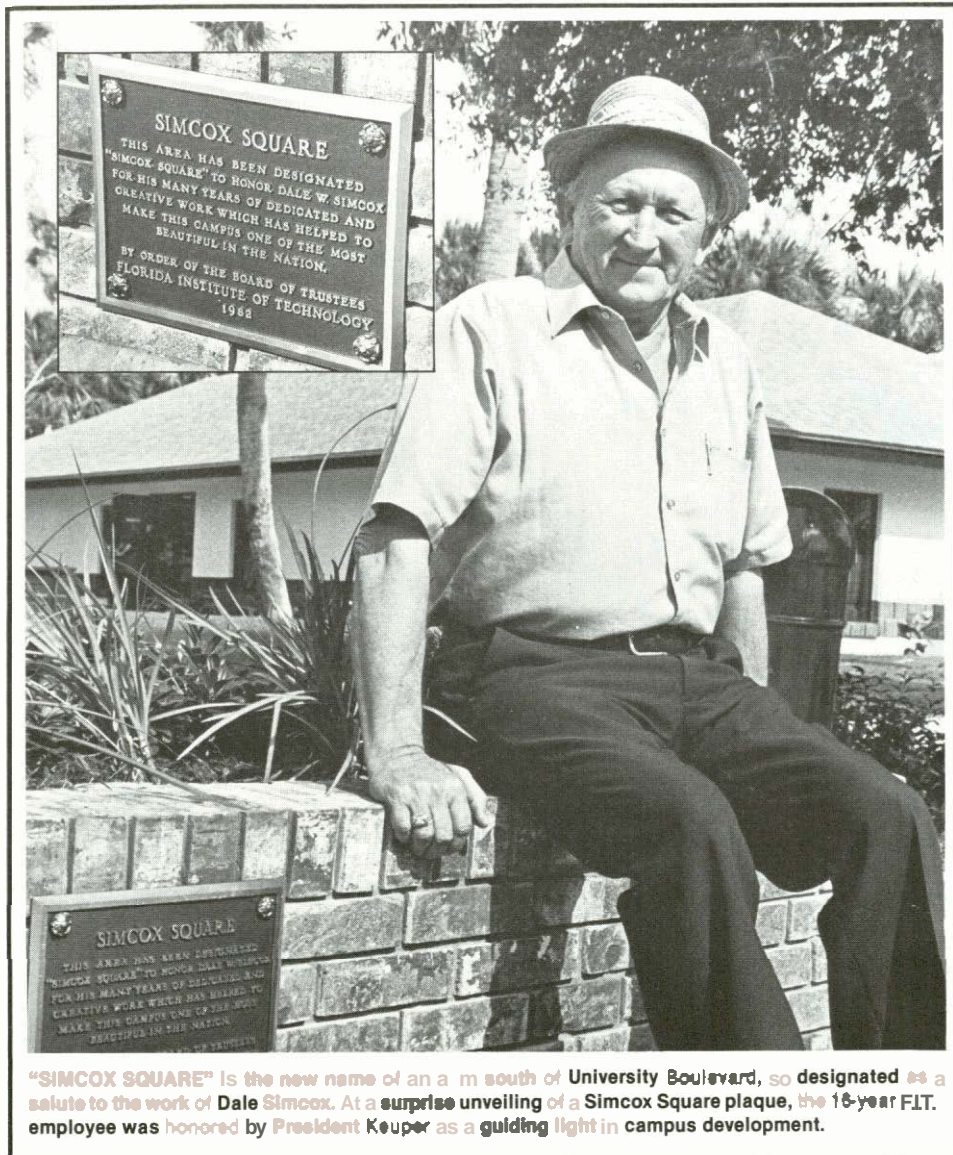
Homer Denius



Denius has been a generous supporter of F.I.T. since the university was founded. He joined F.I.T.'s Board of Trustees 16 years ago and served as board chairman from 1967 to 1972.

In 1965, Denius was awarded the honorary doctor of science degree by F.I.T. The student center at F.I.T. is named Homer R. Denius Student Center in recognition of his contributions to the university.

Currently, Denius serves as President and Chairman of the Board of Electro-Science Management Corporation, of Orlando.



"SIMCOX SQUARE" is the new name of an area south of University Boulevard, so designated as a salute to the work of Dale Simcox. At a surprise unveiling of a Simcox Square plaque, the 16-year F.I.T. employee was honored by President Keuper as a guiding light in campus development.

'Fog oils' are subject of research effort

Dr. John G. Windsor Jr., associate professor of oceanography, was recently awarded a \$30,973 contract to develop a technique for characterizing the exact chemical makeup of "fog oils."

Fog oils, a petroleum product, are used by the military to simulate obscured conditions of land and sea battles by creating smoke screens. The oil is heated and sprayed through small nozzles, forming a dense fog.

The F.I.T. contract is part of a multi-million dollar study administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to determine if fog oils are a health hazard.

The total EPA study will involve exposing different organisms such as rats and mice to the fog oils under controlled condi-

tions to determine whether or not the oils are a health hazard," said Windsor. The purpose of work at F.I.T. is development of a technique to chemically characterize the fog oils to assure that they are not contaminated during storage.

"If the EPA were to find a tumor in organisms exposed to the fog oil, they could not be certain that it is the oil causing the tumor to form, or whether it is caused by some contaminant in the oil resulting from storage conditions. This is what our quality assurance technique will provide for," said Windsor.

Windsor said that the F.I.T. work will analyze the various components in fog oils and determine whether or not these com-

ponents undergo potentially hazardous changes over time.

Salute coming

Gov. Bob Graham and state leaders in education are to join in a 25th anniversary "SALUTE to FIT." in the Gymnasium on March 25.

Guest speakers are Barbara Newell, Chancellor of the State University System; Ralph Turlington, state Commissioner of Education, and Pope Duncan, Chairman of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida, F.I.T. Trustee G. Denton Clark will be keynote speaker, and President Keuper will respond to guest speakers. Tom Adams will be master of ceremonies.

LIGHTS, ARMADILLOS, ACTION! Disney film c

By **Mary Deese**
Information Specialist

Dr. Eleanor Storrs of the university's Medical Research Institute was recently the guest star for a segment of a new Walt Disney television series planned for release on cable TV systems across the country.

Storrs joined series host James MacArthur for two days of filming. She served as the leader of an armadillo hunt on the first day at Palmdale, west of Lake Okeechobee. The **second** day was spent in M.R.I. laboratories.

For the M.R.I. researcher and head of the Division of Comparative Mammalogy and Biochemistry, the filming represented an educational endeavor as well as a chance for F.I.T. to become better known.

"I think that the television production was very worthwhile, in that it will give greater national publicity to F.I.T. and the leprosy research we are involved with at M.R.I.," said Dr. Storrs.

The armadillo, found widely in Florida as well as in other Southeastern states, has been used as a laboratory host for leprosy

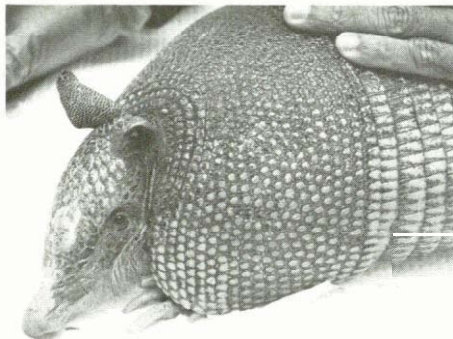
infections since Storrs determined in 1971 that the mammals were suited for the purpose. She subsequently established that leprosy — a disease that plagues developing nations — occurs naturally in wild armadillos.

It is the unusual nature of the armadillos that attracted the attention of Disney Storrs, who was an armadillo fan before determining their laboratory values, is an authority on the animals and their behavior.

The series — called "The Scheme of Things" — is to air in April when Disney's new cable channel goes into operation. Viewers in most major markets nationwide will be able to subscribe through cable television services.

"The Scheme of Things is a daily half-hour show on nature and the environment, aimed at a viewing audience of age 14 and older," said Paul Shain, field producer for Power/Rector Productions.

Disney contracted with the San Francisco-based production company to produce the series. Power/Rector is noted for the production of the science series "Discovery," and currently produces an educational show for the elderly called "Over Easy." That program is broadcast nationwide on public television stations.



ACTOR AND RESEARCHER meet in the laboratory, pictured above, as James MacArthur learns the art of armadillo handling from Dr. Eleanor Storrs. At bottom, Storrs put the grab on a wild armadillo while demonstrating how one captures the mammals.

'Wizard' wonders too

The Mr. Wizard Studio in California has also taken an interest in Dr. Storrs and F.I.T. armadillos. Wizard will produce a short report as part of a project supplying science reports to **N** stations across the U.S. (Participating stations, including several in Florida, reach about 53 million homes.)

Bob Goldberg, of F.I.T. Public Affairs, is providing Wizard with a series of color photographs that will be used **along** with information provided by Storrs to produce the TV report. The science reports are underwritten by the National Science Foundation and the General Motors Research Laboratory.

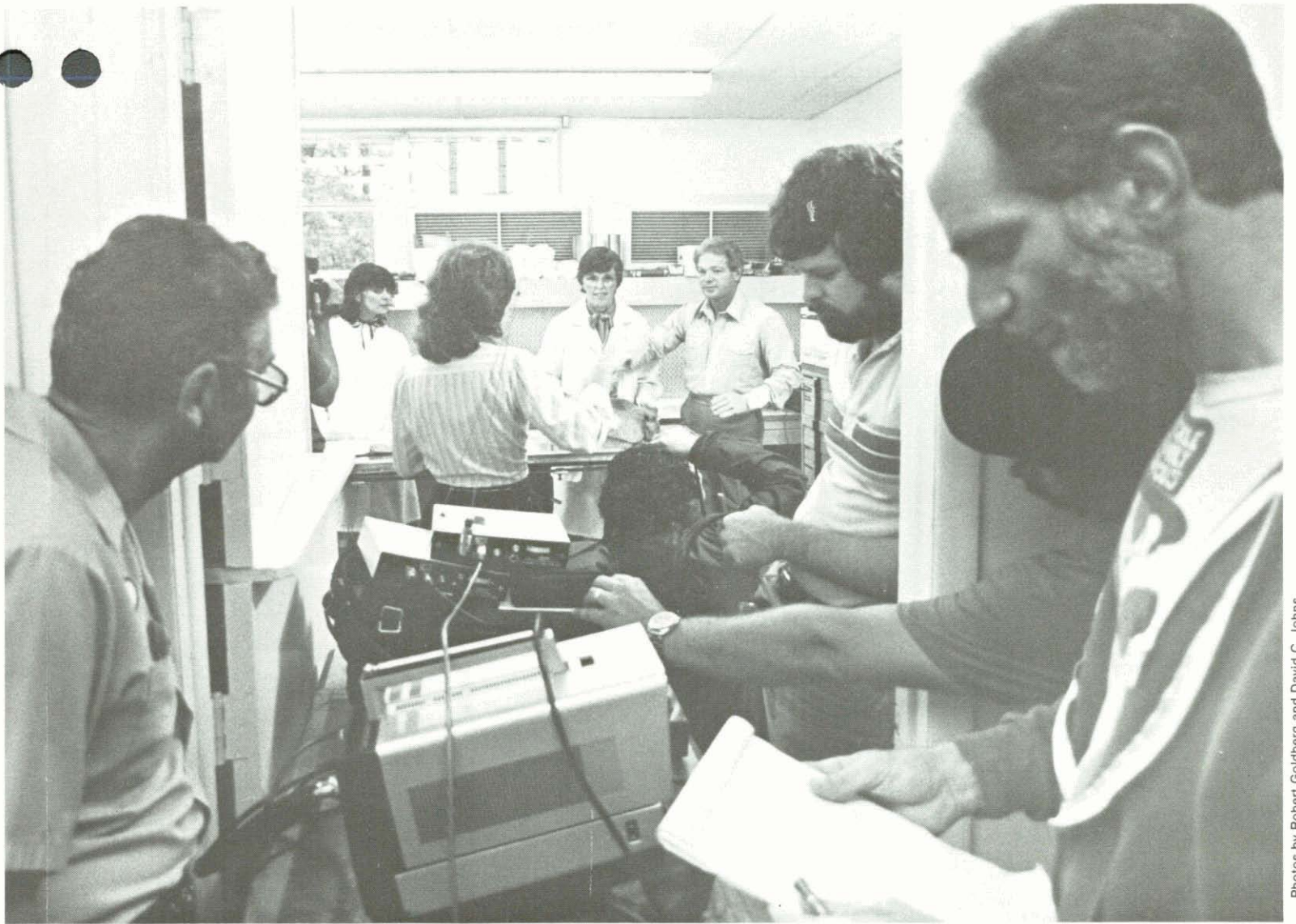


MacArthur, to be permanent host for the new Disney series, is a widely experienced movie actor. He is also often recognized as the son of theatre and film actress Helen Hayes, and playwright Charles MacArthur.

McArthur will rotate between six production crews currently shooting the series at various locations nationwide.

The veteran actor **served** as co-star on the T.V. series "Hawaii Five-0" for 11 years, retiring one year before the series was cancelled in 1979. Since 1981, he has been on national tour in Jean Kerr's play called "Lunch Hour."

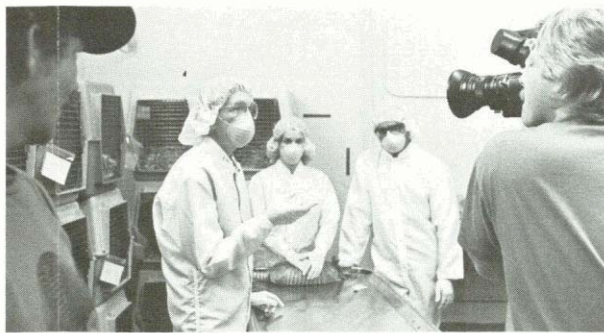
Of the **assignment** that brought him to F.I.T., **MacArthur** noted. "there is **more freedom** in what I am doing now. It's a whole new learning experience and I thoroughly enjoy it."



Photos by Robert Goldberg and David C. Johns

Laboratory Becomes Studio

Filming inside an M.R.I. laboratory, pictured above, took some careful maneuvering for a production company hired by Disney. At left, producer Deborah Shames sports a shirt decorated with the critter of the hour — an armadillo. Below, Dr. Storrs, lab technician Jan Stoddard, and researcher Arvind Dhople simulate laboratory work with armadillos infested with leprosy. At bottom, a rural location serves James MacArthur as the perfect place to talk about the habits of the armadillo.



Most of the 65 shows comprising the new Disney series will consist of one subject, said MacArthur.

He explained that the program involving Storrs is unique because it will have three separate segments with separate subjects. One of those subjects is "armadillo survival."

"We are doing an eight minute segment on why armadillos have survived for 55 million years. We will be looking at their

habitat, diet and how they are used as a model for human leprosy as part of that segment," said Deborah Shames, associate field producer for Power/Rector.

"Dr. Storrs and Dr. (Harry P.) Burchfield (Storrs' husband and formerly of the M.R.I. staff), educated Jim (MacArthur) on the natural habitat of the armadillo and the process of capturing one," said Shames.

Footage inside M.R.I.'s research laboratories centered on MacArthur interviewing Dr. Storrs about the armadillo diet and how the animals are used in research.

The idea of an armadillo story for the series came from Power/Rector's director of research, Marti Morez.

"I was thinking of ideas for the series when I remembered having read Dr. Storrs article 'The Astonishing Armadillo' in the June issue of National Geographic Magazine," said Morez.

"So, I contacted Dr. Storrs at F.I.T.'s Medical Research Institute. My only regret is that I wish I could have participated in the armadillo hunt myself. The leprosy research sounded so extraordinary," said Morez.



Campus notes

Dr. Frederick B. **Buoni**, chairman of the Operations Research Program, presented two papers at the joint national meeting of the Operations Research Society of America and The Institute of Management Sciences (ORSA/TIMS) in San Diego.

The papers were entitled "Assessment of Functional Test Intervals," and "Survey of NASA Manager Attitudes on Office Automation and Decision Support Systems." F.I.T.'s Operations Research Program trains students in the application of scientific techniques to management.

Dr. Margot Haberhern, assistant professor for Humanities, presented a seminar on "The Intrusive Ego: Authorial Presence in Literature and Film," at the eighth annual Comparative Literature Conference in Tallahassee.

Dr. **Charles D. Polson** and Dr. **Gary N. Wells** of Biological Sciences recently completed a training course on 'DNA Sequencing,' given by Bethesda Research Laboratories at the University of Miami Medical School.

Dr. **Glenn M. Cohen** and Dr. **Janie C. Park** of the Biological Sciences Department presented papers describing their respective research at the annual meeting of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology in St. Petersburg.

Dr. Cohen's paper on 'Developmental Gradients in the Embryonic Chicks **Basiler**

Papilla," dealt with the development of the hearing portion of a chick's ear. Dr. Park's paper, "A Technique for Improved Fixation of the Inner Ear of Young Chicks," dealt with a technique to preserve a chick's ear tissue for use in drug side effect studies.

Dr. **Marcelo Alonso**, executive director of F.I.T.'s Research and Engineering (FITRE), recently attended the International Scientific Energy Forum held in Paris. Dr. Alonso has also been invited to present a paper on "Nuclear Technology Transfer" to the Executive Conference of the American Nuclear Society at San Diego.

The Library staff recently hosted the Association of Mid-Florida Librarians. The group consists of 12 independent colleges and universities in Central Florida. Staff members participating included Dr. Lew Henron, Lois Beaty-Hughes, Debbie Mosby, and **Bruce Fluery**.

Ralph Johnson, Director of Development in the Public Affairs Department, has been selected by fellow members as chairman of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Brevard Metropolitan Planning Organization. The work of the organization centers on the transportation needs of Brevard County.

Nineteen members of the citizens committee represent various areas of the county. Johnson's work on the committee also relates directly to his involvement in trans-

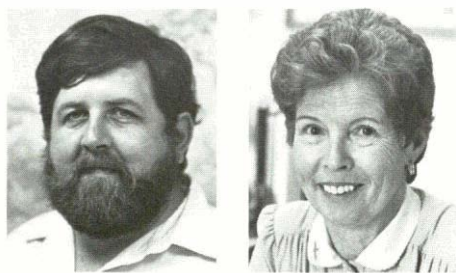
portation planning by the Chamber of Commerce of South Brevard since 1976.

Dr. **Allen Tucker**, Director of the Language Institute, recently announced that the facility has moved into offices south of University Boulevard. The building is shared with Off-Campus Programs. Telephone extensions for the Language Institute will remain the same.

At the invitation of **John L. Carkeet**, Dean of Academics for the School of Aeronautics, some 60 pilots-in-training from 14 nations recently toured F.I.T. The helicopter pilots are in training at Fort Rucker, AL. Carkeet's son, Capt. Kenneth Carkeet, an F.I.T. graduate now stationed at Rucker, escorted the visitors.

Dr. Frank C. **DeSua** is a participant in the Visiting Lecturer Program in Mathematics that is co-sponsored by the Florida Section of the Mathematical Association of America, and the Center for Mathematical Services of the Department of Mathematics at the University of South Florida. His topics are, "What is Topology," and "The Most Amazing Theorem in All of Mathematics."

An article by Dr. Gordon Patterson, associate professor for Humanities, was recently published in the "Journal of Mind and Behavior." The article is entitled, "Paradigms, Puzzles and Root Metaphors: Georg Christoph Lichtenberg and the Exact Science."



Dr. Windsor

Mrs. Barrett

Windsor joins faculty

Dr. John G. Windsor Jr., was recently appointed associate professor for Oceanography and Ocean Engineering. He holds both master's and doctoral degrees in marine chemistry from the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

Prior to coming to F.I.T., Windsor served five years as a senior project scientist for the Environmental Chemistry and Emissions Laboratory of Northrop Services, Inc., at Research Triangle Park, NC. He is responsible for the development of the Environmental Mass Spectrometer Center there. At the Center, various techniques are used for measuring organic compounds at low levels in the atmosphere.

Windsor resides in Melbourne Beach with his wife Karen; daughter Krista, age 15, and son Greg, age 19.

"The Pelican" is published monthly by Florida Institute of Technology, Office of Information Services Editor, Michael Moore; writer/co-editor, Mary Deese; photo editor, R. Goldberg; art director, Melanie Delman, and compositor, Rachele Ross.

Two security officers named

The hiring of two new security officers as part of a general upgrading of operations of the Safety and Security Office has been announced by Don Null, director.

"The Security Office is placing emphasis on the hiring of more highly trained and

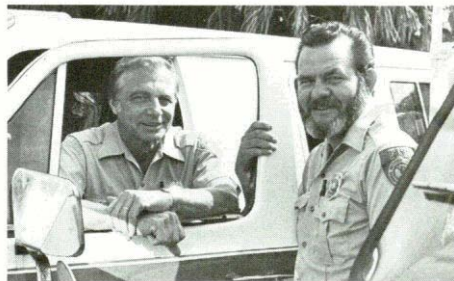
qualified individuals," explained Null.

New officers are Sam Bowser, a retired New York State policeman, and Fred Watson, recently retired from the Air Force.

Bowser's police career included attendance at the New York State Police Academy. His training ranges from criminal justice to investigations.

An active member of the Elks Club, Bowser is married and resides in Palm Bay. One son is seeking a master's degree in environmental science at F.I.T., while a second is a doctoral candidate in microbiology at Albany State.

Watson is a Florida native who ended his military career as a master sergeant. Military training included security procedures.



Officers Bowser, left, and Watson

Secretary aids president

Mrs. Evelyn Barrett assumed the position of Executive Secretary to President Jerome P. Keuper on January 10.

She is a native of Massachusetts. Prior to coming to F.I.T., Mrs. Barrett was an executive secretary for 17 years, having worked with the senior vice president of finance for Polaroid Corp. at corporate headquarters in Cambridge, MA.

"The academic world here at F.I.T. is quite different from the corporate world. I am enjoying my work with President Keuper, each day bringing a new and interesting task my way. I have found the faculty and my co-workers extremely friendly and cooperative in assisting me during this period of transition," said Mrs. Barrett.

Outside of work, Mrs. Barrett spends most of her time with her family. "I am very family oriented, I enjoy being with my husband, Kenneth, and my three grandchildren when they come to visit." The Barretts reside in Melbourne Beach. They have four children.

The security officer is active in the Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is married, with a daughter and two sons. Watson is a Melbourne resident.