



Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch™

CAMPUS OBSERVER

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE FLORIDA TECH COMMUNITY

December 15 | V11.11

We Gave Generously to United Way

Florida Tech's United Way campaign has topped itself once again, with more than \$140,000 raised to date and still counting. This surpasses by far the university's goal of \$79,000 and will be a significant contribution to the United Way of Brevard's goal of \$6.8 million. A big thank you to the department coordinators is due.

The wrap-up event drawings on Nov. 15 resulted in prizes for 13 United Way contributors. **Tammy Ziccardi** and **Ilona Mueller** won \$200 gift cards to Best Buy; **Cynthia Tony** won an extra paid vacation day and the following people won Panther Dining meal cards: **Rosary Pedreira**, **Jon Beliveau**, **Joanne Savage**, **Suzanne Clark**, **Milagros Rios**, **Reuben Wooten**, **Kenneth Nance**, **Kenneth Dabbs**, **Mary Cromer** and **Jennifer McKillip**.

The *Campus Observer* will include the final total in the January 2011 issue.



At left, Joseph Noel, Florida Tech Student Government Association vice president, presents his organization's check for \$3,600 to Rob Rains, United Way of Brevard president. Also pictured, President Anthony J. Catanese and Carey Gleason, Florida Tech campaign coordinator.

Knight Awarded Nearly \$1 Million for Chemical Warfare Studies

Andy Knight, associate professor of chemistry, received a five-year, \$963,555 contract from the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL), Washington, D.C. With collaborators at the NRL Center for Bio/Molecular Science and Engineering, Knight and his Florida Tech researchers will study the cooperative effects of organic and inorganic coordination complexes on the catalytic degradation of organophosphorus compounds. These compounds are of interest because of their similarities to several phosphorus-containing chemical warfare agents such as Sarin and VX.

Since 2006, Knight's group has been funded by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), an entity of the U.S. Department of Defense. The group has worked in the broad area of antiviral and antibacterial therapeutics based on metal complexes.

Knight has been a Distinguished Fellow of the Office of Naval Research/American Society of Engineering Education (ONR/ASEE) Summer Faculty Research Program since 2007.

DMES Mourns Two Beloved Faculty Members

Recently, the department of marine and environmental systems lost two faculty members after long illnesses.

Elizabeth Irlandi-Hyatt passed away Oct. 20. An associate professor of oceanography and marine benthic ecologist, Irlandi-Hyatt joined Florida Tech in 1998. She mentored numerous graduate and undergraduate students, and offered much to the field. The Florida Academy

continued on page 3

Florida Tech Sailing Club Is No. 2 in Regatta

The Florida Tech Sailing Club recently finished second at the Eckerd Regatta in St. Petersburg, Fla. That result and a fourth place at a Rollins College Regatta earlier, qualified the team for the SAISA Co-ed Championships, which were held in late October.

Competing in all six South Point Regattas in the fall semester, the Florida Tech team was up against the

continued on page 3

Making Women's Soccer History



For the first time ever, the women's soccer team advanced to the NCAA Division II Final Four as one of the top four teams to vie for the National Championship at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky., in early December. They're shown here celebrating after beating Lenoir Rhyne College in Tampa on Nov. 21.

Faculty and Staff News

Stottler Passes

Rick Stottler, former Florida Tech men's soccer coach and namesake of Stottler Soccer Field, passed away on Dec. 2 at Wuesthoff Hospital. He was 75.

Stottler, the former coach of **Bino Campanini**, assistant vice president for alumni relations, took the men's soccer team to two National Championships in 1988 and 1991. Campanini was a player in '88 and assistant coach in '91.

Stottler remained an advocate and benefactor to the university and will be greatly missed.

College of Aeronautics

John Deaton co-authored a paper, "The relationship between religious and spiritual factors and perpetration of intimate personal violence," which was published in the *Journal of Family Violence*.

College of Engineering

Steven Jachec was a committee member and an invited speaker at the 9th International Workshop on Multiscale (Un)-structured Mesh Numerical Ocean Modeling (IMUM), held at MIT.

Daniel Kirk and **David Fleming**, associate professors of mechanical and aerospace engineering, were elected to Associate Fellow status by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), a distinguished honor not easily attained. The AIAA elects only two percent of members to Associate Fellow each year.

Daniel Otero co-authored "Scheduling with multiple tasks per job—the case of quality control laboratories in the pharmaceutical industry," which was published in the *International Journal of Production Research*.

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

"Song of Berries on the Vine," a poem by **Anne Marie Fowler**, was accepted for publication in *The Southern Poetry Anthology*, to be released by Texas Review Press in late 2011.

Maria Lavooy was appointed a member of the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair Scientific Review Committee.

Joshua Pritchard's paper, "Virtual rewards for driving green," was published in *The Behavior Analyst*.

Fontaine Wallace addressed the Palm Bay Democratic Club on "Amendment 8: Keeping our children's classes small—vote no."

Frank Webbe was elected by the board of directors of the National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN) to serve as a trustee and treasurer of the NAN Foundation.



Frank Webbe

David Wilder and **Ivy Chong** co-authored a paper, "A comparison of DRA + escape extinction versus NCR + escape extinction to treat food selectivity in a child with autism," with doctoral student **Janelle Allison**, undergraduate student **Jessica Pike** and alumni **Ashley Lugo** and **Rachel Lewis**. The paper was presented at the 30th annual meeting of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis in Orlando, Fla.

College of Science

Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria (BBVA), a multinational Spanish banking group, nominated **Ravi Agarwal** for the BBVA Foundation's prestigious Frontiers of Knowledge Award. The winner will receive 400,000 euros. The award recognizes and encourages world-class research and artistic creation, prizing contributions of broad impact for their originality and theoretical significance.

Tristan Fiedler hosted a presentation by Peter Ortner of the University of Miami, titled "The satellite of the sea."

The Proceedings of the 2009 Joint Annual Conference of the National Society of Black Physicists and the National Society of Hispanic Physicists, a book edited by **Hakeem Oluseyi**, was

published by the American Institute of Physics.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

Robyn Tapley received the Adviser of the Year national award at the National Mental Health on Campus conference held in Montclair, N.J. She was honored for her work in raising mental health awareness and decreasing stigma on college campuses.

Office of Strategic Initiatives

Cindy Schmitt presented "Creating learner friendly online learning environments—lessons learned" at the Association for Advancement of Computing in Education E-Learn Conference in Orlando, Fla.

Information Technology

Andy Stanfield and **Rosemary Layne**, director, Graduate Programs, presented a session at the 21st International Conference on College Teaching and Learning in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. The presentation was "The best of both worlds: Using hybrids to foster creativity."

Online Learning

Mary S. Bonhomme presented the session "Automated interventions" at the 2010 Annual Conference of the Association of Continuing Higher Education, held in Albuquerque, N.M. She was also inducted into the St. John's High School 2010 Alumni Hall of Fame for Career Achievement.

Congratulations to Homecoming Decorating Contest Winners

Thanks to all university departments that participated, the Homecoming Office Decorating Contest was a success. The Homecoming Committee selected the following winners of this year's contest:

First—School of Psychology
Second—Caribbean Students Association
Third—College of Aeronautics

Florida Tech Hosts Programming Competition

Ryan Stansifer, computer science, hosted the Annual Southeast Regional, IBM-sponsored ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest on Nov. 6. Seventy-five teams from Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina competed in an all-day mental challenge.

"This year's team continues a streak of over a decade of elite finishes for Florida Tech at the most prestigious event in collegiate computing," said Stansifer.

Florida Tech solved six problems.

Autism Conference Steps to Success

Mary Beth Kenkel, dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, and directors of the Scott Center for Autism Treatment are joined by experts in the field of autism and verbal behavior at the 2010 Autism Conference: Stepping Stones to Excellence. The conference, held on campus, provided comprehensive, evidence-based information to assist educators, providers and families in developing effective and therapeutic programming for those with autism spectrum disorders.



From left are Jose Martinez-Diaz, Amiris Di Puglia, Mary Lynch Barbera, Vincent J. Carbone, Ivy Chong, Fran Warkowski and Mary Beth Kenkel.

Campus Calendar

Until Dec. 18

Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts Exhibit
Fabric of Life: Textiles of Latin America
Tuesday–Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, noon to 4 p.m.
Free
For information, call (321) 674-8313
or visit <http://textiles.fit.edu>



Brevard Indo-American Medical and Dental Association—Among those at the Physicians Social Mixer for the United Way, sponsored by Florida Tech, were, from left: Dr. Ashok Shah, Gita Shah, George and Liz Mikitarian, President **Anthony J. Catanese** and Glad Kurian. The event was sponsored by Florida Tech.

DMES Mourns Faculty Members continued from front
of Sciences will hold a special session in her honor during the 2011 annual meeting being held on campus March 11–12.

Lee Harris passed away Oct. 30. A DMES fixture for three decades, Harris was an associate professor of ocean engineering and avid surfer and diver. His research took him around the globe, and he was well respected both in the field and in the classroom.

Sailing Club No. 2 in Regatta continued from front

University of Florida, University of South Florida, Rollins College, Eckerd College, University of Miami, New College, Florida Gulf Coast University, Jacksonville University, Florida Atlantic University and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Currently there are more than 300 members in the Sailing Club with faculty member **Stephen Wood**, ocean engineering program chair, as adviser.

Jan. 15–April 23

Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts Exhibit
Little Black Dress: Selections from the Costume Museum of Canada
For information, call (321) 674-8313
or visit <http://textiles.fit.edu>

Jan. 17

Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday

November MVP



Becky Crook

The November Most Valuable Panther was **Becky Crook**, executive assistant to the provost. To nominate a staff or faculty member for this award, send your letters to MVP Committee Chair Leslie Savoie at lsavoie@fit.edu.



Monthly International Note

The Florida Tech majors with the largest representation from the total international student enrollment are electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, computer science, aerospace engineering and computer engineering.

Staff Transitions

Promotions: **Andy McIlwraith**, University Marketing; **Joan Dayton**, Security

New Hires: **Kimberly Fulks**, Conference Services; **Ellen Davidson**, **Timothy Bojanowski**, Evans Dining; **Thomas Misilo**, Evans Library; **William Lee**, Institutional Research; **Yolanda Carabello**, Office for Advancement; **Audrey Smith-King**, Office of Development; **Jennifer Havery Johnson**, Registrar's Office; **Erin Fox**, **Nancy Grossbart**, University Marketing

Allen Is Vice President of Development

Dorothy "Dotty" Allen, former president and chief executive officer of the Wuesthoff Health System Foundation, has been appointed to the newly created position of vice president of development. Allen, who reports to Ken Stackpoole, senior vice president for advancement, oversees day-to-day operations of the university's fundraising efforts.



Dotty Allen

Allen was with the Wuesthoff Health System Foundation in Rockledge since 2004, where she was responsible for a systemwide, comprehensive philanthropy program. While there, she executed a highly successful community networking and donor cultivation effort.


"We are pleased to have someone of Dotty's experience and reputation to join our team," Stackpoole said.

AI Fresco Class in Session



Chris Flanary, (tallest) a graduate student in the department of marine and environmental systems, leads the class, "Bathymetry and Hydrographic Surveying," previously taught by the late Lee Harris. When Flanary took the students to the anchorage for surveying in November, Tim Carlile and Suzanne Carter of Land and Sea Surveying Concepts Inc. came along and shared their equipment and expertise with the students.

Carlile brought his hydrographic survey vessel and topographic surveying equipment for a two-day survey of the anchorage and surrounding marina.



Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch™

Campus Observer is published by the Office of University Communications
 Sr. Vice President for Advancement Kenneth Stackpoole
 Associate Vice President for University Relations Wes Sumner
 Editor Maya Oluseyi
 Design and Layout Office of Creative Services
 Photography Karen Rhine, Ryan Jones, Hwee Lan Teo, Wes Sumner
 Comments or submissions krhine@fit.edu

From the President's Desk



Anthony James Catanese

We've begun the healing following the shock and sadness of the plane accident that took the lives of four of our own. Our grief may still be raw and we will need the passage of time to heal, but we take comfort in remembering these beautiful young people and the positive, enduring impact they made on so many friends, teachers and family members.

We celebrate their very valuable lives—albeit shortened—that were filled with accomplishments and achievements.

Because we find peace in our recollections, a website has been established for memories and words of affection: <http://memorial.fitaviation.com>

Comments left by visitors to the site warmly recall these young people and their light that still lives in memory. These messages should bring a measure of comfort to those who knew them. Here are a few.

For Jenny: "A fun-loving person who always had a smile on her face," "A true inspiration in my life."

For Kyle: "Caring, loving, handsome, smart," "You are missed and loved."

For Kristopher: "A great guy and full of life," "We were blessed to call you friend."

For Jordyn: "A beautiful person, great co-worker and friend," "We will cherish your memory forever."

We cherish our memories and value the impact of knowing Jenny, Kyle, Kristopher and Jordyn. And the rest of us continue on in the earthly realm, remembering more keenly to embrace each other.

This is a time for us to recall the words of Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, author of the groundbreaking book, *On Death and Dying*. She wrote, "It's only when we truly know and understand that we have a limited time on earth—and that we have no way of knowing when our time is up, we will then begin to live each day to the fullest, as if it was the only one we had."