



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 Joins in Large Hadron Collider Physics

Florida Tech is among four Florida universities participating in the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research in Geneva, Switzerland. The CMS is one of the large international experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC).



Marc Baarmand



Marcus Hohlmann

Department of physics and space sciences faculty members **Marc Baarmand**, who initiated Florida Tech's participation in the CMS project in 2001, and **Marcus Hohlmann** along with five graduate students and research scientist **Igor Vodopiyanov** have been actively involved with constructing and commissioning the CMS particle detectors. Florida Tech also hosts a "Tier-3" computer center, built under the direction of Hohlmann, which is one of the many regional hubs in the LHC Computing Grid.

The Florida Tech CMS research group will analyze collision data collected in the coming years, searching for signs of new fundamental particles and forces in nature.

## Astronomers' View Expands through Chilean Telescope

Florida Tech's remote access to a telescope in the Andes Mountains of Chile gives a select group of astronomers and their students a new view of the Southern Hemisphere's nighttime sky.

Astronomers from 10 institutions have banded together through the consortium Southeastern Association for Research in Astronomy (SARA) to refurbish and automate a 24-inch telescope at Cerro Tololo Inter-American Observatory in Chile. Florida Tech, under SARA Chairman **Terry Oswalt**, is a coordinating member institution.

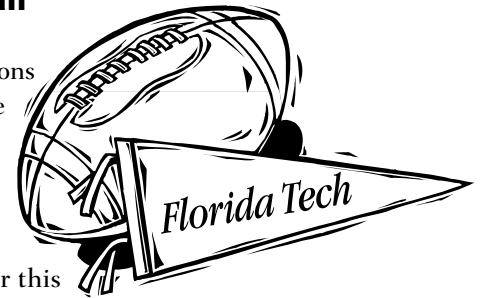


With the help of the Chilean telescope and a similar 36-inch telescope the group already operates at Kitt Peak in Arizona, each SARA institution can now view the night skies from both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres (even simultaneously) for about 30 days out of the year.

Professors and their students can now operate one or both of the telescopes from their university labs, offices or homes on assigned nights, sometimes changing schedules at the last minute to accommodate unexpected opportunities.

## Huddle Up: It's a "Go" for Football

President **Anthony J. Catanese** on April 30 presented the board of trustees' recommendations from the Football Exploratory Committee: the formation of a Football Advisory Committee to start the process and the formation of a Football Boosters Committee to start the fundraising effort.



"We will plan a fundraising luncheon later this year, and I will ask Florida Atlantic University Head Football Coach **Howard Schnellenberger** to be the speaker," Catanese said.

Schnellenberger was coach of the National Champion Miami Hurricanes and was an assistant coach on the perfect season Miami Dolphins team, as well as coach at the University of Louisville and the University of Oklahoma.

"I invite the community to join the boosters as we begin our football journey," Catanese said. For more information, visit: [www.fit.edu/newsroom/news/3887/touchdown\\_florida\\_tech\\_](http://www.fit.edu/newsroom/news/3887/touchdown_florida_tech_)

## Phi Kappa Phi Inducts 145

The Florida Tech chapter of the honor society of Phi Kappa Phi held its second chapter induction ceremonies in April.

Approximately 145 students, faculty and professional staff members were initiated. The faculty and staff members were **Monica Baloga, Rodney Bowers, Ken Droscher, Brian Ehrlich, Sharon Irvin, Cecilia Knoll, Celine Lang, Rodd Newcombe, John Politano Jr., Leslie Savoie, Winston Scott, Julie Shankle, Thomas Waite and Fontaine Wallace.** *Continued on page 3*

## Faculty and Staff News

### College of Aeronautics

**John Deaton** was a recent judge in the Mars Experiment Design Competition sponsored by the Florida Department of Education, the Mars Society and NASA–Kennedy Space Center. Deaton adjudicated in the student science competition in the area of human factors research.

**Felix Fernandez** was cited as the top aviation maintenance technician in Area 2 at the FAA Regional General Aviation Industry Awards.

**Michael Grant** was presented with the 2010 Certified Flight Instructor of the Year General Aviation Award by the FAA Southern Region and the North Florida Flight Standards District Office.



Michael Grant

### Nathan M. Bisk College of Business

Computer Information Systems Program Chair **Rhoda Baggs** presented “Adding a social component to the course template for teaching asynchronous online courses” in the International Conference on Education, Training and Informatics in Orlando, Fla. Student **Daniel Riding** was co-author.

In April, Online Learning hosted the Association for Continuing Higher Education South Region conference at the Cocoa Beach Hilton to discuss online learning and adult education/pedagogy. **Bob Niebuhr** and **Christopher Durie** presented “Online course delivery approach: An academic oversight model.” **Mary Bonhomme**, **Julie Shankle** and **Stevie Pursell** coordinated the conference.

### College of Engineering

A paper by **John Hadjiligiou**, titled, “Embrace wholeness in teaching methodology for computer scientists and engineers” will be presented at the 2010 International Conference on Frontiers in Education: Computer

Science and Computer Engineering in Las Vegas, Nev. The paper is co-authored by **Samuel Kozaitis**, graduate student **Pattarapong Rojanasthien**, doctoral candidate **Abhijit Chakravarty** and several engineering undergraduates, including sophomore **Ramakanth Subbagari**.

**Kunal Mitra** recently received the Distinguished Speaker award from the Kennedy Space Center Engineering Academy in recognition for his contribution to the engineering field.

### College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

**Andrew Aberdein** published “Virtue in argument” in the journal *Argumentation*.

**Heidi Hatfield Edwards** published an article titled “Facebook vs. face-to-face” in the latest issue of *National Health Review*.

**Mathew Elliott** was promoted from captain to major. He teaches military science and is the battalion executive officer.

**Radhika Krishnamurthy** was program chair for the Society for Personality Assessment’s annual conference in March in San Jose, Calif. She presented “Clinical interpretation of the Rorschach” in an advanced symposium. She also co-presented three research papers with students **Tiffany Cummings**, **Jenny Green**, **Lauren King**, **Aaron Privett** and **John Roberts**.

**Keturah Mazo**, visiting instructor in humanities and communication, presented her paper “Inspiring undergraduates utilizing mass media” at a conference hosted by the Communication and Development Studies Program of Ohio University.

**Lisa Steelman** has been appointed to a three-year term as editor of *The Industrial Organizational Psychologist*.

**Angela Tenga** presented “Vampires, plastic surgeons, and privilege: Blood and beauty in *Dracula*, *Nip/Tuck*, and *Twilight*” at the 2010 Joint Conference of the National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations in St. Louis, Mo.

**Fran Warkomski** published an article on the Scott Center for Autism Treatment in the latest issue of *National Health Review*.



Fran Warkomski

### College of Science

**Hakeem Oluseyi**’s students **Brice Orange**, group leader; **David Chesny**; **Lauren Preuss**; and **Chantale Neira** ’09 completed a study of plasma heating in the sun’s atmosphere, which was presented at the American Astronomical Society meeting.

**Terry Oswalt** gave a presentation on the cosmos at the Seventh Annual Dark Star Festival in Harmony, Fla. Despite a cloudy night, he helped break the record for the world’s largest astronomy class with approximately 550 people attending.

**Virender Sharma** attended a symposium organization titled “Chemical applications of Mössbauer spectroscopy” at the Spring National American Chemical Society meeting in San Francisco, Calif.

**Niescja Turner** co-led a faculty development workshop on mentoring at the University of Texas at Brownsville’s 12th Annual Research Symposium where she mentored and recruited students.

**Richard Turner**, president of the Florida Academy of Sciences, oversaw the organization’s 74th Annual Meeting, held on the campus of Indian River State College in Fort Pierce, Fla., and **Richard Aronson** gave the banquet address. **Terry Oswalt** was awarded the 2010 Florida Academy of Sciences Medal for his professional contributions to astronomy; it was presented by the 2002 medalist and past president of the academy **John Trefry**, department of marine and environmental systems.

### Athletics

**Jennifer Seidel** and **Rebecca Vick** were selected to attend the National Association of Collegiate Woman Athletics Administrators Institute for Administrative Advancement in Peachtree City, Ga.

## Art Goes to Your Head at the Funk Center

The Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts showcases art scarves in its new exhibit, *Styling the Modern: Fine Art Meets Fashion*, from May 8 to Aug. 21. The center will feature limited edition screen-printed scarves created by the famous London-based Ascher textile workshop.

The exhibit includes 41 scarves designed by well-known artists of the 1940s, including Cecil Beaton, Alexander Calder, Jean Cocteau, Henri Matisse and Henry Moore.

*Styling the Modern: Fine Art Meets Fashion* is organized and curated by guest curator Shanna Shelby from the Collection of Jill A. Wiltse and H. Kirk Brown III.

The Ruth Funk Center is open Tuesday to Friday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturday, from noon to 4 p.m. Admission to the exhibit is free.

For more information, visit <http://textiles.fit.edu>, or contact **Carla Funk** at (321) 674-8313 or [cfunk@fit.edu](mailto:cfunk@fit.edu).



"The Sea" by Alexander Calder

## Phi Kappa Phi Inducts 145 *Continued from page 1*

**Carolina Pentead**, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering, received the chapter's first Scholar's Award of \$1,000. The prize is awarded to the student who best illustrates the promise of success, academic achievement, service, leadership experience and career goals.

## Employees Receive Annual Service Awards at Florida Tech

President **Anthony J. Catanese** recognized faculty and staff members who have reached career milestones at the 2010 Annual Service Awards. He also recognized 2009 retirees who were employed by the university for more than 10 years.

### 5 Years of Service

Ugur Abdulla, Sharon Ainsley, Mark Archambault, Dixie Bassett, Annie Becker, Elbert Blakely, Rhonda Boros, Cindy Buist, Amanda Burns, Kellie Bush, Rosalia Bush, Delilah Caballero, Felipa Chavez, Suzanne Clark, Robert DeBonis, Edward Fields, Gale Furthmiller, Kevin Graham, Richard Gray, Eric Heim, Tama Johnson, Jim Jones, Travis Jones, Tariel Kiguradze, Daniel Kirk, Terri Lange, Jacqueline Lingner, Jeannette Lloyd, Ralph Locurcio, John McCune, Rebecca Menard, Timothy Moore, Jeff Oishi, Korhan Oyman, Terry Raney, Greg Peebles, Lisa Perdigao, Robert Pokorny, Jeffrey Pollack, SuzAnne Sanchez, Leslie Savoie, Syamal Sen, Lloyd Stephens, Robin Stocks, Alan Topnick, Niescja Turner, Rosalind Weiss, Tammy Ziccardi

### 10 Years of Service

Laszlo Baksay, Penelope Bernard, David Carroll, Olga Cerezo, T.K. Dove, Arlene Ferguson, Judith Gassman, Michael Grace, Hector Gutierrez, Cyndi Johnsrud, Lars Jones, Eric Kledzik, Semen Koksai, Jay Kovats, Jennifer Long, Kathy Mango, Syed Murshid, David Mutschler, Barbara Paulillo, Donald Platt, Rebecca Ripley, Dale Robson, Matthew Ruane, Virender Sharma, Norman Smith, Lisa Steelman,

Richard Tankersley, Bob Taylor, Ken White, Priscilla Wiener, George Wilson, Stephen Wood, Charlotte Young

### 15 Years of Service

Sharon Anderson, Diane Deaton, Howard Ferraer, Tamara Gray, Joanne Green, Wendy Helmstetter, Radhika Krishnamurthy, Pierre Larochelle, George Maul, Jeff Mitchell, Joann Pendleton, Jean-Paul Pinelli, Tom Stewart, Penny Vassar, Danny Weddle

### 20 Years of Service

John Barranti, Frederick Bristol, Cheryl-Ann Brown, Leonard Harrison, John Kowalski, V. Lakshmikantham, Alan Leonard, Connie Lowell, George Medlin, Margaret Moore, Gordon Nelson, John Patton, Joshua Rokach, Yahya Sharaf-Eldeen, Jonathan Shenker, Joyce Soden, Helen Sorum, Eileen Vaccaro

### 25 Years of Service

Marjorie Beckett, Edmund Quiroga, Geoffrey Swain, Frank Zgonc

### 30 Years of Service

Clayton Baum, Lynore Chilcote, Arthur Gutman, Tom Harrell, Paul Jennings, Roger Manley, Benjamin Sawyer, Victoria Smith

### 35 Years of Service

Hank Hughes

### 2009 Retirees

Irene Nash, Sandra Mills

## April MVP



The April Most Valuable Panther was **Cindy Buist**, coordinator of graduate student services.

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

## Sponsored Scholar

The Young Adult of the Month Award, sponsored by the Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida, went



to Katherine Broomfield of Viera High School in April. She is pictured here with Florida Tech's Wes Sumner. She will receive a Florida Tech scholarship each of her four years if she chooses to attend the university.

## Transitions

**Promotions:** Gretchen Sauerman, Development; Delilah Caballero, Center for Interaction Design; Vanay Syme, Online Learning; Najia Dehbi, Margaret Moore, Humanities; Gerald Dixon, Rathskeller

**New Hires:** Nancy Pham, Biological Sciences; Erin Lee, Athletics; Kip Ambler, Raymond Short, Security; John Politano, Account Management; Allison Gopee, Gerald Dixon, Rathskeller; Lee Anne Trusler, Financial Aid; Bino Campanini, Alumni Affairs; Rupert Patisson, Information Technology; Garrett Clark, Office of Strategic Initiatives; Paul Kenoyer, Controller's Office

### Phi Eta Sigma Honors Excellence

On March 28, the Florida Tech Chapter of Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society inducted 112 new members and recognized 54 members who will graduate this May. William Girton, applied mathematics, received the chapter's annual Excellence in Teaching Award. Phi Eta Sigma is a national honor society for college freshmen.

### National Nod for Retirement Plan

PLANSPONSOR, the nation's leading retirement plan resource, recently recognized Florida Tech as a 2010 finalist in the annual Plan Sponsor of the Year awards. Florida Tech was honored in the nonprofit/403(b) category.

Annually, the editors of PLANSPONSOR magazine identify individuals or institutions/employers that demonstrate leadership in providing a more secure retirement for workers.

### Writers, Take Note, CWI is June 6-13

The department of humanities and communication presents its Second Annual Creative Writing Institute (CWI), June 6-13. The program offers classes and lectures in different genres of creative writing as well as special events, including lunch hours and coffee hours for author presentations, lectures and an evening showing of an original film.

This year's keynote speaker is John Dufresne. Last year's keynote speaker, Philip F. Deaver, will return to teach a fiction class.

For details or to register, visit <http://411.fit.edu/cwi>. For more information, contact Margaret Moore at [mmoore@fit.edu](mailto:mmoore@fit.edu) or call extension 7248.

### Evening of Hope II

Attended by 220 guests, Evening of Hope II raised over \$150,000 toward services and programs for children and families at the Scott Center for Autism Treatment. Pictured here, from left, are President Anthony J. Catanese, Sara Catanese, Polly Molnar and Rachel Fornes.



## From the President's Desk



Anthony James Catanese

Summer, yes. Summer break, no. Don't expect a lull. We're jumping into a variety of activities that will keep staff and many faculty hopping until it's time to begin the new academic year.

From May 10 to June 18 we'll hold our first-ever Intensive Summer Institute in Chinese. The experience offers six hours a day of Chinese language instruction, Monday through Thursday, and a variety of cultural experiences on Friday.

The second annual Creative Writing Institute takes place June 6-13 with, once again, classes, lectures and events in a great number of writing genres. The department of humanities and communication presents both institutes.

Take a work break sometime between May 8 and Aug. 21 and come by the Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts. You'll see classic art scarves in the new exhibit, Styling the Modern: Fine Art Meets Fashion.

Next door is Evans Library where, starting this month, the main floor will feature the library's Research Showcase, a sampling of the research endeavors of a different college every semester.

Youth camps start in June. We offer a sport to fit almost any interest—tennis, volleyball, soccer, softball, basketball and for water enthusiasts, snorkeling and the all sports water camp.

To exercise the brain, too, we have academic summer camps. The department of marine and environmental systems' (DMES) five-day summer camp will explore the Indian River Lagoon, coastal ocean and creeks July 12-16. The same week the Civil Engineering Summer Camp will lead campers through a variety of lab experiments. Running that week and the next are the department of computer sciences' Camp Alpha and Camp Beta.

Adults may find career enrichment in Presentation Boot Camp, a two-day opportunity to improve presentations, May 22-23, or in the Scientific Diving course, which meets July 12-30 and offers three academic credits.

No, we don't slow down much around here. But, if you have a vacation planned this summer, go—and enjoy.



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