



Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch™

CAMPUS OBSERVER

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE FLORIDA TECH COMMUNITY

3.17.10 | V11.3

See Annual Tournées French Film Festival Starting March 28

The department of humanities and communication will present the 5th Annual Tournées French Film Festival at Gleason Performing Arts Center, starting March 28. The French cinema showcase is made possible through a grant from the French American Cultural Exchange and by support from the Cultural Services of the French Embassy and the French Ministry of Culture. Because the grant is provided for a maximum of five consecutive years, this will be the last year for Florida Tech.

All movies start at 7 p.m. The first, *El Dorado*, will be shown on Sunday, March 28. On Wednesday, March 31, is *Azur et (and) Asmari*. The next show, on Wednesday, April 7, is *Les Amours D'Astrée et de Céladon (The Romance of Astrée and Céladon)*. Screenings continue on Sunday, April 11, with *Un Conte de Noel (A Christmas Tale)*. Finally, *Roman de Gare (Crossed Tracks)*, will be on Wednesday, April 14.

Admission is free. Films will be shown in French with English subtitles. Following the films will be discussions led by Florida Tech humanities faculty **Lisa Perdigao**, **Matthew Ruane**, **Chris Frongillo**, **Annie Caza** and **Andrew Aberdein**.

For information, call (321) 674-8073 or e-mail kkiser@fit.edu.



Azur et Asmari

Florida Tech Announces Newest Trustees

Three distinguished leaders have joined the board of trustees. **Nathan M. Bisk**, **Steven Freeman** and **Jonathan Zung** are the newest members of Florida Tech's leadership body.

Bisk is founder, chairman and chief executive officer of Bisk Education based in Tampa. He is a nationally known author of taxation, accounting and auditing texts, as well as continuing education programs. Additionally, he is the namesake of the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business at Florida Tech.

Freeman is Tampa Bay complex manager for Morgan Stanley Smith Barney in Tampa. His past positions have included financial adviser and manager for Merrill Lynch, as well as a branch manager for Morgan Stanley. Freeman holds a bachelor's degree in finance and an M.B.A. in business management from Florida Tech.

Zung is a vice president at Bristol-Myers Squibb in Princeton, N.J. He is responsible for the integration of the \$2.1 billion acquisition of Medarex and for operations at the Medarex Bloomsbury, N.J., development site. He also leads the project management organization and provides project management support across the Bristol-Myers Squibb R&D organization.



Nathan M. Bisk



Steven Freeman



Jonathan Zung

Wireless Center of Excellence Receives Donation

The department of electrical and computer engineering (ECE) received a donation of hardware and software valued at \$332,227 for its Wireless Center of Excellence (WiCE) from Agilent Technologies Inc.

The donation will be used in two graduate courses and to support the graduate research of many electrical engineering students pursuing master's and doctoral degrees in wireless communication.

"Previously, Florida Tech's WiCE invested in an Agilent wireless receiver and the data collected with that receiver have been part of several research papers and master's degree theses," said **Ivica Kostanic**, ECE associate professor and director of WiCE.

Florida Tech Earns National Community Service Honors Again

Florida Tech has again been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, recognizing the university for exemplary community service. This is the fourth straight year that Florida Tech has achieved this national recognition.

The university is honored for its Civic Engagement Initiative that seeks to provide opportunities for students, faculty and staff to engage in issues of public concern.

Faculty and Staff News

Office of the President

President **Anthony J. Catanese** was inducted into the Junior Achievement of the Space Coast Business Hall of Fame Feb. 27. He was honored for outstanding contributions to free enterprise and to society.

College of Aeronautics

John E. Deaton presented "Mitigation and measurement of latency in Next Generation Helmet Mounted Display Systems (NGHMDS)" at an Interservice/ Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference held in Orlando.

Winston Scott was an invited participant in an expert panel discussion on the future of the Space Program and its impact on Brevard County. *Florida Today*, Brevard Community College (BCC) and the Council of Technical Societies co-hosted the event at BCC.



Winston Scott

College of Engineering

Fox News Today interviewed **George Maul** by phone for the network's story on rogue waves. The story was a reaction to freak waves that smashed into a Mediterranean cruise ship off the coast of northeastern Spain in early March.



George Maul

Muzaffar Shaikh was invited to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, by King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST) to present on systems engineering principles and to counsel on how systems engineering can be applied at KACST.

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

Jose Martinez-Diaz was a guest on the Bright House Network local access "The Cerny Success Show." He was



Jose Martinez-Diaz

interviewed on e-learning and Florida Tech's applied behavior analysis program.

Robert Taylor was a panel member discussing "Lincoln and the presidential war powers" at an event for the School District of Manatee County in Bradenton, Fla.



Robert Taylor

College of Science

Ravi Agarwal was named #2 of all mathematicians in the world as ranked by Thomson Scientific, based on publications.



Ravi Agarwal

Students **Erik Casbeer**, **Nadine Noorhasan** and **Bhavesh Patel**, with **Virender Sharma**, published "Degradation of amino acids in water by ferrate(VI)" in *Progress in Environmental Science and Technology*.

Gordon Nelson was invited to speak at an American Burn Association Meeting in Boston, Mass., in a special session on chemical flame retardants.



Gordon Nelson

A paper by **Hakeem Oluseyi** won Best Paper and Outstanding Technical Innovation at the 2010 National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Aerospace Systems Conference in Los Angeles. The paper, titled, "A new technique for increasing the spatial resolution of pixilated space based observations" is co-authored by **Pat Malvosio '09**.



Hakeem Oluseyi

Post-doc **Ria Yngard** and **Virender Sharma** published "Removal of cyanide by ferrate(VI): Effect of metals and ethylenediaminetetraacetate" in *Progress in Environmental Science and Technology*.

Tuition Adjustment Sensitive to Tough Economy

The Florida Tech board of trustees approved a 2.3 percent tuition increase, which takes effect May 2010. It's designed to keep pace with inflation while being sensitive to students completing college in a struggling economy and is the lowest tuition increase in 25 years.

The increase means that annual full-time undergraduate tuition for engineering and science students will be \$31,734. Annual tuition costs for aeronautics, business, humanities and psychology students will be \$28,910. Room and board rates were also held to a 4 percent average increase. Hourly rates for the university's flight training program are increasing by \$5.

Promotional Efforts Awarded

Efforts to promote Florida Tech programs, from printed pieces to radio, have recently won 13 local and national honors:

Space Coast Advertising Federation (Local)—Creative Services, working with University Marketing, Enrollment Management and the Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts, earned Silver ADDY awards for the Viewbook, Apollo Anniversary Ad, Math Poster and Uncommon Threads printed materials. Also, WFIT was honored for partnering with the Brevard Symphony Orchestra on a Music Minute PSA series.

CASE District III 2009 Advancement Awards (Southeastern United States)—WFIT was honored with a Grand Award for public affairs programming that profiled the Daily Bread in Melbourne. The university earned three Special Merit Awards—for the Golden Anniversary Campaign, Panther Podcasts and the 2009 Sporting Affair/Chopper Dropper. Offices recognized include the President's Office, Advancement, Development, Athletic Communications, University Communications, WFIT, Athletic Partnerships, University Marketing and Creative Services.

Continued on page 4

Sponsored Scholar

Since fall 2008 Florida Tech has sponsored a Young Adult of the Month Award at each Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida monthly breakfast. In February, Melbourne High School student Anna Petrova was honored. She will receive a Florida Tech scholarship for each of four years if she chooses to attend the university. Pictured from left are Anna's father Andrei Petrova, Anna and Jennifer Neuhard, university marketing director.



Evans Library Contributes to Literacy Research

During the spring 2010 semester, Kathy Turner, Evans Library, leads campus participation in Project SAILS (Standardized Assessment of Information Literacy Skills). This national project develops and refines a standardized test that assesses how undergraduate students successfully find, evaluate and use information.

Fifty spring 2010 COM 2012 students will take the test. Their scores will add to accumulating knowledge about the design, validity and reliability of the Project SAILS standardized test of information literacy skills.



At the Heli-Expo in Houston

From left are: Kurt Willenbacher, Greg Popp, Bristow Academy Business Development; President Anthony J. Catanese; Samantha Willenbacher, director of Bristow Academy; and Steve Cusick, College of Aeronautics. The Heli-Expo is the world's largest tradeshow for the international helicopter community.

February MVP



The February Most Valuable Panther was **Cathy Irizarry**, Provost Office administrative assistant.

To nominate a staff or faculty member for this award, send your letters to MVP Committee Chair **Leslie Savoie** at lsavoie@fit.edu.

Transitions

New Hires: Ann Zarski, Office of the Registrar; Esthel DeSouza, Clemente Center Food Court; Scott Lauffer, Online Learning; Colleen Middlebrooks, Psychology; Bonni Castillo, Beth Hands, Graduate Admissions; Justine Hutton, Center Court Dining; Aileen Sanchez, Sub Café; Suzanne Odom, Evans Library

Campus Calendar

March 18 and April 8

Friends of Textiles Lectures

March 18: Cosmology and East Asian Textile Design

April 8: Stitching the Flat World Together

7 p.m., Denius Student Center, Hartley Room, \$10; free for Friends of Textiles and full-time students

For information, call extension 8313

March 19

Sporting Affair and Chopper Dropper

Fundraiser for athletics scholarships

Helicopter ball drop at sunset, Suntree Country Club

For information, call (321) 674-6220 or visit www.chopperdropper.com

March 19–20, 25–27

College Players

While the Lights Were Out

8 p.m., Gleason Performing Arts Center, \$10 adults; \$5 for ages 55 and older, and those with a military or student IDs; and \$3 for students, faculty and staff with Florida Tech IDs

For information, visit <http://cp.fit.edu> or call (540) 849-8938

March 20

Annual Campus Cleanup

9–11 a.m. (registration starts at 8 a.m.)

Meet at Panther Plaza, Free bbq for participants

For information, call extension 8080

March 23

Women's History Month event luncheon

Writing Women Back Into History

Keynote speaker: Author Monica Wofford

11 a.m.–2:15 p.m., Denius Student Center, Hartley Room

For information, call extension 7642 or e-mail mbeckett@fit.edu

March 26

2010 American Cancer Society's Relay for Life

Survivor's Lap

Starts 6 p.m., Clemente Center

For information, e-mail srewitze@fit.edu

March 27

Rotary Club of Indialantic

Eighth Annual Moon River, Music & Magic

6–9 p.m., Florida Tech campus, \$25

For information, call Ruth Sanderson at (321) 427-1765

April 9

Scott Center fundraiser

An Evening of Hope II

6–10 p.m., Scott Center for Autism Treatment

Cocktail reception and live auction

For information, call extension 6100

Northrop Grumman Student Design Showcase

Clemente Center for Sports and Recreation

For information, call extension 7349

April 21

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi Initiation

6 p.m., Gleason Performing Arts Center

All faculty and staff are invited to join

For information, call extension 7397

April 25

The Met Meets Melbourne

Performed by tenor Mark Baker and baritone Dean Peterson

4 p.m., Gleason Performing Arts Center

\$50 for general admission; \$25 for students

For tickets, contact Cliff Bragdon or Mary Dyer at extension 8865, or e-mail svbragdon@yahoo.com

TWITCHY Takes Stage at Fair March 20

Led by President Catanese on drums, the all-faculty band, TWITCHY, will perform at the 2010 Brevard County Fair March 20, from 3 to 5 p.m. The Scott Center for Autism Treatment will also have a presence at the fair that day.

On March 20, faculty, staff, alumni and students should bring their university ID cards to the fair to receive a discount price of \$5 for entry and an armband that includes unlimited rides. This offer is also for immediate family members. The fair runs March 18–28 at Wickham Park.

U.S. Census 2010

Carey Gleason, assistant vice president for community relations, was appointed to the Complete



Count Committee. Her role is to encourage everyone to complete and return their 2010 census questionnaires.

The U.S. Postal Service is delivering the questionnaires to everyone’s home in March. Because even international students are asked to complete census questionnaires, Florida Tech is distributing these to international students this month.

Census information, collected every 10 years, is key to the numbers of seats our state occupies in the U.S. House of Representatives and is used to advocate for a variety of needs, such as disease prevention and disaster rescues.


“April 1 is Census Day, when everyone is asked to send back their form,” said Gleason. May through July, census takers will visit households that did not return the form by mail.

For more information, visit www.brevardcounty.us/census.

Promotional Efforts Awarded *Continued from page 2*

Higher Education Marketing Report's 25th Annual Educational Advertising Awards (National)—Gold Award—Florida Trend Covers, Silver Award—Math Poster, Bronze Award—Apollo Anniversary Ad and Merit Award—Search Brochure. Creative Services, University Marketing and Enrollment Management were recognized.

View the pieces at www.fit.edu/creative/awards.php.



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From the President’s Desk



Anthony James Catanese

Trash will be the topic and the project on Saturday, March 20, starting at 9 a.m., as we all (I hope) come out to support the 2010 Campus Cleanup. The hamburger and hot dog picnic lunch starts at 11 a.m. and, as always, we’ll award prizes in many categories of trash collecting excellence.

Picking up litter is but a small (yet important) thing in making our campus what we want it to be. The bigger picture is evident in the many construction projects that are under way. We all know about the changes in traffic patterns and parking availability, but everyone may not know about the progress we are making.

We’re kicking up the most dust on south campus. There, the construction has begun on the four-story parking garage and the 472-seat food services building. The way has been cleared for the aquatic center on the south side of the Clemente Center. It’s still being finalized but we expect a rectangular pool that’s 25 meters by 50 meters. Look for completion of the three facilities in late fall 2010.

Thanks to an alumnus donation, the All Faiths Center is getting a refurbishment. The new kitchen will be great in looks and function, and a spire added to the roof line will give the building a whole new look.

Back on main campus, come take a look at the new pavers and landscaping installed between Evans Library and the Ruth Funk Center. It’s a very attractive area.

Off campus, we have a work order approved to replace the western section of the anchorage seawall, getting us all set for when we’ll build a new boathouse there. A design, similar to those of Schuylkill River Boathouse Row, has been submitted for review. Fundraising is ongoing.

Way off campus, we’ve built a new rappelling tower for ROTC in Fellsmere. Our cadets started to use it on Jan. 29.

These are the highlights for now. I’ll update you later in the year.