



FROM HERE YOU CAN GO ANYWHERE!

ED H. MOORE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 (850) 681-3188
 emoore@icuf.org

ICUF Report

November 2005

Wilma wallops ICUF members in three South Florida counties

For the second year in a row, a group of **ICUF** institutions have taken a major hit from one or more hurricanes. This time it was Hurricane Wilma, which forced all seven members located in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, to shut down for at least a week.

The institutions were forced to stay closed far longer than needed due to the absence of utilities, limited traffic signals and related safety hazards and other factors beyond their control. Preliminary damage estimates were:

- **Palm Beach Atlantic University**, \$600,000
- **University of Miami**, \$3 million
- **Barry University**, \$2 million
- **St. Thomas University**, \$4 million
- **Florida Memorial University**, \$800,000
- **Lynn University**, \$2 million
- **Nova Southeastern University**, \$500,000

Those figures add up to more than \$18 million, but the final figure could be significantly different.

Several other institutions along Florida's east and west coasts were brushed by Wilma, but escaped with minimal damages.

Officials of schools that sustained major damages from one or more of the hurricanes that hit Florida in 2004 breathed a sigh of relief that their campuses were largely spared by Wilma.

The major problem caused by Wilma in most cases was the loss of power for a week or more. In addition, numerous roofs were damaged, buildings were flooded and enormous heaps of debris littered campuses. Member institutions have adjusted their schedules to ensure that students take their final exams and graduate on time.

Presidential Fellows program engages student activists

Twenty-one students attending member institutions have been selected as the 2005-06 **ICUF** Presidential Fellows. The program trains student leaders, selected by the presidents of the schools they attend, to involve students, parents and alumni in influencing political decisions that affect the **ICUF** community.

The fellows met with **ICUF** staffers and consultants at **Eckerd College** for an intensive training session in August. They will meet again to discuss action on legislative issues in conjunction with the **ICUF** President's Council in Orlando on Jan. 25.

Meanwhile, the Fellows are actively reaching out to Florida legislators.

John Constantinide, a **University of Miami** student, sent a letter to the editor of the Florida Today touting the Florida Resident Access Grant. Sen. Bill Posey, R-Rockledge, read it and



ICUF Presidential Fellows Orientation at Eckerd College

ICUF presents Eagle Awards to key legislative supporters

ICUF is presenting its Guardian of Independent Education awards to 15 legislators who have been strong supporters of Florida's independent colleges and universities. The award, a bronze statuette of an eagle with its wings spread wide, is known as the Eagle Award.



Left , from left to right, ICUF Executive Director Ed H. Moore, House Speaker Allan Bense and ICUF General Counsel Bob Boyd.

Right, from left to right, Ed Moore, Rep. Andy Gardiner and Bob Boyd



The Eagle Award recognizes exemplary services to the students and families of independent colleges and universities in Florida. ICUF representatives are presenting the awards to the winners in their district or Capitol offices.

The winners of this year's awards are: Sen. Ken Pruitt, R- Port St. Lucie; Sen. Les Miller, Jr., D-Tampa; Sen. Lee Constantine, R-Alamonte Springs; Sen. Evelyn Lynn, R-Ormond Beach; Sen. Larcenia Bullard, D-Miami; Sen. Mike Harridopolos, R-Melbourne; House Speaker Allan Bense, R-Panama City; Rep. J. Dudley Goodlette, R-Naples; Rep. David Mealar, R-Lake Mary; Rep. Thad Altman, R-Melbourne; Rep. William Proctor, R-St. Augustine; Rep. Frank Attkisson, R-Kissimmee; Rep. Dennis Baxley, R-Ocala; Rep. Ron Greenstein, D-Coconut Creek; and Rep. Andy Gardiner R-Orlando.

UT magazine profiles Senate president

In an article entitled "UT Grad Presides Over Florida Senate," **The University of Tampa's UT Journal** has profiled an alumnus who rose to the top in Florida politics — Senate President Tom Lee, R-Brandon.



Left, Senate President Tom Lee

Lee, 43, a homebuilder in private life, was elected to the Senate in 1995 and has been selected by his peers to serve as Senate president during the 2005 and 2006 sessions. His

continued on page 3

Continued, page 2

Presidential Fellows continued from Page 1

promptly wrote John a letter expressing his support for the FRAG.

Fellows are organizing students on their campuses to send "Thank You for the **FRAG**" messages to legislators and are working with the ICUF Student Alliance, which is being formed by student government leaders as a voice for ICUF students.

Students participating in the Presidents Fellows program are:

- D. Ryan Saunders, Barry University
- Bodunrin O. Banwo, Bethune-Cookman College
- Markeisha S. Coney, Edward Waters College
- Bryan W. Hunt and Jeff R. Stanley, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

- Ivey C. Addison, Flagler College
- Tim Grieving, Florida College
- Zach E. Nelson, Florida Institute of Technology
- Chancie Louise Housholder, Florida Southern College
- Adetutu O. Adrenirian, Jacksonville University
- Marissa S. Dass, Nova Southeastern University
- Christopher S. Moody, Palm Beach Atlantic University
- Caitlin M. McConnell, Rollins College
- Alan R. Cleaver, Saint Leo University
- Patrick Cezar and Ricel Valdes, St. Thomas University
- Vanessa J. Leef and Joshua A. Padgette, Southeastern University
- Wess T. Brooker and Christina G. Schafer, Stetson University
- John Constantinide, University of Miami

Lee, continued from page 2

term ends next year, and he is a Republican candidate for the state chief financial officer's office.

The article calls Lee "the Florida Legislature's biggest star in recent years" and quotes him extensively on his perception of the many facets of political life involved in running the Senate.

"To me, politics is sort of the art or the science of managing all of the diverse opinions and dynamics of public setting," Lee said. "Leadership is something that transcends every walk of life. And whether it be professional, personal or political, leadership is a characteristic or a trait that, well, transcends any particular job description."

Lee said he had little interest in politics until friends talked him into running for the Senate about eight years ago. He said that presiding over the Senate has been "an extraordinary experience."

". . . the dynamics of the political process, testing myself as small businessman stepping out of that environment, some of the pressures of operating in a public setting, where are your successes and failures are played out through the media. . . "

An avid and accomplished golfer, Lee attended UT on an athletic and academic scholarship. He graduated with a degree in business in 1984.

UM mourns loss of education dean — The **University of Miami** community is in mourning following the death of **Dean Samuel J. Yarger** of the School of Education. **Yarger**, 68, died unexpectedly of a heart attack. Flags across the campus were lowered to half-staff for two weeks in honor of the dean, who ran **Miami's** teacher training programs for 13 years.

"He took over the School of Education at a time when it was trying to define itself," said **UM Provost Luis Glaser**. "He has built it into an extremely strong school with great programs. He has recruited wonderful faculty."

Yarger was actively involved in local school improvements, collaborating with the Miami-Dade School District on reform projects including one to evaluate small learning communities in high schools."

He began a long career in education as an elementary school teacher in Michigan.

St. Thomas receives \$3 million grant — **St. Thomas University** has received the largest single contribution in its history, a \$3 million donation from Mike Fernandez, chairman of the MBF Healthcare

Partners. The gift will be used to create the Fernandez Programs for High Potential Students and the Fernandez Leadership and Wellness Center.

"This tremendous gift will not only honor Mr. Fernandez's entrepreneurial spirit by promoting leadership throughout the entire community but also future the University's commitment to 'Developing Leaders for Life,'" said **St. Thomas President Rev. Msgr. Franklyn Casale**.

Embry-Riddle president resigns — **Dr. George Ebbs** has announced his resignation as president of **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University** effective Nov. 30. **Ebbs** notified the Board of Trustees of his departure as it was completing work on a six-month study of the state of the university.

"Having been part of that process, and now reflecting on those changes and new directions, it is clear to me that it is time for a new president to step forward and work with the board to implement its agenda," he said. **Ebbs** served seven years as **ERAU** president. The university's provost, **Dr. John Johnson**, has been named interim president while the board searches for a new leader.

Barry receives \$715,300 education grant — **Barry University's** Adrian Dominican School of Education has been awarded a \$715,300 federal grant to help support the Project WIN program. The grant, to be distributed over a four-year time span, is funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation services. The purpose of Project WIN is to prepare highly qualified special education teachers through the Exceptional Student Education and English for Speakers of Other Languages programs to work in urban public schools with all students with disabilities who speak English as a second language.

Msgr. Casale elected to HACU board — **Msgr. Franklyn Casale**, president of **St. Thomas University** has been elected to the Governing Board of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. He will join 18 other Board members from schools and organizations around the world. "As a Hispanic Serving Institution, **St. Thomas** has long been committed to addressing the individual needs of its diverse Hispanic population. Through this placement, I am looking forward to not only furthering our own students' success, but also assisting HACU in its goal of being the champions of Hispanic success in higher education," **Msgr. Casale** said.

FL Tech prof receives \$1.3 million grant —

Dr. Joshua Rokach, a medical chemistry professor at **Florida Institute of Technology**, has received a \$1.3 million grant from the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health to continue his research on chronic inflammatory diseases. He will use his four-year grant to take a different approach to researching chronic inflammatory diseases such as asthma, inflammatory bowel disease, psoriasis, and rhinitis, nasal allergies. Rokach's goal is to find a way to stop chronic inflammatory diseases before they start.

UT prof nominates Nobel winner — **Dr. Frank**

Gillen, the Dana Professor of English at **The University of Tampa**, is one of several persons who nominated this year's Nobel Prize for Literature winner, British playwright Harold Pinter. **Gillen** is the founding editor of the Pinter Review, which has been published by **The University of Tampa Press** since its inception in 1987. "It's a very happy day," **Gillen** said. "I feel like my faith and the University's faith in Pinter have been acknowledged. Even in the dark days when there wasn't much interest in his work, we published faithfully and the University supported us." In awarding the prize to Pinter, the Swedish Academy described him as "the foremost representative of British drama in the second half of the 20th Century" and praised him as a "fighter for human rights."

UT receives \$1 million donation —

The Don & Erika Wallace Family Foundation has donated \$1 million to **The University of Tampa** as part of its \$80 million capital campaign. The Wallace's gift will be recognized on a special plaque in the entryway of the Crescent Club, located on the ninth floor of the Vaughn Center on the University's campus. Don Wallace is founder and chairman of the board of Lazydays RV SuperCenter, the number one recreational vehicle dealer in the world, in Seffner and a member of the **UT's** Board of Trustees.

Southeastern wins national golf title —

It's a three-peat for the **Southeastern University** men's golf team. The **Wild** shot a final-round 304 in the National Christian College Athletic Association National Tournament to earn their third straight NCCAA Division II title.

Stetson law students best in nation —

A team of students from **Stetson University** College of Law won the recent 15th annual Cathy Bennett National Criminal Trial Competition at the annual meeting of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Law student **Patricia Calhoun** was named Best Overall Advocate. Law professor **Charles Rose** coached the winning team.

ICUF members are: Barry University · Beacon College · Bethune-Cookman College · Clearwater Christian College · Eckerd College · Edward Waters College · Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University · Flagler College · Florida College · Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences · Florida Institute of Technology · Florida Memorial University · Florida Southern College · International College · Jacksonville University · Lynn University · Nova Southeastern University · Palm Beach Atlantic University · Ringling School of Art and Design · Rollins College · Saint Leo University · Saint Thomas University · Southeastern University · Stetson University · University of Miami · University of Tampa · Warner Southern College · Webber International University

ICUF Report is written and edited by John C. Van Gieson, 850-681-6505. Please email comments and newsletter items to john@vangiesonmedia.com