Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

Welcome to the winter 2007 issue of Florida Tech TODAY. In this issue, we return to our roots by focusing on two alumnae who have reached the stars.

Two Florida Tech alumnae, Sunita Williams and Joan Higginbotham, flew into space during the December launch of the Space Shuttle Discovery. Williams is still in space as you read this, soaring around the globe inside the International Space Station. Our cover story focuses on how Florida Tech helped them in their own personal races to space.

Another Florida Tech astronaut, space sciences professor Sam Durrance, is focusing his mission closer to home these days. His work in the life sciences laboratory at the Kennedy Space Center is featured in this issue.

As you know, your university was founded by rocket scientists nearly 50 years ago. Today, we're welcoming a new generation of scientists and engineers, as children of our alumni are joining a wonderful family tradition. In this issue you’ll meet Pamela Nabors, her daughter Maggie Walsh and the Deffenbaugh family, and learn their stories of Panther pride.

On campus, we’ll say goodbye in this issue to Gary Wells, who after 34 years in the biological sciences department, 23 of those years as department head, has decided to retire. I think we all agree with his colleague, Julia Grimwade, when she says that people can’t imagine the department without him.

To ensure that this magazine is a true page-turner, we feature alumna author Sylvie Kurtz, a Panther who has been serving up pages of intrigue and romance for more than a decade.

Finally, this issue showcases the fun of last fall’s homecoming festivities, and the honor roll section allows us to thank all of you who gave to Florida Tech last year. Thanks to you, Jerome Keuper’s dream continues today in Melbourne, and the future is bright indeed.

Sincerely yours,

A.J. Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP
President
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Everyone loves a parade—especially those who attended Fall Homecoming 2006.

This issue’s cover: Astronauts Joan E. Higginbotham (left), STS-116 mission specialist, and Sunita L. Williams, Expedition 14 flight engineer, attired in training versions of the shuttle launch and entry suit, pose for a photo as they await the start of an emergency egress training session in the Space Vehicle Mockup Facility at the Johnson Space Center. Photo credit: NASA
Hi,

Just wanted to thank you for putting my picture in the recent Florida Tech TODAY magazine fall 2006 on page 19 under Alumni News “Southwest Rowers.” However, my name is Al Shawcross, Class of ‘83 not “Showcases” as listed.

One other point of interest … both Bruce Schwab and myself are not only Southwest pilots, but also both retired Lt. Colonels in USAF. Both of us flew F-16s throughout our careers.

Al Shawcross ’83

P.S. My shirt does still fit!

Could you put in a correction to page 11 of the fall 2006 issue? The names under the Boeing Company Scholars picture should read:

Boeing Company representative Ken Smith (third from left) not Tim LaMunyon. The second from the left is Valerie Ann Bastien not Elizabeth Diaz. The third from the right is Elizabeth Ann Diaz not Valerie Bastien.

Thank you,
Stephanie T. Hopper,
Director of Laboratories,
College of Engineering

Ed: Florida Tech TODAY regrets the error.

For the first time ever, we are embarrassed to have our names associated with Florida Tech. The article in your fall 2006 issue “debating” climate change gives the impression that Florida Tech—an institution we previously respected for its scientific rigor—thinks there is something to debate about. While detailed analysis of existing data and creative experiments to bring in more data are both ongoing processes, enough data exist now and have been assessed to make a conclusion.

There is no debate, except in nonscientific, partisan media. Our climate is changing and human activity is responsible for at least part of that change. To imply that there is any wiggle room on this topic makes Florida Tech look like the ignorant monkeys who preach Creationism to the Kansas school board (and speaking of Kansas and monkeys, are we next to see a “debate” on evolution?). Further, it devalues the marketability of the degrees you award. Do you really want to be known to employers as the institution that embraces such Neanderthal views on climate change?

Get a grip, get with the program and accept the reality of human-influenced climate change.

Your disappointed graduates,
Jennifer D. Kalmanson ’98 M.S. and
Phillip C. Kalmanson ’98 B.S.

Editor’s Response: As I read the article, it seems to me that both George Maul and Mark Bush would agree with your belief that “Our climate is changing and human activity is responsible for at least part of that change.” Their debate, as I read it, is much more about how humans are causing this change and how much of the change is attributable to human activity.

As you know, debates do happen with any number of topics at any strong university. Excellent universities must, by their very nature, be a marketplace of ideas. And, only the best ideas survive the rigors of debate. Universities that don’t promote debate are far more worthy of scorn. The idea behind the Point-Counterpoint feature is to provide our alumni a window into this culture.

Jay Wilson, APR
The campus becomes better equipped and better defined with two recently completed projects. Behind Panther Plaza, a new amphitheater will become the site for key university events, band concerts and—possibly, soapbox orators—and a decorative fence now delineates the university’s Babcock Street borders.

The open-air facility, named the “Panthereum,” offers a 716-square-foot stage under a durable fabric roof. Panther head fountains flow on either side of the stage in tribute to the university mascot and seating is “bring-your-own” on the grassy verge. Trustee John Slack donated the funding to build the amphitheater. It was named, in a contest, by sophomore Alp Ozanda.

Travelers down Babcock Street now know where the campus begins and ends. Black aluminum fencing accented by white stuccoed posts, ends at the Columbia Village residence hall at the north end and at Florida Avenue at the southern border. Monument-style signs mark the boundary at either end.

Also, sun-soaked soccer fans welcomed another renovation just for them. A shade structure covering the soccer field grandstand was finished in early October.

International students take a close look at the new Panthereum. They are, from left: Adrian Wilson, Jamaica; Camille Junet, France; Natalie Kohler, South Africa; and Thierry Sarr, Senegal.

Freshening Face of Florida Tech

From left, Greg Tsark, assistant director of facilities management, and carpenter Keith Johnson pose by one of the two panther fountains as they prepare to make them functional. Tsark and Johnson were key players in the construction of the amphitheater.

New Babcock Street fence delineates campus border.
U.S. News, Washington Monthly, Rank Florida Tech Among the Best

For the 17th consecutive year, U.S. News and World Report has ranked Florida Tech among the nation’s top doctoral universities. For the second straight year, Washington Monthly magazine has done the same, ranking Florida Tech as the top private university in the state.

The U.S. News and World Report guide notes two areas of growth in its rating scale for Florida Tech. First, the percentage of incoming freshmen who rank in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class is at 32 percent, a six-year high. Second, alumni giving is on the increase, having grown to 12 percent.

Washington Monthly’s ratings, while incorporating some of the factors used in U.S. News and World Report, use a broader system to determine quality.

Saudi Day Celebrates Diversity

Amid the fragrance of incense, more than 200 faculty, staff, students and community members helped Florida Tech celebrate Saudi National Day in September in the Gleason Performing Arts Center. Guests were welcomed traditionally, with Saudi coffee and Middle Eastern sweets.

Florida Tech, KSC Sign Space Act Agreement

Florida Tech and the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) signed a Space Act Agreement that paves the way to create a computational model of the KSC workforce climate. The model, to be designed and implemented by a combination of industrial/organizational (I/O) psychology faculty at Florida Tech and organizational development staff at KSC, will help the center as it prepares for transition in its mission during the next two decades. Richard Griffith, Florida Tech associate professor and program chair of I/O psychology, said the model is similar in application to a flight simulator.

To build the model, Florida Tech faculty and students will conduct research into the current workforce climate at KSC. While Griffith and the Florida Tech faculty see tremendous research benefits, including a possible National Science Foundation grant in the future, KSC Organization Development Manager Phillip Meade said there will be immediate benefits for the center.

The agreement between KSC and Florida Tech, signed in August, is scheduled to last for one year, but may continue beyond as conditions warrant.
Flight Students Boost Skills on New Training Equipment

Florida Tech has purchased six new Basic Aircraft Training Devices (BATD) for use in the lab that supports aeronautics courses on campus. The new equipment helps students visualize and practice what they learn in the classroom and reinforces their private, instrument and ground courses. Students with instrument ratings can use the BATD lab to practice instrument procedures and maintain instrument proficiency.

Additionally, the college purchased two Advanced Aircraft Training Devices. Put to use by F.I.T. Aviation at the Melbourne International Airport, this equipment provides cockpit and wrap-around visuals to give the look, feel and capability of a much more expensive simulator.

New Director is an Experienced Pilot, Educator

Albert “Al” M. Thomas, the new director of F.I.T. Aviation LLC, brings to his post more than 35 years of experience in the military and civilian aerospace programs. Thomas oversees flight training and operations at F.I.T. Aviation’s Melbourne International Airport location. He is also an assistant professor in the College of Aeronautics.

Thomas was a U.S. Air Force pilot and the commander of the Eastern Test Range at Patrick Air Force Base before retirement from the Air Force in 1988.

At the Spaceport Florida Authority (SFA), now Space Florida, Thomas was the deputy director and acted as the director of operations. He retired from the SFA in 1991.

Thomas earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from the University of Alabama and an M.B.A. in research and development management from Florida State University. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross with six oak leaf clusters and the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

Florida Tech Joins Trio to Expand Space Research

Florida Tech, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Florida State University have signed an agreement to cooperate on space research and technology programs. This includes the creation of a joint institute to coordinate their activities.

The three universities will combine their capabilities to pursue emerging research, technology development and educational opportunities associated with government and commercial space and aerospace initiatives. They signed the agreement last October.

“This is a winning partnership of public and private institutions, building on the strengths of some of the top space-related research and education programs in the United States. With Florida Tech’s roots planted deeply in the U.S. space program, we welcome a collaboration that will further this mission,” said Frank Kinney, Florida Tech vice provost for research.

Presidents Agree

In November, Florida Tech and Valencia Community College signed a memorandum of understanding to offer dual admission status to high school seniors. The agreement allows students to transfer to a Florida Tech bachelor’s degree program for which the prerequisites have been met. Pictured here, from left, are Valencia Community College President Sanford C. Shugart and Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese.
First Three Graduate from New Online Program

The first three students graduated from the Master of Science in Systems Management (M.S.S.M.), with a concentration in information systems, online degree program. The program, which began in 2004, is a partnership between University College of Florida Tech and University Alliance, a leader in online education.

The graduates were Michael Bower of Pensacola, Fla.; Gregory Navarro of Mesa, Ariz.; and Ernest Barclay of Norcross, Ga.

Bower is a software developer who aspires to become a Marine Corps officer. He believes that his new degree will distinguish him. “I was unaware of the fierce competition and needed something to make my application stand out. I felt that completing a graduate degree would do just that,” he said. “I’ve known about Florida Tech since I was in high school and wanted to attend even then.”

The M.S.S.M. program is designed to help professionals in technical information systems and from other fields gain expertise in the management of information systems.

New Sound of Music in Humanities

The corridors of Florida Tech have come alive with the sound of music with the launch of a new music curriculum. Mark Maslin, new full-time instructor and coordinator of music programs, led the way last fall, teaching two new courses. Maslin taught the new fall humanities courses, “Fundamentals of Music” and “Music Literature Survey.” Another music course and long-standing fall semester staple, “Masterworks of Music,” was taught last fall by Robert Shearer. In spring 2007, Maslin will offer a course in concert choir, in preparation for building a University Chorale. He will also organize instrumental groups and teach a course in music theory. As in previous spring semesters, Peter Uhr will offer a course on opera, enhancing his lectures with a night of opera at the King Center for the Performing Arts.

From Algae to Biofuel

State Commissioner of Agriculture Charles Bronson (left) visited Florida Tech in October to learn about a chemical engineering project led by Paul Jennings (right) to turn algae into biofuel. Graduate student Lisa Patton also lent a hand to discuss the project. The visit and research drew attention from Central Florida News Channel TV-13, CBS affiliate WKMG TV-6 in Orlando and from Florida Today.
**Pollen and the Paleoeocologist**

Mark Bush, paleoecologist and professor of biological sciences, is participating in a multi-university study of climate change in the cloud forests of the eastern Andean slopes. His work, extracting three-foot-long sediment plugs, was reported in the August 2006 issue of *Smithsonian*. When analyzed in his Florida Tech lab, the distribution of pollen in the sediment layers will provide evidence of how life in the region has altered since the last ice age. He and fellow researchers are concerned that many of the area’s species may be threatened if the rapid climate change predicted for this century occurs.

**Diving for Diversity**

A Miami Herald and San Jose Mercury News story about the biodiversity of Florida’s Indian River Lagoon featured Evans Library faculty member Nicole Hoier. A frequent underwater explorer of “one of the world’s richest and most diverse ecosystems,” Hoier is one of several Florida Tech researchers to document all four species of snook in the inlet—common, fat, tarpon and swordspine. It is hoped that improving the inlet’s navigation channel will have ecological as well as public safety benefits.

Also ... Richard Griffith, School of Psychology faculty member, was featured in a *Wall Street Journal* article on faking job applications … The Washington Post and Detroit News ran stories on the Washington Monthly university rankings, which included Florida Tech’s highly rated ROTC program … UPI, SpaceDaily.com and Aerospace Online featured a Florida Tech student rocket launch at Cape Canaveral. This was the first launch of a university student rocket at the site … New York’s Newsday quoted Athletics Director Bill Jurgens on the growth of women’s rowing programs around the country … The Orlando Sentinel covered a renewable energy expo, noting that a panel discussion on sustainable energy for Florida’s future would be moderated by Frank Leslie, Florida Tech professor of renewable energy … The Times of London quoted Matthew Wood, of the department of physics and space science, in a story about the crash of a space probe on the lunar surface.
Panther Annuity Program
Provides New Retirement, Giving Option for Alumni and Friends

Florida Institute of Technology is pleased to announce the Panther Annuity Program for alumni and friends of the university who wish to combine a charitable contribution with the opportunity for a guaranteed lifelong income. While the Florida Tech annuity program is new for the university, the concept of annuity programs has been around for more than a century.

Here’s how the program works:

1. Jane Q. Panther, age 60, makes a $500,000 donation to the Panther Annuity Program. Annuities can be funded with cash, securities or appreciated stock. A gift of appreciated stock has the added benefit to the donor of negating capital gains taxes (see your tax adviser for details).

2. She designates the beneficiaries—in this case she and her husband.

3. She and her husband receive a 5.3 percent annual rate of return, plus annual tax benefits based on approximately half of the donated amount (see your tax adviser for details).

4. In her case, she and her husband would receive $26,500 per year through the end of their lives. This amount would be paid to them however they desired—annually, quarterly or monthly. About half of this income would be tax exempt.

5. After she and her husband pass away, the remainder of the annuity, usually about half of the original gift, will be placed in the university endowment.

Beverly Sanders, a director in the Office of Development, said the Panther Annuity Program provides an ideal retirement option.

“Donors to the program get a real and guaranteed return on their investment, right away,” said Sanders. “The return lasts for a lifetime, and when you consider the tax benefits, the annuity pays back at better than the market rate.

“Donors also get the satisfaction of making a difference in the lives of future generations of Panthers by providing endowed funds.”

Jay Wilson
Florida Institute of Technology celebrated its continuing commitment to the arts last fall with the gala opening of the Ruth Funk Textiles Gallery in the university’s Crawford Building. President Anthony J. Catanese made an already enchanted evening more special with the announcement of a $1.25 million gift from Ruth Funk, artist, teacher, arts patron and the gallery’s namesake.

This new donation, along with $250,000 provided by the university, will provide for the creation of the new 10,000-square-foot Ruth Funk Textile Arts Gallery. The new gallery will be built adjacent to Evans Library in the heart of campus.

Comprised of a state-of-the-art exhibition area and an environmentally controlled collection storage space, the gallery will house the Ruth Funk Textile Collection as well as other textile artifacts donated by collectors from around the world.

“Ruth has expanded our humanities programs in ways few of us dared to dream,” said Catanese. “You might say she is helping us to develop our ‘right-brain’ orientation. We know we excel in the logic and analysis of the left-brain mode of thinking, but now Ruth is bringing wholeness to the university.”

Carla Funk (no relation), director of special projects for the Office for Advancement, said the new Crawford Building gallery is already a big hit with students.

“We have students coming by every day, excited by the opportunity to take a break from science and math,” said Carla Funk. “One even told me that he was grateful for the reprieve from calculus class. I know the new gallery will be an even bigger hit.”

The university is working now on the design of the new gallery. Construction is scheduled to begin in the second half of 2007. The new Crawford Building Funk Textiles Gallery is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
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From the FTAA President

From the desk of Association President Jim Downey ’74

As we begin a new calendar year, I thought I should provide some highlights of 2006 and a summary of continuing alumni association initiatives.

In 2006, your association hosted 11 alumni receptions—five were held locally in Brevard County with others in Orlando, Philadelphia, Bahamas, Trinidad, Denver and Washington, D.C. The popular Bahamas and Trinidad receptions were first-time events outside the continental U.S. These receptions are a great way for our university leadership and our Office of Alumni Affairs to meet alumni and to share Florida Tech news. I had the pleasure of attending the Denver reception and got to see firsthand the enthusiasm and excitement of the alumni as President Catanese told them about the progress and success of our alma mater. They were amazed by the campus growth and many of them got to see, for the first time, pictures of their Prowling Panther mascot. (Note: They then understood why President Catanese was respectfully referred to as the Top Cat.)

Our first-ever fall Homecoming was a real success. Tim Wakefield (former Panther pitcher and Boston Red Sox World Champion) pitched great comments at the banquet, and we got the chance to honor a number of deserving alumni. Regarding the move to a fall Homecoming, alumni from out-of-town reported saving as much as 30 to 40 percent during this time of the year compared to homecomings in February. To get into this calendar change sequence, we were the only major university to host two homecomings in 2006!

For 2007 and beyond, we need your continued support so your association can continue to sustain and improve programs. Here are our ongoing initiatives.

The paid membership program is going well. In fact, we’re ahead of last year’s total already. As our paid memberships grow, I want to thank everyone for joining—this creates net revenues that can go to support campus and alumni initiatives each year. If you haven’t joined yet, go to https://www.merchantamerica.com/fit/echopay.

The Florida Tech specialty license plate is being seen more frequently on Florida roads. In 2006, we topped 1,000 and the demand continues to grow. And now, your alumni association is offering a new, more convenient method to get your tags. If you’d like to purchase the university specialty plate from the convenience of your home or office, you can now order online. Go to www.pointandpay.com/newweb/Dmv_smartcart.htm.

Having discontinued the MBNA partnership, the association now offers the Florida Tech official Visa card to all alumni and friends through US Bank. This relationship generates the core of revenue allowing the alumni association to operate at the level it does. Please join us in this effort by going to www.fit.edu/alumni/services/index.html to order your card today. Also, our corporate partner is now also offering all levels of mortgage loans that provide great service and low interest rates. See US Bank’s ad in the magazine for more information.

The Florida Tech Brick Terrace program is also back in operation. Participate in this scholarship supporting program by having a brick inscribed in your name, or in honor of a family member or favorite faculty member or continued on page 15
Tom Fox, senior vice president for advancement, enjoys the company of Bahamian alumni. All got together at the British Colonial Hilton in Nassau.

From left, Janice Stedfast ’79, Kris Kuhl-Klinger ’79 and Roger Miller ’75 socialize at the Denver Hyatt Regency. All assembled helped to celebrate President Catanese’s birthday.

Smiling for the photographer, from left, are Darrel Williamson ’76, ’85 M.S.; Frederick Hood ’95; Jim Downey ’74, alumni association president; Jennifer Deppen; and Dan Deppen ’02.

Some had to fly in for this reception of alumni from Trinidad, Tobago and Barbados. It was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Port of Spain, Trinidad.
Rhode Island Civic Leader Is Skurla Award Winner

Mark P. Brewer ’75, A.A.E. (Accredited Airport Executive), earned the George M. Skurla Outstanding Alumni Award at the College of Aeronautics’ annual Homecoming Luncheon in October. Brewer is Rhode Island state aviation director.

He also has served as president and CEO of the Rhode Island Airport Corporation since 2004, overseeing a six-airport system and an annual budget of $44 million. Previously, Brewer held executive and management positions at airports in four other states.

“Mark is an excellent airport manager,” said Evan Futterman ’78, chairman of Aviation Services for HNTB Corp. “He is an excellent role model for students interested in airport management careers.”

Also at the luncheon, Fin Bonset ’99 M.S., currently a doctoral student, was named College of Aeronautics Faculty Member of the Year.

Instituted in 1996, the George M. Skurla Outstanding Alumni Award honors a Florida Tech alumnus with a degree in aeronautics or aerospace engineering, and at least 10 years of experience in the field. In addition, the recipient must possess a demonstrated commitment and an exemplary record in advancing the aviation and aerospace industry.

George M. Skurla, for whom the award is named, was a retired chairman and president of Grumman Aerospace Corporation as well as a Florida Tech trustee and benefactor. He passed away in late 2001.

Marie Skurla, widow of George M. Skurla, is flanked by 2006 award winner Mark P. Brewer at left and doctoral student Paris Michaels ’76 B.S., M.B.A.

continued from page 13

The 2008–’09 Golden Anniversary Celebration

The alumni association board of directors, under the leadership of chairperson John Valente ’76, continues to make plans for our university’s largest event ever—the 2008–’09 Golden Anniversary Celebration. Suggestions by alumni via the alumni online survey have been incorporated into the yearlong festivities. Included in the plans are a time capsule, distinguished speakers, a gala dinner, affinity reunions, commemorative products, Founder’s Day, history display covering our 50 years, celebrity golf tournament, a major concert, a NASA launch and much, much more. If you would like to be a part of the planning and volunteer your time, please contact Ken Droscher at gopanthers@fit.edu as we’ll need all the volunteers we can marshal for this series of yearlong major events.

Lastly, I had the honor of representing you and Florida Tech at the Colorado Western Slope College Fair in October. I am proud to report that our alma mater’s reputation is steadily growing. People know about Florida Tech, and our mantra of “High Tech with a Human Touch” is resonating with both parents and prospective students.

Thank you one and all. Your alumni association continues to grow only because of your gifts of time, money and other support.

Happy New Year!
Go Panthers!
Jim Downey ’74
Association President
Class of ’67 Alumnus Donates Ring

After wearing his class ring for almost 30 years, Shaw “Buddy” Pender ’67 decided to get in step and buy a new one. So, last fall he made a gift of his previous ring to the Evans Library archives.

Since he first put that ring on his finger, Pender has taken it and his bachelor’s degree in mathematics around the world. He began raising his two daughters in the West Palm Beach area while employed in a U.S. Navy undersea program. He was involved in the space program in Houston, a systems engineer in Southern California and later moved into international marketing and sales, in Tokyo and the San Francisco Bay Area.

Today he is happily semi-retired near Asheville, N.C., where he restores classic cars.

Looking back 40-plus years, he recalls there were many teachers who inspired him throughout his “Brevard Engineering College” days. “I had the benefit of some smart guru types who influenced me and gave me a good foundation in the computer sciences area,” he said. “These were the very early days of university computer science programs.”

Fraternities and Sororities Return to Campus

Members of the fraternities and sororities were among the first students to arrive on the Florida Tech campus this year. As part of their annual volunteer efforts, the fraternity and sorority members offered to wake up early on freshmen move-in day to help incoming students arriving at the residence halls. On Aug. 13, 105 members assisted freshmen and their parents.

Last fall, more than 100 new members were welcomed into fraternities and sororities. Some of their events included sports day, an outdoor carnival and trips to a local bowling alley. The fraternities recruited more than 90 men, while the sororities recruited more than 20 women.

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Sara Mayer

Want to help?
Several chapters are looking for local advisers. To help your chapter, please contact Sara Mayer by e-mail at smayer@fit.edu.

Shaw “Buddy” Pender ’67, at right, hands his class ring to Evans Library Director Celine Lang for Florida Tech posterity. Also pictured are Mary Dyer, development associate, and Harry Weber, president of the professors emeriti organization and former dean of engineering.

National Award Goes to Pi Kappa Alpha Member

Florida Tech Trustee Joseph Caruso ’70, a member of the university’s Zeta Sigma Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha international fraternity, was awarded the Order of West Range at the fraternity’s 2006 International Convention. The award recognizes the fraternity’s most outstanding alumni.

The Order of West Range was founded in 1986. The goal of the honor is to recognize alumni members of Pi Kappa Alpha for their faithfulness and generosity, their service to the organization, or their achievement or significant accomplishment in their chosen field of endeavor.

Caruso is the founder and principal of Omnifirst Capital Corporation, a private investment firm. The company specializes in commercial real estate and investments focused on the communications and health care industries. A noted investment banker and financial consultant, Caruso is also co-founder and owner of the Trenton Thunder AA baseball affiliate of the New York Yankees and the Lakewood BlueClaws, the affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies.
University Honors its Own

Achievers and advocates were honored at the Homecoming 2006 Banquet. Five people were singled out for their success and university contributions.

**Tracy Gibson ’99 Ph.D.** earned the Outstanding Graduate of the Last Decade (GOLD) Award. The research scientist’s early work was for NASA and included projects to develop new materials to remove contaminants from the astronauts’ air supply and to create electrical wire insulation that is self-repairing. He has been recognized by NASA and ASRC Aerospace Corp. and continues to support the Florida Tech department of chemistry.

**Casey Baker ’74 and Laszlo Baksay**, professor of physics and space sciences, accepted University Advocate Awards. Baker, who earned a degree in ocean engineering, recently retired as director of rowing, following his 18th year leading the crew program. Last season, he coached the women’s rowing team to their fifth Sunshine State Rowing Championships event.

**Tim Wakefield** earned the Humanitarian Award. He was named the Panthers’ Most Valuable Player as a first baseman and sophomore in 1987 and as a junior in 1988. Today, a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox, he is recognized throughout Major League Baseball for his civic-mindedness.

**Tim Ling ’89** received the Outstanding Service Award. A graduate in civil engineering, he is a successful environmental engineer in Columbus, Ohio. Ling has served on the Civil Engineering Advisory Committee since its inception in 2001 and has been one of its most active members. Under his leadership, the committee has begun an ambitious civil engineering alumni recruiting endowment with a goal to raise $600,000 over three years.

Over the years, he coached his teams to several medals and awards. Baksay, a noted federal research scholar, has earned international acclaim in the fields of experimental high-energy particle and nuclear physics, electromagnetic physics and related fields. His grant submissions have generated about $3 million over his career, and he has published more than 300 articles in refereed and other journals.

**Homecoming 2006 award winners pose for group photo. From left are Tim Wakefield, Tracy Gibson, Laszlo Baksay, Tim Ling and Casey Baker.**

Tech’s Andy Seminick-Les Hall Field, which was dedicated in January 1999.

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As Florida Tech’s 50th anniversary in 2008 approaches, there are few folks still around who helped sustain the university in its early years. **T. Roger Manley**, a College of Business faculty member, is one whose contribution could almost be considered heroic.

Manley grew up in Yonkers, N.Y. He enrolled in Manhattan College in New York City, majoring in liberal arts. While studying there, Manley was offered the opportunity to take a competitive exam for entrance into the U.S. Naval Academy. He scored high on the exam and entered Annapolis where his only choice for a major was engineering.

During his senior year, he realized that deteriorating eyesight would thwart his dream of becoming a Navy pilot. He then transferred into the Air Force and enrolled in the branch’s newest program, space and launch operations.

“That’s how I ended up down here in 1960,” Manley says. “At that time, the Air Force trained officers on the job, in industry. I worked as a test conductor for over a year with Martin Marietta Corporation during the early Titan I days. While there, I met Jim Stoms who was also a test conductor. We immediately liked each other and remained lifelong friends.”

At year’s end, Manley was transferred first to Vandenberg Air Force Base in California and then to Lowry AFB in Denver, Colo. In 1965, after sending him to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for a master’s degree, the Air Force transferred Manley back to Cape Canaveral for the Titan III program. By then his friend Stoms was Martin’s director of engineering.

In September 1967, George Kennedy introduced Florida Tech’s systems management program and was its first department head. From its inception, the evening curriculum comprised the largest graduate department in the college. Kennedy and I, however, were the only full timers working in the department. The rest were adjunct faculty. In December, when the program’s first quarter ended, Kennedy left the university.

Hoping to plug the hole in the dike, John Miller, vice president for academic affairs, called Stoms and asked him to serve as temporary department head. Four days later, Stoms asked Manley to teach a principles of management class at the college.

“I said, ‘sure,’” says Manley, “thinking I would have a couple of months to get ready.”

Stoms replied, “Good. It starts on Tuesday. So, will you teach two sections?”

Manley chuckled at the memory. “That’s the way we did things in those days. I showed up Tuesday and there were 58 students; by Thursday, 76 were registered for classes. That was my introduction to being a college professor.”

Shortly after, Stoms retired from Martin and entered a doctoral program at another university, with the intention of returning to Florida Tech to take over the management department. Instead, Manley agreed to serve as adjunct department head, without compensation. It was a critical period.

Anticipating a review by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), Manley invited distinguished professor Dean Del Karger from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to visit and make recommendations for SACS. Karger’s input helped ensure the department’s ultimate approval by the accrediting agency.

By the time Manley left in 1969 to pursue a doctoral degree, the nighttime graduate department had ballooned. “We went from zero to 300 before I left,” says Manley. “My chair was an overturned wastepaper basket; my desk, a typing table. But it was exciting as hell.”

After Manley was awarded a doctoral degree, he taught at the Air Force Institute of Technology in Dayton, Ohio, until he retired from the Air Force in 1979. “Jim Stoms must have had an invisible bungee cord around my ankle,” said Manley. “One cold winter before I retired he flew my wife Eleyse and me down here and put us up on a houseboat.”

Manley agreed to join the faculty. Since then, Manley not only taught but served as department head, associate dean and dean in what is now the College of Business.

“In 1981, one of the first things I did as department head was initiate an Executive M.B.A. program. The last student graduated in 1991. We had about nine or 10 groups go through.”

In 1990 he withdrew from administrative roles, preferring to continue as a faculty member and to focus on management consulting, hooking up with Wade Shaw. The team has made a name for themselves researching and consulting in the fields of organizational culture and knowledge management.

Joan Bixby ’75 M.S.
In Memoriam:
Elizabeth Wolf Corman
1917–2006

Betty Wolf, professor emeritus in the School of Psychology since 1986, passed away on Sept. 27, 2006, in Cleveland, Ohio. Considered an expert in Rorschach tests, she came to the university in 1977 with her husband, Charles Corman, who was hired as head of the School of Psychology.

At Florida Tech, she was director of clinical training for the school, 1978–1986; professor, 1977–1986; and director of Psychological Services, 1981–1986. Now called Community Psychological Services, it is under the direction of Barbara Paulillo, one of Wolf’s former students.

Corman will be much missed by her family, friends and colleagues.

L.A. Chapter Social Event

The L.A. Chapter hosted its pumpkin carving social again this year, and enjoyed its 2nd annual chapter barbecue at Griffith Park. Alumni include from left: Bob Pratt ’95, ’97 M.S., ’98 M.B.A., Anne Riguer ’02, Sarah Dunsford ’00, Cindy (Dwyer) Pratt ’87, and Musfik Dogancay ’94 with Debbie (Goss) Dogancay ’99 taking the picture.
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Alumna Trades Flying for Infinite Travel:
Flying was just too limiting for Sylvie Kurtz ’81.

Sylvie Kurtz ’81 earned her commercial pilot’s license and associate’s degree in aviation flight technology at Florida Tech, but it just wasn’t enough to hold her interest. So, she gave up her pilot’s wings for a profession that would allow her to go anywhere at anytime and take thousands of passengers with her.

The popular fiction author now travels across the world and through time via her novels, taking her readers on journeys filled with suspense and adventure. As exciting as it may seem to some, she found flying cross country to be rather mundane. Kurtz decided she’d rather navigate through the world of publishing.

“Flying commercial planes and navigating through the world of publishing require some of the same skills. They both require planning, persistence and attention to detail as you make small corrections along the way to stay on course,” she explained.

“I get my dose of adventure without leaving home,” Kurtz said. That is mostly true, but research does take her on adventures to various locales, such as experiencing shooting guns, learning to kayak and hiking in the White Mountains in New Hampshire where she now resides. In her novel, Alyssa Again, “The heroine had to learn how to kayak, so I gave her my beginner’s experience.”

Kurtz has used her experiences in Florida too. The first book she sold involved flying, albeit through time, not place. Broken Wings, published in 1996 by Leisure Books, featured a pilot who traveled through time. “Having been a pilot allowed me to capture the feeling of flying and make it realistic,” she said. Romance Writers of America honored this book by selecting it as a Golden Heart Finalist in 1995.

Her latest book, Detour, involves a heroine who investigates planes that are mysteriously falling out of the sky.

In Pull of the Moon, released in December 2006, the main character hails from Florida and the action takes place in New Hampshire. “It just makes location research easier,” she said.

Kurtz became interested in Florida Tech after reading an ad in a flight magazine. She had her private pilot’s license, but had loftier goals. The Quebec native wanted to join the Canadian Air Force, but it was not accepting women into flight school at that time. So, she decided she’d pursue a commercial pilot’s license. Although she had been flying solo before joining Florida Tech, her trip here was her first flight on a commercial airline.

She also met her husband, Charles Kurtz ’82, at Florida Tech. “My husband has been really supportive. I couldn’t have done it without him.” She offered a vivid example of his support. “One day I got six rejections in the mail. I was so discouraged. When I talked to him about this, he said, ‘You can’t quit now, you’re almost there.’ Sure enough, a few months later, I sold my first book.” So, she continued writing, and 17 more of her books were published, and two are in the works. The journey continues.

Melinda Millsap

Detour involves a heroine who investigates planes that are mysteriously falling out of the sky. For more information about Sylvie Kurtz and her books, go to www.sylviekurtz.com.
Forensic Psychology
Interested in Crime

It’s not CSI, but it could be the first step.
When prospective students inquire about Florida Tech’s new Forensic Psychology Bachelor of Arts degree program, they frequently ask, “Can I be a criminal profiler after getting this degree?”

Enrolling in the program won’t automatically lead to a career in criminal profiling, but it could be the first step. In addition to understanding the criminal mind and the law, they will need additional graduate work in forensic science, which includes chemical analysis. Forensic psychology explores why people do what they do, while forensic science examines physical evidence to determine how something happened.

Florida Tech is one of only a few universities in the country that offers this program at an undergraduate level, and the only one in the state of Florida. Students from all over the country have enrolled, and three people were the first graduates from the program in 2005. Two of them are pursuing graduate degrees; the other is going into law enforcement.

“We are breaking new ground with the undergraduate program—it is growing faster than we imagined,” said Marshall Jones, forensic psychology program coordinator and former police sergeant. More than 70 students are currently enrolled. He acknowledged popular TV series, such as “The Profiler,” “CSI” and “NCIS,” have peaked interest in forensic science.

Recent forensic program graduate, Kerri-Lynne Black, said, “It is a great stepping stone to get into a criminal justice field.” Black, who “came from a family of law enforcement,” plans to pursue graduate work in clinical forensic psychology.

“This degree prepares the person who will be working with people on the front lines,” said Mary Beth Kenkel, dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts. These people could work in crime analysis, victim advocacy, violence prevention and early intervention with high-risk youth.

The program “creates people with a psychological perspective of problems in the forensic area and teaches them how to address these,” Kenkel said. They learn skills for work in such places as juvenile facilities, prisons and social service agencies dealing with crime victims. For example, graduates could work as advocates for domestic violence victims. The program will teach them how to “work their way through the system, what they might expect from the perpetrator and the criminal justice system, and how to address situations without further traumatizing the victim,” she explained.

“We teach them insights into the criminal mind,” said Joshua Duntley, forensic psychology program professor and researcher.

Practical experience is provided through internships with local agencies and work with high school students in a Forensics Summer Camp at Florida Tech. During the camp, they investigate a mock crime to experience how psychologists, forensic scientists and other investigators work together to process death scenes.
When Maggie Walsh was five years old, she remembers coming to the “big” Crawford Building to visit her mother. “I was really little,” Maggie recalls. “But I just remember being here. Coming to Crawford. Always remembering Crawford.”

Her mother, Pamela Nabors, was a graduate student in personnel psychology and also taught in the humanities department in the early ’80s.

Today, Maggie is a senior in communication with a concentration in business marketing.

Pamela, who is director of One Stop Services at Capital Workforce Partners, a workforce investment board in Hartford, Conn., is proud of Maggie’s decision. “I enjoyed my experience at Florida Tech and felt Maggie would do well at the university,” she says.

For nearly half a century, Florida Tech alumni have made outstanding achievements as entrepreneurs, researchers, advocates and even astronauts. It is a great mark of distinction, then, as these distinguished alumni send their children to Florida Tech to become the next generation of Panthers.
The university welcomes legacy students, the children of alumni. In fact, the Florida Tech Legacy Grant encourages sons and daughters of alumni to enroll in a full-time undergraduate program by offering a $2,500 award, renewable for up to four years and given in addition to any merit scholarship the student earns.

“Legacy students already have a sense of what a Florida Tech education is all about, and we want to encourage their interest in the university with this incentive award,” said Gary Hamme, vice provost for enrollment management.

Truly, legacy students have a firsthand knowledge of the quality of a Florida Tech education and that outstanding reputation, more than anything, is what ignites their Panther pride.

Tracing a Family Tradition

While Walsh earned her associate’s degree from a community college in Tallahassee, she choose to complete her bachelor’s degree at Florida Tech. “I felt like the communication program here would be stronger than those offered at state schools,” she says.

In May, Walsh will receive her diploma and join her mother as a proud alumna of Florida Tech.

“I think for both Maggie and I Florida Tech is a launch pad to a career,” says Pamela.

And Walsh is eager to embark on her career path thanks to her Florida Tech education. “I don’t think I would have come here if my mom hadn’t,” acknowledges Walsh. “But I’m really glad I did.”

A Hidden Treasure

For Paul Deffenbaugh, a freshman dual major in electrical engineering and computer engineering, becoming a legacy student was a pleasant coincidence, but he was most pleased to discover a top-notch university existed in his hometown.

“I looked at a lot of colleges, like MIT and Georgia Tech. Florida Tech is one of the best and since it’s local, it made the choice pretty easy,” says Paul.

Both of Paul’s parents are Florida Tech alumni. His father, Lynn, earned his degree in computer engineering in 1981, and his mother, Marta, graduated in 1980 with a degree in computer science.

For Lynn and Marta, their primary objective was to encourage Paul to choose the right university for his career interests, be it Florida Tech or elsewhere.

“We certainly made Paul aware of the curriculum and opportunities on campus, but we also encouraged him to consider other options so that he would know that he chose the right place and didn’t just go to Florida Tech because of our alumni status,” explains Lynn, owner of Compass Solutions, Inc., a software engineering and web-based system development company in Palm Bay.

Florida Tech holds many special memories for Lynn and Marta. The couple met at the university, while members of the Association for Computing Machinery. After graduation, they were engaged, then married and “have lived happily ever after!”

Now Paul, the second generation of Deffenbaughs at Florida Tech, is settling in to his college career and focusing on his studies. He is also active in the Newman Club, the Catholic organization on campus.

Rekindling the Spirit

Both families agree—having a child attend Florida Tech has sparked renewed involvement with the university. Pamela has connected with former colleagues at Florida Tech since Maggie began her program. And Lynn and Marta say they have certainly been on campus more often since Paul started.

As Maggie describes it, “I think my mom’s even more proud to be an alumna now that her daughter goes here. It’s become more of a tradition since I’ve been here, and I think she feels more invested in the university now.”

For Maggie, Paul and the other legacy students, Florida Tech is becoming a family tradition. And one thing is certain, the university’s reputation as an outstanding institution is a living legacy that continues to inspire pride among students and alumni alike.

Christena Callahan
Former astronaut and scientist Sam Durrance, who flew on two space shuttle missions in the '90s, envisions a future of sustained space exploration. He knows that someday human beings will live and work in space for much longer periods than is possible today.

Now a Florida Tech professor, he brings a welcome $1.2 million NASA grant to the university. This allows Florida Tech faculty and students to play a major role in that dream, and the research and education it entails.

“Our research program explores not only the physical effects on humans of long-term space exploration, but also the origin, distribution and future of life in the universe,” he said. “Specialized laboratory capabilities support this work. These include atomic force and other highly specialized fluorescence microscopy optimized for bio-imaging.” He is also pursuing imaging and optical systems for instrument development, and high-performance computing for modeling and simulation.

Two other key program aspects are development of the space flight experiments with unique instrumentation and a new Florida Tech interdisciplinary degree.

Research has already begun in Florida Tech labs and at Kennedy Space Center’s (KSC) Space Life Sciences Laboratory. Built in partnership by the state of Florida and NASA, the $30 million state-of-the-art facility has been made available to Florida Tech through an arrangement with NASA and the state. Shaohua Xu, Florida Tech associate professor of biological sciences, leads a bone density project at the KSC lab. He’s studying the molecular, cellular and physiological mechanisms involved in the loss of bone mass in the weightless environment of space.

Even with exercise countermeasures, astronauts lose bone mass at a rate of about one percent from vertebrae and one-and-a-half percent from the hip every month they are in orbit. Xu, with two graduate students, Yekaterina “Kate” Krasnova ’05 and Rohit Kalra, are “trying to understand, at the molecular level, the building blocks involved in bone formation,” said Xu.

He and his wife, J. Jenny Yu, a biochemist at the University of Pennsylvania, published the first paper on the project in the December 2006 issue of *Biophysical Journal*.

In “Molecular Mechanism of Bone Formation,” their key finding is that lipo-proteins are a building block in calcium deposition in bones. “Finding a countermeasure for bone loss,” Xu said, “relies on a good understanding of the fundamental mechanism of bone formation. How collagen fibers, the dominant matrix protein in bones, are mineralized remains mysterious.”

Durrance is establishing in the Florida Tech F.W. Olin Physical Sciences building a new laboratory and center. These facilities are a space exploration research laboratory, focusing on instrument development, and a Science Planning Operations Center with connectivity to the International Space Station. “More than a dozen Florida Tech undergraduate students have supported this effort over the past couple of years,” he said.
He also teaches Florida Tech courses in planetary science as well as methods and instrumentation in astrophysics. As a scientist and faculty member at Johns Hopkins University, he helped to develop the Astro Observatory. This included the Hopkins Ultraviolet Telescope, which Durrance helped design and build. Aboard the Columbia in 1990 and the Endeavor in 1995, his job was to operate the Astro Observatory from the aft flight deck of the space shuttle.

Fundamental to the work of his new program is a curriculum to provide students with a solid foundation in astrophysics, biology and chemistry. To this end, Florida Tech will launch in fall 2007 an unusual and new bachelor's degree program—astrobiology.

The curriculum, designed by Matt Wood, professor of physics and space sciences, Durrance and others, was approved last fall. “It will be very challenging,” says Gary Wells, head of the department of biological sciences.

“The program has in it some of the university’s most difficult courses,” he says. “It is designed to stimulate the students’ imaginations, encouraging them to go on for advanced degrees in any of the three areas—or all three.”

The students who enroll in astrobiology and the students who participate in sustained human space exploration research are a tangible link. They are the legacy of the university’s founding, strengthening nearly 50-year bonds to KSC, NASA and the U.S. space program.

Karen Rhine
Wells Leaving Lasting Legacy

Department head retiring after 34 years of changing lives

As he prepares to place the finishing touches on a 34-year career at Florida Institute of Technology, longtime biological sciences department head Gary Wells could easily acknowledge a long list of points of pride. After all, in 23 years in his current position, he’s put together a dynamic faculty, successfully transitioned into the F.W. Olin Life Sciences Building and hosted the European Space Agency for more than a month as an integral part of the ill-fated Space Shuttle Columbia’s last flight.

None of these accomplishments, or the continual high national rankings his department receives, marks his proudest accomplishment, however.

“What I’m proudest of is my interaction with undergraduate and graduate students,” said Wells. “When they come back and tell you what an impact you had in their lives, that’s what I feel best about. We’re all in this business because of the students.”

Discussing the success of these students as alumni makes Wells proud. He said their success proves the department has earned the national acclaim it has received over the years.

“Most of these rankings are for undergraduate programs. The courses we teach are quite rigorous,” said Wells. “The good students learn a lot and are challenged.”

The difference maker is an emphasis not seen at many other universities.

“We encourage undergraduate research so that when our students leave they are prepared to get a job in the field,” said Wells. “Half of our students go on to graduate school, and the other half are able to get jobs in the biological sciences.”

Teaching and leading these students is a strong faculty, one that Wells has had nearly a complete hand in forming. In hiring all but three of the current biological sciences faculty, Wells said he’s looked for very specific characteristics.

“First, I want to make sure any new faculty member will be a good colleague,” said Wells. “Then, I look for people who are doing research that complements, rather than duplicates, work that’s already being done here. Finally, I want someone who is bright and has great potential both in the classroom and in getting grants and publishing research.”

Wells has done more than bring in strong faculty. Once here, he’s done everything he can to give them room to grow and develop. It’s a characteristic his faculty, including associate professor Julia Grimwade, have come to appreciate.

“Gary’s a different sort of leader in that he’s never put himself in front,” said Grimwade. “Whatever the discussion, it’s not about him, it’s about the department. That’s his great strength as a leader.”

Wells’ leadership abilities really showed when he helped bring the European Space Agency (ESA) on campus in the weeks before and during the final Columbia mission. The mission was a strictly scientific affair, and many biological experiments were carried out on the shuttle by the astronauts while ESA scientists simultaneously conducted the same experiments in the life sciences building.

While Wells said he is still saddened by the loss of Columbia and the potential scientific breakthroughs that were lost with it, he, in typical fashion, reflects on the positive impact the ESA experience had on undergraduate students.

“I was really glad that our under-grads got to be involved,” said Wells. “They were able to see facilities that mirrored those on the Columbia, and they were able to meet great people from ESA, SPACEHAB Florida, Lockheed Martin, United Space Alliance and NASA.”

After more than three decades of service, it’s clear that Wells is ready to move on. The colleagues, students and friends he’ll soon leave behind are not so certain. Grimwade perhaps said it best.

“We will all miss Gary. It’s impossible to imagine the department without him.”

Jay Wilson
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Neither could stop working while attending classes. Williams, a helicopter test pilot and instructor, was at the Naval Air Station in Patuxent, Md. Higginbotham, who was recruited by NASA as she finished her bachelor’s degree at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, was working at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida as an electrical engineer.

Both women found their way to Florida Tech, earned their degrees and are now paired in a most unusual meeting of alumnae. Williams ’95 M.S., engineering management, and Higginbotham ’92 M.S., management, ’96 M.S., space systems, will make their first space flights together on NASA’s next space shuttle mission.

It’s been a long wait for both. NASA stopped flying...
Left: Astronaut Sunita Williams ’95 M.S., Expedition 14 flight engineer, will become a live-aboard member of the space station crew.

Above: Astronaut Joan E. Higginbotham ’92 M.S., ’96 M.S., STS-116 mission specialist, takes a break from training to pose for a portrait with a NASA T-38 trainer jet at Ellington Field near Johnson Space Center.
space shuttles for more than three years while it overhauled the shuttles and its management in the wake of the 2003 Columbia disaster. Columbia’s tank had shed a large piece of insulating foam during launch, which hit the ship’s wing and damaged its heat shield. The shuttle broke apart as it attempted to return through the atmosphere for landing on Feb. 21, 2003.

After a successful return to flight, the agency moved quickly to get another shuttle mission under its belt and restart construction of the International Space Station. Assembly had been on hold while the shuttle fleet was grounded for repairs. Atlantis blasted off on Sept. 9, carrying the first new addition to the half-built orbital outpost in nearly four years. In December, it was up to Williams, Higginbotham and their crewmates to continue the job. Williams, 41, is shoulder- ing more of the burden. Once shuttle Discovery arrived at the space station, she left the shuttle crew and is a live-aboard member of the space station crew. Her six-month tenure in orbit occurs during a critical time in space station construction, when the outpost is transitioned from what was to be its short-term and temporary electrical and cooling system to its permanent configuration.

Williams will operate the station’s robotic crane to install structural truss segments to the station’s external backbone, as well as take spacewalks to hook up cables and other equipment. She also will conduct science experiments and be a test subject for medical research.

“I think it’s going to be pretty busy. But, it’s going to be a lot of fun, and I’m absolutely lucky to be in this place at this time.” —Sunita Williams

in the accident. “It was extremely devastating and always will be,” Higginbotham said. “It will be something that I will always remember.”

“The accident did not affect my thinking as to whether or not I wanted to fly,” she added. “It made me step back and realize that this is not a routine thing. This is not like flying an airplane. It has its risks and it always will have its risks. And that’s something we just need to acknowledge and be very cognizant of and do our best to have a very safe vehicle for everyone to fly on.”

Drawn to NASA straight out of college, Higginbotham, a native of Chicago, didn’t grow up with dreams of space flight. Her undergraduate school had passed along her résumé to NASA, which was fishing for graduating engineering students to fill positions following the 1986 Challenger disaster.

“Somehow my résumé ended up in the hands of a recruiter who offered me my choice of one of two positions at the Kennedy Space Center,” Higginbotham said. “When he called I just thought, ‘Oh great, employment.’ I was not ‘into’ space. I didn’t know anything about the space program except for Challenger because that had been all over the news a year and a half prior. I was a little reticent to actually think about this because I would be moving far away from friends and family.”

Higginbotham decided to give it a try, knowing she could always return to private industry in a few years if it didn’t work out. “I never looked back,” she said.

She started working as an electrical engineer supporting the various shuttle payloads, then became the lead orbiter project engineer for space shuttle Columbia. By night, she attended classes at Florida Tech, with the U.S. government picking up the tab.

At the time, joining the astronaut corps was not on Higginbotham’s radar. “It really didn’t have anything to do with the astronaut program. I just wanted to continue my education.” Nevertheless, four years and two degrees later, Higginbotham found herself in one of the world’s most elite jobs.

Williams didn’t even have to move to Florida to earn her degree. Taking advantage of the Florida
Institute of Technology Extended Studies Division in Patuxent, Md., she attended small classes taught by faculty steeped in operational experience.

“There are a lot of engineers, test pilots, test engineers who are looking to get advanced degrees. It’s a perfect place because they are working and testing aircraft and this automatically can become part of their studies or their thesis. It goes hand-in-hand. There is an audience who needs this service,” she said.

Florida Tech was not the only on-site school available for Williams, but she chose it because of the school’s reputation.

“Florida Tech had the reputation for being the hardest, the most difficult, I don’t know why I chose that, maybe the challenge,” said Williams, who holds an undergraduate degree from the U.S. Naval Academy. “Florida Tech is very professional. They have high standards.”

Williams earned her first master’s in two years and completed all the work—save for her thesis—for a second degree in aerospace engineering. She completed all the research, delving into a real-world problem involving airflow over the type of helicopter she flew in the Navy, but never wrote the paper. The data, along with books and other material, are packed in plastic storage bins at her Houston home.

“One reason why I didn’t finish my master’s is because they expect a good product. I respect the school’s professionalism and the quality they require and I wanted to write a good thesis,” Williams said. “When I get back, hopefully I’ll have some time and I’ll finish it up. I’m determined I’ll get it done.”

Irene Klotz

Astronauts Joan E. Higginbotham (foreground) and Sunita L. Williams, both STS-116 mission specialists, prepare to eat a meal on the middeck of Space Shuttle Discovery. NASA photo
2005-2006 Honor Roll of Donors

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 gave to the university between May 1, 2005 and April 30, 2006. We salute all who remembered Florida Tech during the 2006 fiscal year.

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Kenneth P. Revay, Esq.
Brent E. Peoples
Vernon K. Ausherman
Barbara Ausherman
Raymond A. Armstrong, M.D.

Galaxy Society
The Galaxy Society is a lifetime giving society that consists of those who have given to Florida Tech a minimum of $10,000 to the university over the course of one fiscal year. All Galaxy Society members listed below meet the requirements of membership as of April 30, 2006.

Ad Astra is a lifetime giving society that consists of those who have given a minimum of $10,000 to Florida Tech.

Ad Astra

1. Ray A. Armstrong, M.D.
2. Richard N. Baney, M.D.
3. Albino P. Campanini
4. Joseph Caruso, Sr.
5. Anthony J. Catanese, Ph.D.
6. Andrew M. Clark, Ph.D.
7. David L. Clayton
8. Charles C. Clemente
9. Martin E. Dandridge
10. Dale A. Dettmer, J.D.
11. Phillip W. Farmer
12. James L. Fisher, Ph.D.
13. Joseph M. Flammio, CFP
15. Malcolm R. Kirschenbaum, J.D.
16. Howard L. Lance
17. Douglas C. Lane
18. Randall E. Poliner
22. Brent E. Peoples
23. Vernon K. Ausherman
24. Barbara Ausherman
25. Raymond A. Armstrong, M.D.

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Alumni
Consecutive Years
Alumni who have given three or more year consecutively as of April 30, 2006.

1. Carolyn V. Baney
2. Frank D. Walker
3. Paul L. Joyal
4. Philip J. Kielkucki
5. Chris N. Kyriannis
6. Patricia G. Miller
7. John R. Rickard
8. Patricia A. Roskos
9. Francis M. Botella
10. Scott C. Stebbins
11. Joel P. Stinson
12. James M. Torpey
13. Thomas A. Verish
14. Paul C. Votaw
15. E. M. Bekkum
16. Richard J. Cloud
17. Reegan L. DuBose, Jr.
18. Catherine M. Houlahan
19. Gary S. Kaminski
20. Joseph J. Lavorina
21. Harold O. Martin III
22. William M. McGaw
23. John Millington
24. Valerie A. Morgan
25. Paul D. Parks
26. Stephen O. Peffer
27. Robert P. Pfaff
28. Robert J. Pratt
29. Lawrence P. Rebel
30. Robert J. Pratt
31. Donald C. Reynolds, Jr.
32. Lawrence P. Rebennack
33. Robert J. Pratt
34. Robert B. Pfaff
35. Paul D. Parks
36. John Millington
38. Patricia L. Stone
40. Donna J. Sullivan
41. Robert L. Sullivan, Ph.D.
42. Elizabeth J. Swann
43. Tim T. Swan III
44. James W. Thomas
45. KENN W. THOMAS
46. Monica A. Thomas
47. Audrey Ulozas
48. John Ulozas
49. Meredith P. Van Pelt
50. Audrey Ulozas
51. Lynn E. Weaver, Ph.D.
52. Gary M. Weiss, M.D.
53. Mary A. Emmons, USA
54. Thakor K. Champaneria
55. David J. Bluder
56. Debra S. Blenis
57. Joan V. Bixby
58. A. R. Anzzolin
59. Joan V. Bixby
60. Deborah S. Blenin
61. Rodney B. Bowers
62. David J. Bluder
63. Jennifer E. Gladski
64. David F. Hackett, Sr.
65. Frank R. Harris
66. David M. Hone, USA
67. Fredric A. Lombardo
68. Eric C. Mallen
69. Ralph D. McKee, PE, CM
70. Lucius Muns
71. William R. Muns
72. Linda H. Muns
73. Gary L. Howman
74. Tanja M. Glynn
75. Thomas R. Hernacki, PE
76. William E. Mayer
77. David A. Lyons
78. William E. Mayer
79. Stuart Mendelsohn
80. William B. Moon, Ph.D.
81. David C. Muhl, Ph.D.
82. Edward M. Mulhern, USN
83. Richard L. Myers
84. Kenneth R. Peach
85. Gregory J. Piftet
86. Robert W. Pratt
87. Richard T. Richardson
88. Robert M. Rivell
89. David W. Roberts
90. David R. Schechter
91. David M. Snyder
92. Laura F. Star
93. Mary T. Bayers-Therig
94. Marjorie A. Beckett
95. Albino Campanini
96. Chris M. Chen
97. John A. Clancy
98. Christina M. Columbus
99. Lynn E. Cooper, PE
100. Eileen P. Corelli
101. Vance N. Cribb
102. Harlan C. Cross
103. Philip F.D. Deslin
104. George A. Downey, Jr.
105. Walker L. Evey
106. Clarke O. Fowler
107. Barbara Garibini
108. Steven J. Gertel
109. Gregg A. Hunter
110. Rose Ann Jones
111. Richard L. Joossens
112. Rita A. Karpie
113. Richard L. Lackey
114. Frank F. Lane
115. Erik C. Lervaag
116. W. M. Manduke
117. John T. Oakes
118. Charles A. Rogers
119. Gary J. Rosenbloom
120. Jeffrey L. Schultes, AAE
121. Joel K. Stephens
122. David H. Thering
123. Edward T. Thomas, Jr.
124. James W. Thomas
125. Paul I. Waite
126. John A. Bester
127. William E. Braun
128. Ernest M. Briel, Jr.
129. Gary S. Bushko
130. Eugene A. Buzzi
131. Robert D. Cason
132. James D. Dahmann
133. Jim E. Downey
134. Geoffrey S. Draper
135. E. M. Dubois
136. Michael C. Duffy
137. Katharine P. Dunlevy

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Non-Alumni Consecutive Years
Non-alumni who have given three or more years consecutively as of April 30, 2006

20 Randall L. Alford
20 J. C. Baum
20 Thomas E. Bowman, Ph.D.
20 Rong-Sheng Jin
20 Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc.
20 T. R. Manley
20 William C. Potter, Esq.
20 Richard L. Turner, Ph.D.
20 John G. Windsor, Jr., Ph.D.
20 Andrew Zborowski
19 Richard N. Baney, M.D.
19 Joseph M. Flammini
19 Kenneth P. Revay, CM
19 Alan L. Prestwood
18 Cynthia A. Razik
18 Edwin K. Retter
18 Patricia A. Risch
18 Eva R. Roche
18 Joseph Roman
18 Ling Rottrock
18 Daniel P. Sandlin
18 Philip J. Saulnier
18 Allyn R. Saunders, CPM
18 Donald R. Saunders
18 Douglas M. Schuler, PE
18 C. Todd Smith
18 Lisa H. Smith
18 Terry L. Smith
18 Richard C. Stepinka
18 Gerald E. Surmacz, Ph.D.
18 Leesa L. Sward
18 Robert L. Swoyer
18 Thomas L. Tanel
18 Clay M. Tappan
18 Dana Teasdale
18 Jason H. Terreri
18 Andrew R. Toy
18 Oizias Travis, Jr.
18 Jennifer L. Uehauer-Parsons
18 Terrence P. Verner
18 Robert J. Walters
18 Susan M. Walters
18 John K. Welton, USAF
18 Kimberly C. Wilkinson
18 Teresa L. Williford
18 David B. Wisinger
18 Lawrence M. Worley
18 Floyd Yang, Ph.D.
18 Alfred Yee Litt
18 Daryl Yee Litt
18 Margaret A. Youngman
17 Kathryn A. Zajdel
17 Henry G. Zgutowicz
16 JoAnn W. Zincoho, Ph.D.
16 Milo M. Zonka
15 Marla D. Zucker
15 Mary A. Emmons, Ph.D.
15 Deborah L. Ficke
15 David J. Flick
15 John J. Fox
15 John M. F. Fox
15 Charles W. Fuchs, Jr.
15 John P. Friestad
15 Michael C. Garza
15 Thomas J. Garrett
15 Christa M. Garvey
15 James F. Garvey, IV
15 Andrew L. George
15 Kelvin J. Gilchrist
15 David M. Glassman
15 Kwang Chol Gim
15 John M. Goodale
15 Thomas D. Goodale
15 Richard J. Gordon
15 Jack H. Gordon
15 John M. Gordon
15 Donald G. Gorton
15 Richard E. Gramstra
15 James R. Green
15 Gerald E. Green
15 Donald H. Green
15 David M. Greene
15 Gerald E. Green, Jr.
14 Arthur A. Green
14 George S. Green
14 John A. Greer
14 John M. Greer
14 Robert D. Green
13 Ira W. Green
13 Mark A. Green
13 Robert E. Green
13 Thomas M. Green
13 Joan A. Greene
13 Whitney K. Greer
12 Robert N. Greenwalt
12 Richard D. Greenwell
12 Estella T. Greggs
11 John M. Gregg
11 Robert C. Greggs
11 William D. Greggs
10 Thomas M. Greggs
10 George W. Greggs
10 Victor V. Gregory
10 Frank V. Gregory
10 John F. Gregory
10 William T. Gregory
10 Robert D. Greig
10 Andrew R. Greig
10 Stanley C. Greig
10 Joseph J. Greig, Jr.
10 Dennis J. Greig, Jr.
10 Andrew J. Greig
10 Robert E. Greig
10 John A. Greig
10 Peter W. Greig
10 Thomas A. Greig
10 Charles W. Grewell
10 Peter W. Grewell
10 Robert G. Grewell
10 Thomas W. Grewell
10 Robert H. Grewell
10 Charles W. Grewell
10 John F. Grewell
10 Charles W. Grewell, Jr.
10 John H. Grewell
10 James W. Grewell
10 John G. Grewell
10 John C. Grewell
10 John G. Grewell
10 John H. Grewell
10 John F. Grewell
10 John A. Grewell
10 Robert E. Grewell
10 John A. Grewell
10 John F. Greig
10 John A. Greig
10 Robert E. Greig
10 John A. Greig
10 John F. Greig
10 John A. Greig
10 Robert E. Greig
10 John A. Greig
10 John F. Greig
10 John A. Greig
10 John F. Greig
10 John A. Greig
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Geoffrey S. Draper
Marilyn R. Epsky
Randolph H. Gattoni
Laine A. Giovanetti
Jennifer E. Gladski
Gail S. Gonzalez
Robin A. Haded
Fitzgerald Haig
Samuel G. Hall
Matthew B. Hendriant
David F. Hilt
Sharolee A. Huet
Eugene C. Kahana
Stephen F. Koca, PE
Semen Koksal, Ph.D.
Peter E. Labhe
Joseph E. Layton
Gee-Hwa E. Loh
Daniel A. Luebke
John G. Madry III
Peter F. McCoy
Ronald J. Mikos
Juclyn S. Mounts
Douglas B. Newbert
Baconne L. Nikolans
Catherine B. Norvell
Louise B. Patenge
Margaret D. Quade
Hossein Razavi
Francis M. Rotella
Thomas D. Ryan, Jr.
Michael R. Sassone
Michelle R. Saunders
Rhet L. Schmidt II
Belia A. Scha
Joseph F. Shuhy, Jr.
Michael D. Skinner
Felix A. Soto Toro
Sriyoo Subramanian
Clay M. Tappan
Brant T. Venice
Kimberly J. Walsh
James R. Wierzchicki
Steven G. Woods
Thomas A. Young, USAF

1993
Pamela J. Barrett
Charles P. Bernnardo
Bridge R. Berardelini
Elizabeth Berdis
Erin M. Bland
Debra S. Bennis
Reginald V. Campos
Michael R. Cassler
Linda Castle
Robin Chan
Mahtara H. Chanley
Scott A. Clary
James J. Conomera, Jr.
Michael E. Convey
Richard B. Davis
Glen E. Deal
Amy S. Efting
Edward V. Enders
Joan J. Escardo-Boomsma
Timothy P. Evans
Bryan F. Facetterman
Susan L. Farnsworth
Michael J. Fehn
Maribel Feliciano
William C. Frayer
Alan D. Fredericks
Steven A. Frick
Jodi H. Friedberg
Robert B. Friedfeld, Ph.D.
George Go
Robert T. Gunnin, Jr.
Matthew R. Harris
Jeffrey A. Hathaway
Connie R. Hay
John B. Hay
Bette J. Hecox-Lea
Joseph Heinzmian, Jr.
John R. Heisley
Matthew B. Hendriant
Kathleen A. Hiatt
David A. Holt
Richard D. Hoerner
Catherine M. Houlihan
Gregory B. Howes
George S. Hricak
Mitchell D. Huskey
Fletcher S. Johnston
Dion S. Johnstone
Richard L. Joosens
David J. Karlen
John C. Kratt
George F. Lovery III
George M. Lucas, RN
Julie L. Lumpkins
Francisco Marrero, PE
Charles W. Mason
Robert P. Mc丹nals
Harry C. Meyer IV
David B. Montgomery
Richard S. Muscato
Kathleen M. O’Neil
Nancy E. Jacob
Kenneth R. Peach
Kevin P. Power
Donna T. Purcell, Psy.D.
Timothy E. Ramey
Michael D. Robinson
Joseph M. Samban
Joel D. Shyu, Psy.D.
Amy A. Simon-Miller
Joseph T. Smith
Richard J. Sprague
Joel K. Stephens
Renee M. Styles
Lisa M. Sussman, Psy.D.
Michael G. Taylor, USN
Debra F. Thompson
Bryan E. Tippett
Joe D. Warren
William A. Wheeler
Kimberly C. Wilkinson
Randall A. Wright, USA

1994
George G. Ardell
George W. Atkinson, USA
Catherine L. Blessing
Tina F. Boyd
Dwight L. Bruney
Theresa C. Cherry
Guy B. Cofield, Jr.
Patrick J. Cooper
Neville J. Daruwalla
Louis J. DeFusco
Michael S. Dotson
Margaret A. Farley
Charles L. Farris
Lance C. Fields
Michael L. Gonzalez
James E. Good, PE
Michael L. Gordon
Keith H. Gunn
Janice M. Hagan
John A. Irvine
Rebecca A. Jacobs
Leigh H. Lawless
Jason W. Lloyd
Michelle L. McNabb
Paula M. Mikkelsen, Ph.D.
Christopher J. Mitchell
David C. Muh, Ph.D.
Joyce E. Oster, Ph.D.
Stephen D. Pauly
Robert B. Pfaff
Jeffrey P. Reed
Michael J. Ricciardi, Jr.
Ronald A. Ruff
Paul S. Salamy
Felix R. Santos Vazquez
Nancy L. Schulte
Kenneth S. Shepard, USN
Donna K. Smith
Gary M. Sypek
Roy E. Truha, Jr.
Lisa C. Turcic
Karen D. Vintour
Cynthia A. Wilson, USA
Rebecca E. Wissner

1995
Ali S. Al Rakaf
Vicky R. Armbruster
Craig A. Ballard
Nancy E. Biesinger
Arthur F. Bolick
Arthur J. Bradshaw
Juan P. Calero
Yo-Hung Cheng
Thomas E. De Laet
Mary L. Diehl
Daniel R. Diolosa
Laurie A. Dues
Merle C. Fausnauth
Kristin K. French, USA
Melisa H. Gilbert
Rahma G. Guiller
Maryanne E. Hazen
Kenneth O. Hendrickson
Judith A. Hester
Teresa Ho
Julie L. Horton
Ivan B. Howard
Deborah W. Inland-Crawford
Erik C. Lervaa
Weigang Li
Christ Medina
John M. Melby
Janet R. Merkt
Harry C. Meyer IV
Tomas A. Montemayor, PE
Catherine B. Norvell
Daniel C. Pelletier
Robert W. Pratt
Colin Prest
Donna T. Purcell, Psy.D.
Helene T. Ray
David W. Roberts
Schonda L. Rodriguez
Christine C. Rushnell
Tod M. Schuck
Joel D. Shyu, Psy.D.
James C. Simpson, Ph.D.
David M. Snyder
Vanessa Sotomayor
Bruce A. Stanfill
Mary E. Strojni
Srinath Subramanian
Lisa M. Sussman, Psy.D.
Jay R. Tyne
Thomas A. Verish
Todd D. West
Bruce L. Wilson, Sr.
Ian S. Wilson
David B. Wood
Kenneth J. Wronowski
Milo M. Zonka

1996
Yolanta Abramowicz McCune
Donna S. Baher
John G. Brady
Jeffrey M. Capelli
Deborah S. Carstens
Andrew Cherry
Cynthia C. Craytor
Neville J. Daruwalla
Donald W. Dawson
Mani V. Desik
Shannon E. Dester
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Sylvia E. Edwards
Nathan J. Falk
Holger Findling
Wendeline E. Glorioso
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William M. Hearne
Donald L. Hill
Sahine K. Hirat
Vivian R. Hogan
Stewart M. Johnson II
Patricia L. Leonard
Vernottco C. McMillan
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David C. Muh, Ph.D.
Khulubokah K. Nemati
Jennifer W. Pelletier
Barbara J. Petrzilka
Robert B. Pfaff
Joel L. Polun
Sabreth Smith
Ann Stocker, Ph.D.
Leesa L. Sward
John N. Valentine
Shisheng Zhao

1997
Douglas F. Bailey, S.D.S.
Jerry Baker
John H. Cain, Ph.D.
Heather I. Cox
Rebecca D. Dohn
Hans D. Forss
Mark D. Gamble
Tanja M. Glynn
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James R. Roebuck
Robert A. Soriano
Tyrone D. Stanley, USA
Leesa L. Sward
Gail M. Talbott
Jerome Thomas
Steven T. Weir
Shari A. Youmans

1998
Scott T. Anderson
Frank J. Aransky
L. C. Beall III
Marjorie A. Beckett
Catherine L. Blessing
Diana S. Campos
Sherry D. Cantrell
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Deborah S. Carstens
Andrew Cherry
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Sabreth Smith
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Michael Schneider  
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John C. Schuler  
Donald J. Schultz  
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Alfred Scortino  
Joseph Scott  
Michael Scott  
Nancy E. Seare  
Peggy Seibert  
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Judith Simpson  
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Wanda A. Skiles  
Bernard R. Smedley  
Benoit C. Smith  
Hampton Smith  
Johann Smith  
Karen L. Smith  
LeRoy Smith  
Marylin S. Smith  
Sarah A. Smith  
Scott C. Smith  
T. M. Smith  
John Smoak  
Erin Soland  
Robert Solos  
Heather Sommers  
Pete Sommers  
Julie K. Song  
Malhefs M. Soni  
John Spagnolo  
Jane Spake  
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D. B. Sphat  
Guy M. Spearman III  
Karen Speed  
David F. Speer  
Laurie A. Spencer  
Katherine E. Spicer  
Alice Spinelli-Culbreth  
Frank D. Spinio, Jr.  
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Michael Splitt  
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Brian J. Sprague  
Guy M. Spring  
Bay W. Springer  
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Tom Stewart  
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Judy Stillman  
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Baudelaire Stilouis  
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Donna Stone  
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R.D. Taylor  
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Jay L. Templin  
Norma J. Templin  
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Susan Thompson  
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Alice M. Tomme  
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Donna M. Turner  
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Jason S. Tyson  
Aftab Uddin  
Juliet A. Underill  
Faith Urban  
Kurt H. Urban  
Tom L. Urquhart, Jr.  
Carl Uvaro  
Suzanne M. Valencia  
Evelyn A. Valenzuela  
Annette M. Valvo  
Amy B. Van Fossen  
Georgia L. Van Ornem  
Kenneth J. Van Valen  
Susan Van Valen  
Victoria Van Valen  
Sheron Van Workum  
Eric J. Vance  
James L. Vance  
Mark D. Vanstrum  
Garry M. Varnes, Jr.  
George M. Vartanian, USAF  
(RET)  
William H. Vasiliev  
Joyce Vass  
Benjamin Veenema  
Robert A. Velasco  
Marie Verderame  
Bernard F. Vernonee, Jr.  
Eisabelle Vesantis  
Leah Vesper  
Kathleen Vittitoe  
Cheryl Vogel  
Linda Vopicka  
David A. Vorburgh  
Guy D. Voyer  
Pete J. Vutera  
Michelle Wachsmann  
Dennis L. Wade  
Kevin R. Wagers  
Leland Wagars  
W.T. Walker  
James F. Walsh  
Michael Walsh  
Patricia E. Walsh  
Abigail Walters  
Gerald Walsworth  
Stephen J. Warburton  
Wilma E. Warburton  
Ann E. Warden  
Jeanette G. Warner, M.D.  
Jennifer Warner  
Frances A. Waltella  
Sherry Watkins  
Patricia D. Watson  
Timothy M. Watson  
Jennifer L. Weatherstone  
Harry P. Weber  
Wayne E. Weber  
Susan H. Webster  
Nico De. Weiler  
Gary M. Weiss, M.D.  
Steven K. Weiss  
Michael W. Welch  
Corail Wells  
George T. Wells  
Tim M. Wendland  
Linda Werd  
J. R. West  
Marie L. West  
Phyllis West  
Michael J. Whalen  
Toni W. Whaley  
Jay R. Wheeler  
David A. White  
Michelle A. White  
Rob White  
George B. Whitmore  
Richard Whitmore  
Barrie L. Wiggins  
Barbara W. Wilder  
Robert E. Wiley  
Jodee C. Willong  
Marjorie A. Will  
Edward D. Williams  
Fredrick J. Williams  
John M. Williams  
Michael H. Williams  
Noreen Williams  
Oscar Williams, USAF  
Pauline M. Williams  
George R. Willis  
Irene Willoughby  
Carl T. Wills  
Bonnie Wilpton  
Carolyn P. Wilson  
Mark B. Wilson  
Markasha A. Wilson  
Ruth C. Wilson  
Wayne B. Wilson, M.D.  
R. P. Wimmer  
Karen R. Windsor  
Ross F. Wineharger  
Jeffrey A. Winget  
Kim Wise  
Alan Wiseman  
Lyn E. Wofford  
Kathleen M. Wojitas  
Jennifer Wolf  
Katherine Wolfe  
Franklin B. Walking  
Mary B. Wood  
Stephen L. Wood  
Theresa A. Woodard  
Bobyn Z. Woodard  
Delora J. Woods  
Lauren A. Woodwell  
Martha P. Work  
Bonnie S. Worthly  
M. C. Wright  
Michael Wuebbenhorst  
Jenta R. Wyatt  
Grace R. Wylie  
Donna S. Yarger  
Dale R. Yeager  
G. S. York  
James D. Young  
John H. Young, Jr.  
Ken Young  
M. Young  
John L. Youngkin  
Margaret Zabinski  
Kim V. Zakoski  
Cherie Zani  
Perry J. Zeiltn  
Xiaoyan Zhang, PC  
Richard W. Ziburske  
Nina S. Zimm  
Kathy L. Zimmerman  
Linda A. Zitnik  
Zita A. Zygmont  

**Foundations**

The Emil Buehler Trust  
Fidelity Investment  
Charitable Gift Fund  
Joseph M. Flammio Family Foundation, Inc.  
The Freedom Forum  
Gannett Foundation/FLORIDA TODAY  
Harris Foundation  
Hartley Foundation  

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Endowments

Sarkis Acopian Endowed Chair in Environmental Education
Astronaut Scholarship
Father Douglas F. Bailey, S.D.S., Endowment to Support Catholic Campus Ministry
Dr. Juanita Neal Baker
Graduate Psychology Fellowship
Bank of America/Barnett Bank Scholarship
Bank of America/NationsBank/C&S National Bank Scholarship
Barnes & Noble College Bookstores Scholarship
Blatt Chemistry Seminar Endowment
Francis O. Blume III ROTC Scholarship
Brevard Scholars Program Endowment
Brevard Scholarship in Life Sciences
Chair in Ethics Endowment
Chi Phi Scholarship
Civil Alumni Recruitment Endowment (CARE)
Dr. Kerry Bruce Clark Memorial Scholarship
Henry Paul Clausen Scholarship
David L. and Theresa G. Clayton Graduate Fellowship in Marine and Environmental Systems
Coca-Cola Scholarship
College of Business Endowment
College of Engineering Endowment for Academic Programs
College of Psychology and Liberal Arts Endowment
Wendell H. Colson Scholarship
Commitment to Excellence Computer Sciences Department Endowment
James Constantine College of Aeronautics Endowment
Construction Industry Advisory Board (CIAB) Endowment
Don Creech Memorial Scholarship
Melissa Lee Crist Honorary Scholarship
Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity Scholarship
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Endowment
Deitmer Family Scholarship
Jeffrey Allen Dimond Memorial Scholarship
Henry L. and Grace Doherty Endowed Visiting Professorship
Marsha A. Duncan Scholarship
Susan Galos Eason Memorial Scholarship
Annenberg Environmental Education Program Endowment
Faculty Enhancement Endowment
Faculty Scholarship
Farmer Endowment
FIT Equipment Replacement Fund
Flag Officers Leadership ROTC Scholarship
Michael Flammo Scholarship
Florida Tech Alumni Association Scholarship
Warren and Evelyn Foster Scholarship
Steve Freeman College of Business Ethics Award
Friends of the Evans Library (FOEL) Endowment
Charles A. Frueauff Foundation Revolving Loan Fund
H. Seeley and Rathi E. Funk Fund for the Textile Arts
Walter and Dorothy Gatti Scholarship
General Endowment
General Scholarship Endowment
Chris Giddings Memorial Scholarship
W. Lansing & Isabelle Gleason College of Business Academic Award
Harbor City Volunteer Ambulance Squad Scholarship
Harris Endowed Professorships
John Thomas and Martha Hartley Scholarship
Health First Endowed Chair in Community Health
Dr. Leonard S. Healy Graduate Scholarship
Allen S. Henry Professor of Engineering Endowment
Allen S. Henry Scholarship
Bjarne and Berg Hermansen Scholarship
Paul André Hermansen Memorial Scholarship
Llewellyn Hewett, Jr. Engineering Scholarship
Holzer-Lequerci Endowment to support Medical Genetics Research
Dr. Sam Hughes and Mrs. Kate Settle Hughes Scholarship
Hydro Aluminum Corp. College of Engineering Scholarship
James Haskins Intercollegiate Rowing Program Endowment
International Aerospace Lighting Conference (IACL) Scholarship
Philip and Eloise Kalker Family Scholarship
James G. Kennedy, Sr. Library Endowment
Dr. Jerome P. Keuper Endowment
Dr. V. Lakshikantham Scholarship
Mathematical Sciences
Bryan J. LaRose Memorial Scholarship
L. V. Leppiknantham Scholarship
In Mathematical Sciences
Bryan J. LaRose Memorial Scholarship
Legacy Soccer/Leaver Bros. Scholarship
Edwin A. Link Special Collections Endowment
Link Foundation Ocean Engineering Graduate Fellowship
Marion Clayton Link Library Information Network Endowment
Local 810-Local 875/Hirsch Memorial Scholarship
Kenneth C. Long
Unrestricted Endowment
Jane Gleason Madry Library Endowment
Leo A. Marin Memorial Scholarship
Shirley J. Mataxis Engineering Scholarship for Women Athletes
Thomas E. and Lois R. McNamara Scholarship
Christine Antoine Mead Athletic Scholarship
Herman Kessler Moore, M.D. Scholarship
Bill Morris Advanced Flight Scholarship
National Defense Transportation Association (NDTA)/Space Coast Chapter Scholarship
Christopher Sherman Neese Memorial Scholarship
Northrop Grumman Scholarship in Engineering Studies
Northrop Grumman/George M. Skurla Engineering Scholarship
NorthStar Capital Management Scholarship
Numerical Control Society Scholarship
Dr. Walter M. Nunn, Jr. Scholarship for Electrical Engineering Students (Solely in the field of Electromagnetics)
Ravindran Palaniyandi, M.D. and Ambika Ravidrnan Scholarship
Dr. Irre Paulovits Graduate Fellowship
Capt. Joseph Brayton Perkins Scholarship
Steven Petrovsky Memorial Scholarship
Phebus Family Scholarship
Dr. Carol L. Philpot Family Psychology Graduate Fellowship
Florida Tech Alumni Association Scholarship
Bill Morris Advanced Flight Scholarship
Dr. Anne P. Rowe Scholarship
Major Mathew Earl Schram ALMC-LED/Florida Tech Graduate Fellowship
Karol and Ingeborg Sendler Scholarship
Sant Ram Sharma Endowment in Environmental Chemistry
Gertrude E. Skelly Graduate Fellowship in Marine and Environmental Systems
SkyCross Laboratory Endowment
Dent Smith Botanical Garden Fund
Edward W. Snowdon and Lee Hill Snowdon Graduate Fellowship in Marine and Environmental Studies
Software Engineering Scholarship
Sportfish Research Institute Endowment
SunTrust Scholarship
SunTrust/Reliance Bank/Huntington National Bank Scholarship
Van Pelt Foundation Research Endowment
Wachovia Corporation/First Union National Bank Scholarship
Admiral O. D. Waters Graduate Fellowship/DAMES
Dr. Frank M. Webbe Psychology Scholarship
Walter D. and Paula LeCler Wood Scholarship

WFIT Friends
(All Donors Except Underwriters)
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Judith Abingdon-Carter
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Robert L. Ackerson
Edna E. Acosta
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Adamson Advertising
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Manuel A. Alejo
Victoria A. Altermann
Thomas R. Ambrose
Beverly B. Anderson
Lois F. Anderson
W. R. Anderson, Jr.
Stephen Andrew
Anonymous 2
Anonymous 3
Charles J. Antoni
Hilda I. Aponte
Area Rug Gallery
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Jean K. Arnault
Jennifer L. Arrington
Susan H. Ascher
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Atlantic Aluminum & Screen, Inc.
Atlantic Plumbing & Solar Engineering, Inc.
Automatic Data Processing Inc.
Susan C. Bahb
Cynthia A. Babich
Diane Baccus-Horsky, Esq.
Angus Bahookie
Jennifer E. Baird
John G. Baldwin
Jeffrey S. Baloun
Sara R. Baloun
Stephen E. Bankert
Marcia Barnes
Michael C. Barron
James E. Barry
Richard E. Bartell
Kathleen M. Bartlett
Bruce E. Barton
Marty A. Barvinchak
Olaf Baumgartner
Larry E. Baxter
Selwyn M. Beach
Carl W. Beaulac
Gerald R. Bechtel
Becker Studio
Sandra L. Beckwith
Louise A. Beddow
Stephen Beeching
Judith D. Bell
Ann Benedetti
Robert L. Bennett, Jr.
Drew M. Bentley
David B. Berlin
David T. Bernardini
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The Gift Summary Report depicts all gifts donated to the university as of April 30, 2006. Below is an explanation of terms:

"Unrestricted" gifts—used where the university needs them most
"Restricted" donations—designated to a specific program, college, scholarship, etc.
"Gifts-In-Kind"—non-cash items such as books, automobiles or furniture
"Capital"—new buildings or updates to existing structures
"Endowment"—funds that live in perpetuity and provide a stable stream of income over time.

### Gift Summary Report Fiscal Year 06: Gifts through 4-30-06

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cash</th>
<th>Stock</th>
<th>Gifts-In-Kind</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Pledges</th>
<th>Trusts Pending</th>
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<td>2,544,461</td>
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<td><strong>Capital</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Endowment</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>$4,636,102</td>
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<td><strong>Grand Total:</strong></td>
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<td>$4,404,000</td>
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A few benefits you’ll receive:

- **Affinity Card**
  Take advantage of a competitive interest rate and no annual fee with a Visa from our benefits partner, U.S. Bank.

- **Career Services**
  Alumni are eligible to participate in full services at no cost. Register online at www.monstertrak.com, post résumés and review job listings.

- **Florida Tech Online Community**
  Register online and search for former classmates, post résumés, look for new job opportunities, receive a permanent e-mail forwarding account and more. Visit www.fit.edu/alumni and click on Alumni Online Community.

- **GEICO DIRECT**
  Auto Insurance Discounts
  In addition to the already low rates, you may qualify for an additional alumni discount. Visit geicodirect.com or call toll free (800) 368-2734.

- **Vacation Rental Properties**
  Deeply discounted weekly rental opportunities with no further commitments, for as little as $349/week. www.alumnitravelbenefits.com/fit.asp

- **American Insurance Administrators**
  Offering a full line of insurance products such as short-term health insurance and long-term health care policies. Call (800) 922-1245 and mention the Florida Tech Alumni Association.

- **Car Rentals and Lodging Discounts**
  Save up to 30% on National, AVIS, Hertz, Alamo, Budget and autoeurope car rentals. Discounts on Choice Hotels, including Comfort Inn, Comfort Suites, Sleep Inn, Clarion and more.

- **Alumni Endorsement Grant**
  Full-time undergraduate students are eligible for a $1,000 grant, renewable for up to four years, when referred by a Florida Tech graduate.

- **Legacy Grant for Children of Alumni**
  Sons and daughters of Florida Tech graduates, enrolling in a full-time undergrad program at Florida Tech, are eligible for a $2,500 award, renewable for up to four years.

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**Alumni Membership Application**

Please sign me up for membership in the Florida Institute of Technology Alumni Association.

**Membership Levels:**
- Individual Annual Membership $25
- Alumni Couple Annual Membership $45
- Individual LIFE Membership $500
- Couple LIFE Membership $750
- Friend LIFE Membership $1,000

**Method of Payment:**
- Check enclosed (made payable to the Florida Tech Alumni Association)
- Credit Card:
  - Visa
  - MasterCard
  - Discover
  - AmEx

Credit Card Number: ___________________________ CV number: ___________________________ (last 3 digits from back or 4 digits from front on AmEx cards)
Expiration Date: ___________________________ Total Amount: $ __________

Name on Card: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________

Please take a moment to update your contact information:
Name: ___________________________________________ Phone: ___________________________
College: ___________________________________________ E-mail: ___________________________
Class Year: ___________________________________________ City/State/ZIP: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________________________ Phone: ___________________________
City/State/ZIP: ___________________________________________ E-mail: ___________________________
Marital Status: ___________________________________________ Spouse Name: ___________________________

Complete form and mail to: Office of Alumni Affairs • 150 W. University Blvd. • Melbourne, FL 32901-6975

Return this form ... or sign up online at www.fit.edu/support/direct.html ... or call toll free (866) FLA-TECH.
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College of Engineering

James Brenner's paper, "Analysis Made Easy with Datafit," was published in Chemical Engineering Education.

Carmo D'Cruz presented one of the Distinguished Lectures, "Systems Engineering Entrepreneurship—Uniquely Bridging the Engineering and Business Realms to Produce the Engineers of 2020," at the ASEE national conference held in Chicago, Ill.


Fredric Ham was selected to be on the editorial board for the International Journal of Signal and Imaging Systems Engineering.

Samuel Kozaitis was chairman of a session on Image Processing at the 8th IASTED International Conference on Signal and Image Processing in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Frank Leslie was elected to the board of directors of the Florida Renewable Energy Association. This is the Florida Chapter of the American Solar Energy Society (ASES), a national membership organization whose mission is to attain a sustainable U.S. energy economy. ASES strives to accelerate the development and use of solar and other renewable energy resources through advocacy, education, research and collaboration among professionals, policy-makers and the public.

Ralph Locurcio presented "Florida Tech—Building Leaders for the Construction Industry" at the National Meeting of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) in Palm Springs, Calif.


Debasis Mitra co-wrote and presented "Correlogram-based Method for Comparing Biological Sequences" at the 9th International Conference on Industrial, Engineering and Other Applications of Applied Intelligent Systems in Annecy, France. Graduate student Gandhari Samant was a co-author of the paper.

Muzaffar Shaikh chaired the academic forum of the 16th Annual International Symposium of the International Council on Systems Engineering held in Orlando, Fla. It was attended by 900 professionals.

Scott Tilley delivered the keynote address at the "3rd International Workshop on Software Development Methodologies for Distributed Systems" in Shanghai, China.

Manolis Tomakidis was invited to serve on the Organizing Committee of the International Conference on Porous Media and its Applications in Science, Engineering and Industry to be held in Kauai, Hawaii, in June 2007.

College of Psychology and Liberal Arts

Philip Farber was appointed to serve as a program review consultant to the American Psychological Association's Committee on Accreditation.

William Gabrenya chaired the symposium "Sex and Culture: Indigenous and Comparative Contributions" at the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology conference in Spetses, Greece.

Richard Griffith was quoted in Time magazine for his research on fibbing in résumés. To read the story, go to www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1186550,00.html.

Jose Martinez-Diaz was invited to address the 18th annual convention of the International Society for Behavioral Research in Santa Cruz, Calif.

Mark Maslin was featured in a Melbourne Community Orchestra concert at the Melbourne Civic Auditorium. Maslin, a baritone, sang selections from two Mozart operas, "The Marriage of Figaro" and "The Magic Flute."

Matthew Normand was appointed to a four-year term as a coordinator for the verbal behavior area of the Association for Behavior Analysis international annual convention.

Thomas Peake recently served as consultant for the American Board of Professional Psychology in awarding the Diplomate. A poem by Robert Shearer was published in the fall edition of Inkwell, the literary publication of Manhattanville College, Purchase, N.Y. The title of the poem is "Einstein Reported in Hiroshima."

Robert Taylor was named president emeritus of the Florida Historical Society at its annual meeting in Naples.

David Wilder was appointed to a three-year term on the editorial board of the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis. This is Wilder's second appointment to the editorial board of this journal.

College of Science

Alan Leonard, Julia Grimwade and doctoral student Julien Torgue participated in the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) workshop, "Cell Cycle and Cytoskeletal Elements in Bacteria," in Copenhagen, Denmark. Leonard, who was an invited speaker, presented "Examining the Role of I sites in Initiation Timing and Resetting the Complex." Grimwade and Torgue presented posters.

Mark Novak has several papers, either published or currently in print, in Toxicology Methods and Mechanisms, Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology, Surface Science and Current Protocols in Toxicology. His paper, "Effect of Adrenalin, Adrenochrome, and Adrenolutin on Connexin Proteins in the Cardiovascular system," was published in Toxicology Methods and Mechanics, was co-written by Lisa Moore and undergraduate student Vanessa Moreau. A paper to be published in Surface Science was co-written by Clayton Baum, Joel Olson and undergraduate student Jerry Buhrow.

Terry Oswalt was a session chair and an invited speaker at the 2006 Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) national meeting at Depauw University, Greencastle, Ind. He also represented the Physics and Astronomy (P/A) Division at the CUR business meeting, held concurrently, and was appointed to the P/A Nominations Committee.

Virender Sharma wrote the chapter, "Ferrate Studies for Disinfection and Treatment of Drinking Water," that was published in Advances in Control of Disinfection By-products in Drinking Water Systems by Nova Science Publishers.


College of Business


Carolyn Fausnaugh's paper, "Student-Faculty Collaborative Learning: An Experience Based Examination of the Production of Video Titled Patenting Vs. Infringement," was presented at the Academic Business World International Conference in Nashville, Tenn.

University College

At the Patuxent Extended Studies site, Alan Breitler co-wrote "An Alternative Approach to Improvement of Neural Net Performance." He will present it at a conference on Intelligent Systems Design: Neural Networks, Fuzzy Logic, Evolutionary Computation, Swarm Intelligence and Complex Systems, at the University of Missouri, Rolla.
Research Roundup

Jean-Paul Pinelli, associate professor of civil engineering—$300,000 from the National Science Foundation to work on a wireless sensor network for monitoring wind impacts.

The network will monitor pressures on rooftops and can be valuable for measuring and characterizing hurricane wind loads on structures. Co-principal investigators are Chelakara Subramanian, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, and Ivica Kostanic, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering.

Mark Bush, professor of biological sciences and chair of the department’s ecology program—$177,000 over three years through the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. The grant is part of an $860,000 award shared with Wake Forest University, the universities of Oxford and Edinburgh, and the University of California at Los Angeles. The researchers will investigate the historic carbon balance of Andean vegetation and soils. Initial funding supports Dunia Urrego, a postdoctoral fellow leading the research under Bush.

Steven Lazarus, assistant professor of meteorology—$97,000 from NASA to extend an ongoing collaborative effort in meteorology between Lazarus and NASA’s Short Term Prediction Research and Transition center to develop a model climatology of the sea breeze circulation. Lazarus’s other new work is a collaborative project in the area of data thinning, which is similar to digital imaging. Under this $108,431 NASA grant, he works with the University of Alabama in Huntsville Information Technology and Systems Center Research Laboratories and NASA personnel.

Paul Jennings and Subhash Dutta, chemical engineering faculty, are partners with Eltron Research of Boulder, Colo., sharing two Phase One grants from the Department of Defense. The $100,000 grants, through the Army Research Division, are shared equally. The first grant will fund research into creating a portable microreactor system to synthesize hydrogen peroxide. The second will fund development of a theoretical model for the reaction, or combustion, of gelled hypergolic fuels.

Ramon Lopez, professor of physics and space sciences—$124,000 from the National Science Foundation for a unique line of research in the area of cognitive science. He will apply the approach to selected topics in Earth and space science education.


Member benefits include the new U.S. Bank affinity cards, insurances of all types, discounts on lodging and car rentals, and more.

www.fit.edu/alumni/services
The Reynolds Era

John Reynolds: Celebrating 20 years of coaching at Florida Tech

John Reynolds began his 20th year at the helm of the Florida Tech women's basketball program this season, introducing his freshmen class of 2010 to the winning ways of the Panther program. During the inaugural Fall Homecoming this past October, Coach Reynolds held his first alumni weekend welcoming back players from as far back as the graduating class of 1988.

NCAA women's basketball just recently celebrated its 25th anniversary as part of the centennial celebration for the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Reynolds was around for 19 of those years and had been the coach for 20 of the 21 years Florida Tech has sponsored women's basketball with its inaugural season in 1986–87.

Starting off, Reynolds never saw this as a long-term position; he took this experience a year at a time until it became his career. One element he has maintained in his 20 years is the type of student-athlete he recruits to play for the Panthers. Solid character is what Reynolds has stayed true with in bringing players to Florida Tech, and it has seemed to be the right path for the 21-year-old program.

"Florida Tech should be proud of all of its athletic alumni, seeing what all these student-athletes have accomplished with their knowledge gained while performing in their sport as well as in the classroom," said Reynolds.

Reynolds is ranked in the top 25 among all Division II coaches with a .658 winning percentage entering the 2006–07 season.

On paper, one of the greatest of his accomplishments included the stellar performance of the 2001–02 team, which posted a 26-5 overall record, becoming the Sunshine State Conference Regular Season Champions, the SSC Tournament Champions and the NCAA II South Regional Champions. This was the first and only time Florida Tech has ever made it to the Elite Eight and only the second time a Sunshine State Conference women’s basketball team has ever made the Elite Eight.

Reynolds was named SSC Coach of the Year for 2002; this was his fourth time winning this honor. The Panthers also became the only women’s team, other than the South Regional Host Delta State, to cut down the net in their famed arena.

Reynolds would say one of his greatest sources of pride was having the opportunity to do what very few coaches at this level get the chance to—coach his own daughter. Reynolds’ daughter Laurissa played three seasons for the Panthers, finishing off her collegiate career in 2005 upon graduation.

As a father, one of his most memorable moments was witnessing Laurissa score the tying three-point basket in the semifinals of the SSC tournament in 2004 to give the Panthers the overtime opportunity. Subsequently, Tech went on to win the game and advance to the conference title game.
Another program snapshot came this past October when he had one of the best ever alumni turnouts for the Homecoming Women's Basketball weekend. More than 30 former players along with their families returned to play in the alumni game on Oct. 15, 2006.

“I got to see what great women they all are now,” stated Reynolds. “These players carried themselves as champions on the court, in the classroom and took that same mentality with them after graduating from Florida Tech.”

Reynolds may not remember all the wins and losses in his 20 years with Florida Tech, but he certainly remembers all of his players. So, in the end, he contributes his longevity to genuinely caring about his student-athletes and earning their trust along with believing in each and every one of his players who chose to wear the crimson and gray.

Christa Parulis-Kaye

Coach Reynolds by the Numbers:

20 YEARS AT FLORIDA TECH
354 WINS
170 CONFERENCE WINS
46 ALL-SSC PLAYERS
35 ALUMNI RETURNED FOR ALUMNI GAME
26 MOST SEASON WINS
16 WINNING SEASONS
7 NCAA DII POSTSEASON APPEARANCES
5 NCAA DII ALL-SOUTH REGIONAL PLAYERS
5 SSC CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES
4 TIME SSC COACH OF THE YEAR
4 SSC TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES
4 SSC FRESHMEN OF THE YEAR
3 FLORIDA TECH HALL OF FAMERS
3 NCAA ALL-AMERICANS
3 NCAA DII ALL-SOUTH TOURNAMENT PLAYERS
3 SSC PLAYERS OF THE YEAR
1 NCAA DII SOUTH REGIONAL TITLE
1 NCAA DII ELITE EIGHT APPEARANCE
1 SSC HALL OF FAME PLAYER

Longtime Florida Tech softball coach Nancy Bottge touched the lives of many student-athletes during her 11-year tenure guiding the Panther softball program. Her place in Florida Tech history will be forever synonymous with the program’s future, as Varsity Field was renamed in her honor. The Nancy Bottge Field was dedicated on Saturday, Oct. 14, at 1 p.m., in conjunction with Tech’s first Fall Homecoming.

Florida Tech President Anthony J. Catanese and Director of Athletics Bill Jurgens were each on hand to say a few words during the dedication ceremony. Nancy’s longtime friend and supporter Drema Moody gave an incredible speech about Bottge’s coming full circle with her “Field of Dreams.”

“Whenever I see Nancy’s name on the field, I will think of her passion and total dedication for Florida Tech softball,” said Jurgens.

In 21 years as a college head coach, Bottge amassed a career record of 501-314-2, giving her a .615 career winning percentage. While at Florida Tech, she also garnered a winning record, amassing an overall record of 316-237-2. Bottge never produced a losing season during her 11 seasons as the Panther coach. Bottge’s final Florida Tech team posted the best record ever by a Panther softball team, 33-15 (.688).

“I never had the opportunity to meet Nancy, but still, in my eyes, she is a true legend,” stated current Panther head coach Ellie O’Shei. “I am honored to take over the program that she poured her heart and soul into, and I plan to carry on her winning tradition. She will always be remembered and her spirit will always be with us. We want to make her proud.”

She coached more than 200 student-athletes since coming to Florida Tech in 1994. Immediately following the dedication, the Florida Tech softball team hosted its annual alumni game. More than 30 of Bottge’s former players returned to honor her and join in the celebration of the field dedication.

At 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 14, the sheets were drawn from the scoreboard during a drum and flute combination to reveal the scoreboard with the new name of the Nancy Bottge Field. The turnout of this event was a huge success and reinforced the impact that Bottge had on over 150 student-athletes who graduated from her 10 years at the helm. The field will now forever remind future generations of Panthers of the impact Bottge left on this 21-year-old program.

Christa Parulis-Kaye
1975
Tony Kioussis has been named vice president, strategic marketing, at GE Capital Solutions, Corporate Aircraft. He also has his own consulting firm specializing in business development support for organizations that offer aviation-related products and services.

1976
Rick Kottler has been re-appointed by Florida Governor Jeb Bush to serve on the Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for a four-year term. He was elected vice chairman of the council for the 2006–2007 fiscal year. Rick is executive director of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services of the Treasure Coast, Inc., in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

1979
Steve Luzkow, M.S., is an environmental risk manager for LaSalle Bank, Midwest in Troy, Mich. He and wife Terri enjoy their 21 show horses. They have three daughters in college, as well as two teens and a three-year-old at home.

1981
Megan Davis ’92 M.S., ’98 Ph.D., serves as an aquaculture director for the Center for Coastal Research at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, Ft. Pierce, Fla.

1984
Dave Vensel ’95 M.S. is a senior consultant at On Demand Environmental in Birmingham, Ala. He married Mary Jo on the beach in the Dominican Republic in May 2006. Dave would like to hear from Jensen Beach alums and can be reached at davense165@yahoo.com.

1985
Joni Johnston and husband Alex Tsakiris reside in Del Mar, Calif., with their four children. She is president and CEO of WorkRelationships, a corporate training and consulting company.

1986
Jack Wierengo is a lead database architect for Starwood Hotels and Resorts in Colorado Springs, Col. He and wife Rebecca have two children, Richard, 16 and Ashley, 10.

1988
Jeffrey Rombach and Tammi Purks ’89 B.S. are living in Richmond, Va., with their three children Kati, 14, A.J., 11, and Grace, 5. He is teaching high school math at Highland Springs High School.

Francis Hallenstein currently attends Florida Atlantic University as a full-time MBA-accounting student. He served over nine years in the U.S. Army prior to moving to Boca Raton, Fla., to pursue further education.

1989
Jay Chrostowski is the coordinator for internship training with Aurora Behavioral Health Services located in the Milwaukee area. Wife Sandy is completing her doctorate in ministry program and will be formally known as the Reverend Doctor Sandy Chrostowski. They are parents to Rachel, 16, and Sarah, 11.

1991
Timothy Taylor is the business development manager in the engineering divisions at Southern Research Institute in Birmingham, Ala.

1992
Silvano Reynoso is a major in the U.S. Air Force, currently an aircraft commander in the RC-135 Rivet Joint at Offutt AFB in Nebraska. He may be reached at sreynoso2@cox.net.

1993
Charles Mangum was named Arizona airport manager of the year. He serves as manager of Marana Regional Airport in Marana, Ariz.

1994
Amanda McGhee and husband Michael became parents for the third time in January 2006. Hayley joined her brother Logan, 3, and sister Breana, 6. Amanda is a manager and associate actuary at NCCI in Boca Raton, Fla.

1995
Karen Oldham Pestyk, Psy.D., married Sean Barnett in 2005. She is in private practice, and he works in information technology at the University of North Carolina. Children Morgan and Ethan are doing well. The family may be reached at koldham@carolina.rr.com.

1996
Jessica (Schauer) Clark was a National Weather Service Pacific Region Fellow and received her M.S. in meteorology from the University of Hawaii in 1999. She is employed by NOAA at the National Weather Service’s Hydro Meteorological Prediction Center in Camp Springs, Md., focusing on forecasting and model diagnostics.

Mark Bowen (right) and wife Katie own Meadowdale Farm in Putney, Vt., where they enjoy life with son James, 1. They can be reached through www.meadowdale-farm.com.

1997
Warren Mitchell has received the 2006 Marine Fisheries Fellowship from North Carolina Sea Grant and the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF). He has earned his M.S. from North Carolina
State University and will do research with NCDMF. Warren resides in Beaufort, N.C., with Jenny, his wife of two years.

1998

Daniel Deppen ’02 M.S., is a mechanical engineer at Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. in Broomfield, Colo. He and wife Jennifer (Kohloff) ’98 M.S. are parents to Emma Claire, born June 2006. Deborah Russo currently lives in Marietta, Ga., with husband, Jeff. She practices with Remuda Ranch Programs for Eating Disorders, as well as two area outpatient offices. Jeff is the band director at St. Jude’s Catholic School, made his first jazz CD and is scheduled to perform at the Atlanta Jazz Festival.

1999

Sudi Dannenberg Randoing has joined a private practice in Allen, Texas, working with a married Florida Tech couple, Susan Blandino ’97 Psy.D and Erik Gonzalez ’98 Psy.D. Sudi is working part time so she can have time at home with children, Jason, 9, and Benjamin, 6.

Michele (Rutan) Conner, Psy.D., continues as the clinic director of Astor Counseling Center in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. She and husband Bill are parents of Billy, 3, and Emma, 1.

2001

Jane (Irby) Allen, Psy.D., works with the child and family team at Linn County Mental Health. She lives in Albany, Ore., with her husband James. Their son Ned lives in St. Augustine, Fla., and daughter Alicia is a humanities major at college.

2002

Cori Calkins, Psy.D., is in group private practice in Fort Myers, Fla. Her husband Rich is a technical trainer for Optimz Corporation. The couple welcomed Aylana Shea in May 2005.


2004

Beth McMillan recently received her master’s degree from UM RSMAS in Marine Affairs and Policy. She works for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in Miami, Fla., as an environmental specialist II.

Stephen MacLeod, M.S., works for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Protection in Tallahassee, Fla., as an environmental specialist II.

Patrick Fava recently received his Master of Aviation Management from Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia. He resides in Russane, France, and is employed by Virgin Blue. His e-mail is wisepat26@hotmail.com.

2005

Jeremy Harrison, Psy.D., and wife Melanie live in London, Ontario, Canada, where he is a psychologist at Regional Mental Health Care London. Melanie is a special education teacher in Woodstock.

Anita Sahgal, Psy.D., will be returning to Florida from Georgia, once she completes her postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Georgia. She is planning a March 2007 wedding.

Jason Mandy works for the Orange County Department of Education Outdoor Science School in Southern California, teaching ecology, geology, wildlife biology, astronomy, environmental science and outdoor sciences to fifth and sixth grade students.

2006

Heather Holberger, M.S., is a research assistant in charge of an oyster restoration project in the St. Lucie Estuary with the Florida Oceanographic Society in Stuart, Fla.

IN MEMORIAM

Wayne Petersen ’73, of Corpus Christi, Texas, passed away suddenly in June 2006 in Illinois. He was principal of the W.C. Andrew Elementary School in Portland, Texas, having retired from the U.S. Army as a major. His survivors include his wife of 25 years, Isabel, five children and six grandchildren.

Robert Pierce ’80, of Palm City, Fla., lost his battle with cancer in September 2006. For 17 years, he served as a Martin County sheriff’s deputy and had been promoted to sergeant in the detective bureau one week before his death. He had helped establish the Living Seas exhibit at Walt Disney World’s Epcot Center. As part of his love of the underwater world, Bob searched the world for the best scuba diving and was a master dive instructor. Survivors include his parents and two sisters.

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Calendar

“SAVE THE DATE” EVENTS | HELD ON CAMPUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

January
11—Humanities Lecture: “African-American Communities in Central Florida,” 7 p.m.
19—Alumni Reception, Miami, Ritz-Carlton South Beach
27—Astronomy and Astrophysics Public Lecture Series
   “Captain Cook, His Astronomer and the South Seas,” 8 p.m.

February
1—Third Annual Funk Lecturer in Textiles
   “Cloth that Speaks: The Intricate Roles of Indonesian Textiles,” 7 p.m., free
2—Third Annual Funk Lecturer in Textiles
   Luncheon and lecture: “Uncommon Threads: Textiles of Southeast Asia,”
   late morning, $50
4—Alumni Reception, Washington, D.C., 3-5 p.m.—site TBA
8-12—Alumni and Friends Cruise to the Bahamas
22-23—Fourth Annual Digital Showcase
23—Astronomy and Astrophysics Public Lecture Series
   “Illuminating Dark Energy and Dark Matter with a SNAP,” 8 p.m.
24—Annual Botanical Festival, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
24-25—International Festival
30-31—Alumni Reception, Puerto Rico

March
2—Envirothon, an alumni association event
9—High School Ethics Competition
3-12—South African Safari and Tour
14-15—Shakespeare’s Works Abridged, 8 p.m.
15—Humanities Lecture Series, “A Bosnian Diary: A Floridian’s
   Experience in Nation-Building,” 7 p.m.
16—School of Psychology Research Expo, noon
16—Sporting Affair: golf tournament, cocktail reception and
   Chopper Dropper
17—Governor’s Cup
23—Astronomy and Astrophysics Public Lecture Series
   “Relativistic Jets: Nature’s Highest Energy Sources,” 8 p.m.
24-25—Persian New Year Festival Dinner
31—Alumni Reception, Puerto Rico

April
5—Black Violin Concert, 8 p.m.
11, 15, 18, 22 and 27—French Film Festival
13—Student Design Showcase
20-28—Wonders of the Galapagos: Voyage of Discovery
27—Astronomy and Astrophysics Public Lecture Series:
   “Invisible and Inaudible Universe,” 8 p.m.
29—Jazz Goes to the University, 3 p.m.

May
4—Commencement Celebration
5—Spring Commencement
9—Alumni Reception, Chicago
11-13—Alumni Reception, Philadelphia, Dad Vail Regatta
20—Alumni Reception, Boston/New England
21—Alumni Reception, New York City

Contact the Alumni Office for more information on alumni events.

ONGOING EVENTS | HELD ON CAMPUS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

NCSBI Training Courses and Networking Opportunities
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The Florida Tech Alumni Association presents more group travel opportunities.

Discover the Beauty and Biodiversity of **Costa Rica**  • July 9-19, 2007

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Relax in the Eco Termales hot springs and go on a boat excursion on the Rio Frio River.

**Eleven Days—25 meals • Airfare from gateway city of Orlando, Florida**

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Mens’ Basketball Trip to Fairbanks, Alaska
December 6 – 10, 2006

The Florida Tech Men’s Basketball team traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska, for the trip of a lifetime to compete in the Glacier Classic. Though the team did not walk away with a win, the trip became a unique opportunity for teambuilding and bonding in the Great White North. From enjoying snowball fights in a mountain hot spring to whispering to Santa for a safe trip and a few wins, the camaraderie ignited through this trip will benefit the players on the court throughout the season.

Even temperatures of 11°F didn’t sway Florida Tech alumni from coming out to show their support. From Anchorage to Eagle, alumni came, and they represented! Donning their Florida Tech gear for the games, Tech fans were the loudest cheering section in the Patty Center.

Thank you to all of our alums who came and showed their PANTHER PRIDE!

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