**Stetson Names 10th President**  Christopher Roellke assumed the presidency at Stetson University on July 1, 2020. “Dr. Roellke is bringing an outstanding record of energetic leadership in higher education and a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities Stetson University faces. The board is thrilled to welcome him as president-elect,” Joe Cooper, board chair, said in a university news release. Roellke, 54, is originally from West Orange, New Jersey, the same city that produced John Stetson — the university’s namesake. “But that’s not why I got the job,” Roellke joked. “(Stetson) just strikes me as a community that is welcoming and has a close faculty-student relationship, where people are working side-by-side to not just enhance learning but advance knowledge,” he said. “That really appeals to me.”

After starting as a professor of education in 1998 at Vassar, a highly selective, formerly all-women, liberal arts college in Poughkeepsie, New York, he became dean of the college in 2008. The position is common at highly selective universities of the Northeast, “a bridge between the academic life of the college and the residential life of the college,” he said. Read more.

**Jacksonville University Opens First-ever Student Health Center This Fall**  For the first time in school history, Jacksonville University will open a Student Health Center to serve the healthcare needs of our students. “As we endure a global health emergency, now more than ever, we are keenly aware of the value and benefit this center will provide our student body,” said President Tim Cost. “Despite the challenging time we are now navigating, Jacksonville University remains focused on investing in our campus in ways that enhance the experience of students living and studying here.” The Student Health Center will provide a full range of primary healthcare services at no charge and assist with referrals to specialists as needed. Dr. Elaine Borne, who is also a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Keigwin School of Nursing, will serve as the Center’s director. Read more.

**Beacon (College) Homes in on Students’ Desire to Have their Voices Heard**  Nearly four years is what it took to build and launch the long-awaited student broadcasting experience Radio Beacon. The college’s new student-centered podcasting channel officially hits the airwaves in the fall 2020 semester. “This opportunity will give students a chance to learn about the spoken word and the creative and technical aspects of recording and editing audio,” said Matthew Cupach, instructor in computer information systems/web and digital media at Beacon College. Read more.
Hodges Wins Four National Marketing Awards
Hodges University’s marketing team earned four national awards in the 35th Annual Educational Advertising Awards. “This is the first time Hodges University has entered, and to be recognized with four awards is exciting,” said Teresa Araque, AVP of Marketing. “We are a small team that puts our hearts and souls into everything we do. Working with such a talented team of professionals is rewarding. A big thanks goes to our President, Dr. John Meyer, who supported our efforts when we changed the university’s brand and took less than traditional approaches in doing so.

Hodges University won a Gold Award for its 30-second TV spot #MyHodgesStory. In the logo/letterhead design category, Hodges University won a Bronze Award for its new stationery package. For magazine advertising/single ad, Hodges University won a Bronze Award for its “5 Stars” ad. For the publication/external category, Hodges University won a Merit Award for Talon magazine – First Edition.

Edward Waters Commits to Paying Eligible Students’ Costs for the 2020-2021 Academic Year
In an effort to ease the financial burden for students, Edward Waters College has committed to paying the balances of eligible returning students for Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. The program, dubbed “#WeGotYou” will cover costs including tuition and fees, room and board and activity fees for the next two semesters. EWC’s announcement acknowledged the economic uncertainty resulting from Covid-19 as well as the barriers that financial burdens can present in higher education. “Many of our students, their parents or guardians, their grandparents, or significant others are struggling financially due to a loss of income pursuant to a reduction or loss in employment.” President A. Zachary Faison Jr. said in a press release. “As such, we at EWC wanted to provide a way for students to afford to return to our campus and continue their program of study without having to grapple with what for many of them is an untenable and excruciating financial burden right now.”

In 2019, 97% of EWC students received some form of financial aid, with 88% being recipients of the Federal Pell Grant – a program that assists low-resource and low-income students. The initiative follows EWC’s recent elimination of more than a decade’s worth of net cash operating deficits and the recent influx of $3.5 million in state funding to the college. “I do not know of any other institution in America right now that is telling their students during these challenging financial times, ‘If you want to come back to school, don’t let finances be a deterrent. We got you!’” Faison said.

St. Thomas University Names VP of Marketing & Communications
St. Thomas University has announced Mark Apple as their new Vice President of Marketing & Communications. Mr. Apple will oversee all aspects of St. Thomas University’s communications strategy, media relations, marketing, social media, branding, and public relations.

Mr. Apple brings a proven record of marketing and communications experience in both higher education and the corporate sector. Most recently, Mark served as Vice President for Marketing Communications at Marian University, where he led a team of professionals in content generation, paid advertising, social media outreach, internal university communications, development of print collateral, event marketing, and crisis communications. “Mark’s leadership will be instrumental in the continued growth and visibility of our university,” said David A. Armstrong, J.D., St. Thomas University’s President. “STU’s strategic vision is to become a great Catholic university that transforms students into ethical leaders who go on to impact our city, and our world. Mr. Apple’s experience and communications skills will accelerate us along this path.”
Two Florida Tech Students Named 2020 Astronaut Scholars
Florida Tech seniors Chloe Klare and Samantha Pryor have been named 2020 Astronaut Scholars, the prestigious recognition from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation that signifies they are among the best and brightest STEM students in the country. Klare, a double major in astronomy/astrophysics and mathematical sciences, and Pryor, an astrobiology major, are two of just 56 Astronaut Scholars from 41 different U.S. universities comprising the 2020 class. They will receive scholarships, a paid trip to the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation’s Innovators Weekend, and opportunities for ongoing engagement with astronauts, Astronaut Scholar alumni, and the Foundation. Read more.

Saint Leo Innovates with Health Education and Health Promotion Degree
Saint Leo University announced the start of a new four-year degree at its residential campus—a bachelor’s in health education and health promotion—to prepare graduates for a growing number of health education positions at community organizations, healthcare agencies, and workplaces.

The program will prepare students with a contemporary curriculum that draws from courses in anatomy, professional speaking, statistics, psychology, ethics, and nutrition, and layers upon those subjects courses in education and health promotion. The education courses, such as teaching diverse populations, brain-based learning, and assessing health learning, will ensure that students not only understand the material, but also are able to make it understandable to future clients.

Project Civitas, Lynn University Library Take Steps to Support Civil Rights
Among the wake of civic unrest in late May and early June, Lynn University President Kevin M. Ross communicated how the Lynn community is taking time to thoughtfully prepare learning opportunities. In the weeks following, the university has:

- Provided access to civil rights resources, including books, podcasts and videos curated by members of the Eugene M. and Christine E. Lynn Library.
- Released a video about Juneteenth, a holiday that celebrates the emancipation of enslaved persons, recorded by historian and community activist, Distinguished Professor of American History, Dr. Robert Watson.
- Coordinated a discussion about race and its cross-section with law enforcement via Project Civitas.
- Introduced a new elective course, Race in America, which students can begin registering for July 5.

As President Ross indicated nearly one month ago, Lynn has brought together people from diverse backgrounds and viewpoints purposively since its founding nearly 60 years ago. The actions described above represent early actions in direct response to today’s environment, and the university will continue to take action and welcome conversations that support diversity and civility, and that teach tolerance and acceptance.
University of Miami Adds Innovative Device to Remotely Monitor Student-athletes' Health Amid the Pandemic

With student-athletes returning to campus, the University is adding “tele-vigilance” to its multifaceted approach for containing the coronavirus. Read more.

Flagler College Adds Online Certificate in Nonprofit Management

Nonprofit professionals and volunteers can now earn a Certificate in Nonprofit Management through Flagler College’s Adult and Continuing Education (ACE) program. Nationwide, the nonprofit sector is facing staffing challenges. Florida has more than 96,000 nonprofit organizations registered with the IRS, and personnel with organizational and philanthropic development knowledge are in demand.

The self-paced, online curriculum helps prepare students to support and influence the direction of organizations with initiatives such as human and youth services, the arts, sports, conservation and more. Non-degree-seeking students and professionals can earn valuable CEUs in the certificate program of 11 courses that include grant writing, fundraising, budgeting, volunteer development, marketing and social media.

Edward Waters College to Become a University

Edward Waters College is on its way to becoming a university. Due to an increase in funding, the historically Black college plans on adding undergraduate programs as well as its first master’s program. State and university officials have praised the decision, saying that the funding offers expanded opportunities for students. Read more.

AdventHealth MSN Program Earns Accreditation

AdventHealth University’s (AHU) Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree program has been granted accreditation from the Board of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) for five years, dated retroactively to September 2019. At its meeting, the Board determined that the program met all four accreditation standards without any citations or recommendations. AHU currently has three Masters of Nursing degree tracks: Administration and Leadership, Education, and Family Nurse Practice (FNP), all of which are now accredited by CCNE. The program has enjoyed strong support from AdventHealth Medical Group (AHMG), and key members played a role in the accreditation success. Read more.
Nova Southeastern Researcher Part of Team Addressing Potential Risks to Marine Life

As the planet’s land-based natural resources become exhausted, the need for new sources is bringing the search to the deepest parts of the world’s oceans. And that has researchers across the globe very concerned. Dr. Tracey Sutton, Ph.D., a research scientist and professor at Nova Southeastern University’s (NSU) Halmos College of Arts and Sciences is on the research team that conducted a new study on deep-sea mining, led by University of Hawai‘i (UH) at Mānoa researchers. This study argues that deep-sea mining poses significant risks, not only to the area immediately surrounding mining operations but also to the water hundreds to thousands of feet above the seafloor, threatening vast midwater ecosystems. Further, the scientists suggest how these risks could be evaluated more comprehensively to enable society and managers to decide if and how deep-sea mining should proceed. Read more.

Barry University Is Ready to Make Some Noise

Drivers heading north on Interstate 95 near 115th Street in Miami may know little more about Barry University than its landmark Sylvester Tower on the east side of the interstate. “I think for me as president, our biggest priority has been to engage externally on what we believe is really the fabulous product that we have here. Barry, to use an overused cliché, is the best-kept secret,” says Mike Allen, who became president of the private Catholic university in July 2019. He’s notable as the first layperson and first man to lead the university, which was founded in 1940 by the Adrian Dominican Sisters.

Allen said the university’s leadership and outside consultants have spent a lot of time determining whether it’s offering the right programs. “If you list sort of the top 20 programs, both in terms of interest from prospective students in terms of number of majors and those kind of things, and hireability and marketability of majors in terms of getting jobs, we’re really operating in about 90 percent of those programs,” Allen said. Still, Barry’s leadership is taking a strategic look about what’s needed in the future. Read more.

University of Miami School of Medicine Selected as Part of National Initiative to Test Potential COVID-19 Vaccines

The University of Miami Miller School of Medicine has been selected to be part of the effort in the development of a COVID-19 vaccine. The school has been selected to be part of the National Institutes of Health COVID-19 Prevention Trials Network to launch clinical trials to test potential vaccines.

The initiative, which will be led by infectious diseases expert Susanne Doblecki-Lewis, is part of a large scale study established by the NIH’s National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. “The COVID-19 pandemic is having a tremendous impact in South Florida and across the world,” Doblecki-Lewis said. “We are testing vaccines with the goal of finding a safe and effective way to halt the spread of the virus. The only way to do that is to be in a place where there are ongoing infections.” UM plans to enroll 1,000 volunteers in South Florida in that clinical trial, which is expected to begin this summer. Read more.
ICUF's 30 colleges and universities help to drive Florida's economy:

- **$6.4 billion** in annual operating budgets
- **$3.6 billion** in salaries and benefits
- **39,000 jobs** for Floridians

Source: PEDS

Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida / 850.681.3188 /

[ICUF logo]

[ICUF website link]
Millennium Advisory Services, Inc.
5340 Twin Hickory Road
Glen Allen, VA 23059
www.mas-edu.com

*Millennium Advisory Services Inc. is a national financial advisory firm. Millennium Advisory Services provides financial planning, advice, and asset management to individuals employed at institutions of higher education. Our commitment to the institutions we work with is to offer a financial plan to all employees. Millennium is able to provide unbiased financial advice and portfolio recommendations on employee investments held in 403(b) plans at leading custodians.*

**Primary Contacts:**
Mr. Paul Hunt, QPFC, AIF, President
(804) 346-1040 / (877) 435-2489
phunt@mcmva.com

---

K-12 Insight
2291 Wood Oak Drive
Suite 300
Herndon, VA 20171
www.k12insight.com

*K12 Insight powers the Let’s Talk! customer engagement platform which is used by colleges, universities, and K12 school districts across the country. Let’s Talk! is an always on, web-based platform that streamlines and consolidates interactions with students, faculty, and staff. Integrations with legacy systems and robust dashboards allows campus administrators to mitigate risks by identifying trends and ensure timely, courteous and accurate customer engagement.*

**Primary Contact:**
Mr. Gregg Levin, President & COO
(202) 251-7191
glevin@k12insight.com

---

Cengage
www.cengage.com

*Cengage is the largest U.S.-based provider of teaching and learning materials serving all levels of education – K20 through adult. The company recently released Cengage Unlimited, the first all-access subscription for digital textbooks. The company’s 5000 employees live in and contribute to local communities across the U.S.*

**Primary Contact:**
Ms. Jerri Norris, M.ED., M.B.A.
Director, Business Development and Policy
2512 Hendricks Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32207
Jerri.Norris@cengage.com

Click [HERE](#) for a listing of all our ICUF Preferred Vendors