

The Pelican

A Newsletter for the F.I.T. Family

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New Laser Fired

The recent inaugural firing of a new laser for F.I.T.'s Laser Research Laboratory was accompanied by a pair of honors for Dr. Walter N. Nunn Jr.

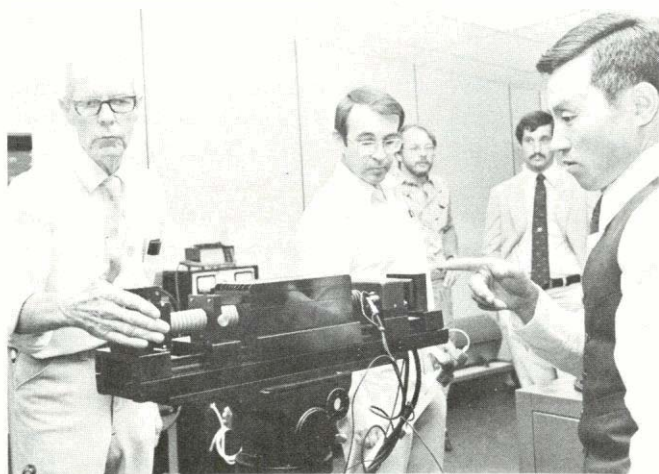
Added to the laboratory that Dr. Nunn has assembled was a neodymium YAG laser, donated by Control Laser Corporation of Orlando. Assisting in preparations of the laser was Chong II Lee, chief engineer for Control Laser and an F.I.T. graduate.

Dr. Nunn's work was officially applauded by President Jerome P. Keuper on behalf of the university and by Lamda Chi Alpha on behalf of students.

A proclamation from Dr. Keuper presented to Dr. Nunn at a luncheon said F.I.T. holds the professor "in the very highest esteem for his inspirational leadership and guidance." The proclamation said Dr. Nunn "has dedicated his life to the promotion of science and research."

A plaque from Lamda Chi Alpha cited Dr. Nunn "for his development of the F.I.T. Laser Research

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LASER ARRIVES

Inspecting F.I.T.'s new laser are, from left, Dr. Walter Nunn, Dr. John Love, Dr. James Sharber, student Jeff Brown, and Control Laser Corp. Chief Engineer Chong II Lee.

MRI Research Is Funded

Dr. Eleanor E. Storrs, Research Professor of Biology at the Medical Research Institute (MRI) of Florida Institute of Technology, is the recipient of a \$270,000 research grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH).

The three-year grant is for the study of comparative susceptibility to human leprosy of armadillos from Venezuela, Louisiana and Florida.

The study will be done in collaboration with Dr. Jacinto Convit, Director of the National Institute of Dermatology of Venezuela and Dr. Paul R. Ramsey of Louisiana Tech University.

Dr. Storrs has also been awarded a 5-year contract for \$320,000 to provide leprosy bacteria to research workers in the United States. That program is also supported by the NIH.

Additionally, she has had three grants approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) for 1980 which will enable her to continue her collaborative work with that organization's immunology of leprosy program.

Dr. Storrs and her husband, Dr. H. P. Burchfield of MRI, recently returned from a field trip to Mexico



Dr. Eleanor Storrs

Dr. Storrs received her Ph.D. degree from the University of Texas in 1967. In 1975, she was awarded the distinguished Alumni Award of the University of Connecticut and the Griffin Award of the American Association of Laboratory Animal Science.

Prior to joining the staff of Florida Institute of Technology she was Director of the Department of Biochemistry and Mammalogy at Gulf South Research Institute, New Iberia, Louisiana.

sponsored by the National Geographic Society. During the trip they did research on armadillos in their natural habitat and visited libraries and museums.

An article about armadillos by Dr. Storrs is scheduled to appear in the National Geographic Magazine in 1980.

Campus Notes

Dr. Barry Fullerton, vice president for student affairs, recently won a \$25 first prize in the Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom Club Golf Tournament. It was attended by eight members of the F.I.T. community. Dr. Fullerton claimed the award by having the longest drive on the 10th hole, designated for the distance contest. The prize was nailed down by a 327-yard slam. The tournament saw 144 contestants.

Dr. **Charmenz S. Lenhart** recently served as chairman of a special session of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association in Atlanta. The session marked the 90th anniversary of the birth of poet Conrad Aiken. Dr. Lenhart is also to attend a meeting of the National Modern Language Association in late December in San Francisco to read a paper entitled, "The Lyrical Perceptions of Louise Botan."

Dr. **Ali El-Nashar**, associate professor of mechanical engineering, chaired a session and presented three papers at the recent International Congress on Desalination and Water Re-use held at Nice, France. Dr. El-Nashar is on the board of directors of the International Desalination and Environmental Association, which co-sponsored the Congress with the French Ministry of Industry.

Dr. El-Nashar helped organize and chaired the session on "The Role of Energy and Economics in Water Conversion." The papers he presented are "Energy and Water Conservation Through Recycle of Dyeing Wastewater Using Dynamic Zr (IV)-PAA Membranes," "Design Aspects of a Solar-Assisted Reverse Osmosis Desalting Unit for Urban Communities," and "Selection of Desalination Technology, a Decision Analysis Approach and a Case Study."

Dr. **Norbert W. O'Hara**, Dr. **Donald K. Stauble**, Jack W. Schwalbe and **Takaaki Anzai** attended the recent annual meeting of the Florida Shore and Beach Association at Bal Harbour. Dr. Stauble presented a paper entitled, "Modifications to Swash-Beach Profile Interaction in the Presence of Seawalls, Dunes and Overwash Channels." And Dr. O'Hara chaired one of the conference sessions.

Dr. **John E. Miller**, vice president for academic affairs and executive vice president, recently attended the annual meeting of the Florida Association of Colleges and Universities in Orlando. Dr. Miller has been F.I.T.'s representative to the association for 14 years.

Lt. **Col. David Garvin**, new professor of military science at Georgia Tech, visited F.I.T. recently.

Ralph Johnson, acting vice president for development affairs, was recently guest speaker for the F.I.T. Astronomy Club. He demonstrated his Quantum-6 telescope to the club. Later he and Dr. **Ed Strother** led a roof demonstration that allowed comparison of the telescope with the club's Celestron-8.

WORTH NOTING

Effective in January F.I.T.'s Science Education Department is offering a discount tuition rate of \$50 per credit hour to all full-time elementary and secondary teachers in Florida entering graduate-level courses. The F.I.T. Continuing Education Department is offering a seminar on managerial skills for executive secretaries and administrative assistants on Nov. 15-16.

Kovac Named Director



Vic Kovac

Kovac follows his father in guiding F.I.T. growth. His father, Victor B. Kovac, established the school's first physics laboratory.

Kovac earned his master's degree in administration from Florida State University in 1966, and received his educational specialist degree from Georgia Southern College in 1974.

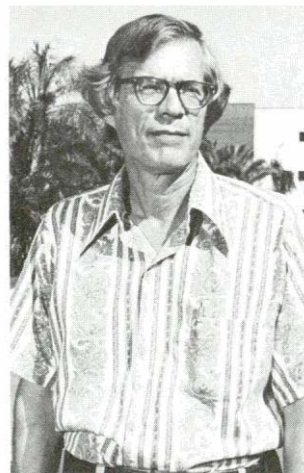
Along with serving as an officer in the Army and the Army Reserve, Kovac has worked as a principal in Georgia schools. He also represented local governments and special interest groups as a grant project specialist prior to joining F.I.T. and has been honored for both professional and civic work.

Victor B. Kovac Jr. has joined F.I.T. as the first fulltime director of continuing education, bringing to the post experience as an educator, administrator and military leader.

"I am pleased to have the opportunity to work on projects initiated by Dick Enstice, Bob Heidinger and others," Kovac said of the foundation that he will build on.

"The Continuing Education Division, reporting to Dr. Jim Stom's Department of Management Science, is now in a position to require the fulltime attention of a director to further increase the prestige of F.I.T.," Kovac said.

Security Increased



Charles Kirchmaier

The start of operations for a newly organized and staffed Security Department for F.I.T. was announced recently by Dr. Barry Fullerton, vice president for student affairs.

Charles J. Kirchmaier Jr. is heading the department as chief of security, Dr. Fullerton said. His office is located on the northeast side of the Administration Building.

"I feel that Mr. Kirchmaier and his staff will do a fine job of reducing campus theft and vandalism, as well as providing needed safety and security coverage," Dr. Fullerton said.

An added feature of the security program is the use of off-duty Melbourne police officers during periods when such assistance is needed.

Enrollment Up

A total of 5,248 students were enrolled in all F.I.T. programs for the Fall Semester, according to Holmes Beausang, Director of Admissions. That compares to a 4,986 total last fall.

Growth was led by the School of Aeronautics, where Director of Admissions Robert K. Kirkland reported 281 new students in an enrollment of 725. Student expansions have exceeded 10 percent since 1974 for the school.

Beausang said full-time and part-time students in the School of Science and Engineering numbered 1,917, with graduate students at 810. Jensen Beach campus students numbered 744, while students in off-campus programs numbered 805 and other categories added 247.

Air Students Picked

Six upper-level F.I.T. aviation students have been selected by Pan American World Airways to staff the Adirondack Airport near Lake Placid, N.Y., during the 1980 Winter Olympics.

Selected under the F.I.T. "Training with Industry" program were Leslie Cornell, Scott Carkeet, Dennis Bourne, Dixie French, Patrick Northway and Johnathan Tower.

After attendance at Northeast Chapter AAE Fire School and indoctrination at Teterboro and Westchester County airports, the students will help operate the Olympics airport during January and February.

The airport operations supervisor, it turns out, is Duncan Henderson. He is a 1977 F.I.T. graduate and a former participant in the Training with Industry intern program.



Dr. Jim Stoms?

F.I.T. Professor Goes Native

For several weeks this summer, Dr. Jim Stoms shucked his academic role as head of Management Science, his textbooks and his tennis racket to explore an area of the world which time seems to have passed by.

The Amazon River region has always been a source of fascination for Jim. After two earlier trips to the headwaters of this river, he decided to see what was at the mouth of the vast waterway system.

Two weeks were spent in hammocks, in dugout canoes, atop water buffalo, eluding snakes and scratching bug bites on a remote Amazon Island, Isle de Marajo. The experience brought home the realization that this primitive area was indeed a "land that time has forgotten."

"I had talked periodically via ham radio to an ex-aerospace engineer friend of mine who had spent two and a half years on this island", Jim said. "He only came out every three months for supplies. He said, 'come on down; so I went.'"

Col. Bill Harrell accompanied Jim on the trip, and enjoyed everything but the hammocks. After a while in the hammock, one tends to become shaped like a

*banana _____

Next year . . . the Trans-Siberian Railway across Russia to Outer Mongolia.

Have Pelican News?
Hustle it to
the Public Relations Dept.

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 10 | Covenant Players, 8 p.m. |
| 11 | Crew film, 7 and 9:15 p.m. |
| 15, 16, 17 | College Players, Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Indians." 8 p.m. |
| 18, 25 | SGA movies, Jaws, Pink Panther Strikes Again, 7 and 9:15 p.m. |
| 24 | Science fiction movie, 7 and 9:15 p.m. |
| 28, 29, 30 | Junior Miss program, evening. |



Student Jeff Brown, right, presents Dr. Walter Nunn with a **Lamda** Chi Alpha Fraternity plaque of appreciation. Looking on are Dr. Harry Weber, left, who presented Dr. Nunn with an F.I.T. **proclamation of thanks**, and **Chong Il Lee**, chief engineer for a company which donated a medium-powered laser to the university.

Professor Nunn Applauded

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Laboratory and for his outstanding devotion to the F.I.T. student body."

Dr. Nunn said initial testing of the YAG laser in a continuous wave (CW) mode of operation was begun early in October. Although absolute power measurements have not yet been made, Lee estimates power output is approximately 20 watts CW.

Work is now in progress which will permit operation of the laser in a pulsed (Q-switched) mode, with a peak power output of 20 kilowatts, Dr. Nunn said.

The medium-powered Nd-YAG laser is to be used

in concert with a 15,000-pound granite isolation table that floats on air cushions to prevent errant vibrations that could disrupt critical measurements.

The YAG laser will excite a **tuneable** dye laser on the isolation table, allowing precision spectroscopy. The dye laser allows precise, selectable wave lengths over the entire light band. The precise measurements possibly can yield information about atomic structures.

The research laboratory will see studies of some physical processes that take place inside a laser, with interests centered in improving efficiencies of the instruments. Currently large amounts of power that go into lasers result in relatively low outputs.



F.I.T. has joined **with industry** and the **Florida Sea Grant program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration** to create a pilot program at the Jensen Beach campus for the training of outboard **motor** mechanics. Students who successfully complete a **14-week, 560-hour** program gain certification and **the opportunity** to enter a healthy job market.