Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

The Winter 2011 edition of Florida Tech TODAY is packed with important information and interesting stories concerning the Florida Tech family. We want to make sure that you have all the latest details from your university.

Our cover story profiles the critical work that Florida Tech professors and alumni are doing in the aftermath of the Gulf oil spill. This story goes to the heart of a key university commitment—to conduct innovative research that is applicable to improving the world for future generations.

Inside, you’ll also find updates on our football program, a recap of Homecoming, all the latest details from the Alumni Association and so much more. We hope you enjoy it!

I’m very fond of this quote: “Some people dream of success while others wake up and work hard at it.” The students and faculty at Florida Tech work hard every day to learn, to teach and to explore. Our alumni are doing the same—as the stories in this magazine demonstrate.

Thank you for all you do. My best wishes for every success in 2011!

Sincerely yours,

A.J. Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP
President

The December 2010 issue of Spacecoast Business, which featured 10 business leaders to watch in 2011, named Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese one of the 10. The story noted that "Florida Tech has remained a very flexible institution that can easily adjust to the changing needs of the community and the student population. Whether it be workforce training or advanced programs in specialty fields, Florida Tech is positioned to deliver."
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On the cover: Florida Tech professors and alumni wade into research for oil spill recovery. (Cover art by Judi Tintera)

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Students Excel in Honda CR-Z Media Challenge

Last fall, Andrew Cudmore’s Brand Management class entered the Honda CR-Z Media Challenge. The team’s proposal was one of 10 selected by Honda, allowing the students to advance to the implementation phase. They conducted a six-week, real-life PR campaign.

The goal of the campaign was to raise awareness of the newest addition to Honda’s fleet, the CR-Z Sport Hybrid, using social media. The team created a Facebook profile, YouTube, Twitter and blog accounts for their campaign “Thee Craze.” Facebook and YouTube have been the bulk of the team’s efforts, supported by in-person events the team sponsored. They held a food drive at the end of October in support of the Daily Bread, as well as organized a beach cleanup and a car wash with all donations benefiting the Sea Turtle Preservation Society. Additionally, they hosted a game show at the Panthereum, pitting students against professors to see who was the most knowledgeable about the CR-Z.

Although surprised by their success in the proposal phase, the team recognized the amazing opportunity. “Having the opportunity to design and implement a real-life PR campaign for Honda has been a priceless learning experience for me,” said Nadine Hanafi, team leader.

The CR-Z, nicknamed Carlita by the team, is the first car to combine hybrid technology with a more responsive drive. It even provides drivers with the first manual option on a hybrid. Additionally, it is one of the most affordable hybrids on the market, beginning at $19,200.

Team members include Hanafi, Randall Thompson and Sam Ormsby. A fourth classmate, graduate student Samantha Porter, served as the team’s adviser. Tina Kiguradze and Marcos Muller-Habig assisted during the implementation phase.

Honda CR-Z Media Challenge team members, from left, Randall Thompson, Nadine Hanafi and Sam Ormsby.

Early-Days Faculty Pass On

The university acknowledges a debt to faculty members here in the early days who, through long and productive tenure, helped make the university what it is today. Three such memorable faculty members from the department of physics and space sciences (PSS) are Rong-Shen Jin, Jay Burns and David Woodbridge. The passing of Jin, who was on the faculty from 1969 to 2006, was noted in a recent issue of Florida Tech TODAY.

Burns, who died in April 2008, was head of the department from 1975 to 1987. “He is largely responsible for establishing our department as a campus leader in research while preserving our already well-deserved reputation as a great teaching department,” said Terry Oswalt, department head. He was called a teacher “par excellence” in a 1977 Crimson story. After his retirement, Burns donated his personal collection of reference books to the department, where they are still in use by faculty and students today.

Woodbridge, who died in February 2010, was Florida Tech’s first research director and a former PSS department head. He joined the university in the late 1960s as a professor of physics. In 1970 Woodbridge won national attention when his experiments using radioactive cobalt-60 to purify water were publicized in Time magazine. He concluded his career as a professor in the College of Public Health at the University of South Florida.

“We are very grateful to these men for the foundations they laid,” said Oswalt.
Joe Dwyer, Ph.D., Professor, Physics and Space Sciences, “Gamma Rays from Thunderstorm,” Monte Carlo digital simulation, 2010

Art Met Science in ‘Analyze This’

Florida Tech joined MIT at the Brevard Art Museum last fall for Analyze This: Scientific Art from MIT Museum and Artistic Science from Florida Tech.

The exhibit reflected on the questions, “Can artists be scientific?” It also investigated the role creativity plays across diverse disciplines of aesthetic practice and scientific inquiry.

Among the Florida Tech pieces were the RALOS Blended Wing Body Plane—a senior design project; X-ray Observations of Lightning and Terrestrial Gamma-ray Flashes by Professor Joe Dwyer; digital models of swarm intelligence by Associate Professor Ronaldo Menezes; and human motion patterns by Associate Professor Eraldo Ribeiro.

Carla Funk, director of Florida Tech’s Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts, supported the exhibit.

Striking Grant

Joe Dwyer, Hamid Rassoul and Ningyu Liu represent Florida Tech in a $9.8 million grant shared with the University of Florida for lightning research. The four-year grant from the federal Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, will allow researchers to probe the origin of lightning using the International Center for Lightning Research Testing’s unique rocket-triggered capabilities. The center is at Camp Blanding, near Starke, Fla.

Bouquets Rain on Florida Tech

Last fall Florida Tech was named a Tier One Best National University by U.S. News & World Report. Among the 1,400 institutions ranked by the publication (leaving many more unranked), Florida Tech was #159 in a list of just 197 top universities across the nation.

That was certainly good news for the university, but there was more to come.

Florida Tech was named one of the nation’s top technological institutions in the Fiske Guide, placed among the top Southeastern colleges by Princeton Review, ranked by Forbes as one of America’s Best Colleges, rated the top private university in Florida by Washington Monthly College Rankings and on Parade Magazine’s A-List in Engineering.

The university also earned recognition in Payscale.com’s 2010–2011 College Salary Report. Bachelor’s degree graduates’ starting and midcareer salaries were ranked at the top of the list for private research universities in Florida. The graduates’ median starting salaries were listed at $50,700 and midcareer median salaries at $84,500 were in first place among Florida’s private research universities.

China Visit

In July, President Anthony J. Catanese led the state delegation to the Second Taiwan-Florida Higher Education Conference. He’s pictured here with Taiwan President Ma Ying-jeou. As chairman of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) and Florida Delegation chairman, Catanese signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the cooperation and partnership of Florida private universities with Taiwan private universities.

Continued on page 7
Stay Informed And Keep Connected

Alumni Online Community

Join our new and enhanced online experience and learn the latest news about your school and your classmates.

This is a social networking service that will provide numerous functions, enabling registered alumni to find other alums, e-mail them, network and build closer bonds.

JOIN TODAY and stay informed and keep connected.

www.fit.edu/alumni–click on “Online Community” Contact alumaffr@fit.edu if you have any questions.

An Evening of Hope III

You are warmly invited to attend

Friday, April 8, 2011
6–9 p.m.
Lotus Lake, the home of Ed and Cheryl Scott, Merritt Island, FL

Proceeds to benefit

An Evening of Hope III
Cocktail Reception
Live Auction

For more information on An Evening of Hope III, contact Colleen Middlebrooks (321) 674-8106 cmiddlebrooks@fit.edu

or visit http://research.fit.edu/scottcenter
Visitors View ‘Fabric of Life’

The Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts presented “The Fabric of Life: Textiles of Latin America” last September through December.

The colorful textiles from Mexico, Central America and South America included hand-painted Amazonian weavings, Panamanian molas and indigenous costumes from Ecuador and Guatemala. The pieces illustrated the vibrant traditions that have survived through centuries of modernization.

Carol Whitney of Titusville, exhibit contributor, with her brother Don Hendrick of Titusville, attend the opening reception for “Fabric of Life: Textiles of Latin America.” The show ran through Dec. 18, 2010, at the Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts.

Continued from page 5

Also, as Florida Tech president, Catanese signed an MOU for student and research partnerships with the Civil Aviation University of China in Tianjin; developed a partnership with Beihang University, Beijing, one of the top institutes of technology in China; and developed a program for recruiting top Chinese engineering and science students with five private companies. Joining Catanese on the trip were ICUF President Ed Moore and Florida Tech Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President T. Dwayne McCay.

New Minors, Ph.D.

Two new minors and a new doctoral program are in the offing at Florida Tech.

Beginning fall 2010, undergraduate students may minor in sustainability. Students in any major can complete credits for a minor in this increasingly critical discipline. The program director is Richard Aronson, College of Science.

A minor in nanoscience and nanotechnology will be available in summer 2011. Work is led by faculty members Jim Brenner, chemical engineering, and Kurt Winkelmann and Joel Olson, chemistry.

Also new is the Ph.D. in systems engineering degree, which will prepare students to pursue advanced research careers in the public or private sector.

A total of 48 credit hours are required for a Ph.D.-SE. Muzaffar Shaikh has more information.

Aces for Autism Tennis Nets $13,000-plus

The $13,000-plus netted at the Aces for Autism Kiwi Tennis Exhibition will help offset costs for families in social skills classes held at the Scott Center for Autism Treatment. The money, raised through entry fees and by a supporter who came forward to donate $1,000 for every ace achieved by the players, went to the Macom Scholarship fund.

An ace is a legal serve that is not returned because the server’s opponent never touches the ball with his or her racket.

The event, held at the Kiwi Tennis Club in Satellite Beach, pitted Florida Tech tennis coach

Fred Sutton and Ed Scott at the Kiwi Tennis Club
Bill Macom and Fred Sutton against Trustee Ed Scott and Glen Outlaw in a doubles match.

The exhibition kicked off Aces for Autism, which will last the entire 2010–2011 school year. During the year, Macom and the student team will provide support through tennis instruction to children with autism. Information on pledging is available at http://research.fit.edu/scottcenter.

Volunteers will hit the courts again in another exhibition and Pro-Am Tournament in September 2011.

Aces for Autism addresses the specific needs of children with autism and their families by providing coordinated recreation, which assists in social skills, physical movement and activity.

**Partnering in Ocean Education**

Rick Tankersley, with K–12 teachers, leads a workshop on the Gulf of Mexico, near Cedar Key, Fla. Here, he holds a horseshoe crab.

Florida Tech is among those taking the lead in a major step toward public understanding of the ocean with the new Center for Ocean Science Education Excellence (COSEE). Based at Indian River State College (IRSC) in Fort Pierce, the center is a collaboration of IRSC, Florida Tech, the Smithsonian Marine Station and the Ocean Research and Conservation Association (ORCA).

Richard Tankersley, Florida Tech professor of biological sciences, is the principal investigator for the university’s work in this $2.8 million National Science Foundation-funded project. He said, “The project will provide training for graduate students, post-docs and research scientists on how to communicate more effectively to non-scientific audiences about their science.” COSEE Florida’s approach is the following:

- Offering workshops across the state to engage ocean scientists and help them
$100,000 Grant to Help Cross-Cultural Sensitivity

Florida Tech, through its Institute for Cross Cultural Management, is supporting a Department of Defense mandate for all soldiers to have cross-cultural training for their international assignments. The institute received a $100,000 grant from the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) for work to better define and measure cross-cultural competency and to streamline cross-cultural training.

Institute for Cross Cultural Management director and principal investigator on the grant, Richard Griffith, recently initiated steps to internationalize the School of Psychology’s Industrial/Organizational Psychology program.

Working with personnel from nearby Patrick Air Force Base, the project team’s goal is cultural sensitivity, which is especially important for the military entering international situations. “Training can help people to become more behaviorally flexible and to get along more comfortably in foreign situations,” said Griffith.

Professors working with Griffith are Bill Gabrenya of the School of Psychology, and John Deaton of the College of Aeronautics.

effectively communicate their discoveries and the relevance of their groundbreaking research to non-scientific audiences
• Designing and disseminating a new ocean-based curriculum for college students planning to teach middle school science
• Creating an eight-region Florida Ocean Science Learning Network offering public programs that focus on regional and statewide challenges such as pollution in the Indian River Lagoon or the impact of ocean processes on dolphins, turtles and other animals

“Through their collaboration with ocean scientists, these future teachers will gain a better appreciation for the scientific process and will learn how to translate their experience and new knowledge into classroom activities,” said Tankersley.

Turkish Flight Students Add to International Mix

The College of Aeronautics and F.I.T. Aviation signed a five-year flight training contract with Turkish Airlines. Through the agreement, F.I.T. Aviation will annually train 100 Turkish pilots up to the FAA commercial pilot level.

In addition, F.I.T. Aviation will provide European Licensing ground school courses and examinations for these pilots. During their stay at Florida Tech, each Turkish student will fly over 250 hours and go through more than 1,300 hours of intensive ground school.

The first group of students, who average 28 to 29 years old, arrived in June and is staying on campus. All students are graduates of top colleges in Turkey, passed their English language proficiency exams and have worked in their field a few years. They also participated in a very rigorous selection process of the Turkish Airlines’ partner, the German airline Lufthansa.

Saudi National Day

On Sept. 23, Saudi students celebrated the Saudi National Day at Florida Tech. Students shared Saudi coffee and sweets along with history of Saudi Arabia with visitors in a tent set up near the Denius Student Center. Pictured from left are Ali Gumgumji; Muzaffar Shaikh, professor and head of the department of engineering systems; Fahad Alqasim; Fahad Alowaini; and Arlene Grant.

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Engineering Student’s Team Is #1 in Formula One

Mark Nanney, a freshman in mechanical engineering, is a member of the Unitus Racing team of six, primarily from Southeast High School in Bradenton, Fla., where Nanney graduated in 2010. The team captured the Formula One (F1) in Schools World Championship in September.

The team, one of 25 from 18 countries, took the coveted title at the Ngee Ann Polytechnic Institute in Singapore.

The students designed, manufactured and raced identical CO$_2$-powered balsawood race cars, gave an eight-minute verbal presentation, defended the manufacture of their cars, passed technical inspection, designed a pit display and prepared a 20-page portfolio detailing their work.

F1 in Schools is a global educational program that aims to change perceptions of engineering by creating a fun and exciting learning environment for young people ages 11 to 19.

DMES Mourns Two Beloved Faculty Members

Last fall, the department of marine and environmental systems lost two faculty members after long illnesses.

Elizabeth Irlandi-Hyatt passed away Oct. 20. Irlandi-Hyatt, an associate professor of oceanography and marine benthic ecologist, joined Florida Tech in 1998. She mentored numerous graduate and undergraduate students, and offered much to the field. The Florida Academy of Sciences will hold a special session in her honor during the 2011 annual meeting being held on campus March 11–12.

Lee Harris passed away Oct. 30. A DMES fixture for three decades, Harris was an associate professor of ocean engineering and avid surfer and diver. His research took him around the globe, and he was well respected both in the field and in the classroom.
Allen Appointed Vice President of Development

Dorothy “Dotty” Allen, former president and chief executive officer of the Wuesthoff Health System Foundation, has been appointed to the newly created position of vice president of development. Allen reports to Ken Stackpoole, senior vice president and chief development officer, and oversees day-to-day operations of the university’s fundraising efforts.

“We are pleased to have someone of Dotty’s experience and reputation to join our team,” Stackpoole said. “Florida Tech has ambitious development goals as we enhance our campus for learning and research. Having Dotty help us achieve those goals is an exciting prospect.”

Allen had been with the Wuesthoff Health System Foundation in Rockledge since January 2004, where she was responsible for a system-wide, comprehensive philanthropy program. While there, she executed a highly successful community networking and donor cultivation effort. “Philanthropy is about building relationships with people, seeking to understand their dreams and concerns, and offering ways to fulfill those dreams and address those concerns,” Allen said. “Florida Tech is an outstanding university with an excellent reputation. I look forward to helping it secure a brighter financial future.”

Allen is immediate past chair of the Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida and continues on the board as vice-chair for business development. She also serves on the boards of the Brevard Symphony Orchestra and Brevard Cultural Alliance. She has a high community profile, having been active in many civic, economic, social service and cultural organizations in her time in Brevard County.

Before moving to the Space Coast, Allen was vice president for development and public relations at The Forsyth Institute in Boston, Mass., an organization dedicated to research and education in oral and craniofacial biology and related biomedical sciences. She held similar leadership positions for Massachusetts health systems in the late 1980s and throughout the 1990s.

Allen holds a Bachelor of Arts from Norwich University and a certificate in management development from Northeastern University’s Graduate School of Business. After seven years as a Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE), she achieved the Fellows accreditation (FAHP) in 2001 in the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP), the highest credential conferred by the organization. She holds leadership positions in AHP, has chaired the AHP International Board of Certification for two years, and serves as an associate dean and faculty for the prestigious Institute for Healthcare Philanthropy at the University of Wisconsin. Contact Dotty at dallen@fit.edu.

Anchorage Campaign Buoyed by Crew Success

In a competitive 42-boat field, Florida Tech flew past its competition in the men’s collegiate eights race at Head of the Charles, capturing first place and establishing a new course record for the event last fall. By winning the event, the Panthers earned the honorary title “Head of the Charles.” The team went on to close out their fall season with two first-place finishes at the Florida Intercollegiate Rowing Association Fall Classic.

That success is garnering fresh attention for a renovation of the university’s three-acre Anchorage property at the mouth of Crane Creek on Melbourne Harbor. Plans are to restore the 4,400-square-foot
Roberts Annex, which housed so many oarsmen, and create a community, alumni and athletic office center, while maintaining the original exterior look; renovate the original two-car garage to become the Anchorage dock master’s office; and add a 16,250-square-foot rowing center to be located on the west side of the property. The current crew boathouse will be renovated for Florida Tech’s sailing club and championship concrete canoe team.

There will be opportunities to get involved and make these exciting renovations possible. For more information, call Ken Stackpoole at (321) 674-6400 or e-mail KenStackpoole@fit.edu.

Chopper Dropper Tickets on Sale Now

Now is the time to secure the winning tickets for the annual Chopper Dropper, which will take place March 18 at the Suntree Country Club. The event, in collaboration with Sporting Affair XIX, generates scholarship funds for deserving Florida Tech scholar-athletes and the new football program.

Exactly 2,000 numbered golf balls will be loaded into a helicopter and dropped near the Suntree Country Club clubhouse. The ball that lands closest to the pin/flag wins $25,000. Each golf ball sponsor of $50 has a chance at the top prize and other prizes and may attend the 5:30 p.m. cocktail reception, which includes beer, wine and a buffet. One person per ticket may attend the reception.

There are 12 additional cash prizes. The ball landing second closest to the pin wins $10,000; third closest wins $5,000. Also, 10 runner-up prizes of $1,000 each will be awarded, for a grand total of $50,000 to be given away. All proceeds from the event support scholarships for deserving Florida Tech student-athletes.

For more information or to buy your ticket, visit www.chopperdropper.com

Panther Football Prowling for Support

Panther football is continuing to build support in preparation for Fall 2013 competitive play. Building a team of committed supporters and raising the needed funds is the top priority.

In the works:
• A Founder’s Club for the first major contributors
• A fundraising luncheon
• Determination of practice and play facilities

Fundraising levels include the Founder’s Club for major gifts including those for facilities and field construction, the President’s Club for donors ranging from $10,000 up to $100,000, and the Grid Iron Club for all levels of support ranging from $25 to $9,999.

For more information on how you can support Panther football, call John Thomas at (321) 674-6220 or e-mail johnthomas@fit.edu.

Philanthropy Facts: Remember Your Will

If you have had a memorable experience as a Florida Tech alumnus/a, faculty member or friend, you may want to do something meaningful to express your pride of association. As a private nonprofit university, Florida Tech depends on the generous gifts from people like you to help fund its mission of providing high quality, life-transforming learning experiences for its students. Many donors have discovered that by taking the time to consider the best ways to structure gifts can help them make meaningful contributions while also meeting their own financial planning goals.

If you want to make a gift through your will, your attorney can prepare a simple provision or amendment at the time you make or update your will or trust. Gifts designated in wills and living trusts are popular because they are flexible, easy to arrange and may be changed according to your life circumstances. And if you wish to add meaning to your gift, you might choose to honor a special loved one, program or perhaps the Florida Tech college from which you graduated.

Once your gift is received, you will be added to our Legacy Society, a group of friends who have included the university in their estate plans, and have told us about it.

For more information on ways to use charitable gift planning to achieve your goals, call Beverly Sanders at (321) 674-8962 or e-mail her at sandersb@fit.edu.
from the FTAA President

From the desk of John A. Valente ‘76, ’81

The New Year is upon us, and I want to welcome the newest board members to the FTAA. The newly elected Executive Board is looking forward to a challenging and productive year, with the support of the board and the university staff. When looking to the future, it would be negligent to ignore the past. With that in mind, I must thank immediate past president Alan Prestwood, whose guidance and leadership were instrumental in advancing the FTAA during the past year. Along with Alan, past president Russ Ballagh was a key contributor to the success of the association in 2010.

The future for the alumni association continues to look bright, due to the growth of the university in size and recognition. As President Anthony J. Catanese pointed out in his address to the alumni during the Homecoming 2010 Awards Banquet, Florida Tech was named a Tier 1 Best National University among nearly 200 colleges and universities according to U.S. News & World Report and is ranked as one of the best colleges in the Southeast by The Princeton Review. The university continues to attract the best students not only to the brick and mortar campus, but to our virtual campus as well. In the not too distant future, the number of remote students receiving degrees from Florida Tech without ever setting foot on campus will equal those receiving their degrees in what we now consider the traditional way. How we address those students may well shape the course of the FTAA. We face the challenge of bringing that same “family” experience we had as on-campus students to those online, and helping them to feel a part of the alumni association from the moment they sign up. Communicating with our online and on-campus students will be an exciting challenge for the board in the coming year.

In closing, I welcome ALL ALUMNI to sign in to Facebook and join the Alumni Association. Our goal is to provide you, the alumni, with information and services which bring YOU value and to further the participation of the alumni in the activities of the university. JOIN us on Facebook, JOIN the Online Alumni Community, JOIN your local Alumni Chapter (or volunteer to START ONE). GET INVOLVED!

Flag Goes to War

The school spirit of Lt. Col. Anders Bergmann ’84, ’84, ’85, led him to bring the Florida Tech flag on five Air Force combat missions in Afghanistan, at last count, including Sept. 11. He has also flown it on nine of the long flights to Afghanistan from Meridian, Miss., where mission qualification training takes place.

An airman through and through, Bergmann has three bachelor’s degrees from the university; they’re in air commerce/flight technology, aviation management, and air commerce/transportation technology. He recently redeployed to the U.S., and last fall, he presented the flag to President Anthony J. Catanese.
Alumnus McAfee Flies Fixed-Wing for Army

Major Ryan McAfee ’97 had his “ducks in a row” to achieve his dream of becoming a U.S. Army aviator. He earned his Florida Tech degree in aeronautical science with flight while attending R.O.T.C. and was commissioned as a second lieutenant upon graduation. And he’s been flying Army airplanes ever since.

“This is extremely unusual in the Army,” said Mitchel Mendelson, recruiter for Florida Tech Army R.O.T.C. “For most Army aviators, helicopters are the main option because flying fixed-wing is very competitive. The Air Force and the Navy have most of the planes.”

McAfee was a step ahead of his peers in the Aviation Officer Basic Course when he graduated because not only was he already a pilot, he was also an instructor.

“When I came in, it was clear from my experience I knew what I wanted and I had a track record,” said McAfee.

And when he began his Army flight career, he said there were a few other guys from Florida Tech in the Army fixed-wing community. “Since then, I have seen a bunch of Florida Tech grads selected,” he added.

“It appears if you have Florida Tech on your résumé, the chance of flying Army airplanes are considerably enhanced. They know you have a good solid degree and will do well in flight school,” said McAfee.

McAfee flew manned missions and controlled unmanned missions from the ground in Iraq, and has flown intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance missions around the world. He’s now “taking a breather” at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., to study for a master’s degree in procurement and acquisition. The advanced degree will put him in line for his next promotion.

“I’ve been in 13 years—much longer than I thought I would stay. It’s the job satisfaction that keeps me going,” said McAfee.

For his next assignment, McAfee has been selected to command the U.S. Army Priority Air Transport (USAPAT) unit at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii, where he will fly Gulfstream G-IVs.

For tips from McAfee on how to plan a successful Army aviation career, contact him at ryan.mcafee@us.army.mil.

Press in Dubai

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) issued a news release about President Anthony J. Catanese, Chief Operating Officer T. Dwayne McCay and Alumni Association Executive Director Bino Campanini meeting with UAE dignitaries from the Dubai Early Childhood Development Center (DECDC). The meeting explored areas of cooperation in tackling the challenges that confront children with disabilities.

“The expertise and capabilities of the university’s Scott Center for Autism Treatment will provide the UAE center with the leverage to enhance its training procedures in several schools and nurseries in Dubai,” read the release.

“We are exploring opportunities for solid collaboration with Florida Tech that will enhance our service standards and help achieve our mandate of providing the highest levels of care for children with disabilities and helping them to include effectively into society,” said Dr. Bushra Al Mulla, DECDC director.

The DECDC will present a paper at the Annual Disability Conference in Florida and will further explore future joint ventures with Florida Tech.
In Afghanistan

Hayden Brown ’10 completed his online bachelor’s degree in computer information systems while working in Afghanistan as a technical expert in information collaboration systems. He’s part of a communications task force based at U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Fla. Here, he’s pictured standing atop one of the highest points in Kabul.

Brown expressed gratitude to Jarin Eisenberg, program coordinator, and Melshonda Buchanan, student services representative, Online CIS Program, Nathan M. Bisk College of Business, in an e-mail last fall: “I appreciate the help in answering my many questions … I’ve had over the course of completing my classes. It was quite a challenge completing my degree while overseas and both of you helped me greatly in keeping me steered in the right direction.”

Dallas Pikes (Pi Kappa Alpha)
Still Ramping It Up

John McLellan ’73, Michael Fladmark ’73, Chip (Henry) Heflich ’73 and Joe Zinser are at it again—continuing their volunteer work with the Texas Ramp Project. This summer, Ken Stackpoole, Ph.D., senior vice president and chief development officer, joined the brothers on a build to equip a wheelchair-bound Dallas resident with a ramp to his home.
1) Todd West ’95 and wife Stacey enjoy the evening together with other alumni and friends. 2) Dave Atkinson ’00, ’02 M.B.A., and Bino Campanini ’90, ’92 M.B.A., executive director of alumni association, greet guests at a local pub the night before the picnic. 3) The traditional picnic, held annually at Lake Accotink Park, drew area alumni, their families, and both current and prospective students. Here, Tom Barlow ’96, ’98 M.S., holds panther cub Keiran for the camera. 4) Recent grad Joseph Pindell ’10 M.S. receives a warm greeting from Bino Campanini. 5) Alumna Katherine Rowe ’09 and student Andrew Colson enjoy the sunny day at the park.

**Florida Airports Council (FAC)**

Bino Campanini (far right) was on hand following the Florida Airports Council meeting for happy hour at the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and visited with College of Aeronautics students Nicole Maillet and Dan Pruim, Bob Ball ’74 and Lisa Waters ’84.
1) President Catanese meets with His Highness Sheikh Nayhan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister for Higher Education and Scientific Research, UAE. 2) Tayeb A. Kamali, Vice Chancellor, Higher Colleges of Technology, and President Catanese enjoy a coffee break. 3) From left: Stephanie Enstice, associate director, international admission; Professor Muzaffar Shaikh, associate provost for academic outreach; Chief Operating Officer T. Dwayne McCay; Faisal Mohamed Al Ali, scholarship department head, CEO office, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company; and President Catanese. 4) The Florida Tech delegation visits with Harris Abu Dhabi officials. 5) Adel Al Ameri ’97 M.S., ’03 Ph.D., center, greets President Catanese. 6) Khaled Al Kamda, Director General, Community Development Authority of the Government of Dubai, center, introduces President Anthony J. Catanese to fellow alumni. 7) More than 40 alumni convened at the Shangri-La Hotel in Abu Dhabi with Florida Tech senior staff. 8) Standing in front of the tallest building in the world are Ibrahim Al Balooshi ’99 and Bino Campanini. Al Balooshi helped coordinate the alumni reception.
In 2011, we're planning Alumni Receptions in these locations:

- Washington, D.C.
- Seattle, WA
- San Francisco, CA
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1) President Anthony J. Catanese chats with Stuart Adler ’02 and guest Mara Willis at the trendy Riverside Hotel in Fort Lauderdale. 2) John Walenda ’90, wife Rhonda Walenda and Ken Stackpoole, senior vice president and chief development officer, smile for the camera. 3) Margaret Evelyn ’98 M.S. with Bino Campanini. 4) Florida Tech Trustee Erik Joh flanked by Megan Melling ’89, left, and Kathleen Wojtas ’87. 5) Wendy Miller ’89 and Bino Campanini get acquainted.
1) Tampa area alumni gathered in the Harbor Room at the University Club of Tampa overlooking the bay. This group found a great spot to share the view: Thomas Kennedy ’87 M.B.A.; Richard Sprague ’86, ’93 M.B.A.; Clay Tappan ’85, ’92 M.S., and his wife Soraya Tappan. 2) President Anthony J. Catanese visits with Richard Barnard ’66 and his wife Dianne Barnard. 3) Leida Alicea ’85 M.B.A. and Gary Wantland ’76 get acquainted. 4) Michael Capco ’85 M.S. and his wife Connie enjoy the evening. 5) Florida Tech Trustee Steven Freeman ’90, ’92 M.B.A., Bino Campanini and Joel Stephens ’93 pose for the camera. 6) Steven Freeman has a warm greeting for Eugene Cucchiara ’69. Joining them is Mathew Schabath ’98.
1) President Anthony J. Catanese and development officer Gretchen Sauerman, left, greet Edward Cheng '95 M.S. and his wife Martha at the Fontainebleau Miami Beach reception. 2) Bino Campanini visits with Coleen Jackson '01. 3) Ken Stackpoole, left, and Bino Campanini, right, flank Joe Lynn '67 M.S. 4) Craig Milan '80, president of Royal Celebrity Tours, and Gretchen Sauerman are framed here by a spectacular view from his office in the Royal Caribbean Building overlooking Biscayne Bay.

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Blue skies and bright sunshine brought out the crowds for the outdoor events!
The dedication of a new eight-man rowing shell, named in honor of President Anthony J. Catanese, took place during the homecoming festivities. President Catanese christened the vessel with a champagne soak before the men’s varsity eight launched the new shell on the water.

The Alumni Association’s Outstanding Alumni Award winners were, from left, Sungjin Park, William “Randy” Muns, Alexis Loo, Gordon Patterson, Svafa Grönfeldt, Milton Garces and David Brock.
When David Iodice began his undergraduate work back in the late 1970s, he had no idea that he would go on to earn a total of six academic degrees from Florida Tech.

With two bachelor’s degrees, three master’s degrees, and a Ph.D., some might incorrectly assume he was a “professional student.” In fact, Iodice has been working in the aerospace industry since receiving his undergraduate degrees in 1981. He credits the university’s student-centric approach for allowing him to continue his studies while working full time.

“Looking back, I’m still convinced that smaller class sizes was key to my academic success,” said Iodice. “At big schools, one could just hide in the mass of the student body. At Florida Tech, you can establish a more personal relationship with the instructors. Florida Tech provided me the opportunity to expand beyond the normal course work by making the faculty more accessible.”

So what Florida Tech degrees has the unofficial record-holder earned? A bachelor’s in space science and a bachelor’s in physics; an M.B.A. earned while working at Rockwell International; a master’s in computer science at the Kennedy Space Center campus; and a master’s and Ph.D. in operations research while working at Harris Corp.

Now employed by Northrop Grumman, Iodice recently visited campus again as a judge in the Northrop Grumman Engineering and Science Student Design Showcase.

“I hadn’t been back on campus for a number of years and the changes I saw were just awesome,” he said. “The Florida Tech campus is morphing into what one would expect of a world-class university.”

During the showcase, Iodice’s interaction with the students reinforced his confidence in his alma mater. “It was obvious that the intimate educational experience still thrived here,” he said. “Several professors came through the showcase, and from a distance, I saw that ‘bond’ that I remembered as a student. I was left filled with positive energy—thanks not only to the students, but the staff who organized the event.”

As a high school student in New England, Iodice learned about Florida Tech during a college fair. “Living in Connecticut, and the fair being in late fall when the skies are gray, Florida seemed like a nice place to go to college,” Iodice joked. “One of my passions at the time was orbital mechanics, and there were only two schools I could find at the time that offered undergraduate degrees in orbital mechanics.”

After a detour during a family visit to Disney World that year, the campus visit sealed the deal. “Every professor we met was happy and enthusiastic about showing us all Florida Tech had to offer. Class sizes were small, and we saw a lot of interaction between students and professors as we toured around. I knew then that the smaller school was where I wanted to be.”

His six degrees don’t equal separation from a personal life, though. Iodice, his wife Leslie, their two children Sedona and Keelan, and a “menagerie” of pets live in the Melbourne area. Even with a busy schedule of working and attending night school, he still finds time for volleyball, soccer and helping his children’s Odyssey of the Mind teams at school. He also plans to continue to be a judge in future student showcases at Florida Tech. “It was an amazing experience,” he said.

Gretchen Sauerman

“The Florida Tech campus is morphing into what one would expect of a world-class university.”
“Looking back, I’m still convinced that smaller class sizes was key to my academic success.”

David Iodice
It’s a tale of the unexpected, an unforeseen adventure of science, law, creativity and personal triumph ... and maybe a dead body or two. You might call Bob Haines an investigator—whose medium has evolved from science to law to the Cuban mafia in 1966 Key West.

Luck of the Draw

Haines left Florida Tech in 1978 with a bachelor’s degree in biology and returned to his roots in the D.C. area. The budding scientist took the first job he could find, as a clerk in a patent law office, and his career path took a 180-degree turn. Though the position drew on his technical expertise, his inquiries became based in the laws of the land, rather than the laws of nature. Then, at the behest of his employer, Haines went to law school ... and “much to [his] surprise,” he graduated.

“I never considered being a lawyer,” he said. “It was the furthest thing from my mind. I just kind of fell into it.”

In a perfectly penned bit of foreshadowing, this career twist of fate would parallel the unexpected ease with which he stumbled upon his next endeavor 32 years later—writing a mystery novel.

The Tale of the Tale

Extra free time, a casual conversation about pirate treasure and some gentle encouragement from his family ignited the storyteller in Haines. When the patent attorney sat down at his computer in the summer of 2009, he surprised even himself with what followed.

“It just started coming out,” he said. “I didn’t plan to do it. It just started coming out, and before I knew it, I had three chapters. Good god, what the heck am I doing? But by then, I was hooked. I wanted to know what was going to happen. How would the story end?”

Then, while half-heartedly contemplating attending a writing workshop, Haines received an e-mail from his alma mater announcing the second annual Creative Writing Institute.

“F.I.T. ... creative writing ... since when?” he thought. “And then I thought, hey, it’s F.I.T., I could go back! It would be a good excuse to see the old place again.”

He enrolled in three sessions and even reserved a residence hall room for his week-long return to his old stomping ground. And when he arrived on campus again after 32 years, “Wow!”
Haines looks back fondly on his time in Wood Hall and Southgate, Friday nights in The Rat and his studies, yet he is impressed with the change and growth he sees on campus. Gaining valuable writing tips at the CWI is also a plus.

“I’ve learned there is no right way to write. There’s also no wrong way. Everybody’s different,” he said. “Right now, I am kind of stream-of-consciousness. I started at the beginning, and I’m working my way through the story as it develops.”

So Who Done It?

While the author is coy about prematurely revealing too many secrets of his masterpiece, he will tell you it is a murder-mystery, set in 1966 Key West, involving missing mob money and a cast of characters that includes a police lieutenant, a reporter, a mob boss and his two henchmen.

“I was just going to write a beach-read murder-mystery. Police procedural. You’ve got a dead body and who killed him? Why? Let’s find the guy and put him in jail kind of thing,” said Haines. “But it’s become more than that. It’s developing some other tendrils, kind of like a vine. Issues of family and belonging are coming into it, which I hadn’t expected.”

From the original inspiration of pirate gold, the story now draws on historical aspects of Batista-era Cuba, organized crime and the Cuban revolution.

“It went from an initial thought of one thing to something completely different and from that is kind of developing into something even a little different again,” he said.

Overall, Haines describes his experience as an adventure.

“It’s something different than what I normally do. It’s interesting. It’s fun. And you don’t need a lot of tools to write.”

He hopes to complete his story line shortly, but the full timeframe for revision and publishing ... who knows?

In the meantime, he already has preliminary chapters started for a sequel and a bit of dialogue prepared for another story that could evolve into a screenplay.

“I’ve surprised myself. I never thought of myself as a writer or as a particularly creative individual,” he said. “It’s a journey. So we’ll see where it goes. And, if I can do it, anybody can do it.”

Christena Callahan
“Clearly we need to be prepared for the next catastrophic event where humankind and nature meet in our precious coastal ocean environment.”
—George Maul, head of the department of marine and environmental systems

Research in Recovery:
Florida Tech Tackles Oil Spill Aftermath
Though it no longer claims the world’s rapt attention, the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill continues to grab scientists’ notice, including that of alumni and faculty. Many, through their research into its environmental effects, remain important players in the spill’s aftermath.

For Joe Mullin ’73, an oceanographic technology graduate, the oil spill remains front and center every day. For 20 years he has been program manager of the Oil Spill Response Research Program (OSRR) for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Regulation and Enforcement. This makes him key to developing research priorities for oil spill response and managing contractual scientific research.
Many of the containment booms and skimmers used in the BP spill response went through trials at his program’s test center in Ohmsett, N.J.—research that paid off.

“Research demonstrated that changing the surface pattern of the drum improved recovery efficiency by more than 200 percent,” said Mullin.

Over the years, BOEM has conducted 15 major chemical dispersant research projects at the Ohmsett facility. Research results led to operational decisions on dispersants as a countermeasure for the Deepwater Horizon incident. The facility is also the primary training site for oil spill response workers from state and federal agencies, private industry and foreign countries.

“In short, our major focus is to improve the knowledge and technologies used to detect, contain and clean up oil spills that may occur on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf,” said Mullin.

More information about the OSRR program is available at www.boemre.gov/taroilspills.

Another ocean technology graduate with oil spill aftermath work before him is Mark Bushnell ’78. A NOAA senior oceanographer in Chesapeake, Va., for the past 31-plus years, he joined Tellus Applied Sciences of Williamsburg, Va., as a senior oceanographer last spring.

His company, which specializes in scientific and technical engineering, is a subcontractor for water quality evaluations and sediment coring in the Gulf of Mexico. The coring data goes to NOAA for analysis.

“It’s important that water quality observations continue when drilling resumes and, for the future, we have to find better ways to track the subsurface oil plume,” said Bushnell.

“There are well-defended techniques, using sensors, to find black smokers—mineral-rich undersea volcanic thermal plumes—which might well work for oil plumes. We still have a lot to learn about oil spills.”

Last October, Bushnell’s company hired Eric Aronchick ’10, who earned his bachelor’s degree in coastal zone management. This adds another alumnus to the post-BP spill effort.

Chair of Aronchick’s Florida Tech home base, the department of marine and environmental systems (DMES), is George Maul. As a noted ocean scientist and expert on currents, he was frequently contacted last spring by media throughout the country for his word on where the oil spill might flow. His opinion piece on the need for an ocean observing system was published by the Vero Beach Press-Journal.

“It’s important that water quality observations continue when drilling resumes and, for the future, we have to find better ways to track the subsurface oil plume.”

Mark Bushnell ’78
He wrote: “Oil entering the ocean at 5,000 feet is largely unmeasured by the present system of satellites, buoys and ships—hence the need for a structured and sustained coastal ocean observing system.

“A viable coastal ocean observing and forecasting system must be a partnership of industry, government and academia, prioritized for the public good and the health of marine ecosystems—an economic engine that will provide safe food and outdoor enjoyment for generations to come.”

The spill looms large on the radar screen of the Florida Institute of Oceanography (FIO), which in August earned an award from BP of $10 million for research. Florida Tech is a key player in one of these funded projects and, in a second, a Florida Tech professor is the principal in research managed solely by the university. Only 27 projects were funded by the FIO out of 233 proposals.

Charles Bostater, DMES associate professor, is in the thick of oil spill research. He’s on a team with two other universities and NOAA in a BP/FIO-funded project involving mapping for forecasting and mitigation.

They’re using 4-D remote sensing to assess broad threats to Florida coastal ecosystems and those of adjacent states. The project combines satellite and airborne observations collected by remote sensing and contaminant measurements made from aboard ships.

“These assessments will help target coastal areas for the high spatial resolution digital imaging and mapping to be conducted using airborne cameras. Our ongoing historical satellite time series studies, from 1993 to the present, provide a context for assessing change,” said Bostater.

The team’s reports will build on mapping tools generated since the blowout incident.

“This project will evaluate the strategies different experts have used for manual image interpretation. We expect this will lead to large-scale subsurface oil detection. It should also help us to understand the impact of the contaminants along the coasts of the Gulf and Atlantic states and beyond, and help assess environmental impacts and plan mitigation strategies,” added Bostater.

Richard Aronson, head of the department of biological sciences, is solely in charge of a BP/FIO-funded project closer to land. He’s examining the spill’s effects on the animal communities that inhabit the highly productive salt marshes and submerged aquatic vegetation of Florida and Alabama.

“I’ll measure the direct and indirect impacts and explore the effects of oil flow on the spawning stocks of species that rely on marshes for nursery habitat,” he said.

His project addresses a key goal of the BP/FIO program, which is to conduct baseline studies and impact assessments to provide the basis for long-term monitoring.

Aronson will compare assemblages of fish and mobile invertebrates at six sites in Florida and Alabama—some impacted by the oil spill and some not.

“This is an important first step in longer-term studies of this unprecedented large-scale environmental disturbance,” said Aronson.
Each year we honor trustees, alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, corporations, foundations and other friends in the Honor Roll of Donors. This year’s Honor Roll of Donors consists of those who supported the university between May 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010. We salute all who remembered Florida Tech during the 2010 fiscal year.
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Sons and daughters of Florida Tech alumni, enrolling in a full-time undergraduate program at Florida Tech, are eligible for a $2,500 grant on top of the alumni endorsement grant. This award is renewable for up to four years.

These awards are given in addition to any merit scholarship earned by the student. For more information and the appropriate forms, go to: http://alumni.fit.edu/benefits or www.fit.edu/ugrad/financial_aid/scholarships.php

A simple form that takes 5 minutes to complete can be worth more than $4,000 to a worthy student.
JESSE R. CROSS:

Alumnus Leads by Example

One thing Brig. Gen. Jesse R. Cross ’92 M.S. is good at is multitasking. While continuing as commandant of the Quartermaster School at Fort Lee, Va., the 52-year-old Cross also took on the daunting task of leading the entire Sustainment Center of Excellence and its five subordinate schools during summer 2010.

What he’s not so good at is playing a round of golf during a team-building exercise on a hot August day while doing a phone interview for a Florida Tech TODAY story. Pausing to hit balls in the course of the conversation, he lost them. “You owe me two balls!” he laughingly told the reporter.

But, he makes it clear his ego isn’t in his golf game. “It’s just for fun. I try not to lose more than 12 balls each time,” he joked.

Because his other attributes are many and outstanding, he earned the responsibility to lead the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM)—also known as the Army’s lifeblood of sustainment, the Sustainment Center of Excellence (SCoE)—for three months last year. Taking over from Maj. Gen. James E. Chambers, he filled a gap until Maj. Gen. James L. Hodge arrived in late September. The SCoE is a world-class leader development, training and capabilities development organization, responsible for the education of more than 112,000 students annually.

For decades, Fort Lee was known as the “Home of the Quartermaster,” but the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure recommendations forever changed the landscape of the post. Now, in addition to being home to the Combined Arms Support Command and the Quartermaster School, Fort Lee is the Sustainment Center of Excellence, which consolidates all logistics training schools under one roof.

Last fall, finishing his successful stint as top leader at Ft. Lee, Cross was back at being “just” Quartermaster Center and School Commandant,

“I believe that if you treat people with dignity and respect, they can learn and improve, and have fun, too.”

Brig. Gen. Jesse R. Cross
training the military on how to fuel, supply, deliver and feed soldiers around the world. Cross embraces change. He readily picked up the challenge of becoming CASCOM and SCoE commanding general and as readily relinquished the additional duty when the time came.

“There’s nothing wrong with change, processes become stagnant without it. You just need to get buy-in from your people and make sure they have the training they need,” he said.

“People” is an operative word for Cross. He is known as a “people person” who likes to “manage by walking around.”

Cross values his Florida Tech degree for helping him learn how to manage and run an effective organization. “Living the day-to-day operations, however, made the lessons sink in,” he added.

His management philosophy focuses on helping his people succeed.

“I believe that if you treat people with dignity and respect, they can learn and improve, and have fun, too. Either people can do their job or they get the training they need to do it.”

In school he was, by all accounts, a stand-out athlete. He was successful in wrestling, track and field, and football.

In fact, he was a football star who ignored an application to West Point to attend West Texas State on a football scholarship.

Though he was scouted, it wasn’t to be. So, he began his Army career at Fort Sill.

Today, three of the four Cross children also follow a military path. The fourth child, James, is just 14. Booker is a staff sergeant; daughter Michelle is in the Air Force Reserves and daughter Janelle is married to an Army lieutenant. Cross’s wife Cheryl runs the Fort Lee thrift store.

When it’s time to relax, Cross values family time, likes to hunt and plays the saxophone.

Does he play football for fun? “Not anymore. That hurts now,” he laughed.

As for golf, he must be out on the course just for the fresh air and conversation, relishing the company of the people he leads.

Karen Rhine

Alumni Spotlight

**Kizzy Parks ‘03 M.S., ’07 Ph.D. industrial/organizational psychology**

Describe yourself in three words: considerate, gregarious and self-determined

Describe your work: I provide human capital consulting and research-based solutions that are appropriate for implementation in diverse organizations. Specifically, I provide assessment and measurement services to track an organization’s diversity and inclusion process and progress. I also offer customized solutions to appraise the organizational climate of a workforce.

Favorite Florida Tech memory: The growth and transformation of the campus

Little known fact: I love reality TV shows.

Notable achievement: Selected for Best Paper Proceedings, 2010 Academy of Management Annual Conference

Hobbies: working out, reading and traveling

**Marvin Diaz ’83, aviation management/flight technology**

Describe your work: I am a 22-year veteran of American Airlines. Earlier this year, I was made responsible for the airline’s regional jet operations in Mexico—from the airports in which we operate to our sales force throughout the country. Prior to my current job, and for 10 years, I was chief financial officer of American’s operations to 60 airports in 34 Caribbean/Latin American countries.

Favorite Florida Tech memory: Crossing the wooden bridge over Crane Creek every morning between Shaw Hall where I lived and the Denius Student Center. I also enjoyed very much seeing the vast fleet of Piper 140s on the F.I.T Aviation flight line.

Notable achievement: I’m proud of everything we have done at American Airlines after 9/11 to ensure our survival. All 85,000 of us pulled together to narrowly avoid bankruptcy in 2003, and here we are in 2010 all of us working hard so that American is around for another 80 years.

Hobbies: Mild aerobatics in my 1979 Bellanca Citabria. Once on the ground, I spend way too much time tinkering with my old 1967 Pontiac Firebird that I bought in my freshman year at Florida Tech.
Without him, the E-SIGN act of 2000, which gave legal recognition to electronic signatures and online contracts (among other things), may not have come to pass. At the very least, it would be a wholly different law. We could be living today without the convenience of PayPal, the satisfaction of instantaneous online banking or the rush of one-click bargain buying on Cyber Monday.

Advocate

During the latter half of the ‘90s, Kaner was a California attorney whose practice was mainly focused on drafting contracts and resolving disputes for authors and software developers. He also committed his expertise and passion to extensive public interest work, playing a large part in drafting the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (which would later be federalized as E-SIGN).

“I’m one of the primary reasons the provisions of the act are technologically neutral,” explains Kaner, whose previous experience as a software engineer and test manager gave him unique insight into the ever-evolving cyberworld of ones and zeros and how it might be regulated. “I emphasized to non-technical legislators that tying the bill to the state-of-the-art technology at the time would likely make it obsolete in a few years.”

Kaner also saw to it that the act provided for the same benefits and consumer protections online that were afforded people doing business on paper.

“Much of my professional life has been focused on translating information from one group to another, on bridging knowledge gaps and helping people see things in new ways,” says Kaner, alluding to occupations both past and present.

Educator

Today, a professor of software engineering at Florida Tech, Kaner’s focus is on helping students understand that a computer program is not merely, as Webster’s dictionary would have it, “a sequence of coded instructions that can be inserted into a mechanism, such as a computer.”

“A computer program is a communication among people that happens to be in a language that a machine can execute, and that’s how I teach my students to think about software engineering,” he says. “When you understand this concept, it changes the way you design and evaluate programs, and it makes you a more effective engineer.”

Though currently inactive as an attorney, Kaner is still very much an advocate for simpler, smarter approaches to real-world problems. But now instead of fighting for consumer protections in far-reaching cyber legislation, he’s working toward improving—worldwide—the quality and availability of software testing education. At Florida Tech, Kaner has made research and teaching in the field his top priorities.
Faculty Spotlight

**Rich Griffith**, Professor, Industrial/Organizational Psychology

*Years at Florida Tech:* 13  
*Teaches:* Intro to I/O, Applied Research Methods, Test & Measurements, Multivariate Statistics  
*Research interests:* Applicant Faking Behavior  
*Hobbies:* I play guitar in a punk-surf band.

*What attracted you to your field:* I/O psychology is all about problem solving. I am always amazed that when people are faced with problems they become paralyzed. Life throws lots of intellectual puzzles at you, and our field has developed a methodology to solve those problems.

*Favorite thing about Florida Tech:* The people. Florida Tech is a cool place to work.

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**Martha Sale**, Associate Professor, Nathan M. Bisk College of Business

*Years at Florida Tech:* 3  
*Teaches:* Accounting  
*Research interests:* Costing issues, especially the impact on product or service cost of changes in technology or advances in manufacturing and management practices

*Notable achievement:* Development and publication of the measurement scale that is widely used to measure the degree to which companies practice Theory of Constraints and the first published research empirically measuring the impact of the practice of Theory of Constraints on actual companies.

*Describe your teaching style and/or teaching philosophy:* Rather than “teaching accounting,” I hope to help the student “learn accounting.” As anyone who has taken an accounting course knows and everyone else can well imagine, it is hard to make accounting fun, but I continue to try by looking for new ways to present the material and practice the concepts.

*Favorite thing about Florida Tech:* I love the environment at Florida Tech.

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Read more about Drs. Griffith and Sale at http://today.fit.edu
Among the new faces on campus this year are three young, experienced and energetic coaches who were named to their current post by athletic director Bill Jurgens.

Erin Lee was introduced as the new volleyball coach in spring 2010. She arrived following stints as an assistant at Samford University and Coastal Carolina. During her tenure in Carolina, she helped guide her team to a Big South Conference regular season co-championship, a conference tournament championship and an NCAA postseason bid.

Her coaching success came after a four-year career at the University of Alabama. She led the Crimson Tide to a Southeastern Conference Western Division Championship and was a three-time SEC All-Academic Team honoree and the league’s Scholar Athlete of the Year as a senior.

“I am extremely excited about the opportunity to lead the Panther volleyball program to new heights,” said Lee. “Florida Tech’s combination of academic excellence, athletic tradition and location was an incredible draw for me.”

With men’s lacrosse slated to debut in spring 2012, Ryan McAleavey was added to the Tech family in August 2010. Over the next year, he will build the foundation of the lacrosse program and rely on some of his past experiences as a player and coach. As a standout attackman at Dowling College, he was awarded Division II All-America Honorable Mention honors his junior season.

Since he traded his stick for a clipboard, he has molded both new and young high school lacrosse programs into respected teams. At Notre Dame Catholic High School in Fairfield, Conn., his squads consistently improved. At St. John Vianney High School in Holmdel, N.J., he inherited a winless club and led them to five victories the next year.

“I want to thank Dr. Catanese, Brian Dailey and Bill Jurgens for this opportunity,” said McAleavey. “This is a dream for me and I’m very excited.”

Jurgens rounded out his coaching staff when he announced Chris Saltmarsh as the institution’s first full-time golf coach. In four seasons as the men’s and women’s coach at Northwood University, his teams combined for three National Championship invitations.

Before embarking on a coaching career, he was a four-year letterman at Walsh University. At Walsh, he earned NAIA All-American honors, all-conference each year and the league’s Player of the Year award in 2002.

“I’m very excited for the opportunity to coach here at Florida Tech,” said Saltmarsh. “The men’s and women’s programs are moving in the right direction and my goal as the first full-time head coach for both is to elevate the level of play of our student-athletes each year to be able to compete for championships.”

Stottler Passes
Rick Stottler, former Florida Tech men’s soccer coach and namesake of Stottler Soccer Field, passed away on Dec. 2 at Wuesthoff Hospital. He was 75. Stottler took the men’s soccer team to two National Championships in 1988 and 1991. He remained an advocate and benefactor to the university and will be greatly missed.
What’s New in Florida Tech Athletics

The 2010–11 school year brought many new things to Florida Tech’s athletic department—first and foremost the all new FloridaTechSports.com, the official home of Panther Athletics. The newly dynamic site was a three-month process, designed to help fans navigate easily from the top navigation bar.

This new site is intended to give the public a closer, in-depth look at the Panthers. It includes all new video content as well as integrated social media feeds.

In addition to the website, Florida Tech Athletics launched its new GameCentral platform, provided by Stretch Internet, a one-stop shop for live stats, audio and video (when available) all in one location. Another new online feature is the DigiPixArt Photo Store, offering online galleries of individual, team and action photos (as the respective seasons progress) available for purchase through the shopping cart feature. Proceeds help support Panther Athletics.

“After gathering input and feedback from several groups of students, staff and fans over the past several months, we began to put together an updated website that we feel brings fans even closer to everything that’s going on in Florida Tech Athletics,” said athletic communications director Rebecca Vick. “We are very proud to bring fans the new FloridaTechSports.com and hope they will find this site very easy to use. We welcome any comments as we continue to improve what we offer Panther fans.”

One thing fans may notice in the sport drop-down menus are several new teams that have been added to the mix, including men’s and women’s track and field, which is slated to begin competition this spring. Under the direction of associate athletic director and cross country coach Pete Mazzone, the Panthers will officially be appearing in track meets as soon as January 2011.

Finally, and certainly the most valuable tool of Florida Tech’s identity, is the introduction of an all new fierce Panther logo, unveiled Sept. 2 at halftime of the women’s soccer match versus Florida Memorial.

“Your mascot is how people think of you and how they associate with your teams,” said Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese. “We decided that Pete needed a facelift and now is the perfect time as we usher in a new era of Florida Tech Athletics.”

Tech’s teams have gone through several transitions over the 46-year history of the athletic program, first known as the Engineers in the early days and very briefly as the Falcons. The Panther was finally adopted as Florida Tech’s mascot in 1983 and it stuck, though various versions of the Panther emerged over the past 27 years.

“I am excited about the new Panther logo and how it lends itself to the many uses there are for promoting Florida Tech’s athletic teams,” said athletic director Bill Jurgens.

Rebecca Vick

Women’s Soccer Success!

The Florida Tech women’s soccer team earned its first-ever Sunshine State Conference Regular Season Co-Championship and advanced all the way to the NCAA Division II Final Four in 2010.
Steven and Aylin Maklansky welcomed daughter Ela on Sept. 30. Steven is president of the Brevard Art Museum.

1960s

Sydney Hill ’67 completed a cycling journey across the southern United States, traveling over 3,800 miles from San Diego, Calif., to Elizabeth City, N.C., raising more than $4,000 for the Shriners Hospital for Children. The trip took just over two months. He retired in 2006 after 32 years as a Colonel in the Air Force Reserves and 35 years of Navy Civil Service. His daughter is Caryn Hill McGraw ’01 M.S.

1980s

Tim Ling ’89 and wife Sue welcomed their second child, Isaac, in February 2010. Big brother Nicholas is 2 years old. Tim is the corporate environmental manager for Plaskolite in Columbus, Ohio, and Sue is a busy stay-at-home mom.

Miguel Adao ’89, wife Lyndie and two-year-old big sister Olivia welcomed Nicolas Martim in April 2010. Miguel is a marketing director at Hewlett-Packard in San Diego, Calif. Lyndie is an actress on sabbatical to be a full-time mom.

Todd Ratcliff ’89 earned a Ph.D. at UCLA after graduating from Florida Tech and now works at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). He helps spacecraft figure out where they need to go by determining and predicting the precise location of Earth in space. He has co-authored a science book The 50 Most Extreme Places in Our Solar System published by Harvard University Press.

1990s

Dick Cameron ’90 was named Engineer of the Year for 2009–2010 at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, Central Florida Section, annual Clearwater Conference. He is with Cargill Fertilizer. He resides in Jennings, Fla., with wife Teri and children Jennifer, Angel and Charlie.

Cynthia Lott ’94 M.S. was named Employee of the Year, Southeast District, for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Southeast District. She is a member of the District Dive Team and the unit dive safety officer.

Lisa Turocy ’94 and husband Ty welcomed their son Alexander William Turocy in May 2010. Lisa is a stay-at-home mom, involved in the Clemson Extension Master Gardener Program, and Ty is employed by Wareonearth Communications and also the Department of the Navy’s Information Systems Security Programs. The family resides in Summerville, S.C.

Dave Snyder ’95 M.S. shares a photo of his twin grandsons Mark and David. They are two years old, the children of his daughter and her husband, Erica and Mark Fraser. The Fraser family resides in Columbia, Md.

Justin Viezibckie ’95 and Stephanie have two daughters, Tatum, 3, and Kendall, 2. Justin is part of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary large whale disentanglement team in Hawaii. He can be reached at viezbicke@yahoo.com.

Kiara (Banks) Bianchi ’97 and husband Peter welcomed Cooper Lawrence in June 2009. The family lives in Mountain View, Hawaii.

Deborah (Strunk) Weiner ’99 M.S. has three daughters Isabella, 6, Sophia, 4, and Gabriella, 10 months.

2000s

Nicholas Callahan ’01 and Beth (Cioni) ’99 are parents to Tevin James, born October 2009. The family lives in Farmingdale, Maine. Nick is a project engineer for Great Lakes Dredge and Docks, and Beth is employed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

Deanne (Campbell) Powers ’02 and husband Francis Powers ’07 welcomed their first child, Piper Lynn in June 2010, in San Diego, Calif. Both parents are F.I.T. Aviation grads and self-employed. They plan to travel and fly together as a family, and build their daughter a Piper Cub to teach her to fly in. They can be reached at info@flyppa.com.

Eric Milnar ’02, wife Andrea, 4-year-old Elijah and 2 year-old Maveric welcomed Colton in June 2010. Eric is a flight planner...
Terence Kadlec ’04 married Deborah Hood ’06 in October 2009. He is consultant with Rikmus consulting Group in Houston, Texas.

Christena Callahan ’07 M.S., husband Chris and big brother Aidan welcomed Rowan Catherine on July 28, 2010. Christena is editor of Florida Tech TODAY.

Stephanie (Crow) Herndon ’07 and David Herndon ’08 welcomed daughter Bella Andromeda Herndon on April 29, 2010. David is an electrical engineer at Harris. Stephanie is a freelance graphic designer. Her website is www.stephanieherndon.com.

Patty (Hollowell) Bullion ’09 and husband Jason are proud parents of Evelyn Rose, 3, and Lucas, born April 2010. The family lives in Palm Bay, Fla.

Doreen Nally Johnston ’02 M.S., ’04 Psy.D., lost her fight with cancer in October 2010 and will be missed by many. Her husband Jack asked that instead of flowers to please send donations in any amount to the Dr. Doreen M. Johnston Memorial Research Fund: First Century Bank, P.O. Box 897, Wytheville, Va. 24382

Robert M. Osciak died on July 29, 2010, in Verona, N.J. He was a computer programmer with Outwater Hardware in Lincoln Park. He is survived by two daughters, his father, two brothers and one sister. Memorial donations to the Verona Rescue Squad would be appreciated.

H. Richard Haines ’97 M.B.A. lost a five-year battle with cancer in Utica, Mich., on Sept. 2, 2010. After 35 years of service, he retired from TACOM. He had a passion for music and sang with many choral groups. Survivors are his wife Janice, four sons and one daughter.

John Edwards ’79 M.S. passed away Sept. 3, 2010, in Melbourne, Fla., after a long illness. He retired from Harris Corporation in 1999 after 32 years. He is survived by his wife Selwyn, two daughters and five grandchildren. Donations in his memory may be made to Suntree United Methodist Church or Habitat for Humanity.

Gerald Howe ’86 M.B.A. succumbed to cancer in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Oct. 15, 2010. He is survived by Helen, his wife of 28 years, and one daughter. Donations in his memory may be made to Gulf Coast Oncology Foundation or Boley Centers Inc., both is St. Petersburg.

Ernest M. Lindley ’65 passed away on April 8, 2010. He was one of the first students of Brevard Engineering College. Lindley was an aerospace engineer with Lockheed, retiring after a 30-year career.

Martha P. Work passed away Nov. 17 at home in Indialantic. She was the wife of Ray Work, long-time teacher, administrator and friend of the university. Martha Work, an avid supporter of Florida Tech athletics, was inducted into Tech’s Sports Hall of Fame in 2003. Memorial donations may be made to Florida Tech Women’s Athletics, attn: Bill Jurgens, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901, or to the Advent Lutheran Church, Pipe Organ Fund, 7550 North Wickham Road, Melbourne, FL 32940.

Florida Tech TODAY remembers our friends killed in a routine training flight that crashed on take-off from Palm Beach International Airport on Nov. 11, 2010. The four individuals aboard the aircraft were (left to right):

**In Memoriam.**

**Calling all Panther Cubs!**

Congratulations on your new arrival! If you’ve recently welcomed a new Panther Cub to your family, contact us for your free infant T-shirt. Your only obligation is to send us a photo of your baby wearing the shirt—we will proudly display it in this section of Florida Tech TODAY.

E-mail hrosskam@fit.edu to receive your shirt.

Kristopher Joy Henegar, Florida Tech flight student due to graduate from the College of Aeronautics in December 2010

Dheni “Jenny” Teresa Frembling ’06, F.I.T. Aviation employee and instructor on the aircraft

Jordyn Leigh Agostini, Florida Tech student and F.I.T. Aviation flight instructor due to graduate from the College of Aeronautics in December 2010

Kyle Henegar ’08, Florida Tech employee

To view or share condolences, memories and pictures, visit http://memorial.fitaviation.com.

Kristopher, Jenny and Jordyn were awarded posthumous degrees at December 2010 Commencement exercises.
Q: You’ve been on the job for almost a year—how’s it going?

It is going very well and very busy. Alumni Affairs has sponsored 11 receptions/events around the country with one overseas in the UAE during this time, so it has been full steam ahead. The good news is we are seeing an increase in attendance and participation at our recent events, and they have provided me the opportunity to meet with many folks and get a good feel for the pulse of our alumni. I must say the feedback I have received from this outreach has been extremely positive. Of course, we would like to see more alumni attend our receptions as they are a great way for us to inform them of what is happening at Florida Tech, while offering them a chance to meet fellow alumni and reconnect with their alma mater. I would encourage everyone who receives an invite to a reception to attend. I can guarantee they will be pleased they did.

Q: How can alumni get more involved?

First and foremost, they should join the Florida Tech Alumni Association (FTAA). The FTAA is their association. It is made up of alumni; it is governed by an alumni board of directors; it is funded by alumni; and it exists to provide an independent and structured way for alumni to support their alma mater. This is one area where all alumni can make a difference. All alumni can join and make a positive contribution to Florida Tech. All private institutions have budget restrictions and so this is an avenue whereby our alumni can help fund the work of the alumni office and support the work we do with students, faculty, the community and, of course, our alumni (including ensuring they receive the Florida Tech TODAY magazine). If there is one message I would want to get to our alumni, it is simple … help sustain your alumni association.

Q: What are the benefits of being a member?

Aside from the altruistic benefit of supporting your alma mater, there is a host of benefits including discounts with national companies. In addition, members will have full access to our new online Net Community, which will offer our extensive database of alumni as well as career networking opportunities, access to a monthly e-newsletter and opportunities for discounts at university events including the Homecoming Banquet. Also, every member receives a tote bag emblazoned with the university name and seal.

Q: But are there other ways they can get involved?

Absolutely. Our alumni have a whole myriad of ways of supporting their school through their time, talent and treasure. I would say that top of the list is advocating for Florida Tech and helping recruit new freshmen to the university. The long-term success of the college remains in attracting the best and brightest high school seniors. I think we need to make sure all our alumni are aware of the Alumni Endorsement Grant and also the current status of Florida Tech as a Tier One university (U.S. News & World Report). Our alumni are our best advertisement, marketers, advocates and recruiters. Sometimes a simple phone call with a student or a meeting with a student and parent at your workplace makes the difference in them arriving here in Melbourne.

Q: Football is on the horizon for Florida Tech—what will that mean for alumni?

I won national championships in soccer here at Florida Tech in 1988 and 1991 but nothing will have the impact on the student body and our alumni as a football program in 2013. I am really excited about the opportunities it will provide for us to reconnect with and engage our alumni. I strongly believe that Homecoming 2013 will be the best attended and most exciting homecoming in our history. We will be able to build our events around the homecoming football game and generate a level of interest that we have not seen on campus.

Q: So things look positive in Alumni Affairs?

Absolutely, the university is growing in reputation and stature, our alumni base is now 45,000-plus strong and is successful and global in nature, and we continue to see the campus expand and develop … and of course Florida Tech Panther football kicks off in 2013!
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Alumni Receptions*

March  Seattle, Wash., TBD
April  Boston, Mass., 12
       New York, N.Y., 13
May   Huntsville, Ala., 12
       Philadelphia, Pa., 14
       Phoenix, Ariz., TBD

*For actual dates, as they are confirmed,
contact Melissa Klos at mklos@fit.edu.

EVENTS ON CAMPUS OR HOSTED BY CAMPUS COLLEGES, ORGANIZATIONS

Monthly

Jazz at the Panthereum
3–6 p.m., free, www.wfit.org
Feb. 27  Lorri Hafer Trio
March 27 Gerald Huff Trio
April 24 Ron Pirtle Quartet

February

17–18  Uncommon Threads
       http://411.fit.edu/threads
26     International Festival
       www.fit.edu/issss/international-fest.php

March

5       Annual Botanical Fest Plant and Garden Sale
       Exotics, palms, accessories and garden tours:
       sandersb@fit.edu
8–9     Sustainability 2011
       An international, interdisciplinary conference drawing noted
       speakers from around the world: lward@fit.edu

11–12  Florida Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting
       www.floridaacademyofsciences.org
18     Sporting Affair and Chopper Dropper
       www.chopperdropper.com

April

1       Northrop Grumman Engineering and Science
       Student Design Showcase
       Students show off their science and engineering projects
       Clemente Center for Sports and Recreation
8       Evening of Hope III
       Cocktail reception and live auction for the Scott Center for
       Autism Treatment
       Lotus Lake, home of Ed and Cheryl Scott, Merritt Island, Fla.
       Visit: http://research.fit.edu/scottcenter/evening_of_hope_2.php
8       Spring Showcase Concert**
       Patent Pending
13      Jazz Syndicate Combo**
15      Panther Jazz Big Band and Latin Percussion Concert**
       **http://cpla.fit.edu/ha-com/music

ONGOING EVENTS | HELD ON CAMPUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

For more information on music events: (321) 674-7320 or 674-7248
For Women’s Business Center events and classes: http://wbc.fit.edu

Show your school spirit,
and benefit Student Scholarships

To order your Florida Tech
specialty license plate
visit your local Florida DMV office.

DRIVE
with Panther Pride

A permanent recognition program for graduates,
students, parents and friends of the university.

Act Now!

Have a brick inscribed in honor of yourself or another special person,
in memory of someone not forgotten, or as a gift of encouragement
or congratulations for a current student or recent graduate.
Go to http://alumni.fit.edu/brickterrace to see the bricks already
inscribed and to http://alumni.fit.edu/brickterrace_form to download
the appropriate form for submission.

For questions or more information,
please contact ddeaton@fit.edu.
The men's varsity eight took the team's new shell, named in honor of President Anthony J. Catanese, for its first Florida voyage after the vessel's dedication during Homecoming.