



Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch™

CAMPUS OBSERVER

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE FLORIDA TECH COMMUNITY

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Florida Tech Still “Military Friendly”

Florida Tech was once again named a “Military Friendly School” by *G.I. Jobs*. The university is among the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that made the 2011 list in recognition of its efforts to recruit, support and retain American veterans and current active or reserve service members as students. “We consider this to be very important. We have long considered ourselves to be military-friendly, and have an award-winning Army R.O.T.C. program on campus,” said Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese. “We are also proud to participate in the G.I. Bill Yellow Ribbon Program, which eases the costs for veterans and dependents to enroll in universities.”



The list can be found at www.militaryfriendlyschools.com/mfspr. It features interactive tools and search functionality to assist military veterans in choosing schools that best meet their educational needs.



Florida Tech

New Panther Logo Announced

A new, fiercer panther logo was unveiled at the first women’s soccer game of the season on Sept. 2. Florida Tech won! For more information, visit FloridaTechSports.com.

President Catanese’s Mission to China a Success

President Anthony J. Catanese recently led the state delegation to the Second Taiwan-Florida Higher Education Conference, following up on last year’s meeting in Orlando.

As chairman of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) and Florida Delegation chairman, Catanese signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the cooperation and partnership of all Florida private universities with all Taiwan private universities.



President Anthony J. Catanese sits with Ma Ying-jeou, president of the Republic of China (ROC), known as Taiwan.

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New FAA Center for Excellence Includes Florida Tech

Florida Tech is a core university constituent of the new Center of Excellence for Commercial Space Transportation. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) selected New Mexico State University (NMSU), to lead a new air transportation center. The Florida Center for Advanced Aero-Propulsion (FCAAP), a partnership of Florida universities, is also core to the center.

The center is a partnership of academia, industry, and government, developed for the purpose of creating a world-class consortium that will address current and future challenges for commercial space transportation.

The research and development efforts will include four major research areas: space launch operations and traffic management; launch vehicle systems, payloads, technologies, and operations; commercial human space flight; and space commerce.

The center’s research will extend to cutting-edge technologies and infrastructure for private human spaceflight and orbital debris mitigation.

United Way Fund Drive Begins Sept. 24

Florida Tech is again participating in United Way’s Live United Campaign starting Sept. 24. The United Way of Brevard hopes to raise much-needed funds for local health and human service programs as well as nonprofit agencies.



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President Catanese’s Annual State of the University Address

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2 p.m.
Gleason Performing Arts Center

Faculty and Staff News

College of Aeronautics

A paper, titled, "Innovative technologies for effective mitigation of system latency and image alignment error in Next Generation Helmet Mounted Display Systems (NGHMDS)" by **John E. Deaton, Dennis Vincenzi and Timothy Buker '07**, was accepted for publication in the proceedings of the 2010 Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation, and Education Conference.

Nathan M. Bisk College of Business

Program Chair



Rhoda Baggs, Computer Information Systems, Nathan M. Bisk College of Business, presented

"Exploration of asynchronous online teaching with a network analysis of class interaction" at the IEEE International Conference on Social Computing and IEEE International Conference on Privacy, Security, Risk and Trust in Minneapolis, Minn. The paper was co-authored by graduate student **Chan Wei Wu**.

This summer, **Samuel Doss** successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in marketing from the University of Texas-Pan American. The dissertation is titled "Spreading the Good Word: Toward an Understanding of Brand Evangelism."

Ami Dutta will present his paper at the International Academy of Business and Economics in Las Vegas, Nev. The paper, "Private-equity industry in China: The success of the Bohai industrial investment fund management company," was also accepted for publication in *Review of Business Research*.

Donn Miller-Kermani was invited to be a distinguished speaker for the Women Build project of Habitat for Humanity. She will speak on the build site in Cocoa in November.

Tim Muth earned the Certified Global Business Professional (CGBP) certification. The CGBP title

"demonstrates an individual's ability to conduct global business including global business management, global marketing, supply chain management, and trade finance."

College of Engineering

George Maul co-authored "Tsunami hazard and total risk in the Caribbean Basin," which was published in the *Journal of Tsunami Society International*. Maul's paper was cited by the Governor of Puerto Rico in his letter to President **Barack Obama** requesting the creation of the Caribbean Tsunami Warning Center.

Jean-Paul Pinelli gave a keynote presentation in Canberra, Australia, at the 14th Australasian Wind Engineering Society Workshop.

Chelakara Subramanian and **Jean-Paul Pinelli** attended the second American Wind Engineering Association Workshop in Marco Island, Fla. Engineering graduate students **Gabriel Lapilli** and **Gonzalo Pita** also gave presentations.

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

Ivy Chong has 13 publications in press including two papers with **Josh Pritchard**, '05 M.S., titled, "Aversive stimulus" and "Radical behaviorism."

Bill Gabrenya presented "Cybersex: Looking for the cultural dimension" at the Victoria University of Wellington's School of Social Science and Humanities in New Zealand.

Radhika Krishnamurthy was awarded Fellow status in the American Psychological Association's (APA) Division 12, Society of Clinical Psychology. She presented a paper, titled, "Integrating multiple informants' reports in child and adolescent assessment" at the APA annual convention's Integration of Psychological Assessment Data symposium in San Diego, Calif.

The U.S. Army Center of Military History has asked **Bob Taylor** to author a volume in The Civil War on the Atlantic Coast series.

A paper by **Kristi van Sickle** and **Mary Beth Kenkel**, titled, "Developing integrated health care competencies," was presented at a Conference of the National Council of Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology in Orlando.

David Wilder was appointed as an associate editor for the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*.

College of Science

David Cook, Science and Mathematics Education, presented "Using off-the-shelf GPS technology for visitor tracking studies" at the 23rd Annual Visitor Studies Association Conference in Phoenix, Ariz. The paper was co-authored by **Joy Winet**, '09 M.S.

Virender Sharma published "Oxidation of inorganic compounds by ferrate(VI) and ferrate(V): One-electron and two-electron transfer steps" in *Environmental Science and Technology*.

Robert van Woesik will give the keynote address this month at the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meeting in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

Matt Wood co-authored "Quiescent superhumps detected in the Dwarf Nova V344 Lyrae by Kepler," published in *The Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

Office of Strategic Initiatives

Cliff Bragdon presented "Total modal as a resilient strategy that incorporates social, physical and economic development optimization utilizing transportation as the platform" at the Central Florida Transportation Corridors Task Force meeting.

Purchasing

T.K. Dove was named an Outstanding Member by the National Property Management Association for his exceptional service.

Security

Kevin Graham was elected president of the Florida Association of Campus Security and Safety Administrators, an association of security directors for independent universities in Florida.

Professors Receive \$386,000 from NSF

Professors in the Department of Physics and Space Sciences, **Matt Wood** and **Terry Oswalt**, were awarded \$386,000 by the National Science Foundation (NSF). The funding supports the ongoing Southeastern Association for Research in Astronomy (SARA) Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Summer Intern Program.

The award funds 10 top undergraduate students for internships in the next three summers. Students will work one-on-one with faculty mentors and observe at the SARA 0.9-meter telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory outside of Tucson, Ariz.

Research done by students is published in the *Journal of the Southeastern Association for Research in Astronomy* and is presented at the winter meeting of the American Astronomical Society.

Humanities Pre-Law Option Degree Now Available

The Department of Humanities and Communication introduces the Humanities Pre-Law Option program and three new related courses. The program provides the courses needed to meet the entrance requirements of law schools. Department Head **Bob Taylor** is the adviser.

Taught for the first time in spring 2011 will be Introduction to Law. Available soon after will be Constitutional Law I and II. The course, about the law and legal system in the United States, is open to any major.

For more information, visit: http://www.fit.edu/programs/ugrad/ba_humanities_prelaw_option.

August MVP



Norman Benefield

The August Most Valuable Panther was **Norman Benefield**, student services coordinator, University College. To nominate a staff or faculty member for this award, send your letters to MVP Committee Chair Leslie Savoie at lsavoie@fit.edu

Staff Transitions

Promotions: Liz Kyle, Chemical Engineering; Lisa Gill, Psychology; Monica DeFelice, Graduate Programs; Wendy Murrell, Controller's Office; Ann Zarski, Registrar

New Hires: Jessica Sparling, Psychology; Gregory Byrd, Chris Saltmarsh, Ryan McAleavey Athletics; Christine Chura, Construction; Annika Caldwell, Office of Strategic Initiatives; James Hilty, Abhijit Gaikwad, Information Technology; Stacy Raypole, International Recruiting; Kiona Stevens, Clifton Thibodeau, Security; Britney Young, Kathryn Garren, Nicholas Vega, Rathskeller Eatery; Gary Boley, Career Services; Edmund Kowalczyk, Facilities; John Brady, Jr., Chemistry; Maria Dodsworth, Steven Hanslovan, Jon Wells, Evans Dining; Gail Staples, University Alliance

Campus Calendar

Sept. 11-Dec. 18

Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts Exhibit
Fabric of Life: Textiles of Latin America
Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, noon-4 p.m., free
For information, call extension 8313, or visit <http://textiles.fit.edu>

Sept. 16

Collaborative Concert
Music: The Fabric of Our Lives
Players from Brevard Symphony Orchestra and Florida Tech String Ensemble
Presented by the Vivace Society
6-8 p.m., Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts, \$5 for Vivace members and students; \$10 for non-members
For information, call (321) 242-2024, or e-mail info@brevardsymphony.com

Sept. 24

Astronomy and Astrophysics Public Lecture Series
Bolt from the Blue
Joseph Dwyer, Physics and Space Sciences
Followed by roof-top star viewing
8 p.m., Olin Engineering Building Auditorium, Room EC 118, free
For information, call extension 7207, or visit www.fit.edu/aapls

Sept. 25–Nov. 28

Analyze This: Scientific Art from MIT Museum and Artistic Science from Florida Tech
Brevard Museum of Art, Melbourne
Adults \$5; seniors \$3; children and students with I.D. \$2
For information and hours, call 242-0737

Oct. 2

President's Picnic
Food, entertainment, games and fun
Music provided by TWITCHY
Noon-4 p.m., Intramural Soccer Field, free

Oct. 5

Friends of Textiles Lecture Series
Textiles: Living and Dyeing in the Indigenous Americas
6 p.m., Denius Student Center, Hartley Room, \$10 for non-members
For information, call extension 8313, or visit <http://textiles.fit.edu>

Oct. 14

Midnight Madness
Tipping off the 2010-2011 basketball season
10:30 p.m., Clemente Center, free
For information, call extension 8032

Nov. 3–7

Homecoming 2010
visit <http://homecoming.fit.edu>

Welcome 16 New Faculty Members

Welcome to **Boris Akhremitchev**, associate professor of chemistry, College of Science; **Stéphane Bucaille**, research assistant professor, College of Engineering; **Alison Betz**, assistant professor of psychology, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts; **Victoria Dunbar**, instructor of aviation, College of Aeronautics; **Meagan Gregory**, visiting assistant professor, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts; **Maria Lavooy**, associate professor of psychology, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts; **Yekaterina Lin**, instructor, College of Engineering; **Adrian Peter**, assistant professor of engineering systems, College of Engineering; **Theodore Petersen**, assistant professor of communication, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts; **Rosalie Petralia**, librarian, Evans Library; **Joshua Pritchard**, assistant professor of psychology, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts; **Munevver Mine Subasi**, assistant professor of mathematics, College of Science.

Four other new faculty who started between August 2009 and summer 2010 are: **Daniel Batcheldor**, assistant professor of physics and space science, College of Science; **Keith Gallagher**, associate professor of computer science, College of Engineering; **Ulreen Jones**, instructor of aviation management, College of Aeronautics; **Marilyn Scott**, instructor of computer science, College of Engineering.

Mission to China continued from front page

As Florida Tech president, Catanese signed a MOU for student and research partnerships with the Civil Aviation University of China in Tianjin; developed a partnership with Beihang University University (Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics), one of the top institutes of technology in China; and furthered recruiting of Chinese engineers and students. Joining Catanese on the trip was Provost **Dwayne McCay**.

United Way continued from front page

“With all of our employees’ efforts and support last year, our campaign was honored by receiving a ‘Star Achievement’ award from United Way,” said **Carey Gleason**, assistant vice president for advancement and community relations and a member of the campus campaign cabinet. “And this year it continues to be important that we support our community by having a successful campaign.”

The Live United campaign will conclude with a victory celebration Nov. 15, from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Board of Trustees Room.



Florida Institute of Technology

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From the President’s Desk



Anthony James Catanese

I’m pleased to tell you that many bouquets rained down on Florida Tech in late summer with the publication of several media rankings for colleges and universities. Most important is our listing as a Tier One Best National University by *U.S. News & World Report*. Among the 1,400 institutions ranked by the publication (leaving many more unranked), Florida Tech was among the top four national universities in Florida (UM, UF and FSU were also included).

Additionally, we were named one of the nation’s top technological institutions in the *Fiske Guide*; placed among the top Southeastern colleges by *Princeton Review*; ranked by *Forbes* as one of America’s Best Colleges; rated the top private university in Florida by *Washington Monthly College Rankings*; and on *Parade Magazine’s* A-List in Engineering.

The *Washington Monthly* accolade is unique. The publication, which ranks “service-oriented schools,” puts us in the top half of 258 ranked schools. The schools are rated on their contribution to the public good in the three broad categories of social mobility, research and service. Of course, I already knew that we shine in these areas, but external confirmation is always welcome.

The *Parade* rankings are based on back-to-school surveys of “top high school guidance counselors across the nation,” according to the publication. Of course, this is a point of view we value highly.

We also earned recognition in *Payscale.com’s* 2010-2011 College Salary Report. Bachelor’s degree graduates’ starting and midcareer salaries were ranked at the top of the list for private research universities in Florida. The graduates’ median starting salaries were listed at \$50,700 and mid-career median salaries at \$84,500 were in first place among Florida’s private research universities.

I congratulate everyone for helping to make Florida Tech such an admired institution. There is much work still to do. As humorist Will Rogers said, “Even if you’re on the right track, you’ll get run over if you just sit there.”