

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE

SOUTHERN*news*

September 2022



Carole and Marcus Weinstein
COMPUTER SCIENCES CENTER



As I reflect on this edition of the SouthernNews, I am reminded of the past, present, and future of our College and the world.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the people of Ukraine, as they are fighting for their very existence. We pray for peace for the entire world.

This year, we celebrate the 80th anniversary of the construction of our beloved Annie Pfeiffer Chapel, one of Frank Lloyd Wright's most iconic structures in the world. The sheer beauty and design of the chapel is breathtaking, and it stands as a reminder of the spirituality that is a hallmark of our founding and our enduring campus culture.



“ ”

The sheer beauty and design of Annie Pfeiffer Chapel is breathtaking, and it stands as a reminder of the spirituality that is a hallmark of our founding and our enduring campus culture.

Also, we are excited to announce that the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern is expanding its mission and size. This nationally accredited museum is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, and provides a space for excellent arts education, as well as a respected community museum featuring notable exhibitions of art from around the world and throughout time.

Through the rigorous engaged learning pedagogy, FSC continually receives national acclaim. Recently, *Poets&Quants* acknowledged the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise as one of the best business schools in the nation. Also, our Doctor of Physical Therapy program earned national accreditation. Our dedicated deans and professors continue to expertly lead our academic programs as we strive to achieve pervasive excellence throughout the campus.

Please enjoy your journey through the pages of this magazine. I hope you will be proud of the amazing experiences that FSC offers each and every day.

Sincerely,

Anne B. Kerr, Ph.D.
President



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ON THE COVER: The Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center opened for classes in Fall 2021. Read more about the Weinstains' remarkable philanthropy on page 2.

DON'T FORGET THE FSC ANNUAL FUND TO HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2022
Please help shape the lives of our Mocs through annual gifts to scholarships, faculty innovation, undergraduate research, athletics, and so much more! Your support will truly make a difference for each and every Moc. Visit FLSouthern.edu/giving to learn more or contact the Office of Development at 863-680-3000.

A Lifetime of Consequential Impact

THE NEW CAROLE AND MARCUS WEINSTEIN COMPUTER SCIENCES CENTER

Honoring Dr. Carole M. Weinstein

Dr. Carole M. Weinstein is known globally for her business acumen, vision, and philanthropic nature. For 60 years, Carole has served as co-founder and vice chairman of Weinstein Properties, a private real estate company in Richmond, Va.

To honor her significant contributions and strong support, Florida Southern College presented her with the prestigious Doctor of Humane Letters degree in February 2022.

A member of the Florida Southern College Board of Trustees, Carole is recognized for her keen interest in, and advocacy for international education and programming, as well as her immeasurable dedication to civic service and social causes.



The Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center has 18,000 square feet of academic space, including a 3,000 square-foot auditorium.



Carole and her husband, Marcus Weinstein, played a major role in the development of the state-of-the-art Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center that has revolutionized the curriculum at Florida Southern College.

The distinctive, eye-catching building, designed by architect and Frank Lloyd Wright scholar Jeffrey Baker of the firm Mesick Cohen Wilson Baker Architects of New York, overlooks the calm waters of Lake Hollingsworth.

The Weinstein Center includes high-tech classrooms and collaborative learning spaces. The Center houses a cybersecurity and informatics learning lab in a flagship computer cluster that includes a virtual cyber range for customized training environments, a workshop for autonomous vehicle research, an artificial intelligence and robotics lab, a makerspace workshop, and an esports competition space.

Meet the Weinsteins

Carole and Marcus Weinstein were both born and raised in Richmond, Va. Marcus is the Chairman of Weinstein Properties, a real estate development firm headquartered in Richmond. Now semi-retired, Marcus continues to guide and mentor through his work with the executive management team. Dr. Marcus Weinstein received his B.A. from the University of Richmond in 1949 and an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from FSC in 2012. A former English professor, Carole earned her undergraduate degree and a Master of Arts in English from the University of Richmond, and she received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from FSC in 2022. In addition to their corporate roles, Marcus and Carole are both very active in community philanthropic endeavors. They are passionate about helping others and providing opportunities for young people to learn and grow.





The beautiful auditorium located inside of the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center has 144 wired seats so students can plug in and work individually on their computers.

With 18,000 square feet of academic space, including a 3,000 square-foot auditorium and food venue, Fresh Twist, the addition to Florida Southern’s campus is exactly what the growing computer science program needed.

“As we see so frequently, cyber breaches affect private business, our government, and the economy,” said Dr. Anne B. Kerr, president of Florida Southern. “Furthermore, the rising demand for trained AI and cloud computing specialists across government and private business sectors is outstripping the rate at which colleges are training students. Because of the support of generous donors, FSC’s cutting-edge computer science program housed within the innovative Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center continues to train future leaders in these fields.”

Concentrations in Computer Science

Florida Southern’s computer science program offers concentrations in artificial intelligence and machine learning, cybersecurity, and web and cloud computing. FSC celebrated the opening of the Weinstein Computer Sciences Center in

the fall of 2021, with the computer science program hosting its first classes within the Center.

FSC alumnus and Vice President of Information Systems, Technology, and Security for Publix Super Markets, Inc., Steve Wellslager ’88, had a hand in creating the curriculum for the cybersecurity concentration.

Wellslager’s technical team at Publix “eat, sleep, and breathe” cybersecurity, so engaging with Dr. Christian Roberson, chair of the computer science department, to design the concentration was a thrilling experience.

“It was a lot of fun and exciting to know that we were a part of improving the curriculum,” Wellslager said.

While Wellslager attended FSC, there was no computer science program. He majored in computer information systems and took his courses in the business building.

The addition of the Weinstein Computer Sciences Center is phenomenal for both the College and businesses in the community, who will benefit from the future computer science graduates Florida Southern will produce in the coming years.

“This is an incredible way for the College to continue to grow and be relevant,” Wellslager said. “For the computer science program to have its own building and focus shows the College’s commitment to technology and technical degrees.”

John White ’18 graduated from Florida Southern with a degree in computer science and is now an active directory engineer for Publix Super Markets, Inc., in Lakeland.

Although White experienced hands-on learning with drones and artificial intelligence while at Florida Southern, he said the recent addition of the concentrations to the program is a game-changer.

“To have your own space to be with like-minded individuals working toward the same goal is incredible,” he said. “The possibilities are endless.”

“The full curriculum allows students to go deeper into the technical topics with dedicated courses and concentrations really shows growth,” said Wellslager. “The dependency any large business has on their technology creates a need, and we are always looking for good talent.”

State-of-the-Art

We face a time of ever-increasing need for highly trained computer science technicians and cybersecurity professionals. The philanthropy of FSC alumni and community partners



Steve Wellslager ’88 is the Vice President of Information Systems, Technology and Security for Publix Super Markets, Inc.

has supported the College’s mission to meet this need, enabling FSC to provide a training space as advanced as the Weinstein Computer Sciences Center for our students.

Many have donated their time and money to support the Weinstein Center, with the Truist Foundation granting FSC \$250,000 to launch a new Cybersecurity Innovation and Entrepreneurship program. This gift has helped create an innovative program to address the nation’s urgent need for well-educated cybersecurity experts with the entrepreneurial acumen to help shrink the skills gap in cyber careers, while providing an ecosystem for entrepreneurship.

Meet the Faculty



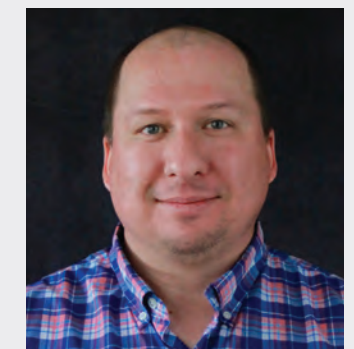
Christian Roberson, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Computer Science, Department Chair; Artificial Intelligence, AI Applications for Games



Jonathan Cazalas, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Computer Science; Mobile Computing



Matthew Eicholtz, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Computer Science; Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Computer Vision



Jason Lewis, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Computer Science; Cybersecurity



FSC student Jeffrey Bindeman is shown utilizing virtual reality in the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center.

For Florida Southern's computer science faculty and students, the cutting-edge collaborative lab spaces are where the Weinstein Center truly shines.

"Some of the most immediate impacts we have seen from the new Weinstein Center compared to our old department space are better technology and opportunities for undergraduate research, lab spaces for working on projects within classes or student research projects, and collaborative spaces such as labs and lounges to work together in the type of engaged learning activities that we just didn't have the space or technology for in our old building," said Dr. Roberson.

The Weinstein Center provides students access to powerful personal computers and server technology, so that students are no longer required to use their own computers to complete the program curriculum.

"From the computer clusters that will allow us to work with advanced, specialized software, to the makerspace workshop that provides us a space to utilize hardware

like 3D printers and laser cutters, the Weinstein Center lays all of this at our students' fingertips," Dr. Roberson said. "The highlight, though, is that the Weinstein Center provides our faculty and students with a high quality space to practice the engaged learning model that we prize here at FSC."

Wanted: Cybersecurity Pros

The role of technology in our daily lives is rapidly transforming our world and the shape of the job market. Government agencies and private corporations are calling for increased education and skills centered around fields such as cybersecurity, cloud computing systems, and AI learning and development. The rising threats and labor shortage facing our nation in these fields is frightening.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the job outlook for cybersecurity professionals is strong. For example, employment of Information Security Analysts is projected to increase by 33 percent

between 2020 and 2030, a rate significantly faster than the national average for all occupations.

At Publix Super Markets, Inc., the department for information system jobs has grown from 80 people to over 1,900.

"This is one of the most sought-after types of degrees out there in terms of jobs for software engineers, programmers, and with the emergence of the Cloud," Wellslager said.

Cloud computing is becoming increasingly popular among businesses and has proved particularly beneficial for larger companies with global operations. Cloud computing enables complex businesses to access shared data and software remotely at any time.

Between 2017 and 2020, employers have posted more than 790,000 jobs requiring cloud computing skills, with employer demand for cloud professionals increasing nearly 150 percent during this timeframe.

Additionally, artificial intelligence promises to deliver some of the most significant and disruptive innovations



The Lisa '97 and John '96 Giglio Lobby is located in the beautifully designed glass atrium in the Carole and Marcus Weinstein Computer Sciences Center.

of this century. Self-driving cars, robotic assistants, and automated disease diagnosis are all products of an emerging AI revolution that will reshape how we live and work.

John Mark Joseph received his MBA from Florida Southern in 2015 and is now working in robotics at Lockheed Martin in Lakeland.



John Mark Joseph MBA '15 works in robotics at Lockheed Martin in Lakeland.

Utilizing his MBA to get in on the ground floor at Lockheed Martin, Joseph is now teaching robots how to do accounting, a sign AI is moving into many different kinds of organizations.

"My MBA helped me navigate the waters of people, skill sets, and what's expected of you and of leaders," he said.

With the Weinstein Computer Sciences Center, Florida Southern is proving its dedication to producing top-tier computer science professionals. 🇺🇸

THANK YOU

We are so grateful for all of our generous donors to the state-of-the-art Weinstein Computer Sciences Center including: Trustee Carole Weinstein and Marcus Weinstein, Trustee Scott Thornton and Jennifer Lyons Thornton; Trustee Richard C. Jensen '59; former Trustee Robert W. Scharar and Daphne Scharar, John R. Giglio '96 and Lisa A. Giglio '97; CPS Investment Advisors and Peter C. Golotko '90 MBA '96; Core Wealth Advisors and Charles T. Foss '79 and Lisa Foss; Guest Services and Gerard T. Gabrys; Wesley L. Beck '88 and Maya Beck in honor of their son, Landon Beck '18; and Truist Foundation.



Annie Pfeiffer Chapel recently turned 80, and its importance both in a spiritual and historical sense for Florida Southern College cannot be overstated.

FSC President Ludd Spivey commissioned Frank Lloyd Wright in 1938 to build the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel. Completed in 1941, the Chapel stands tall as the jewel of Wright's Child of the Sun design. Built in large part with the labor of the student body, volunteers received assistance with tuition in exchange for their help.

Over the years, Annie Pfeiffer Chapel has served as the central hub of the campus, helping students and faculty alike keep in close contact spiritually and communally.

Annie Pfeiffer Chapel has hosted the Annual Warren W. Willis Lecture in Religion many times. These lectures have brought several noted speakers to campus, including Jürgen Moltmann, who is considered to be the world's most influential living theologian. Florida Southern honored Moltmann with an honorary doctorate in 2016.

Annie Pfeiffer Chapel has also hosted many other speakers through the years. Poets, historians, and scientists have all graced its stage. It has also been the gathering site for a multitude of religious observances and days of worship for students and alumni alike, such as the yearly Christmas Candlelight Services of Lessons and Carols celebration. Florida Southern Department of Religion and Philosophy

Department Chair Dr. Waite Willis '70 has attended many worship services and other events there, including all of the Christmas Candlelight services and all 41 Willis Lectures, which were named for his father. Willis has a clear understanding of what Annie Pfeiffer means not only to him, but also to the students.

"It stands as the centerpiece of the Frank Lloyd Wright architecture," Dr. Willis said. "It's a spiritual center, but also an intellectual center for me. I've been in weddings there, I've performed weddings there. I've performed funerals there. Generations of students see it as a place of worship, where they heard chaplains preach the Good News or participated in Catholic Mass or attended programs by the Jewish community. Others remember it as a place of theological debates or student music recitals. Many think



Bishop Robert E. Fannin '58, Bishop in Residence at Florida Southern College, sits in Annie Pfeiffer Chapel.



of the Chapel as a place where famous poets, authors, and scientists have spoken. It has been the place for students to be commissioned into the Army. And many remember it as the gathering place for seniors to put on their caps and gowns for graduation. There are innumerable ways to describe what the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel means and how it stands for the campus and the College as a whole."

Bishop Robert E. Fannin '58 is the former senior minister of First United Methodist Church of Lakeland and the Bishop in Residence at Florida Southern College.

Bishop Fannin remembers what Wright said while touring the campus back when the Bishop was a student here. "When you're inside, you must feel like you're outside," Bishop Fannin recalled Wright saying.

Stepping into Annie Pfeiffer Chapel, one cannot help but feel Wright's words as the sun pours in through the colored glass, providing a warmth from nature that those inside also get from spirituality.

"I've done several services there, and it's a blessing to proclaim God's word in that atmosphere of brightness and cheerfulness of the colors and his design," Bishop Fannin said. "It's very important to soak all that in on all occasions. It's a tremendous opportunity to feel the presence of God."

"It's the symbol for the basic foundation of Florida Southern College. It both expresses the transforming effect of Frank Lloyd Wright on this area, but it also symbolizes the spiritual foundation on which this college is founded. It's a historic and significant symbol on which we focus daily."

That has not been lost on students both past and present.

Who was Annie Pfeiffer?

Annie Merner Pfeiffer was born in 1860 and was educated in the Canadian province of Ontario, in the small farming community of New Hamburg. Her parents, John and Anna Marie Zingg Merner, were snowbirds in their day, spending their winters in the U.S., specifically Cedar Falls, Iowa. It was there that Annie met her future husband, Henry, who she married in 1882. They never had children; they focused their attention on philanthropic and educational affairs, largely supporting their adopted Methodist Episcopal Church.

Henry Pfeiffer was an industrialist and businessman; together, they built and bought several companies. In 1927, the Pfeiffers relocated to New York City, where they remained for the rest of their lives. The Pfeiffers were dedicated to education, endowing \$2.8 million across the world prior to Henry's death in 1939.

Money was sent to all corners of the globe, including Argentina, China, Korea, and throughout the United States. Annie Pfeiffer continued their family legacy, even after Henry's passing. From that point forward, she helped distribute an additional \$2 million.

Annie Pfeiffer donated \$50,000 to Florida Southern College for the creation of the Chapel that now bears her name. The Annie Pfeiffer Chapel was dedicated on March 9, 1941, the same day FSC conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities Degree upon her.

Annie and Henry Pfeiffer are associated with dozens of colleges and universities in addition to Florida Southern. In fact, Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, North Carolina, is named after them.

Annie Pfeiffer passed away on January 8, 1946.



Annie Merner Pfeiffer was photographed with President Ludd M. Spivey at the dedication of the Annie Pfeiffer Chapel on March 9, 1941.



Dr. Ann Hansen '70, current Trustee, has fond memories of Annie Pfeiffer Chapel from her time at Florida Southern.

Dr. Ann Hansen '70, a current member of the Florida Southern Board of Trustees and chair of the Frank Lloyd Wright Task Force, has come to love Annie Pfeiffer Chapel more as time passes.

"I'm on campus three or four times a year, and I think I appreciate more now the significance of Annie Pfeiffer Chapel," Dr. Hansen said. "It's a unique place. We had required chapel every Sunday, and it was a neat place to worship."

For Amy Scroggin-Armistead '15, Annie Pfeiffer Chapel led her to a change of academic faith. Scroggin-Armistead was planning to go into advertising and marketing like her parents, but she heard "the call" one Sunday during a service in Annie Pfeiffer.

"Annie Pfeiffer is special," she said. "I felt my call to ministry there. That's where I felt where God was leading me. It's a place that changed my life."

Scroggin-Armistead did receive her degree in communications with a minor in religion, but then she went on to earn her Master's of Divinity from the Duke Divinity School in 2018.

She is now the pastor of The Gathering Place in Daytona, which is a campus of the First United Methodist Church of Ormond Beach.

It all began at Annie Pfeiffer for Scroggin-Armistead. "I've never been in a worship space that's so unique," she said.

Since 1940, more than 200 FSC graduates have gone into the ministry. Today, more than 100 FSC graduates are serving Florida churches and hold more than 15 percent of the pulpits in our state. Since 2002, 94 students have attended or are attending seminary or serving a church.

FSC has also produced three United Methodist bishops, including Bishop Fannin, Bishop Richard J. Wills, Jr. '64, and Bishop James Lloyd Knox '51, who died in 2014.



It's that bond between the students and Annie Pfeiffer Chapel that continues to speak to Bishop Fannin about what Florida Southern truly offers to all those who study here.

"It's the center of the campus ministry as far as worship is concerned," Bishop Fannin said. "I graduated in 1958 and it was a symbol then and now that we are a college that teaches not only subjects and courses, but also the importance of spiritual life."

Campus Chaplain Rev. Tim Wright '94 has also shaped and been immersed in the spiritual life of Florida Southern College that is often centered within Annie Pfeiffer Chapel. Rev. Wright is the longest standing chaplain in the history of Florida Southern College at more than 20 years.

Rev. Wright, who is The Riley P. and Claire M. Short Endowed Chair for Chaplaincy, has witnessed many great moments in Annie Pfeiffer Chapel. And yet, what really stands out for Rev. Wright is how the Chapel has functioned as the landscape within which so many students have experienced and answered their calls to ministry and service.

"Architecturally it's so unique," Rev. Wright said. "To do ministry in a building that looks like that, it's something different than what you would find in other places. It's an anchor at the heart of the College. The fact that the logo is a part of Annie Pfeiffer ... it's a part of who we are." ❖



Chaplain Tim Wright '94 has been at the heart of FSC's campus ministries, serving the College for more than two decades.



TALENT POOL

FSC GRADUATES SWAM THEIR WAY TO SUCCESS IN AND OUT OF THE POOL

Florida Southern College's rich tradition of engaged learning does not just happen inside the classroom.

It happens on the fields, on the courts, and in the pools where student athletes compete to bring glory to FSC's storied athletics program, which boasts 30 team and 27 individual national championships.

Six of those individual titles were earned by Sunshine State Conference Swimmers of the Decade Jeb Halfacre and Alli Crenshaw, who glided through the waters of pools all over the state and country from 2010–2014.



Alli Crenshaw '17 was named Sunshine State Conference Swimmer of the Decade.

Jeb Halfacre '13 was named Sunshine State Conference Swimmer of the Decade.

department helped me reach my goals. FSC has an unbelievable staff of caring individuals. I will always be so humbled by my accomplishments and, more importantly, by the people who helped me along the way."

Halfacre has continued a level of success since graduating from Florida Southern in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture and Landscape design, albeit in a different field.

After working as a swim coach at the high school and collegiate level upon graduating, Halfacre decided to join the Air Force as a combat controller.

A combat controller is assigned to special tactics squadrons, such as Navy SEALs. The mission of a combat controller is to deploy, undetected, into hostile environments to establish assault zones or airfields while simultaneously conducting air traffic control, fire support, command and control, direct action, counter-terrorism, foreign internal defense, humanitarian assistance, and special reconnaissance.

The physical and mental demands on Halfacre to complete such a rigorous program were forged in the water with the FSC men's swim team under Sherrard's tutelage.

"What sticks out to me is understanding what having heart meant," Halfacre said of the biggest lesson he learned from his coach. "Someone can have all the talent in the world, but having the heart when it comes to training and pushing through all of it ... it's not enough being an athlete, I carried that through my swimming career and my military career now."



Duncan Sherrard was named SSC Swimming Coach of the Decade. Duncan was the head coach for the Mocs from 2009-2015.

Helping them with every stroke was SSC Swimming Coach of the Decade Duncan Sherrard, who was the head coach for the Mocs from 2009-2015.

Crenshaw graduated from FSC in 2017 with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She currently works as a pediatric nurse on the hematology and oncology floor at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. According to Crenshaw, nursing has always been her dream, and FSC equipped her to thrive as a nursing professional.

"Transitioning from the college world into the professional world was a lot easier for me because I was so used to being in a team environment and managing my time," said Crenshaw. "Both the nursing department and the athletic



Ludovico Viberti celebrating his championship race at the 2022 NCAA DII Championships

SWIMMING

The success in the pool continued into the 2021-22 season as both the men's and women's swimming teams appeared in the NCAA Championships held in March. The championships were highlighted by freshman Ludovico Viberti's performance on day three of the finals, where he won the 100-meter breaststroke to become Florida Southern's 27th individual national champion in record-breaking fashion.

The men's team would continue their NCAA run to finish fifth place, their best finish since 2018, and the best finish for head coach Andy Robins. The women also had great success in the finals with school records broken and a 26th place finish, their best since the 2018 finals. Between the two teams, FSC had 39 All-American honors during the four-day championship, 33 coming from the men's team.

The road to the NCAA postseason was eventful for the Moccasins as the men's team won their fifth Sunshine State Conference championship with a team win and six All-SSC Men's Swimming Team accolades. Viberti was named SSC Freshman of the Year and Robins the SSC Men's Coach of the Year. On the women's side, they finished third place in the SSC Championships on their way to a record-breaking year by several Moccasins, including two named to the All-SSC swimming teams.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Florida Southern College women's basketball team went to their sixth straight NCAA DII Regional Tournament. The Moccasins were the No. 4 seed and faced the No. 5 seed Eckerd on Friday, March 11.

The Mocs moved up from the No. 7 seed to the No. 4 seed after FSC went on a 12-game winning streak that saw it come to an end at the Sunshine State Conference Championship against Tampa prior to heading into the NCAA Regionals.

The Mocs have defeated the Tritons in all three matchups most recently during the semifinals of the SSC tournament with a 58-46 decision at home.

Despite falling to Eckerd in the opening round of the regional tournament, FSC had three athletes with top honors throughout the 2021-22 season as graduate student Julia Jenike was named WBCA honorable mention All-American as well D2CCA All-South Region team and All-SSC First Team and 2022 all-tournament team.

Along with Jenike, Whitney Jacob was named to the D2CCA All-South Region team and All-SSC First Team, and the 2022 All-Tournament team. Jacob was also awarded Newcomer of the Year for the SSC and to the All-SSC Newcomer Team.

Freshman Sara Wohlgemuth also received honors for her performance during the 2021-22 season as she was named Freshman of the Year in the Sunshine State Conference.

Whitney Jacob (#22) drives to the hoop against the Moccasins' second round opponent at the NCAA tournament.



MAYORS' CUP

CHAMPIONS 2021-2022

CONGRATS MOCS FOR WINNING THE SUNSHINE STATE CONFERENCE'S MEN'S DIVISION MAYORS' CUP FOR THE 15TH TIME! THE MOCCASIN MEN NOW HAVE 10 MORE MAYORS' CUPS THAN THE NEXT HIGHEST PROGRAM ON THE LIST. THE FSC WOMEN LEAD THE CONFERENCE ALL-TIME WITH 12 MAYORS' CUPS VICTORIES. STAY IN TOUCH BY VISITING WWW.FSCMOCS.COM FOR SCHEDULES AND ALL THE LATEST NEWS ON THE MOCS!

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

The Florida Southern Women's Lacrosse team closed the year as the seventh-ranked program in Division II after a 16-4 season with a 5-2 mark in the Sunshine State Conference. The Moccasin postseason journey began with an exciting defeat of the University of Tampa, 20-10, in Tampa to win the program's fourth SSC tournament title, the 10th overall SSC title in program history.

After their SSC title, Florida Southern advanced to its sixth NCAA tournament, defeating then-No. 19 Wingate 19-6 in the first round before losing to then-No. 1 Queens (N.C.) 16-13 in the second round. As a team, the Mocs capped the year with a 10-4 record against programs either inside the top-25 or at least receiving a vote in the ILWomen/IWLCA DII Coaches Poll all year.



Abby Hammond (#22) runs down the field with the ball in the SSC Championship game, which the Mocs captured for the program's 10th league title.

Twenty-two postseason awards were garnered by Florida Southern women's lacrosse, including nine All-Sunshine State Conference honors, five USA Lacrosse Magazine All-Americans, six IWLCA All-South Region team selections, two IWLCA All-Americans, along with the 2022 Sunshine State Conference Coach of the Year in head coach Kara Reber. The Moccasins also saw Patricia Werker earn CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors Association) First-Team Academic All-District 5 At-Large, which advances her to the Academic All-America ballot.



Sam Rogers tees off during round two of the SSC Championship, which the Mocs hosted at Grasslands Golf and Country Club.

MEN'S GOLF

After a successful season for the Florida Southern men's golf program, the Moccasins made their 40th appearance at the NCAA Division II National Championships this May. Their journey to the NCAA finals came after a strong regular season in which, out of the nine regular-season tournaments, the Moccasins finished in the top-5 at six events with seven top-10 finishes. Florida Southern captured second place at both the Matlock Collegiate Classic and Las Vegas Desert Classic.

As hosts of the 2022 Sunshine State Conference Championship, Florida Southern had a strong showing. The Mocs chased down No. 1 Barry and finished in second place ahead of Nova Southeastern and Saint Leo. Adam Alvarez led the Mocs after carding back-to-back under-par rounds to close the tournament with a 70 on Monday's second round and a 68 on Tuesday's final round to finish inside the top-10 for ninth place at 214 (-2). Johnny Tucker finished in 14th place at 215 (-1) with rounds of 72, 70, 73.

Advancing to the NCAA South/Southeast Regional, the Moccasins saw their ticket punched to the 2022 NCAA Men's Golf National Championship after placing sixth at the super regional hosted by Valdosta State University.

Florida Southern entered the 2022 NCAA Division II Men's Golf National Championship ranked 10th nationally in the 20-team-field. The Moccasins finished in 10th place out of the 20 teams at the championships, missing the quarterfinal play by just nine strokes. Clay Tucker once again turned in the best score for the Mocs with a 10-over 226. **M**

Meet the Dean

DR. NANCY NUZZO LED THE SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL THERAPY TO ACCREDITATION AND THE INAUGURAL DPT CLASS

Dr. Nancy Nuzzo was originally doing research in physiology and biophysics before she started her journey into the realm of physical therapy and education.

Dr. Nuzzo, the program director and dean of the Jean and Sal Campisi, Sr., Academic Center for Physical Therapy at Florida Southern College, is celebrating huge milestones for the program she founded in 2017. In 2021, the School of Physical Therapy was granted accreditation and the inaugural DPT class graduated.



Dr. Nancy Nuzzo, PT, PhD, is the program director and Dean of the Jean and Sal Campisi, Sr., Academic Center for Physical Therapy at Florida Southern College.

“ ”
The physical therapy profession welded nicely with my Ph.D. in physiology and biophysics, so I jumped at the opportunity. It was a good career move.

Originally from Illinois, Dr. Nuzzo received her Ph.D. in the late 1980s from the University of Illinois at the Medical Center in Chicago. She was working on a research grant in the pharmacology department when she was asked to teach physical therapy at Northern Illinois University (NIU).

Dr. Nuzzo needed to go through their program and become a physical therapist before she could become a full-time faculty member. She was up for the challenge and ultimately spent 20 years at NIU.

“The physical therapy profession welded nicely with my Ph.D. in physiology and biophysics, so I jumped at the opportunity,” Dr. Nuzzo said. “It was a good career move.”

Although she originally studied physiology and biophysics, Dr. Nuzzo fell in love with the acute care setting of physical therapy, where she utilizes all of her training as a physiologist.

“Many times the patients we work with in acute care have comorbidities such as heart disease, liver disease, kidney disease, and/or diabetes,” she said. “As PTs, we have to figure out how to progress the patient based on all of their medical history.”

After gaining experience at NIU, Dr. Nuzzo spent five years at the University of Jamestown assembling a physical therapy faculty and successfully obtaining accreditation for the program before she was recruited by FSC.

When she came to Florida Southern, she began assembling a team of faculty and staff who worked with her on the curriculum and putting other pieces in place to ensure the College’s physical therapy program would receive a stamp



Students of FSC’s School of Physical Therapy celebrate after the program received full accreditation in December 2021.

of approval from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).

CAPTE is an accreditation agency that is nationally recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

Accreditation is necessary for students to become licensed, and the designation also opens up the number of clinical sites the College can utilize. The CAPTE accreditation process entails meeting all CAPTE standards, including continual self-evaluation, periodic external reviews, and regular reports to certify the educational quality of the physical therapy program.

Dr. Nuzzo said the process of submitting a needs assessment for physical therapy in the area and an application for candidacy took about a year to complete.

Once that was accepted by CAPTE, the school was considered a Candidate for Accreditation, allowing the school to bring in its first cohort of students, the Class of 2021, in the fall of 2019.

The program needed to submit a self-study and undergo an accreditation visit before the first class graduated. Dr. Nuzzo and her team submitted the self-study in April 2021, and the visit, which was virtual, took place in June 2021.

In December 2021, all the hard work came to fruition as

CAPTE granted the School of Physical Therapy full accreditation.

Dr. Nuzzo and her team felt relief and joy. “It was a true team effort,” she said.

Dr. Sylvia Romilus DPT ’21, a student in the cohort, said it felt like an incredible achievement.

“Going in, I was nervous, but the faculty and staff gave us constant encouragement,” she said. “When we found out about the accreditation, it was a great feeling. A great boost.”

“ ”
Going in, I was nervous, but the faculty and staff gave us constant encouragement. When we found out about the accreditation, it was a great feeling.

The celebration continued a month later, when the inaugural DPT class graduated in the wake of the program receiving full accreditation.

Every student in the cohort walked across the stage on graduation day, and Dr. Romilus said it was a day she will never forget. “That was an experience, just being able to see everyone make it,” she said. “We made it, and we did it together.” 🍷

DOCTOR

CAROL
JENKINS
BARNETT

CLASS OF 1979

TRANSFORMATIONAL

Leadership

In Remembrance

DR. CAROL JENKINS BARNETT '79



Carol Jenkins Barnett was one of our nation's most ardent champions for children. She devoted her time, intellect, and resources to improving learning, health, and living conditions, which resulted in a better quality of life for thousands of children. Her compassionate heart is admired by all who had the privilege of knowing and working with her. Communities around the country have benefited profoundly from the multitude and significance of the initiatives Carol led and supported.

Florida Southern College is proud to be the home of the Carol Jenkins Barnett Center for Early Childhood Learning and Health. Within this beautiful structure, the College offers its Early Learning Lab that is regarded as one of the finest preschool programs for children three to five in the state of Florida. Additionally, the academic programs offered to students majoring in education and nursing, as well as pursuing special certifications, are led by Dr. Tracy Magee,

who holds **the Anne MacGregor Jenkins Professorship** in Pediatric Nursing. FSC is one of only a few undergraduate programs in the nation that studies how a child's health impacts their learning and how learning success impacts their health.

Carol's Center is also designed to host a Parent Resources Center that offers guidance to parents seeking help identifying their child's learning challenges.

Although we deeply mourn the loss of our revered alumna, friend, and community leader, we remain inexpressibly grateful for the life-changing legacy she leaves in improving the lives of so many individuals.

In honor of Carol's passion for helping children and her interest in education at all levels, including collegiate study, Florida Southern College has established the Carol Jenkins Barnett Scholarship in Education. FSC is proud that Carol is an alumna, and any friends or admirers who would like to join many others to enhance this scholarship that will be awarded annually may do so by contacting Heather Pharris, Vice President for Advancement, at hpharris@flsouthern.edu.



Dr. Carol Jenkins Barnett is pictured with members of her family at FSC events.



Carol is pictured with her beloved Barney '65.



◀ Carol spent valuable time getting to know the Jenkins Scholars beyond their academic endeavors.

“CAROL’S PASSION FOR PHILANTHROPY AND EDUCATION HAS FOREVER CHANGED MY LIFE AND THE LIVES OF MANY OTHERS FOR THE BETTER.”

—Emily Glidden, Jenkins Scholar

CELEBRATING A FRIEND

Dr. Carol Jenkins Barnett once said, “It’s time to make this diamond shine,” when speaking about the excellence of her alma mater, Florida Southern College.

However, it was Carol who shined the brightest, leaving behind a legacy of civic impact and philanthropy that touched the lives of countless individuals with her passing on December 7, 2021.

Many have described Carol as generous, warm, and passionate about education — traits shared with her late father, George W. Jenkins, founder of Publix Super Markets, Inc., whose philanthropy was renowned.

Carol graduated from Florida Southern with a degree in Business Administration, which she put to use as Chair and President of Publix Super Markets Charities. She served on Publix’s Board of Directors for 33 years and transformed communities with her caring spirit.

Dedicated to her family, Carol married fellow FSC graduate Dr. Barney Barnett ’65, and they went on to have two sons, Wesley and Nicholas MBA ’18. The twin residences on Florida Southern’s campus that comprise the Barnett Residential Life Center are named for the Barnett sons.

Carol and Barney’s passion for excellence in education manifested in monumental contributions to the College, such as the Barnett Residential Life Center, the Barnett Athletic Complex, Mr. George’s Green, The Barney

Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, and the Carol Jenkins Barnett Center for Early Childhood Learning and Health.

More than 25 percent of the new buildings on campus are attributed to Carol and Barney. Their influence can be seen and felt all over campus.

To honor their tremendous societal impact and transformations at the College, FSC awarded Carol and Barney honorary Doctor of Public Service degrees in 1998.

LEAVING AN IMPRINT ON FSC

When Carol passed, we lost a friend, alumna, educational leader, and philanthropist.

“Carol left an indelible impact upon Florida Southern College,” said Dr. Anne B. Kerr, president of Florida Southern.

“Her leadership and vision for educational excellence and access fostered a drive for learning and professional preparation that has compelled countless FSC students and alumni to shape a better world for us all. Carol led the way as an exemplar of positive and transformative communal leadership. Carol’s legacy of an intellectual understanding of the importance of education throughout life, advocacy for learning, helping others, and philanthropy lives on in the Florida Southern community and in each of us whom she touched.”

Carol’s love for education has led to hundreds of students and alumni receiving college degrees and achieving their dreams through the George W. Jenkins Scholarship Program. Every year, five academically talented students are chosen as Jenkins Scholars, with typically 20 active scholars on campus at a time. The scholarship covers tuition, fees, room and board, and provides a stipend for personal expenses, as well as a laptop.

Jenkins Scholars had the opportunity to see Carol and Barney about three times a year at events such as banquets and dinners. At these events, the students built relationships with them, and many emphasize what an incredible person Carol was and value her encouragement and support.

More than 100 alumni have received the scholarship and, for all, the educational gift was life changing.

“Receiving the scholarship had a very powerful impact on my education,” said Dr. William L. Jeffries IV, Ph.D., MPH, MA. “Carol’s generosity allowed me to have a world-class undergraduate education at Florida Southern College. I am extraordinarily grateful for that.”

MEMORIES WITH CAROL

Dr. Jeffries received his degree in religion from FSC in 2002. He is now a Senior Health Scientist in the Office of Health Equity, Division of HIV Prevention for the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

“Carol was incredibly warm and loving to the Jenkins Scholars,” Dr. Jeffries said. “She and Barney were very giving, and Carol was very motherly.”

One of Dr. Jeffries’ favorite and most vivid memories of Carol was when she and Barney would take the Jenkins Scholars to Orlando Magic basketball games.

It was not only an exciting opportunity to attend an NBA game, but it showed Carol cared about their academic success and overall well-being.

“She always expressed her care and concern for us,” Dr. Jeffries said. “She was very genuine.”

Another Jenkins Scholar, Emily Glidden ’20, said Carol taught her the importance of community and giving back to those in need.

Without the scholarship, Glidden says she would not have been able to attend Florida Southern or pursue her dream of becoming a physician.

Glidden graduated from Florida Southern in 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology. She is currently a medical student at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

“Carol’s passion for philanthropy and education has forever changed my life and the lives of many others for the better,” Glidden said. “I know that her legacy will live on through all the lives she has touched.”

THE
BARNETT
STRUCTURES'
INDELIBLE

Impact

1. The Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise

In 2011, one of Carol's most significant gifts to FSC was also a birthday present to her husband. The gift named the College's business school in honor of Barney. The named school was the first of its kind at Florida Southern, and stands as a hallmark among the greatest institutions in higher education. The naming of the school was an impetus for achieving accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

2. The Barnett Residential Life Center

Named in honor of Carol and Barney's sons, the four-story Wesley and Nicholas Residence Halls overlooking Lake Hollingsworth were designed by world-renowned architect Robert A.M. Stern, former dean of the Yale School of Architecture. The 37,500 square-foot halls have transformed student residential living on campus by fostering a sense of community.

3. Barnett Athletic Complex

Once known as Barnett Field, the Barnett Athletic Complex was renovated in 2017 so it could host several athletic teams. When the renovation was completed, soccer, softball, and lacrosse were all enabled to utilize the complex. The 2,000 square-foot space was built by Rodda Construction and is a complex on which future generations of student athletes will practice and compete for years to come.

4. Publix Commons

Publix Super Markets Charities, Inc. donated to construct Publix Commons and it was dedicated in 1999. At the time, Carol was the president of Publix Super Markets Charities, Inc. Publix Commons is comprised of three residence halls located on Frank Lloyd Wright Way. There are two buildings dedicated to female students and FSC sororities. The third residence hall is for male students and our fraternities. All three halls offer suite-style living.

5. Carol Jenkins Barnett Center for Early Childhood Learning and Health

The Center, which was created in 2020, brings together the resources of the School of Education and the Ann Blanton Edwards School of Nursing and Health Sciences for a unique interdisciplinary program to positively impact the academic experience of young children. Carol was a champion for children. She leaves behind a legacy of leadership that positively transformed the Florida Southern community, and her generosity will continue to influence children who learn in the Carol Jenkins Barnett Center for Early Childhood Learning and Health.

6. Mr. George's Green

Nearly the size of a football field, Mr. George's Green offers students, faculty, and staff a lush space to play and relax. At the groundbreaking ceremony in 2012, Carol said, "It seemed a natural complement to create a space next to the George Jenkins Field House. My father was so proud when that was built."





*Former FSC
President Ludd
Spivey is
pictured here
with Mr. Frank
Lloyd Wright
and “Mr. George”
Jenkins, Founder
of Publix.*



MR. GEORGE JENKINS INVESTED GENEROUSLY DURING HIS LIFETIME IN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS, FACILITIES TO SUPPORT STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS, AND MANY ACADEMIC PROGRAMS. INDEED, HE MADE A PROFOUND IMPACT THROUGHOUT ALL FACETS OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE.

HIS DAUGHTER, CAROL JENKINS BARNETT, CLASS OF 1979, CONTINUED THIS LEGACY OF COMMITMENT AND INVESTMENT AT FLORIDA SOUTHERN. HER INTEREST IN THE SUCCESS OF FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE STUDENTS ACADEMICALLY, SOCIALLY, AND SPIRITUALLY HAS BUILT UPON HER FATHER’S LEGACY. HER GENEROSITY AND ENTHUSIASM FOR FSC RESULTED IN A TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPACT AT HER BELOVED ALMA MATER.

*Carol Jenkins
Barnett '79 is
pictured here
with Dr. Kerr
and Mr. Robert
A. M. Stern,
former Dean of
the Yale School
of Architecture
and architect
of the Wesley
and Nicholas
Residence Halls
on campus.*



mocs

on the

move!

Julia Roberts '91

Julia Roberts has emerged as one of the nation's foremost champions for children with dyslexia. As a beautiful young mother of five children, she sought the best educational opportunities for each of her children as they became old enough to attend school. Her journey of learning about dyslexia began with her oldest son, Liam, as she researched potential causes of his learning challenges. Once she received the diagnosis that Liam had dyslexia, she says "I was so relieved since I knew there were very effective strategies to help students with this learning difference." Roberts enrolled Liam in the highly regarded Schenck School in Atlanta that specializes in teaching children with dyslexia using the Orton-Gillingham method of reading instruction, which has proven to be most effective for educating individuals with dyslexia.

Roberts' determination to identify Liam's challenges and locate the best learning environment for his learning differences inspired her parents. Marjorie and Hal Roberts were amazed at Liam's progress at the Schenck School and were fascinated by the intellectual and social development that he experienced while attending. They decided that they wanted to provide such an environment for children in Central Florida, one that would be equally transformative in impacting the lives of children with dyslexia and helping the families of these children find a place where their child could be academically successful. Thus, their mission began to provide for such a school in their home community. The teaching/learning environment at the Roberts Academy also helps its students develop self esteem and overcome any negativity they experienced in other school settings. Many Roberts Academy students, parents, and FSC staff consider it to be the "happiest school in Florida!"

Roberts shares that each child has a different starting point for learning. She says, "We have to work with a child and assess their individual needs so that these can be addressed in a positive way. She certainly learned this by having five children – and says, "They are all different! It makes you proud when your kid says I learned to work hard."

Liam has just graduated from the University of Utah and is a noted rock climber. Roberts shares that Liam uses the techniques



Julia Roberts '91 with her parents, Hal and Marjorie Roberts, and daughter, Hannah Kate, at the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Roberts Academy Middle School.

that he was taught to address his dyslexia reading challenges in his problem-solving in climbing. His success in climbing over the hurdles he faced in education and now in his international rock climbing adventures also inspired his grandparents to fund the climbing wall in the Hollis Wellness Center that serves all FSC students. Indeed, Julia, Marjorie, and Hal Roberts have embraced their mission to help students succeed who have dyslexia and are changing lives in a powerful and inspiring way.

"Julia is the inspiration behind the Roberts Academy," said Dr. Tracey Tedder, the Associate Provost for Experiential Education, and the Founding Dean of the Roberts Academy. "She is a tireless advocate for children with dyslexia and their families. She lives the mission of helping talented children achieve academic success and has positively impacted the lives of so many through her wisdom, knowledge, and experience in the field of dyslexia."

Roberts has become a passionate spokesperson for children with dyslexia and an advocate to help parents find the best learning environment for their children. Her quest now benefits countless other families, and most importantly, talented students with dyslexia. ❖

Tyler Logan '15

Tyler Logan is no stranger to athletics.

Logan grew up playing basketball in Landover, Maryland, and has pursued interests relating to sports both on and off the court his entire life.

Before becoming a part of the Florida Southern College men's basketball team in 2013, Logan spent one year playing in Maryland at Frostburg State University, followed by a year at Prince George's Community College.

It didn't take Logan long to start excelling in the classroom and on the court for the Mocs, as he was a key member of the 2015 NCAA Division II Men's Basketball national championship team that went 36-1.

During Logan's senior year, he also won a NCAA Elite 89 Award for outstanding academic achievements off the court, becoming just the fourth Florida Southern student to receive the award since its inception in 2009. The Elite 89 Award (now known as the Elite 90) is given to the student athlete with the highest cumulative grade point average who is competing at the finals site of each of the 90 NCAA National Championship events.

Logan graduated summa cum laude with a 3.87 cumulative grade point average and obtained his Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Movement and Performance in 2015.

Logan has since moved on to become a Doctor of Physical Therapy after earning his Doctorate from the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore in 2020.

It was Logan's time on and, ironically, off the court that led him to his current job with Physical and Sports Rehab in Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Logan said his road to becoming a physical therapist started in his senior year of high school when he suffered a knee injury.

"I had a great relationship with my physical therapist," Logan said of his rehab process in high school. "I saw it as a setting in which I could see myself working long term."

From that point on, Logan was enamored with the rehabilitation process, particularly as he and his teammates were in need of physical therapy from any injuries incurred during their rigorous seasons on the court.

“It wasn’t easy, but I wasn’t underprepared. FSC taught me a lot about research, evolving my study habits...Those skills elevated when I was getting my doctorate.”

During his studies at Florida Southern, Logan was able to take advantage of the College's engaged-learning approach to education by serving as an intern at Leading Edge Physical Therapy in Lakeland, under the watchful eye of Mike Ryan.

Logan also praised working with Florida Southern College Associate Professor of Chemistry Dr. Jarrod Eubank, as he studied mental and organic frameworks.

Lessons Logan learned at Florida Southern enabled him to get through the massive amount of course work necessary to achieve his doctorate.

“Florida Southern prepared me for the rigorous course work ahead,” Logan said. “It wasn’t easy, but I wasn’t underprepared. FSC taught me a lot about research, evolving my study habits. Being an athlete and making good grades to get into physical therapy, you have to have good time management skills. Those skills elevated when I was getting my doctorate.” ❖



Tyler Logan '15



Dr. Anne B. Kerr, Steve Moseley, Drew Howard, and Mocsie in the Jenkins Field House.

Steve Moseley MBA '09

Steve Moseley '09 has spent more than two decades working his way up at MIDFLORIDA Credit Union.

Now the CEO and President, Moseley started at the credit union in 1997 as an internal auditor. Since then, he has held several positions such as CFO and executive president of MIDFLORIDA's Financial Services division.

Moseley was promoted to president in 2017 and named CEO after Kevin Jones MBA '98, who spent nearly 30 years with the credit union, announced his retirement in November 2021.

"I got that thought process by going through the MBA program at Florida Southern."

MIDFLORIDA is home to several Florida Southern alumni, as FSC is in their backyard. When someone is hired at the credit union, Moseley said it is their culture to build their team from within.

"We like for people to advance within the company," he said. "We like to make it fun and friendly."

MIDFLORIDA is a big proponent of Florida Southern, with Moseley being instrumental in securing new video scoreboards for the Jenkins Field House in 2020. MIDFLORIDA also helped fund the outdoor classroom at the Roberts Academy in 2015.

"At MIDFLORIDA, we like to be a part of the communities we serve," he said. "MIDFLORIDA is a significant part of Lakeland, and we love to get involved in any way we can."

When Moseley is not strategizing at MIDFLORIDA, he is spending time with his wife, Lisa, and two children, Sam and Jaquelyn. He is passionate about family time, and he loves tennis and being out on the water. 🍷

"It is exciting to have the opportunity to lead a fast paced and growing company," Moseley said.

Originally from Rome, Ga., Moseley went to Stetson University for his undergraduate degree in accounting. It was a job with the CPA firm Carter Belcourt & Atkinson that brought him to Lakeland in 1992.

When Moseley wanted to pursue a Master of Business Administration degree, Florida Southern College was the obvious choice. He attended night classes throughout the week and ultimately obtained his master's in 2009.

As CEO, Moseley is head strategist for MIDFLORIDA. "I make sure we are moving forward and leading in all of our business lines," he said.

Florida Southern prepared Moseley for his role of CEO and president by forcing him to think differently. When it is time to tackle a new project or initiative, his team often treats it like an MBA project.

"We take the time to put a good team together, and then we analyze the project and think of new initiatives," he said.

Jeremy Hancock '02

Even before Jeremy Hancock enrolled at Florida Southern College, he knew he was going to follow in some familiar familial footsteps.

Hancock noted that his mom (Molly Carter Hancock '74) and his uncle (Michael Carter '74) both attended Florida Southern and graduated from the College.

"Florida Southern was home well before I came to Florida Southern," Hancock said.

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise, Hancock drew from his experiences as the President of the Student Government Association to get into the political sector.



Jeremy Hancock '02

Hancock worked on two campaigns in Florida before moving to Washington, D.C., to work as a Legislative Aide for former United States Senators Kay Bailey Hutchinson and John Ensign.

During that time, Hancock started working for Experian, a multinational consumer credit reporting company.

In 2010, Hancock earned his MBA from George Washington University, and he is currently the Senior Director of Government Affairs for Experian.

Hancock represents Experian before federal and state policy makers as part of its business strategy to help Experian understand where they stand at the state level.

"It was the right move, coming from working in the U.S. Senate and having a background in business," Jeremy said. "The job expanded me into state government affairs, and I often will go out and testify for Experian in front of state legislatures."

That means Hancock has traveled around the country extensively, visiting more than 30 state capitals. He has hopes of visiting every capital, with Juneau, Alaska, high on his bucket list.

Hancock said it was his involvement with student government that helped spark an interest in his own community. Because of this interest in his community, he has helped improve transportation in Fairfax County in Virginia as part of an advisory commission.

"I was involved in a lot of activities that I wouldn't have been involved with at other schools," Hancock said. He added, "Between student government and my fraternity (Lambda Chi) leadership, it laid a lot of the foundation of what I do now and built relationships to help me solve big challenges."

"FSC helped me to explore a lot of different interests. I spent a lot of time in the music department (playing the saxophone), building creative skills, and in the business department building more analytical skills. Florida Southern helps build the whole package of really developing individuals as a whole." 🍷

Kimberly Milton '11

As a young girl growing up in Lakeland, a chance experience changed Kimberly Milton's life.

In the fifth grade, she fondly remembers seeing the movie *Selena*, a movie that changed her life. "I just knew I was meant to sing," said Milton.

A student at the Harrison School for the Arts, Milton was already interested in music. As a budding saxophonist, one day she met former Florida Southern College Professor of Voice and Opera John Thomasson in a Master Class.

"He was so super inspiring to me," Milton beamed. "I was a young girl with a little voice, and he saw me and saw such great potential."

At the age of 14, she saw her first real opera, "Carmen." The show opened her eyes to the art form that is opera, which was foreign to

her at the time. As a child, she was never exposed to it. But "Carmen" propelled her forward, and she knew that she had found her calling.

Professor Thomasson left such an impact on Milton that, as she graduated from the Harrison School for the Arts, she knew that Florida Southern was the next step on her journey. Milton knew that she would receive hands-on experiential learning and the opportunity to get on stage. More importantly, Professor Thomasson was present to nurture her and develop her small voice.

"I was so nervous," Milton admitted, remembering her days at FSC. "The anxiety was bad, but I knew I needed to get beyond that."

As she developed her mezzo soprano voice, Thomasson was right there with her.

Upon graduation from FSC, she would move on to Valdosta State, earning her master's degree in Vocal Performance. Years later, she would reconnect with Thomasson – in Austria. Thomasson invited his former pupil to Europe to study opera in a different setting. Living in the same cities as so many master opera composers and performers, Milton entered a competition at Mozarteum University in Salzburg, and she won. In the summer of 2019, she performed with the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz. Performing at such a high level gave her the confidence she needed.

Now back in the States, she has performed in countless operas, tackling various roles. Currently, she can be seen and heard at All Saints Episcopal Church, where she serves as the musical director. 🍷



Kimberly Milton '11



the Beauty Within

Southern Living Names Florida Southern College One of The Most Beautiful Campuses in the South... Again

Southern Living once again has acknowledged what Mocs already know – that our campus is one of the most beautiful in the country.

In its rankings of “The Most Beautiful College Campuses in the South,” Florida Southern is ranked sixth on the list. FSC is the highest-ranked college in the state of Florida, and one of only two in the Top 20. Florida Southern is ranked directly behind Georgetown University, and as more beautiful than the U.S. Naval Academy, Duke University, Tulane University, and several large land grant universities, like the University of Georgia and Ole Miss.

The monthly magazine and accompanying website noted Florida Southern’s, “stunning collection of buildings

conceived by legendary architect Frank Lloyd Wright—as well as its scenic locale along Lake Hollingsworth... also worth noting are Wright’s campus fountain, called the Water Dome, and the Wright-designed campus planetarium.”

Over the years, several organizations have praised Florida Southern for our picturesque campus. *Architectural Digest* named us among the 10 colleges with the best architecture in the country. The Princeton Review’s “Best Colleges Guide” also consistently ranks Florida Southern as one of the top 10 in the nation for Most Beautiful Campuses in the nation—earning the No. 1 spot for an unprecedented two consecutive years in 2012 and 2013, the first time the same college had received the No. 1 designation for two years in a row. 🏆



FULBRIGHT SUCCESS CONTINUES

FSC NAMED A TOP PRODUCER OF FULBRIGHT STUDENTS FOR THE THIRD TIME



1. Anya Larson '21, 2. Cesar Maldonado '21, 3. Austin Crotteau '18, 4. Morgan McDermott '22, 5. Zoe Perkins '21, 6. Lexi Potter '22, 7. Grace Sill '22, 8. Catherine Stogner '21

The U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) again named Florida Southern College a top producer of Fulbright U.S. Students for the 2021-2022 academic year. The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government’s flagship international educational exchange program. With a focus on engaged learning, Florida Southern empowers students to join the countless leaders and changemakers who carry forward the Fulbright mission of enhancing mutual understanding.

“It is a tremendous honor for Florida Southern to achieve distinction as a top producer of students being selected for Fulbright awards,” said Dr. Anne B. Kerr. “FSC has world-class talent among our student body, with students who have stellar abilities and educational experiences that will support their aspirations to make a positive and consequential impact on society. The Fulbright experiences are transformational for the participants and provide a profound global perspective in their respective areas of study. Our FSC learning community is also enriched as they return to share all they have learned, as well as impart this knowledge in their future professions and communities.”

Two FSC students received Fulbright awards for academic year 2021-2022. Anya Larson '21 is working as an English Teaching Assistant in the autonomous Spanish communities of the Canary Islands, off the coast of northwestern Africa. Cesar Maldonado '21 traveled to Taiwan for his one-year adventure in the English Teaching Assistant program.

In 2022-23, the College produced six more Fulbright award winners in Austin Crotteau '18 (Norway), Zoe Perkins '21 (Latvia), Catherine Stogner '21 (Montenegro), Morgan McDermott '22 (Thailand), Lexi Potter '22 (Greece), and Grace Sill '22 (Taiwan).

The first Florida Southern student to participate in the Fulbright Program was Sonya Mitchell in 1949, studying political science in France. Since then, 19 total graduating seniors and alumni have been selected to serve as cultural ambassadors in France, Ghana, Greece, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Taiwan, and Thailand. FSC has been included among U.S. colleges and universities that produced the most Fulbright U.S. Students three times in the past four years.

The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program also selected Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies Dr. Beth Gibbs of Florida Southern College as the recipient of a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award for Teaching. Dr. Gibbs spent the spring semester as an instructor, collaborating with conductors and their regional choirs in northern Spain.

Florida Southern has also had three other professors participate in the Fulbright Scholar Program. John Owen (1958-59) taught Sociology at the University of Dacca in Pakistan, John Griffis (1996-97) taught Agriculture to students at Africa University in Zimbabwe, and Carmen Gauthier (2016-17) taught Chemistry at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. 🏆

LEARNING OUTSIDE THE LECTURE HALL

At Florida Southern College, sitting in a lecture hall is not enough. Students must take the concepts they are taught in the classroom and put them into practice in the community. FSC Mocs are dedicated to experiential and engaged learning.

According to Dr. Brad Hollingshead, provost and vice president for academic affairs at FSC, “integrating engaged learning into a student’s educational journey ensures that they have the best opportunity to achieve success after graduating.”

“Engaged learning can take many forms, but the common thread that runs through each of those forms is the goal of helping students take ownership of their education,” Dr. Hollingshead said. “Whether it comes in the form of a case study, research in the field, or collaborative problem solving, engaged learning requires students to take an active role in the learning process.”

And he was also quick to add that the last 30 years of research show how important engaged learning is to student success. For instance, experts at Carnegie Mellon University agree that active learning increases student performance.

When examining 225 studies on the effects of engaged learning, researchers found students improved their test scores by six percent with hands-on learning versus a traditional lecture experience.

If the students were sitting in a lecture hall, they were 1.5 times more likely to fail. Florida Southern students are active in their education, leading them to success.

When Santino Miozzi '21 immigrated to America from Venezuela, he could barely speak English.

“What I appreciate about Santino is his eagerness to capitalize on learning opportunities here at Florida Southern. And there are many.”

— Dr. Jennifer Dapko



BUSINESS BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Originally from Maracay in central Venezuela, Miozzi, then 17, came to Orlando only understanding the basics.

“It was challenging,” he said. “If you don’t know the language, you are disconnected.”

Typically a stellar student, especially when it came to math, Miozzi found himself struggling in the classroom because he could not understand his teacher.

Learning had always come easily to him, but now he was having to translate it all in his head before he could even begin to comprehend the concepts.

“I put a lot of pressure on myself,” Miozzi said. “I would want to say something, but sometimes it doesn’t come out right. You don’t want people to think you are stupid because you don’t have the ability to share your knowledge.”

Miozzi was never afraid of a challenge, however, and would go on to pursue his American Dream at Florida Southern College, where engaged learning would facilitate a better educational experience.

A student athlete, who double majored in applied mathematics and computer science, Santino realized baseball was the only thing he had on his resume.

“Baseball taught me so much, how to be a team player and how to be respectful,” he said. “But I wanted to make myself marketable and desirable to employers.”

His drive to become successful motivated him to begin knocking on doors and expressing interest in subjects like business analytics to his math advisor, Dr. Susan Serrano.



“Integrating engaged learning into a student’s educational journey ensures that they have the best opportunity to achieve success after graduating.”

— Dr. Brad Hollingshead

The connection led to Dr. Serrano introducing Miozzi to Dr. Jennifer Dapko, assistant professor of marketing at the Barney Barnett School of Business and Free Enterprise.

“What I appreciate about Santino is his eagerness to capitalize on learning opportunities here at Florida Southern,” Dr. Dapko said. “And there are many.”

When Dr. Dapko was presented with an engaged learning project to create a chatbot for The Animal League, a local non-profit organization, she knew Santino was the student for the job.

A chatbot is a computer program designed to simulate conversation with human users over the internet.

An engaged learning summer research grant funded by the College would give Miozzi the opportunity to utilize

his skills in programming, coding, and statistical analysis, while building new skills in narrative marketing, business analytics, and research methods.

By collaborating with Dr. Dapko for The Animal League project, Miozzi took ownership of his education.

The goal for The Animal League, which helps abused, abandoned, and neglected animals, was to design a chatbot for its website that would connect with visitors to generate donations.

Miozzi and Dr. Dapko em“bark”ed on the experiential project together.

As a way to form a bond with website users, Dr. Dapko and Miozzi formulated the idea to create a narrative-oriented chatbot, the first of its kind among nonprofits.

“Sunshine” the chatbot, one of The Animal League’s adorable pups, would greet website users on the site and introduce them to more pets the nonprofit rescued.

Santino utilized his knowledge of embedding html to develop the script, timing, and conditional logic of the chatbot so that the conversation would flow naturally. It was the kind of unique, engaged learning project Florida Southern prides itself on providing.

Never once did it feel like studying or doing work in the classroom, according to Miozzi.

“Before I didn’t have any experience with working on a large project,” Miozzi said. “I wasn’t just doing homework, I was working with real data, a real organization, and with a professor.”

Florida Southern’s approach to an experiential education prepped Santino for his career as a full stack developer with FedEx in Orlando, a job he began immediately after graduating in December 2021.

Miozzi encourages every student to step out of the classroom and reach for any hands-on experience they can imagine.

“I advise students if they have a chance like this in their college career, take it,” he said. “It will prepare and teach them things they won’t get in the classroom.”

ENGAGED LEARNING MAKES ENTREPRENEURS

Brooke Lierman '24 isn't just looking out for her fellow females; she is looking OverTheShoulder.

Growing up in St. Louis, Missouri, Lierman always felt like she was tripping over herself every time she went for a run.

“It wasn’t the safest area,” she said. “I was constantly trying to look behind me and be aware of my surroundings.”

A defender on the women’s lacrosse team, Lierman wanted to run without worrying about her safety.

While taking Business and Free Enterprise at Florida Southern her freshman year, Lierman was tasked with presenting a product concept as part of an engaged learning project.

Lierman needed to pitch a business idea for a Shark Tank-style competition, and she landed on OverTheShoulder.

“I wanted to create something that would allow women to feel safe and confident while running alone,” she said.

OverTheShoulder is designed to alert runners when something is approaching from behind. Lierman knew it would be a success after her lacrosse teammates wanted them for their own runs.

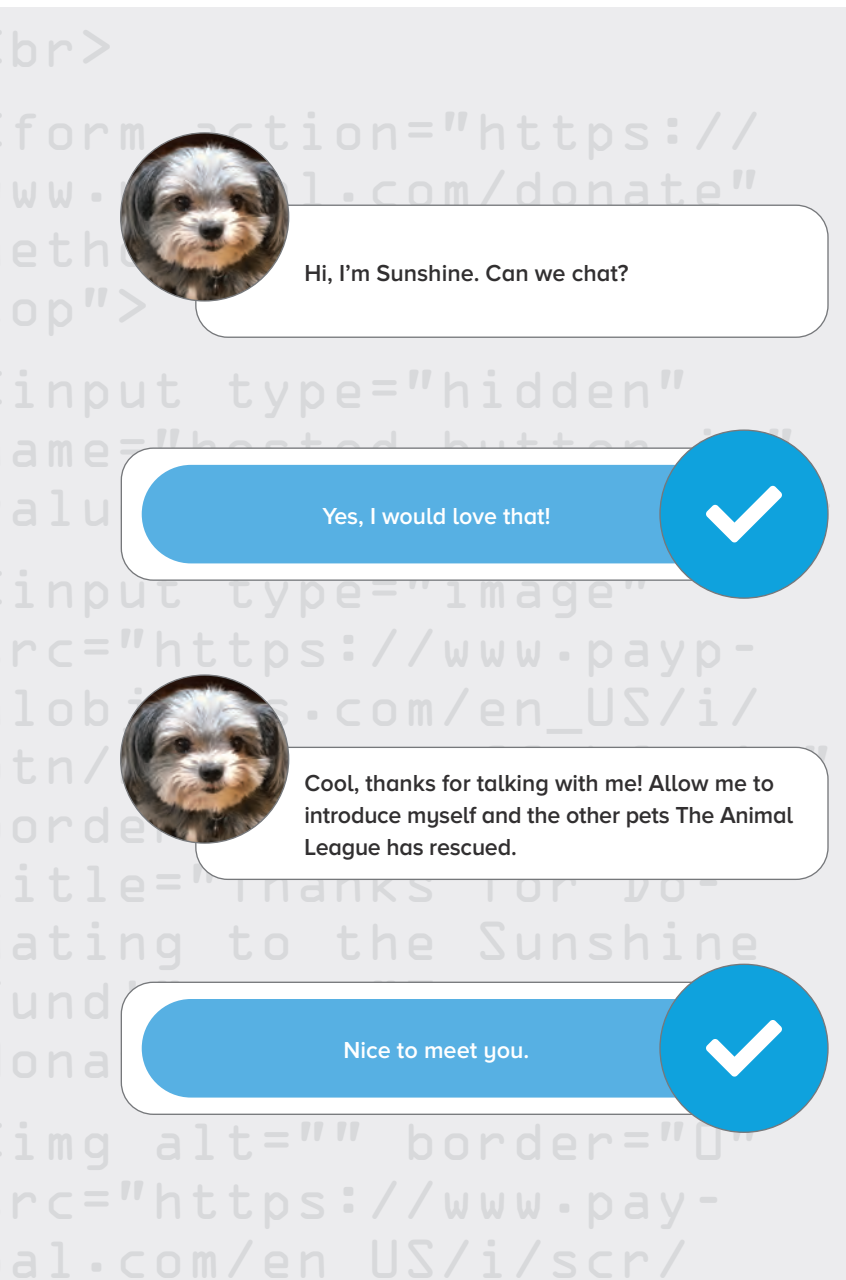
Lierman was the only student who continued to develop her idea after the class ended. Justin Heacock, director of the Center for Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, said entrepreneurial experiences like this allow FSC to offer a higher level of engaged learning for students.

“When it comes to developing students, the act of creation is one of the highest applications of learning,” Professor Heacock said.

“Entrepreneurship creates the ultimate engaged learning environment because students are in complete control of their situation, no one can build their businesses but them. We not only allow, but encourage students to fail quickly, learn quickly, and pivot, which creates a level of accountability that pushes certain students to achieve great things.”



Brooke Lierman '24 developed OverTheShoulder, LLC and has two working prototypes of her invention.



“I wanted to create something that would allow women to feel safe and confident while running alone.”

– Brooke Lierman '24

The experiential project in Lierman’s business class was only the beginning of OverTheShoulder’s success.

Lierman competed in the University of South Florida’s Frank and Ellen Daveler Entrepreneurship Program competition and won \$4,000, as well as the title of Daveler Scholar. OverTheShoulder stood out to the judges as an innovative and necessary device.

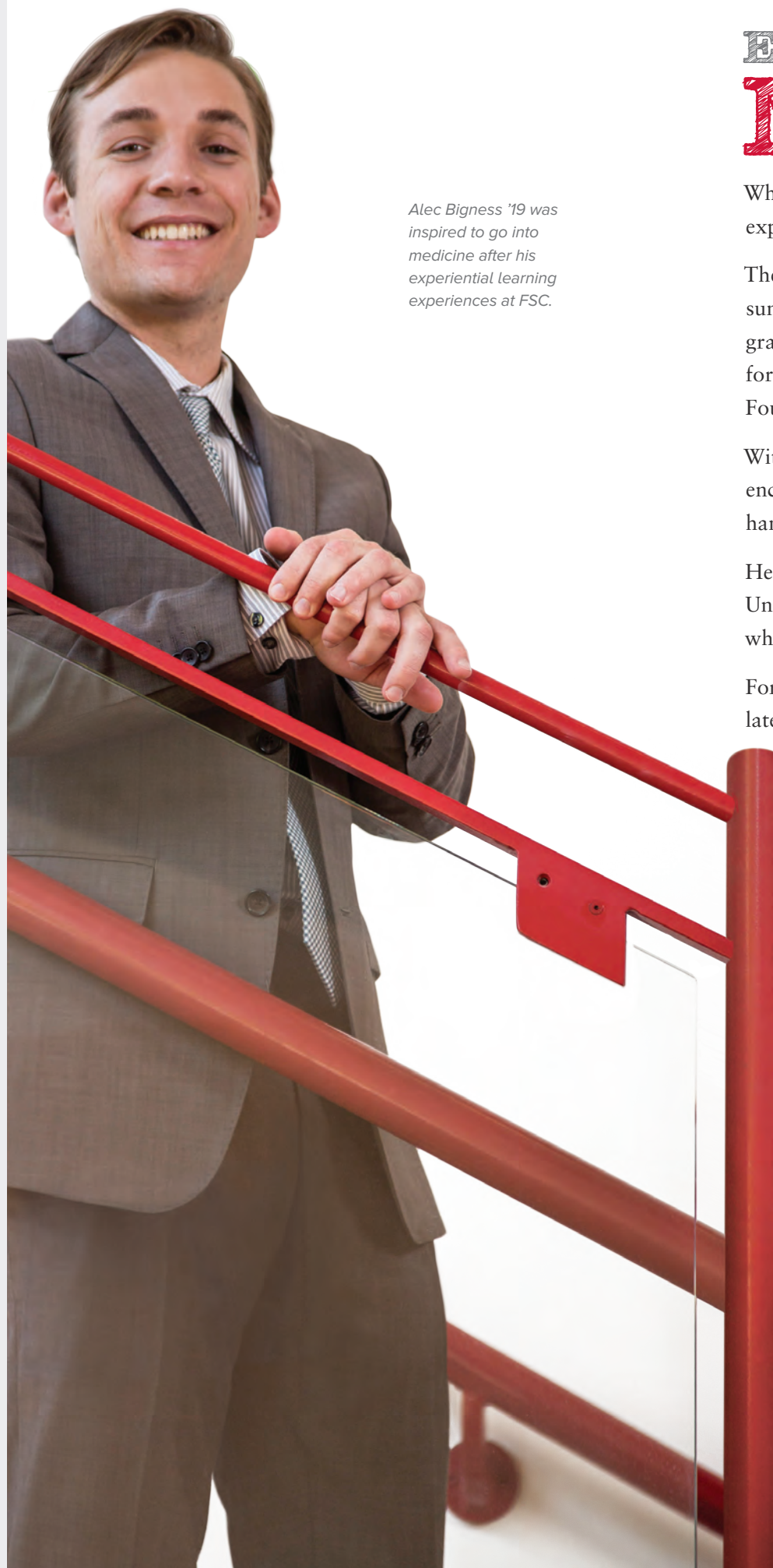
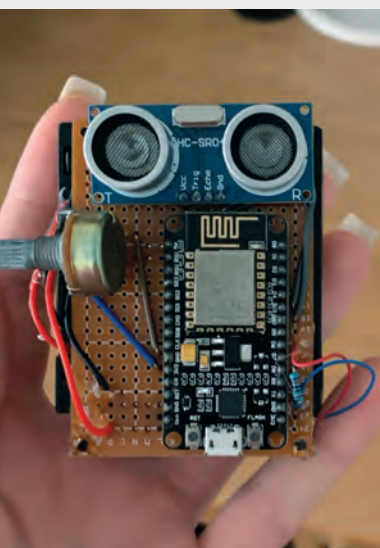
Lierman also earned the Robert R. and Peggy I. Sharp Fellowship in Business, Free Enterprise, and Entrepreneurship. The Fellowship was established by FSC Trustee Robert R. Sharp '61 and his wife, Peggy, in 2005 to help qualified business majors, especially those interested in entrepreneurship and innovation, the opportunity to experience real-life work situations through an internship/mentorship program with a host company.

Now, Lierman has two prototypes and plans for the future.

One is a 3-D printed model, and the other has Wi-Fi and Bluetooth capabilities, allowing it to vibrate when it senses something from 30 yards away.

During winter break, Lierman created OverTheShoulder, LLC, and plans to create a fully functioning prototype, write a patent, and find a manufacturer.

From the beginning, Lierman’s purpose has been to empower women. “The goal is to give women their freedom back,” she said. “I shouldn’t have to avoid the problem. I want to solve the problem.”



Alec Bigness '19 was inspired to go into medicine after his experiential learning experiences at FSC.

ENGAGED LEARNING SENDS FSC ALUM TO MEDICAL SCHOOL

When Alec Bigness '19 attended Florida Southern College, experiential learning took him overseas.

The 2019 graduate visited Toulouse, France, during the summer of his junior year to study chemistry as a “mini graduate student,” as part of a Research Experience for Undergraduates sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

Within the chemistry department at FSC, students are encouraged to participate in REUs to obtain as much hands-on learning as possible.

He also attended a research program at Florida State University through Florida Southern’s REU program, where he was a part of a computational chemistry team.

For Bigness, both were eye-opening experiences that would later influence his decision to go into medicine.

Now, Bigness is in his third year of medical school at the University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine.

His goal is to go into an orthopedic surgery specialty, and he plans to apply to several programs.

The engaged learning Bigness experienced at Florida Southern prepared him for the competitive nature of the medical surgical field.

Not only did he discover his passion for the medical field through his chemistry classes, but he also developed relationships through mentorship at FSC that would lead to him speaking at the 12th Annual Dr. John L. Spencer Symposium.

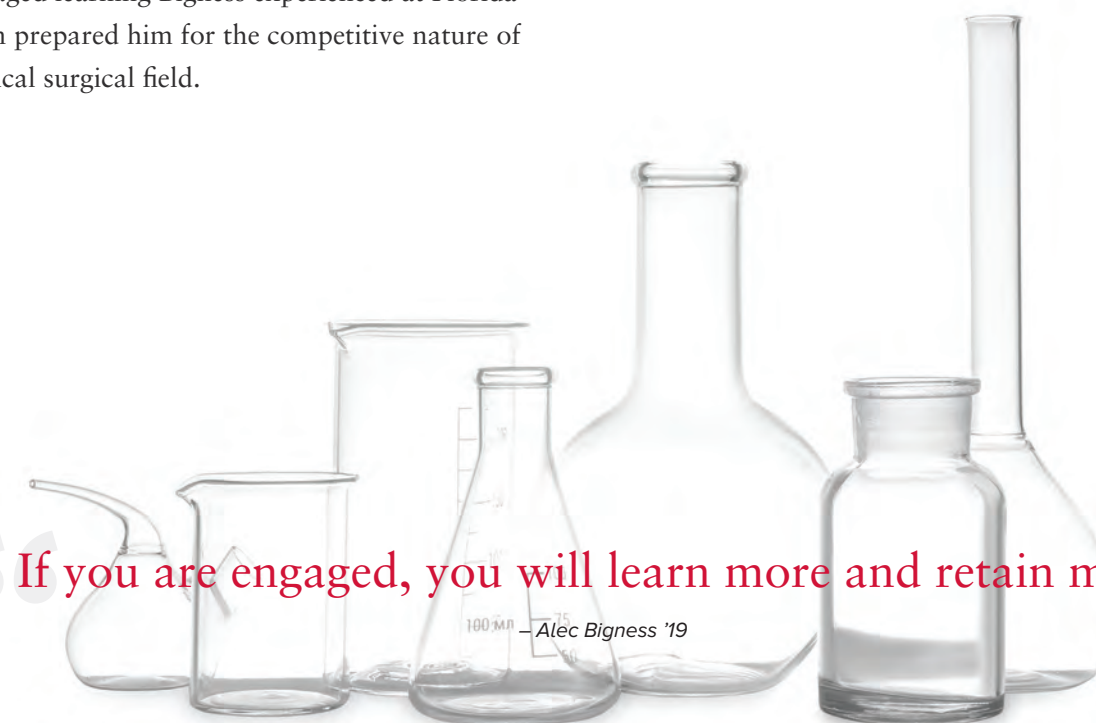
The virtual event featured students and chemists at the top of their field, who discussed research advances in chemistry and medicine. Florida Southern’s chemistry department hosted the event.

It was a very rewarding experience for Bigness to be included in the symposium.

“I spoke about why chemistry is important even if you don’t want to be a chemist,” he said. “I am so glad I did it. There was a lot of engagement with the students who attended.”

Similar to his own education, Bigness wanted the symposium to feel interactive and engaged. Rather than presenting it as a didactic lecture, he made sure the students were involved.

“There is a ton of published work that supports the idea of active and engaged learning,” Bigness said. “You are meant to engage the listener and get them to think more critically. If you are engaged, you will learn more and retain more.”



“If you are engaged, you will learn more and retain more.”

ARTs

AT HOME WITH THE

The Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College is the latest building to receive an upgrade, as plans are under way to add at least an additional 13,000 square feet of exhibit space to one of the nation's leading academic fine art museums. In partnership with FSC, the Polk Museum serves as a scholarly center for the study of the arts and visual culture. The expansion was announced at a press conference held in February.

“We are elated to build upon the legacy of this impressive museum of fine arts and, through the affiliation of FSC and the Museum, now pursue an expanded agenda to offer exhibitions of our treasured permanent collection

and welcome an increasing number of visiting exhibitions from the great museums of the world,” said Dr. Anne B. Kerr, president of Florida Southern College and member of the PMoA Board of Directors. “We are proud to be a Smithsonian Affiliate Museum, and this expansion will also enable additional exhibits from the Smithsonian to be shared with our community and students. This expansion of the Museum will result in a dynamic arts venue that will greatly enrich the cultural offerings in our community.”

The PMoA serves almost 150,000 visitors annually through a diverse schedule of exhibitions and art education programs. The Museum's enduring mission



Bill Mutz, mayor of Lakeland; Lynda Buck, chair of PMoA Board of Trustees; Dr. Anne B. Kerr, president of FSC; and Dr. H. Alexander Rich, executive director and chief curator of the Museum, are pictured at the PMoA Expansion announcement.

is to enhance lives through inspirational and engaging art experiences for all.

The Polk Museum of Art was originally dedicated in 1988 as a community museum. The original intent was to house about 500 works in its collection. However, as the PMoA continued to grow, its mission became more focused on becoming an academic museum. The premier art resource in Lakeland currently boasts a permanent collection that has grown to more than 2,800 works, including American Figurative Art, Modern & Contemporary Art, Photography, African and Oceanic Art, Asian Art, and Art of the Ancient Americas.

The additional space and remodeling of the existing building will allow for multi-purpose usage with at least six new galleries featuring special art collections, a special events space, multi-purpose classrooms, and storage and restoration areas. The front entrance to the PMoA will be renovated with additional upgrades to the first and second floors. The PMoA will continue to sparkle, as it overlooks the banks of Lake Morton.

FSC's Department of Art History & Museum Studies, which resides inside the museum, is the only program

of its kind nationally housed inside of a museum. The proximity offers opportunities to students in the program, providing an engaged learning experience with internships and other forms of hands-on learning.

“We have become a true center for the study of our visual culture,” reports Dr. H. Alex Rich, the executive director and chief curator of the Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College, who holds the George and Dorothy Forsythe Endowed Chair of the Department of Art History and Museum Studies. “We cover a broad spectrum for the analysis and study of art, museums, visual culture, and their intersecting histories.”

A native of New York City, Dr. Rich had immersed himself in NYC's museum culture, and he believes that we are developing a similar culture here in Lakeland. “We have built upon a great legacy here at the Polk Museum,” Rich added. “With this level of continued support from Florida Southern College, this is a transformational gift that so many had aspirationally wanted to see for so long. The moment is finally here, and we can already envision what it will bring us for years to come, serving students and our community as a whole.”

The project is expected to be completed in 2024. 🍷



Polk Museum of Art at Florida Southern College will undergo a \$6 million expansion and renovation.

CLASSNOTES

Share Your News! Change jobs? Moving? New addition to the family? Retiring? There are two ways to share your personal news with your classmates and the College. Use the form on our website:

[FLSouthern.edu/alumni/info-update](https://www.flsouthern.edu/alumni/info-update) or send an email to Alumni@FLSouthern.edu.



LISTINGS COMPILED THROUGH FEB. 1, 2022 (NOT PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER 2021 SOUTHERNNEWS)

1960s

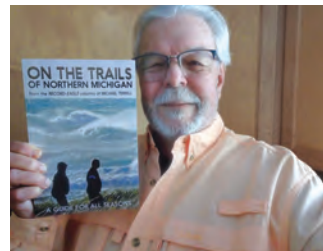
It's been 58 years since **Dennis J. Michael '64** graduated from Florida Southern, but he's not about to retire just yet. At 79, Dennis is still working full-time at his self-owned insurance agency, Associated Business Insurance of Boca, Inc., in Boca Raton, Fla.

Irene M. Archambault '65 has been retired for 22 years from the Metropolitan Nashville Public School system, but she is still keeping busy. Irene has been volunteering as a docent (tour guide) for the past 19 years at the Nashville Zoo in Tennessee.



Stuart R. Brackney '66 welcomed his first grandchild on Nov. 19, 2021, when his daughter Sara and her husband Jimmy welcomed daughter, Harlow. Stuart was also elected President of

the Phoenix Astronomical Society on Sept. 1, 2021.



Michael J. Terrell '66 had his work over the years with the outdoors community for the Traverse City Record Eagle compiled into a book in 2021. The book was in the top three best sellers in northern Michigan for almost six months and stayed on the list for the rest of the year.

Donald F. Sabatini '68 enjoyed playing soccer and baseball when he was at Florida Southern. He continued his education by earning a Master's in Administration from Jersey City State College in 1992.

1970s

S. Leslie Pirtle '71 got to dig into the past when he was asked by his high school alumni group to write a book about the history of athletics at the once

prestigious Western Military Academy in Alton, Ill. The school closed in 1971, but Les was able to research periodicals from both the 19th and 20th centuries, as well as compile interviews with former cadet athletes. The book was completed in the fall of 2021.



Woody L. Clymer '72 took great inspiration from former Florida Southern College professor Dr. Ed Jeffries. That led Woody to a 47-year career as an educator, where he served as a teacher, assistant principal, principal, and director of employee and labor relations before retiring recently.

Gayle Jones Veltman '73 received the National College Testing Association (NCTA) Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020. Gayle held several offices in NCTA, including president, and was a member for more than 20 years until she retired. Gayle worked

at Wichita State University in Kansas for 37 years as director of testing programs that annually served thousands of high school and college students, as well as community members.

William H. Duke, Jr. '75 retired in 2020 after 48 years in vocational ministry.

Robert S. Yarnell '75 retired last May after 20 years teaching history at St. Petersburg College.

Gary L. Robinson '76 spent more than 40 years in newspapers as a journalist, including 31 years at The Commercial Appeal in Memphis, Tenn., before retiring in 2016. Gary is now the chapter chair for the Memphis chapter of SCORE, a nonprofit partner of the Small Business Administration that has 235 chapters and 13,000 volunteers. Gary joined SCORE in November 2017 and has served as chair since July 2019.

Jean E. Sparks '78 was called to become the Pastor at White Hill Presbyterian Church in Sanford, N.C. in October of 2021.

Mary Gill Isaac '78 stayed local after graduating from Florida Southern, where she was a member of the band, the chapel choir, and Delta Omicron. Mary retired in June 2021 after 43 years of teaching at Carlton Palmore Elementary School in Lakeland. Mary was joined in retirement by her husband Jerry, who finished a 40-year career as a metallurgical lab technician with Mosaic.

1980s

Ginny Bieber Dubose '80 earned her Master's in Health Administration from West Coast University, graduating summa cum laude in 2018. Ginny is also listed as a published author for several books in the *Chicken Soup for the Soul* series.

Janice Geiger Cihak '83 retired from teaching in Florida and Tennessee after 36 years. Janice taught kindergarten through eighth grade. Janice was also blessed with her first grandchild recently.

Stephen P. Dowdie '86 earned his Doctorate of Executive Leadership from the University of Charleston in West Virginia in April 2021.

Donald D. Nations '86 graduated with an Executive Master of Business Administration from Quantic School of Business and Technology in 2020. Donald also earned the title of Professional Certified Coach from International Coaching Federation (ICF) and Senior Practitioner in Coaching from European Mentoring and Coaching Council (EMCC) in 2021. Donald then earned the certifications in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the Workplace (University of

South Florida) and Diversity and Inclusion in the Workplace Certification (ESSEC University, Paris) in 2022.

William J. Hanks II '87 was hired by *Forbes* as Chief Communications Officer. At *Forbes*, he is responsible for all strategic, media, and internal communications globally. In this role, Bill is leading investor relations efforts to help the 100-year-old media company go public for the first time and trade on the NYSE.

1990s

Jill Finnerty Ricardo '90 welcomed her eighth child, Rocco Jace, via adoption in December. Jill has home schooled her children and is the founder of the Uhuru Watoto Project, a non-profit that educates girls in Tanzania. Jill is also the VP of Production for Arts in Motion, a theater education organization, a Pampered Chef Consultant, and an independent travel agent. One of Jill's sons is currently in the B.F.A. Musical Theater program at Florida Southern.



Jerry T. Young '90 has joined company with the likes of Norman Rockwell and Andrew Wyeth by having his art featured on the cover of the Nov./Dec. 2021 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*.



A. Vicki Wiggins '91 was admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court Bar in 2020, which allows her to practice before the Court. In 2021, Vicki received accreditation from the Veterans Administration to represent veterans, to whom she offers her services pro bono.

Scott M. Goodger '92 recently relocated from Dallas to The Villages, Fla., to open Kitchen Wise of Greater Ocala. Scott's store provides intelligent solutions for efficient living for the kitchen, pantry, bathroom, laundry room, and closet.

John V. Davis, Jr. '98, M.Ed. '11 has a new book, *The Places That Hold*, published by Eastover Press of Rochester, Mass. This collection of poetry is John's fifth, and it features poems about native Florida. The book is available through all major retailers, and it has received nominations for several awards. It includes poems that were featured in journals such as *Nashville Review*, *Tampa Review*, *The American Journal of Poetry*, and many more.

David J. Clark '99 opened a restaurant called Island IX on Aug. 24, 2021. The eatery located in Viera, Fla., features volcano-themed craft burgers, sandwiches, and seafood boils.

Rebecca M. Moore '99 has had an exciting past couple of years. Rebecca got engaged Christmas Eve 2021, was promoted to Candidate Management Coordinator with Enterprise Holdings, and bought a house in January of 2022 with her fiancé. Rebecca has been with Enterprise for 14 years.

Jennifer S. Stanton '99, M.Ed. '21 graduated with her Masters of Education in December 2021 from Florida Southern.

2000s

Amanda N. Blount '00 received her Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership from Southeastern University in December 2021.

Barbara Rivera Holmes '01 was recently named a fellow with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Barbara is currently the president & CEO of the Albany (Ga.) Area Chamber of Commerce. She is also one of 35 chamber executives throughout the country to be selected for the sixth cohort of the year-long Business Leads Fellowship Program, which focuses on creating or advancing sustainable programs and solutions that align talent pipeline to support business growth and community development. By gubernatorial appointment, Barbara is a member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, which oversees the state's 26 public colleges and universities and has oversight of the Georgia Archives and the Georgia Public Library Service.



Disney A. Weaver '01 won the 2021 Whit King Junior Excellence in Teaching Economics Award, which was awarded by the Alabama Council on Economics Education.

Frederick J. Koehler II '01, after having nine award-winning books published by international publishing companies such as Penguin, Random House, and Boyd's Mills Press, has launched a program called Ready Chapter 1 to help other writers achieve their publishing dreams. See more at readychapter1.com

Amanda Curry Brown '03, after serving most recently as the Chief Economist for the British Overseas Territory of St. Helena, will be joining the Falkland Islands Government as Director of Policy & Economic Development in March.

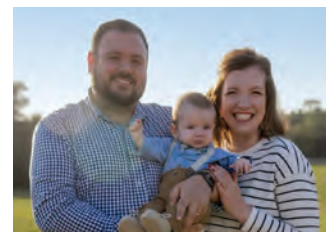
Suzanna J. DeMyer '03, M.Ed. '15, Ed.D. '20 earned her third degree from Florida Southern after she graduated in December 2020 with a Doctorate in Educational Leadership. Suzanna is also the Southeast Regional Field Training Manager for Boar's Head Brand, which offers a variety of sliced meats and cheeses, as well as dips and condiments, across the country.

Eoghan P. Cullen '07 was named the new head football coach at Forest High School in Ocala, Fla.

2010s



Katherine House Thomas '11 married Kasey Thomas on May 8, 2021. Joining her in the bridal party were Florida Southern classmates **Sarah Maestre (House) '08**, **Meggie Moss (Marino) '11**, and **Mallory Schowe (Moore) '11**. Katie was a member of the Florida Southern SGA and Alpha Delta Pi.



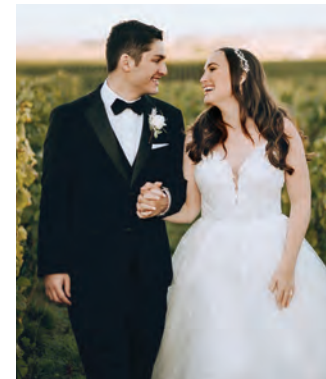
Rev. Robert J. Tucker '11 and Molly Tucker welcomed their first child, Cooper Joseph Tucker, on August 24, 2021!

Adam Ismaeil '12 started a company called Archive (www.archive.com) with two former colleagues in December of 2021. They are pioneering community marketing software for eCommerce. Recently they raised \$12 million in Seed Stage funding led by Tiger Global, Battery Ventures, Human Capital, Stripe, and over 50 strategic partners.

Dr. Stephanie Davis '12 recently obtained a new job as a Program Officer at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for the National Institutes of Health.

Stephen R. Bell '13 became the Director of Development & Alumni Relations at Florida Southern College in February of 2022. Stephen is also serving his seventh year as a member of the Florida United Methodist

Foundation Board of Directors. He is also the Vice-Chair of the Nominations & Governance Committee and a member of the Advancement & Grants Committee.



Shelly M. Long '13 exchanged marriage vows with Jake Allhands on Oct. 8, 2021.

Isolda Morales Ibars '14 had a good year. Isolda got married in May of 2021 and then got a promotion at work that began in 2022.

Michael E. Scott '14, MBA '15 was hired by CandorPath Financial in Maitland, Fla., to be Director of Retirement Planning.

Hannah Hacia Roberts '15 accepted a job as a Nurse Practitioner with Duke Neurosurgery in the Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center at Duke University in Durham, N.C.

Emma A. Hamrick '16 started a new job as Digital Marketing Manager for Warner Bros. Pictures, where she oversees digital strategy and creative for theatrical and HBO Max Original films.

Lisandra Tayloe Ed.D. '16 took a position of middle school Assistant Principal at Johnson K-8 School of International Studies in the Manatee County (Fla.) School District.

Rachael Lord Weaver '17 published a poetry collection in December of 2021 called *The Fragile Hearts Club*. It is about Rachel's own journey through love, loss, trauma, self-discovery, fairytales, and much more. Inherently, it is about the human experience and the idea that you are never alone in your own story.

Kyle W. Shatto '17 earned his Master's in Higher Education Leadership from West Virginia University in 2021. Kyle is working at the University of Tampa as the Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life.



Paige M. Kinstler '18 became the Project Manager for American Oncology Network, LLC.

Micaela C. Gately '18 married a fellow FSC graduate, **Lucas Claude '18**, in 2020. Micaela then earned her MBA with a concentration in marketing at the University of Tampa in 2021, while also winning the Most Outstanding MBA student of the year award.



Olivia R. Sliwa '18 received her white coat after completing her didactic year from the Physician Assistant Program at South College in Knoxville, Tenn. Then,

just two days later, Olivia got married. Olivia is now completing her clinical rotations and is set to graduate in December 2022.

Christian J. Anderson '19 wrote and published his first book titled *Self Actualization*, which he released on the first of this year. Christian also just finished his licensing to be a financial advisor and looks forward to helping the Florida Southern family reach their financial goals for many years to come.



Danielle Pujol Crosby '19 earned her Master's in Professional Studies in Integrated Marketing Communications from Georgetown University and got married to **Dr. Blake Crosby '17** on May 29, 2021.

Dr. Blake Crosby '17 graduated from the University of Florida Dental College in May 2021 and is now pursuing a three-year residency in periodontic surgery at Augusta University where he is expected to finish in 2024.

Taylor Farnsworth Salamone '19 married **Joe Salamone '19** in November of 2021.

Joe T. Salamone III '19 graduated in January of 2022 with a Master's in Organizational Leadership from Southern New Hampshire College and received honors each semester for maintaining 3.8 or higher GPA.



Gina Mancinelli '20 obtained her Bachelor of Science in

Nursing and is now a registered nurse with plans for obtaining her Doctorate of Nursing Practice and becoming a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Gina was involved in the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and was a 2nd Lt. in the Mocs Battalion ROTC program. Gina is now stationed at Fort Sam Houston in Texas.

2020s

Ryan Wilt '20 earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Florida Southern and is a 2nd Lt. in the Army stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C. Ryan is a registered nurse and plans on obtaining his Doctorate of Nursing Practice and becoming a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Ryan was involved in the Mocs Battalion ROTC program and recently completed the Basic Officers Leadership Course.



Tina R. Cruz '20 was recently promoted at Florida Southern to Assistant Director of Enrollment Communications. Tina married **Adam Cruz '19** in October of 2021.

Emily A. Glidden '20 recently became a published author in a medical journal.

Zoe H. Perkins '21 left her job as the Music Director at NeighborUp Brevard in Melbourne, Fla., to move out west to become the Programs Coordinator at The Park Adoption Community Center in Centennial, Colo. She helped provide post-adoption support and programming for adopting families around the country. Currently Zoe is teaching English in Latvia.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND COMMUNITY FRIENDS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THESE NEW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Christine Ehlenbeck '07 and Michael Ehlenbeck '08 Endowed Scholarship for Student Leadership

Clampitt-Holsenbeck Broughton-Kerr ROTC Endowed Scholarship

The Lt. Col. (Ret) Robert W. "Hoagy" Carmichael '66 Endowed Scholarship in ROTC

Steven W. Weldon '97 MBA '01 & Rebecca Philips Weldon '98 Endowed Scholarship in Accounting

IN MEMORIAM

TRUSTEE DR. JOHN VICTOR VERNER, JR.



Dr. John Victor Verner, Jr. passed away on Friday, March 4, 2022. He was preceded in death by his eldest son, John Victor Verner III, and his eldest grandson, Robert Llewellyn German. He is survived by his wife, Sally, his daughter, Sally Lew, his sons, James and Ed, as well as seven grandchildren, including FSC alumni David Verner '17 and Robert Verner '18, and one great grandchild.

Dr. Verner was born in Greenville, S.C., where he attended school. He enlisted in the Army Specialized Training Reserve Program on his 17th birthday. From there, he would be sent to college until age 18, when he could legally enter active duty in the infantry. Upon completion of basic training, he became the only one from his battalion accepted to Officer Candidate School. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the infantry at age 18, the youngest in his class. He served his remaining years of active duty in the Military Government Operation in Seoul, Korea.

After his military service, John completed both his undergraduate studies and medical degree in 1954 at Duke University, where he joined Sigma Chi fraternity and was on the Freshman Advisory Committee. While obtaining his medical degree, he was recognized as second in his class academically, having been elected to the honorary medical society Alpha Omega Alpha and winning the Mosby award for scholarship. He completed five years of postgraduate training at Duke and the University of Michigan, culminating as Chief Resident in Medicine at Duke during the fourth year. After a year of basic research in Endocrinology, he was selected to join the exclusive Private Diagnostic Clinic at Duke Hospital and to become a member of the faculty.

He spent three years doing research, teaching, and practicing medicine, and then realized that his heart was in the practice. After 15 years at Duke, he joined Watson Clinic, where he practiced medicine for 35 years in Lakeland. While at Watson Clinic, Dr. Verner served as a member of the Executive

Committee, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Lakeland Regional Hospital, President of the West Coast Academy of Medicine, and Chairman of the Florida Society of Medicine.

During his 35 years of practice in Lakeland, Dr. Verner always had a listed telephone number and answered his own calls night or day, making him much loved by his patients. Many believed him to be a standout physician. The Physician in Chief at Duke Hospital Dr. Stead had described him when asked for a reference: "John Verner is the best doctor Duke University has ever trained."



Dr. Sally Prosser Verner, former FSC President Dr. Thomas Reuschling, Dr. John Verner, and Dr. Sarah McKay.

Later in life, he and his wife formed the Verner Foundation, which has grown to a point that the family can continue making gifts to charitable institutions in perpetuity. This was his greatest joy in later years, being able to give back to the community and educational institutions that he loved, including Florida Southern College, where he was on the Board and Executive Committee for many years.

Dr. Verner served as a Trustee on the Florida Southern College Board of Trustees from 1993-2009, and as a Trustee Emeritus since 2013. He and his wife, Sally, received Honorary Doctorates of Business from Florida Southern in 2004.

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE



NORMAN L. BENN of Lakeland died on Thursday, April 7, 2022. Coach Benn began his 25-year career at Florida Southern College in 1985 as an assistant women's basketball coach and in 1986 became head coach. He coached 12 seasons and was named the SSC Coach of the Year in four seasons and the South Region Coach of the Year in 1995. Florida Southern would go on to win a total of five SSC regular season titles and six postseason titles under his leadership and won the program's first-ever regional championship, which finished with an appearance in the NCAA Division II Elite Eight, where FSC placed fifth nationally. He retired as women's basketball head coach in 1997 and then joined the women's golf program as an assistant coach. He was part of all four of the Moccasins' NCAA Division II National Championships in 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2007, before retiring following the 2010 season. Named to the Sunshine State Conference Hall of Fame in 2003 and the Polk County Sports Hall of Fame in 2020, Norm was also named to the Florida Southern Athletics Hall of Fame in 2004.



JOHN "JACK" SMITH '53 passed away on Thursday, March 10, 2022. He was preceded in death by his parents, Ruby Alice Brady and John J. Smith. Jack is survived by his wife, Suzan H. Smith (Suzie). Jack graduated from Florida Southern in 1953, where he was a member of Theta Chi and president of the freshman class. Like many students who come to Florida Southern, Jack was attracted in part by the warm climate, but he found right away that the school suited him well. Jack said, "Everything about the school was dandy. It was the best four years of my life." Although he studied business, Jack had a passion for flying. After he was discharged from the Army in 1955, Jack returned to Chicago, where he was hired as a United Airlines pilot for 30 years. Jack had a number of side businesses over the years. Upon retiring from United, he and Suzie settled in Fort Lauderdale, where he opened a construction finance firm, the Florida Land Company.



RUTH NELL THRIFT passed away on Thursday, March 10, 2022. She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Helen Sue Thrift. She is survived by her sister, Mary Thrift Chambers, and brother-in-law, Carlile Chambers. Nell received an A.B. degree with honors from Duke University and received an M.A. degree in teaching from Emory University. She was an English teacher at Lakeland High School for 36 years. After teaching, Nell served as an archivist for the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church for 23 years. She was a member and past chair of the Commission on Archives and History for the Florida Conference UMC and was a member and past president of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and Historical Society of the UMC. In addition, Nell was a longtime member of College Heights United Methodist Church. Nell was the daughter of the late Ruth and Charles T. Thrift, Jr., President of Florida Southern College from 1957-1976.

FACULTY & STAFF

J. Don Lee
died Sept. 24, 2021.

George Davis
died Nov. 17, 2021.

Robert L. Zimmerman
died Dec. 9, 2021.

Nina J. Farmer
died Dec. 14, 2021.

William R. Linneman
died Jan. 7, 2022.

Patricia S. Hunt
died Jan. 14, 2022.

Christopher R. Graham
died Jan. 21, 2022.

Phillip J. Cline
died Feb. 10, 2022.

Patsy S. Davis
died Feb. 20, 2022.

ALUMNI

1940s
Mary Douglass Beasley '49
died Feb. 18, 2022.

1950s
Avis Warlick Gill '50
died May 31, 2021.

Betty Vernon '50
died Feb. 25, 2022.

Thelma Holsberry Brock '51
died Dec. 12, 2021.

William W. Wolf '52
died Nov. 6, 2021.

Mary Eleanor Kidder Wall '52
died Feb. 21, 2022.

Eugene A. Oliva '53
died Oct. 16, 2021.

Loren S. Ray '53
died Nov. 15, 2021.

James A. Campbell, Jr. '55
died Nov. 14, 2021.

Milton E. Schisler '55
died Dec. 22, 2021.

Joseph R. Carletta '56
died Jan. 2, 2022.

Charlotte Paugh Gianos '57
died April 6, 2021.

Elsie Cordes Hague '57
died Dec. 4, 2021.

Dale M. Collins '57
died Dec. 10, 2021.

William W. Wiggins, Jr. '58
died Dec. 8, 2021.

Martha Watson Jones '58
died Dec. 18, 2021.

John D. Schlosser '58
died Mar. 1, 2022.

Steve G. Gianos '59
died June 2021.

Charles C. Hatcher III '59
died Jan. 2, 2022.

Harriet Gibson Benner '59
died Feb. 2, 2022.

Judithe White McMullen '59
died Feb. 9, 2022.

Mary Eddie Harnden '59
died Feb. 15, 2022.

1960s

Martha Kendrick Stewart '60
died Sept. 28, 2021.

Patrick L. Ellis '60
died Nov. 4, 2021.

Bonny A. Hurlbut '60
died Jan. 13, 2022.

Sydney Lane Cardner '60
died Jan. 24, 2022.

Shirley Coulter Cleveland '60
died Mar. 6, 2022.

James E. Lawhon, Jr. '60
died Mar. 18, 2022.

Nancy Wilcox Neher '61
died Oct. 18, 2021.

Tim N. Howell '61
died Oct. 28, 2021.

Ronald F. Roberson '61
died Dec. 1, 2021.

Roger G. Bond '61
died Dec. 11, 2021.

John A. Mack '61
died Jan. 8, 2022.

Julius F. Hobbs '61
died Mar. 20, 2022.

Chris J. Kallas '62
died Sept. 5, 2021.

Gene A. Moretz '62
died Feb. 11, 2022.

Zella Weaver Stiles '62
died Mar. 21, 2022.

M. Rand Phillips '63
died Nov. 30, 2021.

Charles J. Thomas '63
died Dec. 24, 2021.

Charles J. Ax '63
died Mar. 1, 2022.

James H. Fitzgerald '64
died Sept. 23, 2021.

Verene Decuers Shirah '64
died Dec. 22, 2021.

Charles N. Kinsey '64
died Dec. 23, 2021.

Vera Thrasher Rickman '65
died Jan. 10, 2022.

Doris Diane Mack '66
Jul. 1, 2020.

Braxton R. Ezell '66
died Oct. 26, 2021.

Donald M. Clayton, Jr. '66
died Jan. 22, 2022.

Betena Hurt Carlton '66
died Feb. 28, 2022.

Phillip W. Lundeen '67
died Nov. 6, 2021.

Lynn Rice Bizzell '67
died Dec. 25, 2021.

Marjorie Flood Hancock '67
died Feb. 24, 2022.

Diane Houser Mundy '68
died Dec. 24, 2021.

Carl W Simons '68
died Mar. 1, 2022.

1970s

Gregary F. Watson '70
died Nov. 14, 2021.

W. Lynn Joyner '70
died Nov. 29, 2021.

Geoffrey Renshaw '72
died Jan. 24, 2022.

Pamela S. Kurtz '74
died Jan. 14, 2022.

Eric T. Harvester '75
died Oct. 19, 2019.

Braxton W. Stuckey '75
died Nov. 13, 2021.

Benjamin F. Wheeler III '75
died Jan. 21, 2022.

John L. Anderson, Jr. '76
died Nov. 15, 2021.

Howard G. Johnson '76
died Jan. 23, 2022.

Larry C. White '77
died Mar. 24, 2022.

James E. Cloughley '78
died Mar. 3, 2022.

Carol Jenkins Barnett '79
died Dec. 7, 2021.

Philip R. Bryan '79
died Dec. 17, 2021.

Timothy M. McMullen '79
died Jan. 19, 2022.

1980s

Barry Jeffrey Jordan '80
died Dec. 31, 2021.

Sandra Haake Harwell '81
died Oct. 24, 2021.

Henry W. Kirkland '82
died Dec. 14, 2021.

Patricia Mohrfeld Dobersch '82
died Feb. 18, 2022.

Bonnie Musselwhite '83
died Nov. 18, 2021.

Vincent J. Leone '84
died Nov. 21, 2021.

Lee M. FerDon '84
died Dec. 30, 2021.

Curtis Rawsthorne '84
died Jan. 20, 2022.

Timothy M. Andrews '84
died Feb. 14, 2022.

Connie Markle Stein '85
died Mar. 1, 2022.

Joseph C. Jackson '89
died Nov. 12, 2021.

1990s

John A. Criste '91
died Oct. 19, 2021.

Scott W. Graham '91
died Jan. 31, 2022.

Patricia B McNamara '94
died Jan. 18, 2022.

Ellen M. Jones '94
died Feb. 1, 2022.

Camilla J. Palladino '95
died Dec. 3, 2021.

2000s

Joan E. Danford '00
died Aug. 25, 2022.

Lavelle R. Shaw '03
died Jan. 30, 2022.

FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

Mirtha A. Vallejo
died Dec. 17, 2021.

Wyatt F. Smith, Jr.
died Jan. 23, 2022.

Mary Jo Schneider
died Feb. 5, 2022.

George E. Postell
died Feb. 13, 2022.

George G. Robinson
died Feb. 14, 2022.

Charles E. Butterfield
died Feb. 21, 2022.

Margaret McLaughlin Sikes
died Feb. 24, 2022.

Glenda Fontaine
died Feb. 27, 2022.

Mary Ann Holloway
died Mar. 1, 2022.

Why We Give Christine '07 and Michael '08 Ehlenbeck

Christine and Michael Ehlenbeck met as undergraduate students on the campus of Florida Southern College, where they began what has become a lifelong dedication to each other and the school. Christine was a music major with a minor in business, while Michael was a finance major. Both held leadership positions on campus, with Christine serving as the SGA President and Michael with Sigma Chi and the IFC. Through interpersonal relationships with faculty and staff, each developed strong skills that they use today.

Both Christine and Michael had plenty of opportunities to learn and develop their mentoring styles at Florida Southern. Several faculty and staff members helped them develop and hone their skills so that today, in the business world, both have successful careers in high-ranking positions. Christine leads a team as a licensed realtor for Keller Williams, while Michael is a Financial Advisor for CORE Wealth Advisors.

As a token and symbol of their appreciation, they have together created the Christine Ehlenbeck '07 and Michael Ehlenbeck '08 Endowed Scholarship for Student Leadership at Florida Southern College.

Q. Why is student leadership so important to you, enough so that you endowed a scholarship specifically designated for student leaders?

A. Christine: We were both student leaders at Florida Southern, and we both learned so much from those experiences. Now, we want to give back to those who are our future leaders.

A. Michael: My passion is long-term planning. This scholarship is a good fit for what we want to do.

Q. Why do you give back to Florida Southern?

A. Christine: I walked away very appreciative of the opportunities I had. Now, I want to show my appreciation for all of those people who helped me.

A. Michael: FSC is getting better every year. The quality of students continues to improve, and I know that my money is being put to good use. It's a good investment.

Q. Who were the biggest influences in your leadership positions at Florida Southern?

A. Christine: As the SGA President, I was always impressed with Dr. Kerr and the Board of Trustees, in addition to [former Vice President] Rob Tate. Rob was always available to help when needed.

A. Michael: [Current Assistant Dean] Amanda Blount was amazing. She would always ask, "What can I do to help?" It was such a different way to look at things. [Longtime professor] Larry Ross took such a hands-on, engaged learning approach. Rob Tate, too... they all taught me about how to build strong relationships. 🍷



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CLASSES OF 1970, 1971, 1972, AND 1973

FOUNDER'S DAY CONVOCATION FEATURING OUR
87TH HONORARY CHANCELLOR AND *NEW YORK TIMES*
BESTSELLING AUTHOR, ARTHUR BROOKS, AND
HONORING OUR 50TH REUNION ALUMNI

ALL-ALUMNI LUNCH

COLLEGE UPDATE WITH PRESIDENT ANNE KERR

SPECIAL CAMPUS TOURS

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