



INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES of FLORIDA

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ICUF NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2011

3rd Annual TFHEC Held

The Taiwan-Florida Higher Education conference (TFHEC) was first organized by the Chinese American Scholars & Professionals Association of Florida (CASPAF), a non-profit educational organization. Each year educators throughout Florida and Taiwan meet with the focus of enhancing academic research cooperation, fostering collaboration between higher education in Florida and Taiwan and providing a forum for delegates to share experiences related to student exchange, and dual and joint degrees.

This year the conference was held at the Coronado Springs Resort in Orlando, FL and hosted by the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida. "From the initial efforts to now we have seen tremendous progress in the development of specific agreements between schools in Taiwan and in Florida," said Dr. Ed H. Moore. "ICUF was pleased to host this most recent meeting as it allowed for the expansion of these efforts and the creation of even more opportunities for students and scholars."



(lft) ICUF Pres. Ed Moore; Minister of Education, Dr. Ching-Ji Wu and FIT Pres. Anthony Catanese



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



Hodges Signs MOU

SEU Student & Alum Bike 5K Miles



Paul Austin (lft) & Mason Gravley



M. Gravley & P. Austin

Gravley credits Austin with the idea of riding bikes across North America. "We were sitting in Mason's living room looking at a huge world map on the wall when it hit me, Alaska to Florida, by bicycle," Austin said.



Gravley and Austin began their trip with a one-way flight to Fairbanks on May 12. When the trip finally came to an end in Orlando on July 16, the two had traveled more than 5,000 miles. Gravley said he felt a strong stirring that he needed to do something for his friend Steven Sebyala, who leads an orphanage and missionary house in Uganda. Sebyala was desperately in need of funds to complete a building called the "Gospel House." Gravley had visited the ministry in 2010 and built a strong relationship with the pastor. "The trip has had a lasting impact on my life, and I knew I had to do something to help Pastor Steven build his Gospel House," Gravley said.

Webber Names Women's Head Basketball Coach



Grady Morrell

Grady Morrell joined Webber International University after 22 years of coaching basketball and football at all levels. "I am very excited, blessed and thankful for this opportunity and want to represent Polk County ... and everyone that has supported me at Webber," stated Grady Morrell.

"I am absolutely thrilled that we have Coach Morrell with us at Webber. We are very fortunate to replace a quality coach and person, Ben Braaten, with a coach with such strong ethics, integrity, and work ethic as Coach Morrell. Women's basketball at WIU is in good hands," said Bill Heath, Athletic Director.

PBA Pilot Project Helps Students

Palm Beach Atlantic University has received a \$10,000 grant from the AT&T Foundation to implement a two-year pilot project partnering with nearby Conniston Community Middle School that aims to help students learn algebra through new instructional methods and technology. Starting this fall, students involved in the project will be able to work individually and in groups using interactive TI-Nspire handhelds that are part of PBA's pilot program. The devices will be equipped with TI-Navigator software that allows the teacher to view each student's work on a computer screen and to offer feedback electronically. "By using these handhelds, students can explore the mathematics on their own and in groups instead of sitting passively listening to mathematics, lectures and writing notes on what the teacher said. By exploring the mathematics on their own, they can use their own learning styles to make sense of the mathematics," said Dr. Marsha Guntharp, associate professor of mathematics at PBA and a former middle- and high-school teacher.



From left, Rob Lavielle, AT&T Sales Director; Rusty Rhodes, AT&T Business Systems; Dr. Marsha Guntharp, assoc. prof. of mathematics; and Mary Stratos, principal, Conniston Community Middle School.

FICF Distributes \$69,600 in UPS Scholarships

The Florida Independent College Fund recently distributed \$69,600 in UPS Scholarships to 29 need-based students at private colleges and universities throughout the state. The scholarships were made possible by a grant from the UPS Educational Endowment Fund administered by the Council of Independent Colleges in Washington, DC.

The UPS Foundation has provided over \$1.4 million in student scholarships to ICUF/FICF institutions. Nationally, the Council of Independent Colleges and the UPS Foundation teamed up to provide nearly \$1.45 million in student scholarships this year which will be distributed through state-based private college associations around the country. "UPS has done such a great service to the students across the country by providing this excellent scholarship. Corporate engagement in scholarships is a critical step in economic development and UPS deserves tremendous thanks for helping to create opportunity for so many students," said ICUF President, Dr. Ed Moore.

Lynn Student Receives HSBC Scholarship

Lesley Tai, a student at Lynn University, was recently awarded the HSBC First Opportunity Partners Scholarship. Tai, one of only 14 scholars in the U.S. to receive the \$5,000 scholarship, is majoring in Hospitality Management with a minor in International Business. The award was made available to ICUF students through its partnership with the Council of Independent Colleges. Here, Lynn University President Kevin Ross congratulates Lesley on receiving this prestigious award.



Barry Names New VP for Student Affairs

Barry University has named Dr. Scott F. Smith as its new vice president for Student Affairs. Smith, who has more than a decade of professional experience in student development for Catholic higher education institutions, joins Barry from Saint Louis University, where he has served as assistant vice president for student development and dean of students since 2007. "I am very pleased that Dr. Scott Smith is joining our Barry community and the University's executive leadership team," Barry President Sister Bevilacqua said. "We are very fortunate to have attracted such a highly experienced, knowledgeable and committed student development professional."



Dr. Scott F. Smith

Lynn Names New Business Dean

Lynn University named Thomas Kruczek as the new dean of its College of Business and Management. "He teaches people how to build businesses and builds the entrepreneur within business students," Lynn University President Kevin M. Ross said. "His proven success in reaching out to the local business community is one of the main reasons we are excited to have him join us."

"To me it's the entrepreneurs in many cases who are going to be the ones to help us out of these economic doldrums," Kruczek said.



Thomas Kruczek

NSU's Senior VP and COO to Begin

Jacqueline A. Travisano has a new role as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Nova Southeastern University. Travisano will be responsible for overall direction, management and effective administrative operations of the university to support Nova's mission and help to fulfill its vision. "Jackie possesses exceptional financial skill and acumen, as well as broad operational experience in higher education," NSU President George Hanbury said. "She was our first choice from among the more than 300 applicants we received from across the nation. We are delighted that she has accepted the challenge of helping us reach NSU's mission, vision and core values."



Jacqueline A.
Travisano

STU Participates in Human Trafficking Conference

St. Thomas University President, Monsignor Franklyn M. Casale recently joined representatives from US and foreign government law enforcement agencies, scholars, attorneys and members of the diplomatic corps at the *Universidad Libre*, Bogota, Colombia for an international symposium on modern-day slavery. A series of conferences and workshops is taking place around the globe to expand awareness of how smuggling and illegal immigration has aggravated human trafficking and the alarming statistics of the epidemic. Addressing the role of academia, Monsignor Casale has been constantly reaching out for public-private sector partnerships, stressing that higher learning institutions serve as incubators, think tanks and informational portals. St. Thomas University has been a pioneer in the struggle.

Rollins Welcomes New Provost and VP for Institutional Advancement



Carol Bresnahan

Ronald J. Korvas

Rollins College recently welcomed new Provost Carol Bresnahan and new Vice President for Institutional Advancement Ronald J. Korvas to campus. “Dr. Bresnahan ably demonstrates and articulates the strategic vision we need to assure Rollins’ continuing progress,” said Rollins President Lewis Duncan.

“Rollins is an outstanding institution and a wonderful example of all that a liberal arts college should be,” said Bresnahan. “I believe that liberal education is essential to the public good, and Rollins’ commitment to liberal arts – from its faculty focused on undergraduate research to its strength in the area of community engagement to its rich cultural offerings – makes it a great fit for me.”

Ronald J. Korvas has more than 25 years of experience in higher education advancement. “We are very happy to welcome a chief advancement officer with Ron’s

experience to our senior leadership team,” said Duncan.

“Rollins has an excellent reputation and I’m excited to be associated with an institution of this caliber,” said Korvas. “I look forward to visiting and working with Rollins’ alumni and friends to help secure the resources the College needs to achieve its goals.”

Stetson Welcomes Largest Class in 128-year History

Stetson University welcomed its largest incoming class ever – with 875 first-year and transfer students compared to last year’s 670 – as it kicked off the 2011-12 school year. “We’re ecstatic. We were shooting for 770 incoming students and we’re going to have nearly 900,” said Robert Stewart, director of financial aid and this summer’s acting vice president for enrollment management.

Greeting new and returning students this year will be numerous renovations and technology upgrades to classroom buildings, residence halls, parking areas and the campus landscape. A new model for the Stetson Honors Program will begin, emphasizing experiential learning and mentoring. A wing of the DuPont-Ball Library is now dedicated to the arts. As part of Stetson’s focus on student success, first-year students will start their First Year Seminar course during orientation and finish that class before Thanksgiving, allowing them to focus on their three other courses for finals.



New Campus Landscaping

UT Education Graduates Top Teacher Ratings

New teachers who graduated from The University of Tampa topped state rankings for teacher effectiveness, according to a recent study by the Florida Department of Education. The data gauged FCAT performance in reading or math by students of new teachers who graduated from Florida institutions who were spending their first year teaching in Florida public schools. Their students' FCAT scores were measured against the previous years.

One hundred percent of the teachers with education degrees from UT saw at least half of their students improve on the FCAT, according to the study. The ranking topped other public and independent institutions that were included in the study. Forty percent of those same teachers had 75 percent or more of their students making learning gains, which also tops the list. "This is a credit to the curriculum of our department," said Pattie Johnston, chair of the UT Department of Education. "Teachers from UT thrive because they have been taught to create compelling and active learning environments that foster learning gains."

Flagler Professor Produces Civil Rights Series

In partnership with WJCT Public Radio in Jacksonville, Flagler College Sociology Assistant Professor Dr. Casey Welch has begun production of a 30-month series of live interviews covering issues of importance to black heritage and civil rights. The series is called "Black Heritage, Civil Rights Movement and Contemporary Race Issues in St. Augustine".

The interview series began with a conversation between WJCT's First Coast Connect host Melissa Ross and Christopher and Walter Eugene White, sons of the late Hattie White, a local civil rights icon. The two are also brothers of Samuel White, one of the original "St. Augustine Four" who were arrested for trying to eat at the whites-only lunch counter at the local Woolworth's. The series continues with an interview with State Senator Tony Hill, who in late 2010 led efforts to clear the arrest records of St. Augustine Civil Rights pioneers.

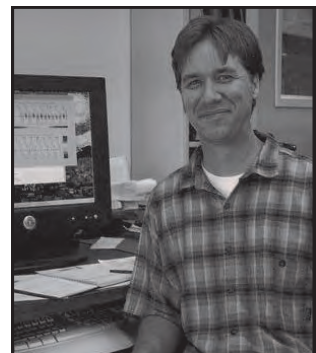


Dr. Casey Welch

FIT Faculty Member Earns Naval Research Grant

Steven Jachec, Florida Institute of Technology assistant professor of ocean engineering, has received a grant of \$495,000 over five years from the Office of Naval Research through the Department of Defense Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative. He is participating in the multimillion-dollar Integrated Ocean Dynamics and Acoustics (IODA) project, which is led by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and involves other universities.

The IODA project is an integrated ocean fluid dynamics and acoustics study for defense and national security. It encompasses basic research related to the waves and eddies in the continental shelf areas of the world's continents. Jachec is responsible for performing high-resolution numerical modeling of the coastal ocean hydrodynamics. "The overall goal is to improve the understanding and predictability of underwater acoustic propagation under the influence of a constantly changing ocean," said Jachec.



Steven Jachec

FMU Celebrates Archway Dedication

The offices of Florida's governor and U.S. Senator Bill Nelson joined St. Augustine's mayor, along with members of the St. Johns County Commission, to dedicate Florida Memorial University's historic A. L. Lewis Archway Plaza. Built by students in the 1930s, and recently restored, the archway, named for the state's first black millionaire and a university donor, served as the school's former entrance and will now be the centerpiece as FMU redevelops grounds surrounding the archway. "It was a great day to be a Florida Memorial Lion," reflected President Henry Lewis, III, on the archway dedication. "The fact that so many civic leaders and all of Florida celebrated our institution's historic roots was a testament to how FMU has impacted this state. Our past has set the stage for a bright future, and we are moving confidently toward it."

Florida Memorial University President Lewis (third from left) poses with members of the FMU Board of Trustees and descendants of A. L. Lewis after cutting the ribbon officially opening the archway. (Photo: Sunshine Communications)



Nova Offers First of its Kind Program

The need for more direct services, professional development, and research led to the creation of the Autism Institute at Nova Southeastern University earlier this year, and the implementation of a severe behavior disorders service (SBDS) to open this Fall; the first short-term, intensive day treatment program in South Florida.

The SBDS will serve the community as a clinical laboratory and will be an integral site for training Nova doctoral students in clinical and school psychology to use the latest scientifically validated treatments for behavior disorders. It will also serve as a site for innovative clinical research.

Project Director F. Charles "Bud" Mace, Ph.D., who also serves as Professor of Psychology at NSU's Center for Psychological Studies and Unicorn Children's Foundation Endowed Chair, has been awarded a five year multi-site research grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to study factors that improve the long-term effectiveness of behavioral treatments for these disorders.



F. Charles Mace

Saint Leo Makes Splash with New Jobs, Location

Saint Leo University received a warm welcome in downtown Tampa from Mayor Bob Buckhorn when President Arthur F. Kirk, Jr., announced the opening of a new location in the city's Channelside district. Saint Leo's decision to open a location in Tampa means the addition of 90 well-compensated workers to the local workforce, resulting in a \$4 million annual positive impact on the economy, plus five new classrooms in a learning center for adult continuing education students. The workforce Saint Leo is assembling in Tampa consists

mainly of an administrative operation to support online undergraduate learners with admission staff, enrollment counselors, academic advisors, financial services staffers, and veterans specialists.



Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn welcoming Saint Leo University President Arthur F. Kirk, Jr., and ribbon-cutting committee

ERAU Opens Hagedorn Aviation Complex

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University will celebrate a milestone in its ongoing construction campaign—the completion of the final three buildings in the James Hagedorn Aviation Complex—with a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony to be held at 9 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 9, in the courtyard of the complex at the Daytona Beach campus, 600 S. Clyde Morris Blvd. The public is invited to attend.

The new, high-tech Emil Buehler Aviation Maintenance Science Building, Samuel M. Goldman Fleet Maintenance Hangar, and Flight Operations Building are grouped together on Embry-Riddle's flight line, adjacent to Daytona Beach International Airport. The Buehler and Flight Operations buildings replace older structures; the Goldman building replaces a hangar destroyed by a tornado in 2006.

"It's one of our top priorities to refresh and expand our campus facilities in tandem with our degree offerings to meet the requirements of the industry we serve," said Dr. John P. Johnson, Embry-Riddle president. "This world-class Aviation Complex ensures that Embry-Riddle students will get the unsurpassed instruction and technology they need to propel them into rewarding careers in aviation and aerospace."



Emil Buehler Aviation Maintenance Science Building



Samuel M. Goldman Fleet Maintenance Center



Flight Operations Building

Local Artist Donates Sculpture to Hodges

Naples artist Samuel Leotta has donated his “Tree of Life” sculpture to Hodges University. The 14-foot tall work was installed in the atrium on the second floor of the George Gaynor building at Hodges’ Naples campus. The piece is constructed of solid polyvinyl chloride sheets pieced together, giving the allusion of a bright, metallic, prismatic object.

“We are extremely honored that Mr. Leotta has donated his impressive sculpture to Hodges University,” said HU President, McMahan. “The piece will greatly enhance the quality of the surroundings in the student lounge area, near our Falciglia Art Gallery, which will give our students an opportunity to appreciate the sculpture. It’s truly a world-class work and we can’t thank Mr. Leotta enough for his generous donation.”



Eckerd Apps Use 360-degree Gyroscope

When Eckerd College decided to join the mobile application foray of virtual tours, the big question was, 'How do we set our app apart from other colleges and universities?' Answer: Tampa-based Spark Mobile, LLC, creators of Tour Wrist. Eckerd College has joined with Tour Wrist (<http://www.tourwrist.com/>), a mobile and web-based 360-degree virtual tour hosting company, to launch Eckerd's new iPhone and iPad Apps. Eckerd is the first college to use Tour Wrist's gyroscope-based virtual tour function. The Eckerd App is free and available through the iTunes App Store. Eckerd's app features instant access to a 360-degree panoramic view of the 20 most popular spots on campus; the Tritons' latest sports scores, news stories, public events and information for prospective students. "Eckerd is pleased to be the first in higher education to use this unique approach to virtual tours within mobile applications," said Casey Paquet, Director of Marketing, Communications and Web Services. "We believe that it will complement our admissions process by appealing to prospective students as well as engage alumni and friends of the College."



FSC and “Up with People” Form Partnership

“FSC has won national recognition for engaged learning and commitment to producing globally aware students,” said Dr. Anne Kerr, president of Florida Southern College. “The connection with *Up with People* as the educational partner allows FSC to combine our experience in engaged learning with UWP’s unparalleled international program. We believe both organizations will be richer for the collaboration. This is another important recognition of the strong academic reputation of our institution. UWP will now recruit and travel the world carrying the banner of Florida Southern with them.”

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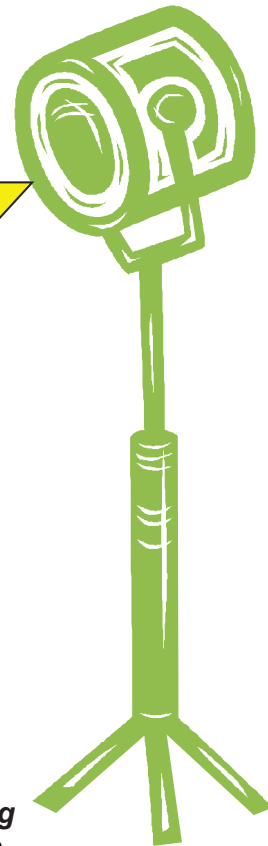
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Melissa Armstrong is responsible for the content, layout and visual formatting of the ICUF News Report. Please email comments and suggested news items to marmstrong@icuf.org.