

Campus Observer

September 16, 2009

A Newsletter for the Florida Tech Community

Vol. 10 Issue 9

Ford Named Director of Harris Institute for Assured Information

Richard Ford was named director of the new Harris Institute for Assured Information. The Harris Institute, made possible by a \$5 million gift from Harris Corp. last year, focuses on developing advanced solutions to help solve the global information security problem.



Richard Ford

“Dr. Ford has the credentials and experience to lead the new Harris Institute to prominence,” said President Anthony J. Catanese. “We look forward to the contributions that he and the institute will make in this important area of study.”

Looking to the future, Ford said, “We will strive to become the local center for ongoing workforce development in information assurance, and a thought leader in looking at the problems that users, companies and governments face with respect to using and storing information safely.”

The institute will take up the third floor in the Harris Center for Science and Engineering, set to open Oct. 23.

Nathan M. Bisk Gives \$5 Million to College of Business

Nathan M. Bisk, a leader in continuing education and online learning, presented Florida Tech with a \$5 million gift designed to enhance business offerings and strengthen online education. In appreciation, President Anthony J. Catanese announced that the university has renamed its College of Business the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business.



Dean Bob Niebuhr, Board of Trustees Chairman Dale Dettmer, Provost T. Dwayne McCay, Mr. Nathan Bisk and President Anthony Catanese at the Aug. 27 announcement of the Bisk donation

The \$5 million gift will be used to support the College of Business in three primary ways. It will establish an endowed Chair of Business to be named the Max, Edith and Robert Bisk Distinguished Chair of Business; provide marketing and branding support for the college; and third, it will expand online business programs.

“It is my intent to help make the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business one of the nation’s premier business colleges, as well as one of the largest,” Bisk said.

For more information, visit www.bisk.com.

Florida Tech Welcomes New Associate Vice President and CIO

Justin McKenzie has been appointed as associate vice president and chief information officer of information technology. A skilled technology leader, he has extensive experience working with organizations such as IBM, Dell, Hewlett Packard, Fujitsu, Oracle, Microsoft and Cisco. McKenzie has also been involved in several collaborative technology projects, such as with Virginia Tech, Rutgers and MIT.



Justin McKenzie

McKenzie earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in engineering technology from the University of Southern Mississippi and an MBA in operation/IT management from William Carey University. He is now completing his doctoral degree in human capital development through the University of Southern Mississippi. His research interests include technology commercialization, organizational development and technology leadership development.

United Way Fund Drive Kicks Off Sept. 25

Florida Tech is again participating in United Way’s Live United campaign starting Sept. 25. The United Way of Brevard hopes to raise an all-time record of \$6.7 million in support of 76 local health and human service programs at 46 nonprofit agencies.

The Florida Tech campaign chairs this year are Carey Gleason, assistant vice president for advancement, and Tim Hollingsworth, professor, College of Business. President Anthony J. Catanese is a member of the United Way of Brevard’s executive committee.

“We hope that the Florida Tech community will once again join in giving a little of themselves to help families throughout Brevard,” said Gleason.

Faculty and Staff News

Office of the President

President Anthony J. Catanese will present "Fabric of urban culture" at Melbourne's Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Oct. 11.

Office of Strategic Initiatives

Executive Director

Cliff Bragdon was invited to present

"Global resiliency:

Safety, security and sustainability (S3): Utilizing modeling and 4D simulation" at the 44th Annual Conference and Exposition of the International Society of Logistics.



Cliff Bragdon

Nathan M. Bisk College of Business

Michael Workman's paper, published in *Information Management and Computer Security*, is titled "A test of interventions for security threats from social engineering." It received the 2009 Award for Excellence as a Highly Commended Paper at the Literati Network Awards for Excellence.

College of Engineering

Frank Leslie was presented with a certificate of appreciation from the president of IEEE in recognition of his services and contributions as a "Renewable Energy" lecturer to the IEEE Melbourne Life Member chapter.

Richard Ford served as co-chair of the New Paradigms Workshop (NSPW) 2009, Sept. 8 to 11, at The Queen's College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom. The NSPW provides a forum for innovative approaches to computer security.

The Central Florida Council of the Boy Scouts of America presented **George Maul** with the Arrowhead Honor award for his service as the Manatee District Commissioner.



George Maul

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

Bill Gabrenya presented the workshops "What is cross-cultural psychology" and "Scientific writing in APA style" in Cameroon, West Africa, at the 4th Africa Region Conference of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology.

Heidi Hatfield

Edwards was elected vice-head-elect of the Public Relations Division at the Association for Education in Journalism



Heidi Edwards

and Mass Communication annual conference in Boston. She also completed her year-long fellowship in the Journalism Leadership Institute for Diversity (JLID). The JLID was created to provide training and mentoring for people of color and women interested in becoming journalism and mass communication deans, directors or chairs.

Radhika

Krishnamurthy has been elected 2011–2013 president of the National/International Society for Personality Assessment and will begin her two-year term as president-elect this month.



Radhika Krishnamurthy

The radio station of Indian River Community College WQCS interviewed **Robert Taylor** for their "Floridays" show, which aired on Aug. 21. The topic was "Governor Dan McCary: Forgotten reformer."

David Wilder published a chapter titled "Assessment and treatment of disruptive behavior" in a book edited by Nova Press.



David Wilder

College of Science

Virender Sharma published "Elimination of sludge odor by oxidizing sulfur-containing compounds with Ferrate (VI)" in the *Journal of Environmental Science and Technology*.



Virender Sharma

Extended Studies Sites

Terry Raney, director of the Graduate Studies program at Fort Lee, Va., presented "Media, know the rules" at the Defense Activity for Nontraditional Education Support education symposium in Atlanta, Ga.

Graduate Programs

The Office of Graduate Programs welcomes **Rosemary Layne** as its newly appointed director. Layne, who received her doctoral degree in education from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has a wide variety of experience in higher education.

Evans Library to Launch Learning Commons, Celebrate 25th Anniversary Sept. 25

The award-winning Evans Library celebrates its 25th birthday Sept. 25 and will launch the 21st Century Learning Commons project, which aims to transform university learning. The project is founded on collaboration, communication and connectivity, all learning tools of the 21st century. A new Web site will also be introduced later this semester.

The celebration, from 3 to 6 p.m., takes place in the Evans Library where President **Anthony J. Catanese** will speak at 4 p.m. Expect exhibits, refreshments, entertainment and more about the library's vision for the Learning Commons project. For more information, call extension 7541.

Message from the Director of Human Resources

Dear Staff and Faculty,

A lot has happened over the summer. One of the most important things (to me) is that I became your new director of human resources. Communication is essential as our team works to serve each and every one of you. We are pleased to be able to contribute to the *Campus Observer* with relevant human resources information that will enhance both your professional and personal lives.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest member of the team, **Beverly Hung**, who is your human resources manager. Beverly is a seasoned HR professional with experience in numerous industries such as health care, technology and insurance. She holds her bachelor's degree in business administration from Florida Atlantic University and a Senior Professional Human Resources certification from the Society of Human Resources Management. She is a national member of the Society of Human Resources Management and serves as the vice president of programs at our local South Brevard chapter.

The human resources department is committed to building partnerships to promote a positive work environment that is characterized by fair treatment of the staff, open communications, personal accountability, trust and mutual respect.

Joni Ogleby, Director of Human Resources

G.I. Jobs Says Florida Tech Is Military Friendly

G.I. Jobs named Florida Tech a Military Friendly School in recognition of its efforts to recruit, support and retain American veterans and current active or reserve service members as students. Florida Tech is among the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that made the 2010 list.

"We have long considered ourselves to be military-friendly and began to establish extended studies sites near or at military bases beginning in 1972," said Florida Tech President **Anthony J. Catanese**. "We are also proud to participate in the G.I. Bill Yellow Ribbon Program, which eases the costs for veterans and dependents to enroll in universities."

G.I. Jobs polled more than 7,000 schools throughout the United States last May. The 2010 Military Friendly School List can be found at www.militaryfriendlyschools.com/mfspr.

August MVP



The August Most Valuable Panther was **Fanak Baarmand**, human resources generalist.

To nominate a staff or faculty member for this award, send your letters to MVP Committee Chair Leslie Savoie at lsavoie@fit.edu.

Transitions

Promotions

Christopher Durie, **Jennifer Morin**, **Zachary Gabe**, **Nathan M. Bisk** College of Business.

New Hires

Justin McKenzie, Information Technology; **Rosemary Layne**, Graduate Programs; **Teresa Williford**, Student Accounting; **Valeria Silvestrini**, Athletics; **Erica Mays**, Biology; **Anthony Owens**, Campus Services; **Cathryn Bergum**, Telecom; **Robert Salyers**, Security; **Beverly Hung**, Human Resources; **Philina Richardson**, Evans Library; **Jarin Eisenberg**, College of Business; **Kevin White**, Facilities; **Kenneth Taylor**, **Rubiena Horry**, **Julianne Brown**, **Cheryl Khan**, **Tiffani Kreybig**, **Elliot Fitch**, Rathskeller; **Dorian Grant**, **Bridys Abbazia**, **Donna Goodson**, SUB Café; **Isaac Cruz**, **Harry Green Jr.**, Evans Dining; **Heather Green**, **Kim Steen**, Center Court.

Campus Calendar

Ongoing until Dec. 12

Funk Center for Textile Arts
Coat Couture: Inspiration to Creation
Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
For information call extension 8313 or visit <http://textiles.fit.edu>

Sept. 17

Humanities Lecture Series
Fighting the Insect Menace: A Historian and the Great American Mosquito Crusade
Gordon Patterson, Humanities and Communication
7 p.m., Hartley Room, Denius Student Center, free
For information call extension 8082

Sept. 23

Issues of Autism Workshop Series
Early Steps Services: Birth to 3
Althea Puzio, Early Steps program director
6:30-8 p.m., Scott Center for Autism Treatment Seminar Room, free
For information call extension 8104

Sept. 25

Astronomy and Astrophysics Public Lecture Series
Heliosheath: The final frontier of the solar system as seen by Voyager on its trek into interstellar space
Followed by roof-top public star viewing
Ming Zhang, Department of Physics and Space Sciences
8 p.m., Olin Engineering Complex Auditorium, Room EC118, free
For information call extension 7207 or visit www.fit.edu/aaapls

Sept. 27

Jazz in the Panthereum
The Hafer Family
3-6 p.m., Panther Plaza, free
For information call (321) 773-6749

U.S. News Ranks Florida Tech Among Nation's Best

U.S. News and World Report once again ranks Florida Tech among the nation's best national doctoral universities as it has for nearly 20 consecutive years.

The report's rankings system considers academic peer assessment, retention, student selectivity, student-to-faculty ratios and alumni giving rate. Twenty-three percent of Florida Tech's incoming freshmen are in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class. The report noted favorably that 53 percent of all classes include 20 or fewer students. Additionally, alumni giving is at 21 percent, which has come a long way since the eight percent recorded for 2001.

Florida Tech and Devereux Florida Agree to Mutual Support

Leaders of Florida Tech and Devereux Florida signed a memorandum of agreement on Aug. 24 in the office of President Anthony J. Catanese. He and Devereux Florida Executive Director Steven J. Murphy agreed to solidify a long-term relationship and formally pledge to provide mutual support.

As a research-intensive doctoral university, Florida Tech is always seeking applied research opportunities.

"We are very excited about the joint research and training possibilities with Devereux in such areas as autism, developmental disabilities, and child and adolescent mental health. We will build on the great support that Devereux has always shown for the university's new initiatives and programs," said Mary Beth Kenkel, dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts.

Funk Center Opens



Enjoying the grand opening of the Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts are, from left, President Anthony J. Catanese, Trustee Ruth Funk, Dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts Mary Beth Kenkel and Chairman of the Florida Tech Board of Trustees Dale Dettmer.

From the President's Desk



Anthony James Catanese

Good news abounds this fall. Not only are we celebrating the opening of three new buildings through October and the successful completion of a major capital campaign, but we just experienced the enormous good fortune of a \$5 million gift from Nathan M. Bisk.

Dean of the College of Business Bob Niebuhr is smiling wider than ever these days because the gift supports his college in three primary ways. It will establish an Endowed Chair of Business, provide resources for the college's marketing and branding programs, and promote online program growth. Because Mr. Bisk is enriching the college so generously, it has now been renamed the Nathan M. Bisk College of Business.

Since we launched the online undergraduate and MBA programs in early 2008 through Bisk Education's University Alliance, and added 15 new undergraduate and graduate online degree programs, enrollment in these business programs has grown with enrollment approaching approximately 4,000 students today. This compares to about 250 undergraduate and graduate business students on the Melbourne campus.

So, our more intensive foray into online learning is paying off with the help of Bisk's support. Florida Tech's affirmation of the online revolution was very timely and successful, as online programs have become more popular than ever with adults and full-time employees.

The College of Business took on greater responsibility in 2009 with the addition of the 10 Extended Studies sites here in Florida and along the East Coast, near or at military bases. This expands its breadth and depth of offerings through Melbourne-based and online business programs.

Additionally, the college continues such popular events as the annual ethics conference and high school business ethics competition.

Mr. Bisk founded Bisk Education in 1971 as a provider of continuing education programs for working professionals. Since its inception, Bisk Education has grown to become the nation's largest exclusive facilitator of online degree and certificate programs for the nation's leading universities.

We are very fortunate, indeed, that Mr. Bisk recognizes similar potential in Florida Tech.



Florida Institute of Technology
High Tech with a Human Touch™

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