

# Florida Tech **TODAY**

A magazine for Alumni and Friends of Florida Institute of Technology

FALL 2014

## CREATIVELY ENGINEERED?

IN THIS AGE OF  
INNOVATION,  
THE SUCCESSFUL  
ENGINEER MUST  
BE MORE.



**ONE BIG QUESTION** "WHAT IS YOUR PERSONAL CONNECTION?" p. 15



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FALL 2014 • Volume 23, Issue 2

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### GO GREEN, GET ONLINE!

Find expanded coverage, photos and videos at:

[today.fit.edu](http://today.fit.edu)

COVER PHOTO: Panther cub, John Culver, 11, son of Joshua (Web Services) and Amanda Culver (Continuing Education) is an aspiring football player and mathematician.  
*Photo by Dominic Agostini.*



Back to school! Students moved in to their campus homes during the second week of August. Pictured here, students and parents unloaded belongings at Columbia Village.

## Florida Tech TODAY

<http://today.fit.edu>

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*Florida Tech Today* is published three times a year by Florida Tech's Office of Marketing and Communications and is distributed to over 60,000 readers.

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Look for this symbol for content appearing only online at [today.fit.edu](http://today.fit.edu)

**In this issue:** Expanded coverage on Remaining Active: DDT marks 40 years of fellowship  
**Plus galleries from:** Summer Camps 2014, DDT Reunion



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## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Dear Florida Tech Alumni and Friends,

It's fall semester, and the fresh start to a new year is one of my favorite times on the academic calendar. While we have a diverse student body actively studying a range of disciplines across five colleges, from science to psychology, it really is engineering-related fields that form the core of our academic acumen. In fact, approximately three-fifths of our students are engineering majors.

We embrace that expertise in this issue of *Florida Tech Today*, exploring the creativity and ingenuity that our faculty deploy as they engage the next generation of engineers. Our efforts to educate the "whole brain" mean a healthy dose of arts and culture as well, as witnessed by our growing musical offerings and opportunities for artistic expression.

Our nation needs well-prepared graduates in the all-important STEM fields—Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics—and that requires educational opportunities that a university like Florida Tech remains well positioned to provide. There is great leadership potential in this area.

As you read our coverage in this issue, I think you'll agree Florida Tech is "The STEM University" that is poised to make even greater contributions in these critical study areas. Our alumni have been incredibly successful, and the next generation of graduates isn't far behind.

Sincerely yours,

A.J. Catanese, Ph.D., FAICP  
President & Chief Executive Officer



President Catanese addresses the incoming students during Orientation week.



Anthony J. Catanese (left) and T. Dwayne McCay (right) present Ibrahim Albaloooshi with an FIT clock for his efforts to help organize the UAE alumni reception. See story on page 39.



President Catanese and Twitchy were special musical guests at the Orlando Science Center's "It's Science Night Live!" event on June 7.

Photo Credit: Roberto Gonzalez

## Feedback From Our Readers

We welcome your input on the magazine. You asked for bigger photos, expanded campus coverage and more Alumni News, and we listened. **Have a comment about something you've read? Want to share a memory about your FIT days? Email us at [fltechtoday@fit.edu](mailto:fltechtoday@fit.edu).**



**FRED S. BEKKER '87** shared a few photos of The Bangles and Cyndi Lauper rocking at FIT in 1984.

"Thank you for honoring the brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha. Although I did not pledge their fraternity, I consider those guys my brothers. They were always supportive when I was SGA president in 1970–71. But, most of all, I remember the outpouring of support of those guys during the untimely death of my father during my sophomore year.

Thanks, brothers, for honoring my good friend **TOM GUTIERREZ!**"

—Dr. Harold K. "Harry" McGinnis  
'71, '73 M.S.

"The brothers of SQUAMISH wish to extend a grapefruit branch to the brothers of DDT. In the last issue of the Florida Tech Today, a younger brother submitted a letter wherein she claimed that SQUAMISH created the BORK.

In the 1970s, the brothers of SQUAMISH engaged in a secretive battle with the BORK. Fought among the moonlit palms and creeks of the Jungle, the older brothers and young pledges would match wits in what became known as the BORK Wars. These epic battles were fought in the final week of pledging—during what we called "hell weekend."

On a single moonlit night, the BORK roamed the Jungle, periodically proclaiming its presence loudly with the call, "BORK – BORK!" Surrounded and protected by the older brothers of SQUAMISH, and sought after by the young pledges, the BORK would move stealthily from pagoda to pagoda avoiding any contact with the green slime and waters of the creek. It was all good fun. Those

were the days when students were allowed to hang out in the Jungle after dark. And those of us who were there remember it fondly.

The stories of the BORK Wars have come down through the ages and have been retold so many times they are legend. SQUAMISH truly embraced the BORK, and it remains a significant part of our traditions and culture today. But SQUAMISH did not create the BORK. That accolade goes to the brothers of DDT. The BORK creators were the stuff we SQUAMISH brothers look for in a brother: Creative, individualistic and just a little out there ... So SQUAMISH pays tribute to **BILL DUFFIELD** and his contemporaries in DDT. Thank you for giving us the BORK."

—Deborah Heystek '79  
SQUAMISH 1975–79

To read more about the origins of the BORK, visit the DDT's History of the BORK page at <http://bit.ly/1kz5iAc>.

### CHEERS!

**DONNA DALTON** helped identify the mystery graduate on the left, who she believes is **DEBBIE LUECK**. Dalton writes, "She later worked for Harris as an engineer, went to law school and married. Many good thoughts!"



## Bisk College of Business Announces Accreditation

More than two dozen undergraduate and graduate-level programs in the Bisk College of Business have been accredited by the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE), the leading outcomes-based, professional accreditation agency for business education at universities.

IACBE's mission-driven, outcome-based approach allows for a focus on student learning outcomes as a driver in continuous improvement and teaching excellence. That emphasis on continuous improvement gives all the stakeholders a voice, noted **ANNIE BECKER**, dean of the Bisk College of Business.

Achieving IACBE accreditation is a lengthy, labor-intensive process.

The college provided two years of data generated from a required self-study process that highlighted how it was implementing process improvements. Those improvements were gauged by measuring student learning outcomes associated with critical thinking, effective communication, and general and specialized business knowledge.

A team from IACBE also conducted a site visit to review data; talk to students, faculty and external constituents; and look at resources, classroom space and libraries.

Becker said the IACBE accreditation adds value to the degrees earned by students in the Bisk College of Business in ways beyond its required emphasis on high-quality education. "It also adds value in that graduates can go to employers and say, 'I was educated by an IACBE-accredited university.' That is a big deal for employers."



Annie Becker

"Students, parents, our community, our faculty—we can all make sure we are meeting and exceeding our standards of excellence and following best practices in business education."

### SQUAMISH SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BEGIN

Alumni members of the Squamish fraternity have realized their goal of establishing an endowed scholarship to celebrate the fraternity's unique role in student life at Florida Tech.

Contributions to the Squamish Endowed Scholarship Fund have reached the \$25,000 level, and the fund will award its first scholarship in 2015. The scholarship will be awarded to a deserving junior or senior with a minimum GPA of 3.0, with preference given to Squamish members. "**DEB HEYSTEK** '79 has been a driving force behind establishing the scholarship," said Director of Development **JEFF SPOERI**, "and she is encouraging all Squamish alumni to support the new fund." To make a gift or for more information reach out to Deb at Squamish@bellsouth.net, or contact Spoeri at (321) 674-6162 or email jspoeri@fit.edu.

## Enriching Research

### INTERSTELLAR IMAGING

In a new project led by Florida Tech professor **DAN BATCHELDOR**, scientists will conduct research in remote sensing using an extreme-contrast camera on the International Space Station. Funded by a grant from the Center for the Advancement of Science in Space (CASIS), the camera will launch to the ISS in 2015.

### TERRAPIN TRACKING

Professor **MICHAEL GRACE** is teaming up with the Brevard Zoo and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to study the elusive diamondback terrapin. Hunted to the edge of extinction a century ago, the species has been the subject of a variety of research efforts aimed at preservation, yet the east-central Florida subspecies remains among the most poorly understood. The team's research aims to remedy that.



## WWII-based Tour Across Europe

Robert Taylor, associate dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, and Matthew Ruane, an instructor in the college's School of Arts and Communication, guided 14 people across Western Europe in May to see pivotal points in World War II history in what organizers called the March to Victory Tour.

The 10-day trip, hosted by the university's Lifelong Scholar Society, started in Normandy, and the group followed the campaigns of WWII, traveling west through the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg before ending at the famed Eagle's Nest in Germany.

"We feel that these kinds of trips are very beneficial, and you learn a lot culturally," Taylor said.

Noteworthy stops included Napoleon's Tomb in Paris, Omaha Beach in Normandy, Bastogne in Belgium and Dachau Concentration

Camp Memorial in Munich.

Taylor and Ruane are planning for a new trip tentatively scheduled for May 2015. Beginning in London instead of Normandy, the tour will also follow a westward path across Europe and conclude at the Eagle's Nest.

As they did this year, Taylor and Ruane will split educational topics between each region. Both will lecture on the ground and on the bus.

"You can read about historic places, you can see photographs of historic places, you

can see video of historic places, but there's absolutely no substitute for going and seeing it yourself," Taylor said.

Once again, airport transportation—but not airfare—and bus service throughout the tour will be included in the overall cost, along with hotels, excursion fees and some meals. More information is available from Continuing Education by emailing [conted@fit.edu](mailto:conted@fit.edu).

—Purvi Pandit



### UNIVERSITY-CORPORATION ALLIANCE FOR SUCCESS

In April, the University-Corporation Alliance for Success (UCAS) launched. This innovative program is designed to allow corporate partners access to all corners of the university while also recognizing those organizations with additional benefits tailored to their needs.

Northrop Grumman Corp. and Harris Corp. were recognized as Legacy Members of UCAS for their more than five decades of support to FIT.

"To my colleagues in industries, this is an amazing place, a place that inspires, a place where magic does seem to happen," **TOM VICE**, corporate vice president and president, Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems, said at the UCAS kick-off event at the Clemente Center. "I encourage you to engage more deeply with FIT."

In the coming months, members of the UCAS committee will work with Florida Tech's corporate colleagues to detail the program and learn how the university can maximize the potential of those partnerships. For more information, contact **GRETCHEN SAUERMAN**, assistant vice president for corporate sponsored programs, at [gsauerman@fit.edu](mailto:gsauerman@fit.edu).



### NEW TOOLS FOR DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS

**BENJAMIN HUTZ**, assistant professor of mathematical sciences, received a National Science Foundation grant of \$118,246 for his work in arithmetic dynamics, implementing algorithms for working with dynamical systems. The resulting computational tools will be available to the greater scientific community as part of the mathematical software Sage.



### TAKING THE (VERY) LONG VIEW

**ERIC PERLMAN**, professor, and **VÉRONIQUE PETIT**, assistant professor, physics and space sciences, have been awarded time on the Hubble Space Telescope. Perlman's proposal, "The Physics of the Jets of Powerful Radio Galaxies and Quasars," will investigate the high-energy flows of matter and radiation that emerge from host galaxy's nuclear regions. Petit will use the Hubble to look at a massive magnetic star. Both researchers expect to receive grants of up to \$100,000 in association with their Hubble projects.

# Oxford experience offers insights, broadens minds



As rising junior **BRAYDEN THOMPSON** stood in the 400-year-old quad at Jesus College, Oxford, this summer, he marveled at the age of the architecture towering over him.

"Just walking around Oxford has been really neat," said Thompson, the university's 2012 Farmer Scholar and a native of Mims, Fla.

"I've never been out of the country before, so this is all new to me and just a great experience overall."

Thompson was one of 29 Florida Tech students who spent six weeks in the United Kingdom as part of the university's annual Study Abroad program.

Participants earned credits while studying topics

like world religions, international business, humanities and calculus. They also became immersed in the culture of the country, sampling local cuisine and interacting with other international students. Trips included visits to Paris, France and Ireland.

Junior and business major **MICHELLE TANNER** was impressed upon arrival.

"I've just always wanted to see something in Europe because I was born in the Philippines but had only ever been there and Florida," she said. Her high points were visiting the Tower of London, the U.S. Embassy and seeing "Phantom of the Opera" on the London stage.

For junior **CHLOE CHANLEY**, the trip was a chance to test living in another country.

"I've always wanted to study abroad. I've been abroad a couple of times before Florida Tech, but Oxford seemed like a great opportunity and being a global business major it seemed quite appropriate.

"It's more about the experience and learning what else is out there in the world, not just staying in the American bubble," Chanley added. "I want to appreciate other cultures and realize there's more to learn."

For more information, visit [www.fit.edu/oxford](http://www.fit.edu/oxford).

—Wes Sumner



Top: The first trip of the summer was to London, where students saw landmarks including Big Ben.

Above: Father Douglas Bailey teaches a world religions class at Oxford.



Students visit the verdant vistas of Ireland.

## NEW BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING HEAD

**TED CONWAY**, a former National Science Foundation program director, has joined Florida Tech as the head of the biomedical engineering department in the College of Engineering. His distinguished, three-decade-long career spans government, academic and private-sector experience. He holds a doctoral degree in theoretical and applied mechanics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



## NEW GRADUATE DEGREE IN AVIATION MANAGEMENT

A new online graduate program, Master of Science in Aviation—Aviation Management, launched this fall. The program is designed for adult working professionals in public, private or military aviation-related professions where advanced, graduate-level knowledge of aviation management concepts is a key to success. Learn more at [www.fit.edu/](http://www.fit.edu/) programs and click on "Aviation-Aviation Management Online."

Create the Future Campaign News

## New Home for the Bisk College of Business

Thanks to a generous gift from Nathan M. Bisk, a longtime university supporter and current trustee, the university was able to purchase a 22,000-square-foot building that will house the Bisk College of Business.

The two-story Babcock Oaks building at 2202 S. Babcock St. will assist the Bisk College of Business in delivering high-quality, accredited undergraduate and graduate level programs. "Finding a more suitable home for the growing Bisk College of Business has been a priority of the Create the Future Campaign," said Florida Tech President

**ANTHONY J. CATANESE.** "This expansion would not have become reality without the generous and ongoing support of Nathan Bisk."

Nathan Bisk College of Business at Babcock Oaks

A refurbished and renamed Babcock Oaks building will feature space for high-tech classrooms and a studio.

Expanding to 22,000 square-feet from its 5,800-square-foot location on campus.



There will be shared space for students to create, collaborate on team projects and relax.

### STUDENT ORG SPOTLIGHT:

## American Legion Panther Post 406

For members of American Legion Post 406, Panther Post is more than just a student organization. It's a community within a community with a lifetime membership.

Panther Post 406 is part of the American Legion, an organization dedicated to helping military veterans around the world. Created in February, Panther Post 406 has brought a familiar sense of family to many Florida Tech veterans.

"I just got out of the military two years ago and I missed the camaraderie and my military family," says **JARED J. DELA CRUZ**, computer engineering major. "When I first met everyone in Post 406, I felt the connection right away."

**JAMAUL GRAYSON.** He says members help each other with everything from navigating financial aid decisions to holding community barbecues.

Post 406 hopes to reach out not only to on-campus veterans, but online students and alumni as well. The club hopes to hold online meetings to allow Florida Tech students from all over the country to participate.

"Florida Tech is a very veteran friendly school and it's getting better and better every year," says Grayson. "We hope to act as liaison for veterans coming here and help however we can."

—Drew Lacy '14

Post 406 brings together not only students, but staff and faculty as well to create a unique veteran community within Florida Tech. Members can only join one American Legion post, but membership lasts long after graduation.

"We just want to come together to each help the next veteran who comes into Florida Tech," says forensic psychology major



Jared J. Dela Cruz (right) is frocked to the rank Petty Officer Second Class (E-5) while onboard *USS Emory S. Land* (a submarine tender).

### ONLINE PROGRAMS AMONG NATION'S BEST

Florida Tech's online programs earned the university the No. 14 ranking among the nation's best online colleges for 2014, according to TheBestSchools.org, an independent organization that studies and quantifies academic excellence in higher education. Criteria included academic excellence, scholarly quality of faculty, online teaching methods, cost, reputation, awards and financial aid, and number of degree programs.

### FLORIDA TECH JOINS BIOFLORIDA

Florida Tech has joined the statewide trade association for the bioscience industry, BioFlorida, giving faculty and student researchers access to an industry-specific forum focusing on biotech and pharmaceutical issues as well as medical device research and development. Premedical students will also benefit from information on bio/pharma workforce and career opportunities as well as technology licensing, research and commercialization and policy issues.



## Summer Sizzled!

Q. What do Alice, model airplanes and traveling salesmen have in common?

A. They are all learning tools used in Florida Tech's academic summer camps.

Thanks to a scholarship grant from Rockwell Collins, many local youth and teens from Brevard County checked into Florida Tech summer camps this year and discovered that Alice is a software program, that building model airplanes is as much about physics as it is fun, and that Traveling Salesmen is a brain teaser.

"It was just awesome," one camper remarked about Computer Camp Alpha. "I can't wait to get started," said another on his eagerness to arrive at day three of 3D Printer Camp.

"We wanted to make sure that youth in our local community had the opportunity offered by Florida Tech to actually do science, experiment with engineering or use technology in a new way, regardless of family financial need," said Dan Clark, senior director CNS Engineering from Rockwell Collins. "These are the kinds of learning opportunities that excite young minds and get them interested in STEM—science, technology, engineering and mathematics."

As a leader in communication and aviation electronics, innovation and a passion for engineering and technology are important to Rockwell Collins. "That's one reason we invest in the futures of students," Clark said. "Capturing the interest of young people early helps to ensure a strong next generation of leaders who will develop future groundbreaking technologies needed in industries in our community, and around the world."

Thanks to Rockwell Collins' support, a number of campers were able to attend camp and experience a super-charged week of activity at Florida Tech. Designed to be fun, the summer programs also plugged into some serious learning. The Mathematics Camp rocked with MATLAB, a programming language used by engineers and technical companies; Flight Camp soared with campers taking off and landing during a 30-minute flight; Computer Camp Alpha aced their own animation stories while Computer Camp Beta beat all odds by using Java to juice up their week; Engineering Camp amped out on experiments; and, if you were one of the lucky teens who signed on for 3D Printer Camp, you carted away your very own self-built 3D printer.

—Sara Smith



There were a lot of smiles during Flight Camp at the Emil Buehler Center for Aviation Training & Research.

## Behind the Scenes

**1** All permanent collection items are assigned a unique object number. A label with the object number is sewn onto textiles that are in good condition, taking special care to ensure the fibers of the textile are not broken.

**2** Some textiles that are in good, stable condition are stored hanging such as these Central Asian coats. Most of the textiles in the collection are stored rolled, flat, boxed or hanging. The collection requires a combination of these four storage systems based on the needs of specific textiles—their size, construction and condition.

**3** Archival, acid-free boxes are used to store the majority of the collection. These boxes protect the textiles from light and dust and act as a buffer against fluctuations in temperature and humidity. Pictures and object numbers are on the outside of boxes to limit the amount of unnecessary handling.

**4** Textiles, particularly historical garments, must be mounted on customized forms in order to exhibit them.

**5** A 1940s Ndebele woman's ceremonial apron from South Africa is inspected and condition reported post-exhibition.

**6** Any time a new textile is received by the museum and before and after display in an exhibition, a condition report is done. A condition report is a detailed, accurate and informative description of an object's current state of preservation.

**7** Small, flat textiles are stored in archival acid-free boxes. Each textile has its own support board, is labeled, and is wrapped in acid-free tissue.

**8** English embroidered panel dated c.1670. Highlighting the collection are traditional handmade textiles, embroidery, garments and related accessories from Africa, Japan, India and Central Asia; European and North American embroidery; samplers from the 16th through the 20th centuries; and contemporary wearable art and fiber arts.

## Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts

The Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts at Florida Institute of Technology is the only textiles center in the state and one of very few in the nation. The center preserves and displays an international collection of textiles through rotating public exhibitions and educational programs and promotes the cultural understanding and appreciation for these objects within the university and surrounding communities.



## ED SCOTT'S AUTISM ADVOCACY

InsidePhilanthropy.com recognized Trustee **ED SCOTT** for his training-focused approach to autism advocacy in a July article on the website.

In 2009, the generosity of Ed and Cheryl Scott sparked the creation of Florida Tech's Scott Center for Autism



Treatment. Guided by a three-prong mission, the center is dedicated to service, training and research on autism spectrum disorders.

"Our society needs better strategies to treat autistic kids," says writer David Callahan. "Scott sees the goal of his giving as 'Improving the life of the autistic child, and improving the life of the parents. And everyone else who deals with the autistic challenge.'"

This fall, The Scott Center celebrates five years. Read more about the center's achievements on page 22.

Read the complete article on Ed Scott at <http://bit.ly/1pzptN5>.

Beth Gitlin,  
Women's Business  
Center Executive  
Director



### EXPERT ADVICE:

## Business Savvy

Founded seven years ago, the Women's Business Center at Florida Institute of Technology works to accelerate sustainable business growth for women entrepreneurs. The only such center in Central Florida and one of just three in the state, the center engages experts to grow entrepreneurial leaders and thinkers through experiential learning, accountability and skill building across all core business functions. We talked to Women's Business Center Executive Director **BETH GITLIN** about the particular challenges and successes of the center and its mission.

### Q: Are there challenges particular to women in business?

A: Yes, I believe so. According to a survey this year by American Express, 29 percent of women business owners surveyed said they feel they have less access to money than men, and 32 percent said they have less access to new business

opportunities. These opinions are supported by data as to the types and amount of capital secured and by the contracts awarded to women-owned businesses.

### Q: What do you find are the most effective ways to succeed as a start-up or small business?

A: In short, I believe learning from your peers is critical. Engage with those who have been there and walked the entrepreneurial path before you. That said, each person's journey to entrepreneurial success is unique and the Women's Business Center is positioned to assist with customized programs that fit clients' specific needs.

### Q: What are three things that you always find in a successful business?

A: A scalable business model, enough capital to grow and the right team of people.



## COMMUNITY IMPACT

Panther Football has partnered with the Fellsmere Boys & Girls Club to develop a mentorship program between students and players. On the heels of a successful summer football camp, the Panthers visit with Fellsmere 2nd–8th graders on a weekly basis to play games, help with homework and serve as positive role models.

## ATHLETIC FUNDRAISING LEADERSHIP

**JOHN THOMAS** has been named associate vice president for athletic fundraising, charged with cultivating new sources of financial support for Panther programs. Thomas is very familiar with Florida Tech athletics, having previously served as director of athletic partnerships and director of football operations.

## Cleaned, Dried and Properly Stowed

Bill Battin, research associate in DMES, works on the lines that were used in "Marine Field Project's 2014" sessions to be sure they are washed and dried, then properly stowed to prevent mold and rot.



# etc.



## Our Baked Beans are Famous

A baked bean dish from Florida Tech's kitchens is featured in the online edition of *Foodservice Director* magazine's July issue. Florida Tech's 5-Way Baked Beans features five different beans, bacon, onion, garlic, molasses and other seasonings. Find the recipe at <http://bit.ly/1ryhgvR>.



By the Numbers—

## Getting Ready for the Students

Approximate figures for the 14-week period between spring graduation and fall move-in.



## Martian Mining

At NASA's annual Robotic Mining Competition, which challenges college students to design and build a mining robot that can travel on simulated Martian terrain, excavate Martian soil and deposit it into a bin in 10 minutes, FIT's robot Perception mined a whopping 33.4 kg in two runs—a feat completed by only a handful of teams. FIT's team earned second place for the On-Site Mining Award and third place for the Caterpillar Autonomy Award. Read more about the competition, including video links of the team's performance, at <http://bit.ly/1o58jaT>.

(Image Credit: NASA)

## Endowment Honors Physics Professor

THE DR. AND MRS. PIETER S. DUBBELDAY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT IN PHYSICS HONORS THE LEGACY OF PROFESSOR DUBBELDAY'S TEACHING AT FIT AND HIS PIONEERING RESEARCH IN THE FIELD OF HYDROACOUSTICS.



Dr. Pieter S. Dubbelday appears third from right in this photo from 1979.

Florida Tech is pleased to announce the establishment of a scholarship endowment in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Pieter S. Dubbelday of Garland, Texas, thanks to a generous lead gift from several donors.

"We are pleased to see this recognition of the contributions by Dr. Dubbelday, supported by his wife, to the early decades of Florida Tech's development," said President and CEO **ANTHONY J. CATANESE** in announcing this scholarship.

"He was and is a man of amazing intelligence and vast knowledge. I am so pleased to see a lasting legacy to his years of hard work."

Wadad Dubbelday '81

Dubbelday taught physics and oceanography at Florida Tech

from 1961 to 1981. As a professor, he was known for his intellect, integrity and dedication to students, which earned him the FIT Teacher of the Year in 1980 at the annual award ceremony staged by the Student Government Association.

Dubbelday received his doctorate in nuclear physics from the Vrije Universiteit at Amsterdam in the Netherlands. During his years at Florida Tech, he maintained an active teaching schedule while also engaging in hydroacoustic research. He received

a National Science Foundation "Science Faculty Professional Development Award," which allowed him to perform research at the Underwater Sound Reference Detachment of the Naval Research Lab at Orlando. Dubbelday's NSF-backed work included designing and constructing an acoustic tank facility. Later in his career, Dubbelday and Forrest M. Eggleston of the Naval Research Laboratory in Orlando developed an aluminum-based material practically transparent to sound with a density equivalent

to water. He is the holder of a patent for a ferrofluid transducer assigned to the U.S. Navy, has authored 45 publications and is still widely cited in research today.

Dubbelday and his wife, also a teacher, met while foreign exchange students in science at MIT. In a group consisting of more than 70 men, Mrs. Dubbelday was one of only three women. The couple married in the Netherlands and raised two daughters in Brevard County. **WADAD DUBBELDAY '81** majored in physics at FIT and is now at the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command in California. While at FIT, she was a student in several of her father's classes, making for an interesting dynamic. "My father's integrity was so legendary, no one questioned he would treat me like all the rest of the students," she said. "He was and is a man of amazing intelligence and vast knowledge. I am so pleased to see a lasting legacy to his years of hard work." **CATHARINA DUBBELDAY HAYNES '83**, now a federal judge, majored in psychology at FIT and recently returned to campus to receive the 2014 Florida Tech Award of Distinction as part of the university's annual Women's History Month luncheon.

The first Dr. and Mrs. Pieter S. Dubbelday Scholarship award will be made in 2016. FIT alumni, colleagues and friends of the Dubbeldays are invited to contribute to the scholarship fund and are encouraged to contact **JEFFREY T. SPOERI**, director of development, at (321) 674-6162 or email [jspoeri@fit.edu](mailto:jspoeri@fit.edu).

—Sara Smith

Vibraphonist and pianist Christian Tamburr is the 2014 Florida Tech Music Artist in Residence. Tamburr's residency was made possible thanks to a generous gift from Barb Keller and Jean Burgdorff. As part of his residency with the School of Arts and Communication, Tamburr teaches master classes and workshops with FIT music students, presents outreach performances to local public schools and holds concerts at Gleason Performing Arts Center. Beyond Florida Tech, Tamburr tours internationally and for the past year has held the musical directorship at Vegas Nocturne in the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Las Vegas. Later this year, he will travel to Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar as an ambassador and featured performer for New York City-based Jazz at Lincoln Center.



**ONE BIG QUESTION** with Christian Tamburr

# What is your Personal Connection?

Over the past 20 years, I have had the great fortune of being able to perform and create music professionally for a living. During those 20 years, I have had to figure out how to explain to my friends, family and parents of the girls I would date that I could, in fact, make a living being a musician. Some of these conversations (some easier than others) bring to point that many people see the creative arts as a hobby or an unsustainable business model (unless you have won "American Idol").

This reality is true. Being a self-employed "artist" is difficult. The competition is steep. It's also an immediate induction into entrepreneurship and running your own business. From the development of the product, marketing, sales and final presentation of the product, an artist's talent and ability are their consumable goods. Every day professional musicians wake up and practice to improve the product, we research what others are doing to maintain a constant pulse on the market, we reach out to prospective venues and outlets to showcase and sell the product, and we put it on display for people to provide immediate feedback and judge its success or lack thereof. This entire business model is one of complete responsibility for all aspects of running a business and a direct connection to the success of the final product.

Think about your career path and how you might change your approach to what you do if you were responsible for all the aspects of the business. Imagine yourself coding a piece of software that will operate a product you will present in front of a room of 2,000 people with the hopes that a majority of those people will buy the product from you. Then imagine that your ability to continue to work and make a living is based upon the sales outcome of that product! This may seem like a stressful scenario, but it is essentially what I do every time I walk on stage with my band and perform anywhere in the world.

Connect yourself with the work you do in a way that brings not only responsibility, but also pride and accomplishment to the end product. I call this process "the personal connection," and I find it is one of the driving factors behind what I do and some of the most successful artists, entrepreneurs and business leaders.

**Tamburr's next performance at Gleason is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18. Check <http://cpla.fit.edu/sac> for the latest information.**

## How I Spent My Summer

Florida Tech Student-Athletes Score Big in Summer Experiences



“I observed and recorded the behavior of great white sharks on a cage diving tourist boat in Mossel Bay, South Africa. These observations helped us inform the public about conservation and the importance of protecting sharks. In this picture, I caught a leopard shark and recorded its tag number and size to help biologists study shark growth patterns and migration.”

Carissa Thiel, Volleyball, Marine Biology

“I interned in the imaging and body composition department at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. I tested patients with ultrasound and worked with 3D imaging modalities and body composition measurement devices. I was also part of a clinical trial that involved testing and comparing imaging devices from different companies to determine how they could be improved.”

Liana Soileau, Women’s Swimming,  
Biomedical Engineering



“I interned with the market and solutions research group at Jeppesen, an aviation company, in Englewood, Colorado. I was involved in various projects, including those for Digital Aviation. One of the projects was an app that is for use in the cockpit of planes.”

Katie Reid, Women’s Lacrosse,  
Aviation Human Factors



“I interned at GE Transportation’s locomotive manufacturing plant in Fort Worth, Texas, as part of GE’s Early Identification Program. As an intern in the paint department, I learned about the entire paint process and how locomotives are built. For instance, one locomotive uses 75 gallons of paint!”

Shelby Pearce, Women’s Swimming,  
Mechanical Engineering

“I studied International Marketing and World Religions in Oxford. Since I am an international business major and hope to work abroad, I felt it was necessary to become familiar with the culture in a country other than the U.S. I believe this opportunity will be an excellent tool toward a successful future!”

Chloe Chanley, Women’s Tennis, International Business

“I studied Probability and Statistics and Civilization Two as part of Florida Tech’s Oxford Summer Study Aboard Program. I did some sightseeing before classes began—visited a teammate, Drake Hillman, in Cyprus, the holy places in Jerusalem and the Dead Sea.”

John Bocinsky, Men’s Soccer, Biomedical Engineering





### Women's Teams Headed for Hawaii

The women's soccer and volleyball teams were also presented with a neat opportunity. Both will travel to Oahu, Hawaii, to play games in September.



### FIT Football to Play at Dallas Cowboys' Stadium

The football team will play at AT&T Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys, on Saturday, Sept. 20 against Tarleton State. Advanced tickets are available for \$25 for adults and \$10 for students by calling the Florida Tech Ticket Office at (321) 674-6228.

*Photo: James D. Smith*



**CARSON GREEN**, a rising junior, and **TAYLOR BROWN '09** made the U.S. National Team in rowing. Green raced in the quad at the Under 23 World Rowing Championship in Italy. Brown competed in the coxed pair at the Senior World Rowing Championships in Amsterdam.



The men's varsity eight finished 15th in the country at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association Regatta. The Panthers took down five crews ranked ahead of them in No. 14 Penn, No. 15 Oregon State twice, No. 17 George Washington, No. 18 Syracuse twice and No. 19 Hobart.

**FLORIDATECHSPORTS.COM**

The official website of Florida Tech Athletics

**CONNOR AHLBORN** and **CHRISTIAN SCHIEMANN** competed at the NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championship. Ahlborn was the first female from FIT to participate in the event, and Schiemann was FIT's second male in the program's four-year history.

Former assistant swimming coach **JUSTIN ANDRADE** is the program's new head coach. He graduated from Ashland University with a bachelor's in exercise science and swam collegiately all four years.

Former volleyball player **ANGIE LASSMAN '12, '14 M.S.**, is a meteorologist and news reporter for FOX 26 KNPN in St. Joseph, Missouri. She was an all-region player for the Panthers and finished second in school history in digs.





# CREATIVELY ENGINEERED?

Sometime next spring or summer, in front of a class of engineering students at Florida Tech, **Robert Weaver** will jump on a surfboard and catch a wave in the name of science.

The lithe, young professor won't be riding any old surfboard. It will be specially designed by legendary Melbourne surfer George Robinson to conceal sophisticated measuring tools, and it will be painted in ten-centimeter increments.

The moment Weaver catches that first wave the instruments hidden inside—along with wave gauges in the surf zone and videographers in the water and on land—will begin capturing the complex forces at work in that moment when board and surfer are lifted up and the thrill ride begins.

Weaver's new course says something important about the way engineering is being taught in 2014 at FIT. Like other tech schools around the country, FIT knows that if it is to attract and groom the next generation of engineers, the course work can't be all differential equations and fluid dynamics.

Especially in the early years, there must be a creative spark to help students understand why they must conquer the daunting schedule of math and science classes required to earn an engineering degree.

How else would they understand what happens when the wave picks up the board?

“That is exactly why I proposed developing this class—to spark interest in engineering and show people that even in some of the most benign places there is really complicated physics at work,” said Weaver, an associate professor of ocean engineering who surfs as a hobby. “They will never look at the ocean the same way.”

But FIT’s motivation in approving inspired ideas like Weaver’s class on the engineering of surfing goes beyond that. It comes from an understanding that in this Age of Innovation, the successful engineer won’t be someone trained simply to produce a perfect widget. It will be a person broad minded enough to imagine something entirely different, the next Big Thing.

**ABRAM WALTON**, who teaches the first batch of students earning degrees in FIT’s new Master of Science in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, put it bluntly.

“Companies that aren’t being innovative, being creative, sticking to the same markets, expecting their customers not to vote with their feet are closing their doors.”

FIT’s commitment to inspire more creativity in its engineering majors—who represent 60 percent of the students on campus—arises from a collision of forces. The nation’s innovation-driven economy creates a thirst for engineers, but the tough

slog to a degree causes many who enroll in the major to give up.

In 2012, concerned about the shortage of engineers, President Obama launched an initiative to train 10,000 new engineers a year. He did so against the backdrop of a 2010 survey by the American Society for Engineering Education that showed



Abram Walton

that three of every 10 students who enroll as engineering majors at private schools don’t earn a degree in the field. The graduation rate at public universities was dramatically worse.

The society’s own website offers this assessment. “American engineers were heroes in the fifties and sixties,” the organization says under the tab labeled About Us. “The space race focused the country on the need for engineering, and top students flocked to the profession. Today, engineering has lost its glamour.”

FIT, like its counterparts nationwide, is responding to this challenge

with fresh thinking about how to develop engineers for a new economy.

Early on, students tackle design projects that showcase the creativity involved in engineering. They work with students from other majors in courses like Walton’s business-school class on innovation and entrepreneurship, exposing them to different

“Companies that aren’t being innovative, being creative, sticking to the same markets, expecting their customers not to vote with their feet are closing their doors.”

ways of thinking. They take courses in the humanities to broaden their minds. And on campus they find a rich cultural life that lures them into a world beyond calculus and physics.

**MATTHEW JENSEN**, who teaches a general engineering course for first-year students, knows as well as anyone how intimidating an engineering education was before schools like FIT departed from the classical approach.

Traditionally, engineering was a five-year program. Students didn’t take an actual engineering course until their second or third year. Until then, they faced a steady

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Robert Weaver

... in this Age of Innovation, the successful engineer won’t be someone trained simply to produce a perfect widget. It will be a person broad minded enough to imagine something entirely different, the next Big Thing.

"I tell my freshmen, I don't care how great an engineer you are—you could cure cancer—if you can't tell anyone about it, if you can't describe it so that someone can duplicate it, it's useless."



Matthew Jensen

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diet of brutally difficult classes on subjects like fluids, statics and thermodynamics.

"The curriculum is very off-putting. It's not easy," remembered Jensen, who clearly has his own creative streak, as his office is decorated with memorabilia from his favorite TV show, "The Simpsons."

Students who took Jensen's introduction to engineering class last fall faced an entirely different reality. They began with a simple engineering challenge—design and build a miniature golf hole and calculate the score that would represent par.

Classmates worked in teams. Each team got a budget and a set of dimensions defining the space their hole could occupy. Otherwise, there was no limit to the creativity they could display in design. Students had plenty of great ideas, among them a hole that required a player to putt up a ramp and launch the ball over a basketball court and into a tiny net, a tough par by any standard.

What they learned, Jensen said, is that without all those math and science classes they didn't have all the tools they needed to rise to the challenge. And when par was added to the equation, they had to think not only about the hole they were building, but also about the person who would be playing it—the customer.

"They really got to learn their own limitations," Jensen said. "That got them looking toward the future. They can start to see the end game. In a few years, their courses will give them those skills."

They also learned, he said, that the engineers of the future need tools beyond math and science. They need to be able to communicate—to their teammates, their potential customers, the venture capitalists who finance their dreams.

"I tell my freshmen, I don't care how great an engineer you are—you could cure cancer—if you can't tell anyone about it, if you can't describe it so that someone can duplicate it, it's useless," Jensen said.

In a few years, flush with this new view of the possibilities, perhaps even harboring visions of a new product that will make it big, engineering students might venture into the

business school and take Walton's master's program on innovation and entrepreneurship.

There they will encounter a completely different world than the one they shared with their fellow engineering majors. Last year's class, Walton said, included students majoring in Spanish, communication, biology and political science, who bring to the table an entirely different mind-set.

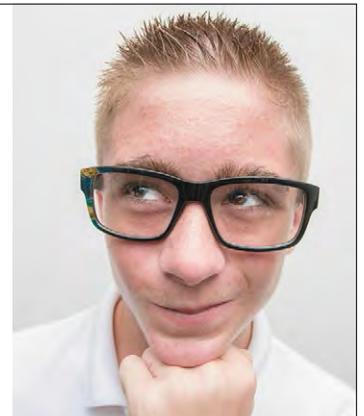
That is precisely what Walton is looking for—the political scientist challenging the engineer, the Spanish major taking on the biologist.

"What science has shown," he said, "is that the more interdisciplinary you get, the more creative the solutions are."

Walton joined FIT two years ago after teaching at Purdue and the University of South Florida, and he has been impressed with how much more open Florida Tech is to innovation, how nimble a smaller, private institution can be in this fast-changing world.

On the cover

John Culver, 11, is a Panther cub who plans to major in mathematics one day and loves to figure out the way things work. As *Florida Tech Today* put together our "Creatively Engineered" feature, we asked Culver about his expectations for the college classroom. It's not all books and whiteboards? Calculating wave dynamics in surfing or building a mini-golf hole is "cool!"



In those ways, FIT is a bit like an Internet start-up company—whose way of thinking represents exactly what Walton seeks to instill in his students.

Walton knows from experience what the classically trained engineer will be thinking when he walks into class. He will be thinking about the nifty widget he is now trained to build and how to create a market for his product.

Here is what he will hear the first time he presents his ideas to Walton, a dynamo and entrepreneur who is unflinchingly frank. “Sit down.”

“We’re not even talking about product yet. Who’s the customer? Who’s the market? What’s the product-market fit? No, no, go sit down,” Walton said, chuckling.

Walton insists that his students—and last year there were four engineers among them—operate on a new paradigm.

Don’t think about widgets. Think about what customers need. Understand the market.

Only then can you build a successful widget.

Every week, Walton’s students start with data on what customers need, develop a hypothesis on what might work, test it with the market, come back with new data and present what they’ve learned to their professor and sometimes a panel of experts. They have no choice but to think differently.

“It’s either legit, it’s going to work in the real world, or sit down,” Walton said, again with a laugh.

Students made their final presentation to a panel of venture capitalists—business leaders who could literally write a check if the idea impressed them—and for Walton it turned out to be a proud moment. One panelist stood up at the end,

turned to the students, and asked what they had learned.

“Every single one of them said it had finally resonated with them that it’s not about the product,” Walton remembered, smiling. “It’s not about

Music is a discipline that forces you to take risk, manage it in time and recover, and that is something invaluable for students’ lives.”



Jamie Younkin

building the widget first. It’s about market research, customer discovery, finding the need and then resolving it with a product that fits.”

This is the way of thinking that defines the Age of Innovation, and FIT believes it takes more to nurture it than even the most innovative engineering or business classes.

It takes exposure to arts, culture and the world outside engineering to broaden students’ horizons and spark new ideas.

## CULTURE SHOCK

That is why FIT President and CEO **ANTHONY J. CATANESE** is committed to expanding cultural life on campus and in the classroom. Engineering students are now required to get outside their discipline, to take courses in the humanities.

They might, for instance, take a music class with **JAMIE YOUNKIN**, who understands the demand for creativity in the engineering disciplines and is passionate about the role the arts can play in opening students’ minds.

Younkin has spent a lot of time thinking about creativity—whether

one is born with it or whether it can be taught—and has come to this conclusion:

“It has to be inspired, and that is what the arts are really good at. And you can’t just inspire it once. You

have to constantly keep it interesting—spark after spark after spark.”

The accomplished musicologist has seen FIT work to keep it interesting for seven years now—ever since she was hired to build a music program and found that her first ensemble consisted of a violin, a double bass and an electric bass.

“Mozart simply did not write for this kind of ensemble,” she noted dryly, so they made their own music, based on a student’s favorite song by Jefferson Airplane.

Seven years later, FIT has an array of accomplished musical groups—jazz bands, 25-instrument ensembles, chamber orchestras. It has proven a boon to students who grew up playing an instrument—Jensen, for instance, was cellist in his youth—and don’t want to lose that part of themselves.

“Music, she said, is a particularly good fit for engineers, and not simply because there is correlation between music and math, given that any performance involves measurements in real time.

“Engineers are trained to avoid and calculate risk,” Younkin noted.

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“That’s a very good thing, especially if you’re going to send rockets into space.

Music is a discipline that forces you to take risk, manage it in time and recover, and that is something invaluable for students’ lives.”

Humanities classes represent only the beginning of FIT’s commitment to a cultural life on campus. Students have an array of opportunities to immerse themselves in new worlds. It might be the theatre troupe, which recently performed Tom Stoppard’s “Arcadia.” It might

As it strives to develop fresh thinking in its engineering students, FIT is setting the tone with innovations of its own, like Walton’s new master’s program in entrepreneurship. **TED CONWAY** leads the university’s newest venture, a bid to build Central Florida’s leading program in the brave new world of biomedical engineering.

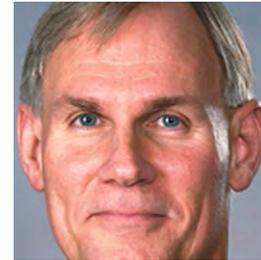
A Central Florida native, Conway was lured to FIT three months ago from what he called the best job he’s ever had, as a program director

diseases associated with aging, such as Alzheimer’s or Parkinson’s.

Like Walton, Conway has been impressed by his early experiences at FIT and the creative ferment brewing in the university’s engineering disciplines. Nothing, he believes, represents that more vividly than the university undertaking this new venture.

“Florida Tech had the foresight to build biomedical engineering,” he enthused. “We’re taking on very complex problems and trying to

Conway was lured to FIT three months ago from what he called the best job he’s ever had, as a program director for the National Science Foundation. The opportunity at Florida Tech was simply too good to pass up.



Ted Conway

be an exhibition or hands-on class at the Foosner Art Museum or the Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts. It might be a master class with a musician in residence, the latest addition to FIT’s cultural scene.

The current musician in residence is renowned jazz vibraphonist and pianist **CHRISTIAN TAMBURR**, whom Younkin described as “dynamic, all energy and a phenomenal virtuoso on multiple instruments.” In addition to performing and conducting Master Classes, Tamburr cut his fifth album this summer at the new state-of-the-art recording studio at WFIT’s broadcast center on campus.

Students aren’t the only ones benefitting from the enriched cultural life at FIT, Younkin said. “Those exhibits and the artists they bring in are sparks for us too as faculty, and we need that, all the time.”

for the National Science Foundation. The opportunity at Florida Tech was simply too good to pass up.

“One thing I wanted to do was to leave a legacy in biomedical engineering here in Central Florida,” said Conway, noting that few places represent a better place to establish such a program given the region’s aging population.

The most complex of engineering fields, biomedical engineers study the machine that is the human body, seeking to understand its structure and function and to discover how to fix it when it breaks down.

In the years to come, Conway will lead FIT’s program in two areas. The more immediate is bio-manufacturing, using stem cell technology to create new tissues or organs. The more distant goal is neuro-engineering, taking on degenerative

develop complex tools to solve those problems.”

If anyone has the ideal vantage point for appreciating FIT’s efforts to broaden the horizons of engineering students, it is the man whose new surfing class is emblematic of the university’s dedication to igniting a creative spark. Professor Weaver is a man who carved his own path, studying philosophy and anthropology as an undergrad before diving into engineering in graduate school.

“I think it helped me in two ways,” Weaver said. “It’s helped me here, teaching, but it’s helped me in life in general, being able to get your mind open and exposed to other things. If all students get is engineering, I think they are missing out on a broader aspect of mental development.”

—Steve Proctor

# Safe & Secure Airfields



From left: Tom Flynn, Dan Flynn, Michelle Flynn and John Dutton from Security Radar Integrators at FIT Aviation in Melbourne

A system created by Florida Institute of Technology alumni that integrates radar with long-range cameras and smart software to improve safety and security at airfields is coming to the U.S. marketplace after a successful, multiyear deployment overseas.

Security Radar Integrators President and Founder **DAN FLYNN** '84 and **JOHN DUTTON** '84 developed Airfield Radar System (ARS), which automatically monitors an airfield, evaluates all moving objects and responds accordingly.

The ARS radar has been widely deployed in Europe, and as the Federal Communications Commission continues to evaluate the system for airports in the U.S., the Rockledge, Fla.-based company known as SRI has successfully field tested it at 10 commercial and general aviation airports in the U.S.

Among the test sites is Valkaria Airport, managed by **STEVE BOROWSKI** '85 MBA. "The ARS system shrinks the airfield down to the size of a computer screen, and then watches it for you," Borowski said. "My initial interest was to track and record video of birds, which it did well. But then over the 30-day test, we also saw tremendous capabilities in overall safety and security."

Borowski was one of several Florida Tech alumni SRI tapped for their expertise, including several graduates of FIT Aviation.

"FIT Aviation is happy to work with a local company who is

developing technology that can help us all," said **KEN STACKPOOLE**, vice president of FIT Aviation Programs.

And as Security Radar Integrators develops new features for ARS, its principals are working with Florida Tech's electrical and computer engineering department to identify development tasks for engineering master's degree and Ph.D. candidates.

ARS has been in use overseas for more than five years. Fourteen airports have adopted the radar in Europe and hundreds of ARS radars have been deployed for traffic monitoring and other uses.

ARS uses radar to see everything that moves, from planes and vehicles to people and wildlife. It then uses software to evaluate whether the movements are normal activity or a potential problem. Based on the activity, the system responds by pointing a camera, recording video or triggering another response. If a deer is on the runway at night, for instance, the system can be configured to follow it with a thermal camera, wait 10 seconds, and then trigger a remote wildlife mitigation device to scare it away. If the problem persists, it can send a text message to a

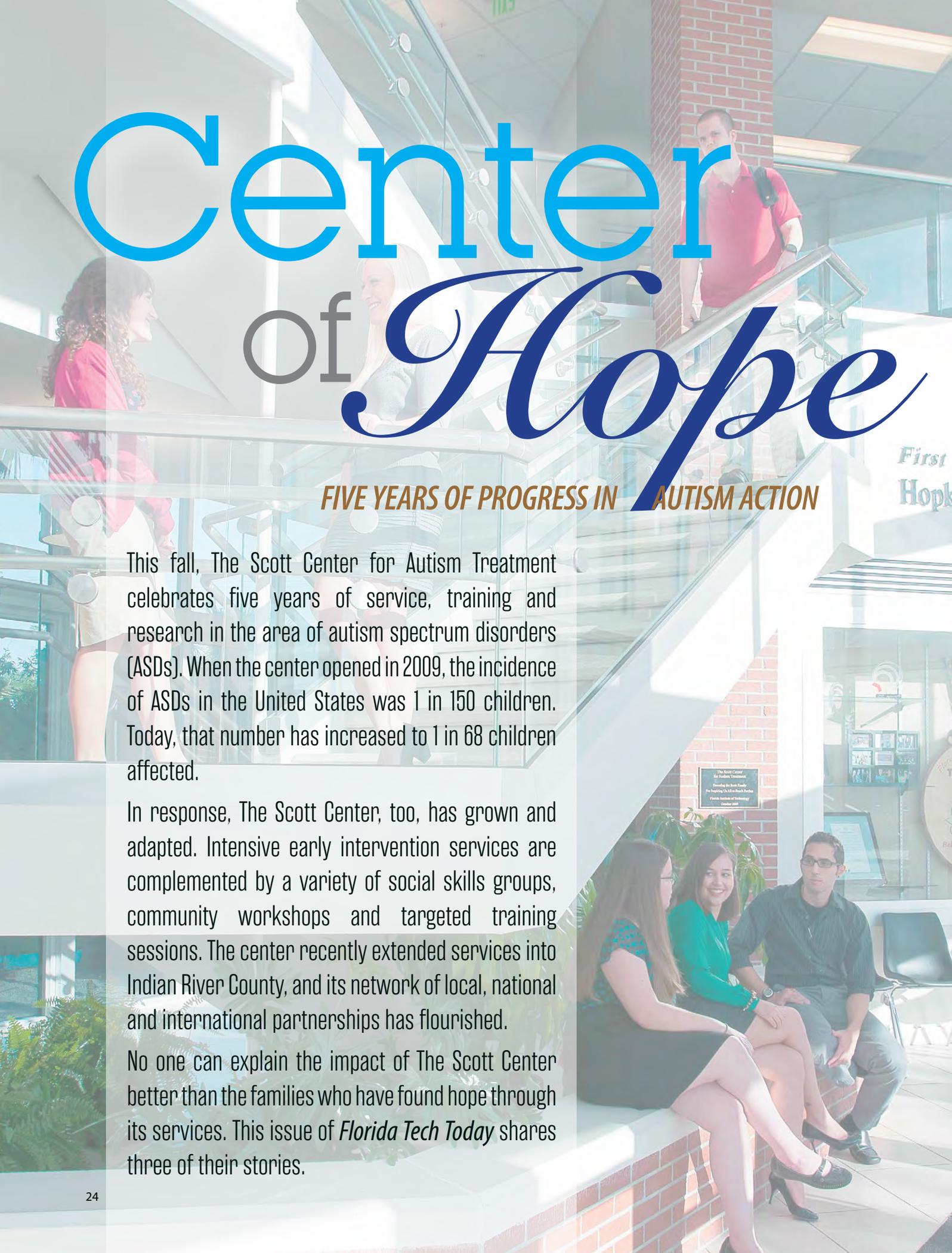
security officer to look at the live image on his smart phone. ARS can also monitor perimeter intrusions, speeding on ramps or in other areas, runway incursions and vandalism, with responses including lights and sirens and movement with gates and doors.

With 1,241 runway incursions and 11,000 wildlife strikes in 2013 alone, and 1,300 perimeter breaches since 2001, airside safety remains a work in progress.

"SRI has developed a system that combines radar, optics, wireless and advanced classification," said **SAM KOZAITIS**, head of Florida Tech's electrical and computer engineering department.

Even as testing continues, some airports are in the process of buying the Airfield Radar System, Flynn said. And the company is continuing to reach out to aviation professionals and prospective users nationwide, as it exhibits at nine different conferences and events in 2014.

Learn more about Security Radar Integrators and the ARS system at [www.sri-radar.com](http://www.sri-radar.com) or by contacting President **Dan Flynn** at (321) 427-8873.



# Center of Hope

**FIVE YEARS OF PROGRESS IN AUTISM ACTION**

This fall, The Scott Center for Autism Treatment celebrates five years of service, training and research in the area of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs). When the center opened in 2009, the incidence of ASDs in the United States was 1 in 150 children. Today, that number has increased to 1 in 68 children affected.

In response, The Scott Center, too, has grown and adapted. Intensive early intervention services are complemented by a variety of social skills groups, community workshops and targeted training sessions. The center recently extended services into Indian River County, and its network of local, national and international partnerships has flourished.

No one can explain the impact of The Scott Center better than the families who have found hope through its services. This issue of *Florida Tech Today* shares three of their stories.



## *What is Autism?*

*Autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) are a group of developmental disabilities caused by a problem with the brain. The disorders impact individuals at different levels, from very mildly to severely, influencing one's ability to communicate, interact, behave and learn, including varying degrees of thinking and learning abilities—from gifted to severely challenged.*

*The exact cause of ASDs remains unknown, but research has shown the best treatment method is intensive early intervention behavioral therapies, such as applied behavior analysis.*

## The Collins Family

When I first asked about ABA, I was told, "Oh you don't want to do that, it's very expensive, and the training is the same as training a dog." I cannot argue that ABA can be very expensive, and many of the principles did emerge from behavioral psychological pioneers such as Pavlov. Despite animal origins, for our family, applied behavioral analysis has been invaluable, a lifeline in hurricane winds.

We came to The Scott Center four years ago, shortly after arriving back in the USA from the United Kingdom where Willow was born. A family friend had heard about this new cutting-edge facility at FIT and recommended we look into it. We toured the facility and did an intake. I felt like I had gone to

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## The Anderson Family

Our son Alex was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder when he was three years old. Before attending The Scott Center for

Autism Treatment, Alex was not able to request his wants and needs, rarely made eye contact and often wandered away from us in public. He only uttered two to three words at a

time and frequently had meltdowns when in stores, crowds or when taken out of his "comfort zone."

We found out about The Scott Center through Early Steps, which Alex attended for a year. Early Steps

is also a great service for early intervention. Alex started to attend The Scott Center in October of 2013 for approximately 15 hours per week. Since beginning, life for the whole family has changed so much! Alex loves the center and is doing great. He is now greeting people without being prompted. He is able to make requests using full sentences. He answers yes/no questions and even general questions such as, what did you do today, how old are you, what is your name, and what is your mom's/dad's phone numbers. He is also making a lot more eye contact and is just all around a happier child. These are skills that many of us take for granted but are huge milestones for people with autism.

We are so grateful to The Scott Center for Autism Treatment for all that they do, and we are looking forward to the continued progress Alex will make thanks to The Scott Center for Autism Treatment!



Alex Anderson

"Alex started to attend The Scott Center in October of 2013 for approximately 15 hours per week. Since beginning, life for the whole family has changed so much!"

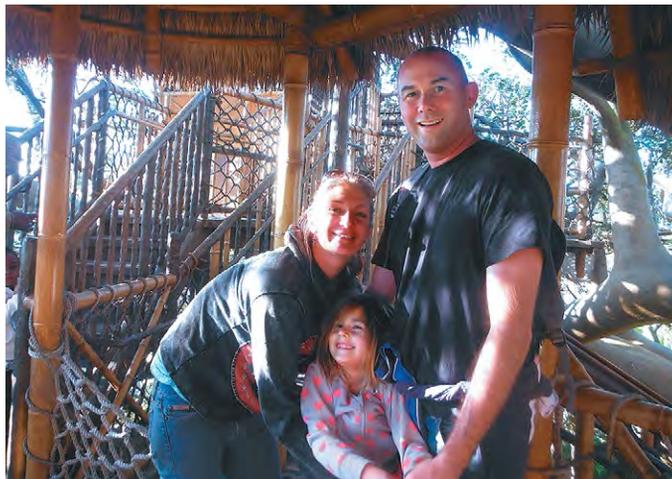
## *Impact 100 of Indian River Funds Autism Center in Vero Beach*

The Indian River County Chapter of Impact 100, an organization of philanthropic women dedicated to inspiring change in their community, has selected Florida Tech's Scott Center for Autism Treatment as one of four \$100,000 grant recipients for the 2014 year.

In July, The Scott Center began offering new and critically needed resources and services to Indian River County residents at a site in Vero Beach. The new site offers local services to mitigate the effects of autism on children and caregivers and brings nationally recognized state-of-the-art, evidence-based therapy to Indian River County families. The center will also broaden community understanding about autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and offer a formal network of peer and other support for families whose children are impacted by ASDs. Services also include assessment and treatment of problem behaviors, pediatric feeding problems, toilet training and other behavioral issues that are often experienced by children with autism and related disabilities.

"Typically, establishing a new regional clinic would be a slow and progressive process, taking time to build a referral base, clearing insurance panels and establishing a reimbursement schedule," said Scott Center Executive Director Michael Kelley. "The transformational funding from Impact 100 was the catalyst to allow an almost immediate start-up, which resulted in care this summer for Indian River County families who have long-awaited these services."

—Sara Smith



Piper and Paul Collins with their daughter Willow

continued from page 25

"I received a phone call that there was an opening, and miracle of miracles there was a grant that could be used to help pay the cost of therapy."

a Porsche dealership on a tricycle, how on Earth could we afford this obviously top-of-the-line therapy? Regardless of my fears, we did the intake and waited for a spot to open up. I received a phone call that there was an opening, and miracle of miracles there was a grant that could be used to help pay the cost of therapy. At the time, our insurance wasn't taken and we had no funds to pay ourselves.

When we began ABA, Willow did not listen to verbal instructions, did not communicate well, had sleep troubles, toileting issues and Pica (eating non-food materials). She loved and still loves to manipulate pine needles, and she used to eat them. This obviously upset her stomach, and I attribute many of her sleep problems to this behavior. Through an intervention using wheat grass and broccoli slaw, we have eliminated both the Pica and consequentially the majority of her sleep issues.

In many areas, Willow continues to make slow, steady progress, where we actually saw fast results was with the

potty training program. Willow had a strong resistance and aversion to going to the bathroom in the toilet. There was many a mess that left me at my wit's end. We had to do the intensive potty training program, and it truly was intense. We spent the day at the center and for weeks took data and followed a regiment. Willow had to wear an alarm on her underwear, but today my daughter has this essential skill, and I am eternally grateful. The Scott Center doesn't just provide treatment, the parent training provides you with the confidence to know how to handle the new and challenging behaviors or situations that are bound to occur. When a new challenge arises, you have a sea of knowledge right there on hand—if your team is stumped, the entire staff consists of some serious rock stars in the autism research community. I have threatened to chain myself to Dr. Alison Betz desk if anyone ever tries to take her, Teal Labello or Becky Werle off Willow's case.

Despite the odds, my daughter is defying negative prognosis and slowly pulling back the curtain of autism. Her speech has been slow to immerge, but her team is stellar and she makes breakthroughs daily. I hope some day every parent can have access to this facility and the hope that our family has been allowed.

“Just as I had no real knowledge of ABA, I also had no idea that The Scott Center was about to become my family’s life support system.”

### The Hanley Family

I first heard about The Scott Center for Autism Treatment when our 4-year-old daughter, Madeline, was diagnosed with Pervasive Developmental Disorder. Her child psychologist recommended she begin applied behavioral analysis (ABA) therapy, a service provided by The Scott Center. She was already attending many hours of speech/language, occupational and physical therapy. Adding yet another “therapy” just didn’t seem practical or even possible. About a year later, while sitting in the waiting

room of one her many therapy sessions, I noticed a flier that was looking for children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to participate in a research project. My daughter fit the criteria, and on a whim, I called the number. Just as I had no real knowledge of ABA, I also had no idea that The Scott Center was about to become my family’s life support system. After having her evaluated for the research project, the staff suggested

that it might be more advantageous if Maddie was seen for intake services. Since that time, Maddie has been in intensive ABA therapy. Maddie is now 8 years old. Her impulsiveness, frequent tantrums and inability to attend tasks for longer than a just a few minutes have improved drastically. She was only partially toilet trained when she began ABA therapy at The Scott Center. Within weeks of parent training, Maddie was completely toilet trained. She no longer dashes into the street at any given second. With the help of a para-

professional, Maddie is now able to attend school in a general education classroom.

Since Maddie began The Scott Center almost three years ago, our lives have changed significantly.



Dr. and Mrs. Hanley with their daughter Madeline

The feelings of isolation and helplessness that parents experience when their child is diagnosed with ASD are overwhelming. The Scott Center has not only been a resource for Maddie, but it has been a blessing for our entire family. We are a part of a community of other families who are going through the same struggles and emotions. I can’t imagine what our lives would be like today if I hadn’t seen that flier and acted on a whim.

Since Maddie began The Scott Center almost three years ago, our lives have changed significantly.

### Top 10 Successes 2009–2014

1. Learning to Live with Autism—\$120,000 APD parent training grant using Tele-Medicine
2. Expanding services to cover most of the major problems associated with autism, including feeding disorders, severe behavior and toilet training
3. Extending services to Indian River County—\$100,000 Impact 100 grant
4. Building community support through the annual An Evening of Hope gala
5. Continuing autism research and best practices
6. Reaching internationally through therapist training around the globe
7. Helping over 120 families per year with services
8. Educating the entire community about autism—including law enforcement, teachers, pediatricians and parents—with more than 50 training sessions
9. Establishing unique relationships with FIT athletic teams and other staff on campus who support the programming at The Scott Center
10. Growing into a state-of-the-art national autism center

source: The Scott Center for Autism Treatment

Save the Date  
Evening of Hope  
April 11, 2015  
7–10 p.m.

Florida Institute of Technology  
**The Scott Center**  
for Autism Treatment

For further information on The Scott Center for Autism Treatment please call (321) 674-8106 or visit their website: [TheScottCenter.org](http://TheScottCenter.org)

# ALUMNI NEWS

## FROM THE FTAA PRESIDENT

DUANE E. DE FREESE '82 M.S., '88 PH.D.

2014 has been a busy year for the FTAA board. As volunteers, we are reaching out to Florida Tech alumni and students throughout the U.S. and the globe. We have assisted alumni with their résumés and job searches. We have talked to alumni about career opportunities within the corporations and organizations we represent. We have visited classrooms to share our career experiences with students. We are showcasing Florida Tech and its accomplishments to prospective students and their parents. The FTAA board has initiated plans to improve how we connect to students and alumni from our three Extended Studies campuses in Florida, nine campuses outside of Florida and the Virtual Site. We are developing better connections to alumni who are working and retired military.

### Today, We Are Asking For Your Help.

The FTAA board is working to raise at least \$150,000 to make needed renovations to the Florida Tech Alumni House. Renovations will target needed building repairs and the addition of a conference room/outside garden area to host visiting alumni, students and families.

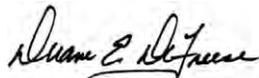
While these improvements seem modest, the Alumni House is more than an on-campus office for our Alumni Affairs staff. It symbolizes our academic excellence, the outstanding achievements of our alumni, the aspirations of our students and our Panther pride. It's a place for all Florida Tech alumni and students to call home. It's a space to reunite with friends, former classmates and professors.

There is no better way to show your pride than to leave your mark on the campus itself. Please support this initiative with your generous contributions.

To make a gift, or for more information about Alumni House naming opportunities, please contact Bino Campanini, VP Alumni Affairs at (321) 674-7190 or [bcampanini@fit.edu](mailto:bcampanini@fit.edu).

Or go online and make a donation at <https://alumni.fit.edu/alumni-donation>.

Thank you!



Duane E. De Freese '82 M.S., '88 Ph.D.



## YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Duane E. De Freese '82 M.S., '88 Ph.D. | President | Indialantic, FL | [ddefreese@cfl.rr.com](mailto:ddefreese@cfl.rr.com)  
Allyn Saunders '76, '80 MBA, '83 M.S. | Vice President | West Melbourne, FL | [allynpar5@aol.com](mailto:allynpar5@aol.com)  
Ameen Sarkees '89 | Secretary | Merritt Island, FL | [aysarkees@yahoo.com](mailto:aysarkees@yahoo.com)  
Jim Herdt '92 MBA | Treasurer | Chelsea, AL | [jimherdt@msn.com](mailto:jimherdt@msn.com)  
Penny Vassar '98 MBA | Member-at-Large | Anderson, SC | [pvassar@fit.edu](mailto:pvassar@fit.edu)  
Chad Shultz '96 | Member-at-Large | Indialantic, FL | [cshultz@cfl.rr.com](mailto:cshultz@cfl.rr.com)

## Alumni Spotlight: MERT KUTLU

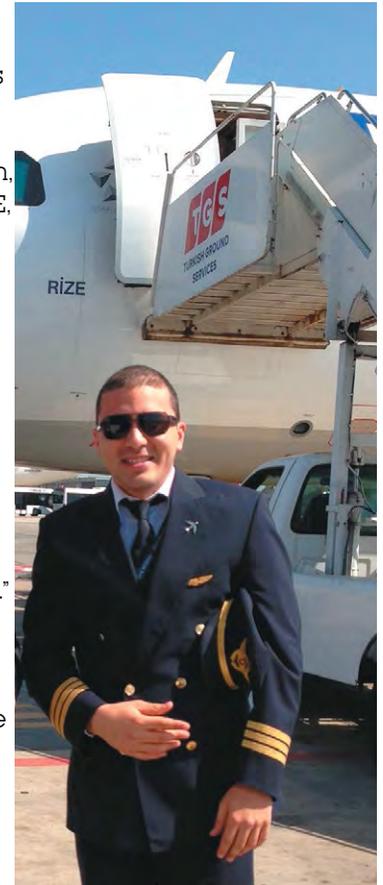
Mert Kutlu '10 joined Turkish Airlines in September 2011 at the tender age of 22. He was the youngest first officer with the company. Today, at 25, he is the youngest senior first officer, on track to become the company's youngest captain in two to three years.

He flies the Airbus 320 series of aircraft to the airline's many destinations in Europe and Africa—spanning from Dublin, Ireland, to Dubai, UAE, to Somalia in Africa.

"I love this job because it is dynamic," he says. "We fly to around 250 destinations all around the world. I get to see places, meet different cultures, meet new people and experience so many things."

Like his achievements in the cockpit, his academic accomplishments are many. He has studied at the University of Westminster in the United Kingdom (one of only 15 students selected worldwide) to create a report for the city of London on sustainability and post-games usage of the London Olympic Stadium. He attended the Middle East in Global Politics program at the London School of Economics, and, he is currently pursuing a master's degree in politics at a university based in Istanbul.

"Eventually, my career plan is to be involved in the political side of the transportation industry," he says. "I want to incorporate what I learned at FIT and other institutions to legislation and making people's lives easier."



### Meet Mert Kutlu

**Little known fact:** I received my pilot's license before I received my driver's license.

**Hobbies:** I love anything related to water. I own a small boat, so whenever I have free time, I try to get on the water, either fishing or swimming. I also like to read biographies.

**Favorite Florida Tech memory:** Meeting presidential nominee, U.S. Senator John McCain, in 2008, when he arrived at FIT Aviation's FBO for a speech at Harris Corp. "When I entered the building, I was the lucky student who got to meet the senator and chat with him for a while."



Artist and curator Tom Powers '72 (center) gave special tours of his Indialantic gallery.



Delta Delta Tau (DDT) "all aboard" the Panther Express during their 40th anniversary reunion at FIT's 55th year Homecoming.

View the  
photo gallery

ONLINE  
EXTRA

## Remaining Active

A Founding Fraternity Marks 40 Years of Fellowship

Last October, Delta Delta Tau (DDT) celebrated its 40th anniversary with a reunion coinciding with FIT's 55th year homecoming. This quick-lived fraternity (1967–1974) continues its strong fellowship for each other while remaining active in all things Florida Tech. One might ask how this is possible. How can alumni stay active in the Florida Tech of today? More specifically, how does DDT do it?

### SERVICE

One way is to be an alumni board member. Today's alumni board has nine DDT members. The board promotes ideas, offers policy changes and interacts with the Student Council. Since 1974, DDT has had 21 members on the FIT Alumni Association Board, including five past presidents.

### SOCIALIZE

Another way for alumni to be active is to host their reunions. These events are great ways for alumni to see the school's growth and interact with today's students. DDT has always supported FIT homecomings, holding formal reunions in 2003, 2008 and most recently 2013, during which the organization filled six tables at the homecoming

awards gala, competed in the Homecoming 5K (**MIKE USSAK** '72 M.S. took second in his age group!), reconnected on campus (a magical evening on the roof of the F.W. Olin Physical Sciences Center), and recorded their history. Archivist **DIANE NEWMAN** had two of her students interview DDT-ers during the reception, capturing firsthand accounts about FIT and DDT. Other highlights included artist and curator **TOM POWERS** '72 giving special tours of his Indialantic gallery for visiting alumni during Homecoming. **AL SPOTZ** '71 and his wife **NANCY** hosting a large cookout at their Melbourne home. And, FTAA Vice President **ALLYN SAUNDERS** '76, '80 MBA, '83 M.S., (thought not a member of DDT) giving a morning tour of the Botanical Garden.

### SHARE

There will always be some who cannot travel and websites offer one way to share pictures, videos, stories and forums. Still another way to be active as alumni is to share your knowledge. For example, DDT-er **GARY LAGERLOEF** '71 was a guest lecturer during Homecoming week. He shared his research as principal investigator for NASA's Aquarius

Mission, and DDT little sister **ALEXIS LOO** '75 visits campus often and has been a guest lecturer.

In summary, while DDT has not officially been a campus organization for 40 years, the group remains active at Florida Tech. Specifically, these practices help nurture both DDT and FIT:

*Organize a reunion*—visit your campus at least yearly

*Interact with professors and staff*—they are significant resources

*Share your knowledge in some way*—give a class or informal talk

*Become an Alumni Board member*, take an office or committee

*Sponsor an exceptional student*—ask a board member for candidates or help

If local, *invite distant alumni*; if distant, *seek out locals*

*Keep in touch*—use social networks, websites and Florida Tech events like the Dad Vail regatta

—Adapted from an article by Mike Clark  
Read more at [today.fit.edu](http://today.fit.edu)

*Join us for a celebration of  
Florida Tech and its Alumni!*

*October 21-26, 2014*



## FIT Homecoming Fest Set for Downtown Melbourne

FRIDAY, OCT. 24

6 p.m.–1 a.m.

National recording artists **SOJA** will headline this year's FTAA sponsored FIT Homecoming Fest.

The **free live concert** will take place in Downtown Melbourne on Friday, Oct. 24.

Arrive early to the street party and enjoy food, drinks and live entertainment.



PHOTO CREDIT: ERIC RYAN ANDERSON

For more information or to register visit:

**HOMECOMING.FIT.EDU**

# HOMECOMING

## Featured Events:



THURSDAY, OCT. 23

**Meg O'Malley's Presents FIT Homecoming**

**5K Run/Walk:** Downtown Melbourne. Awesome T-shirts, goody bags, and a post race party at Meg's with food, drinks and live entertainment!



SATURDAY AFTERNOON, OCT. 25

**Homecoming Parade & Tailgating** — Main Campus

**Football Game** — FIT vs. Mississippi College — Pirate Stadium

## Awards Gala



SATURDAY EVENING, OCT. 25

**Homecoming Awards Gala** — Clemente Center  
Honoring Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni Award Winner Ann Dunwoody '88 M.S

Other Highlights: **TUESDAY, OCT. 21** 6–8 p.m. Homecoming Opening Ceremony: Columbia Village  
Foosaner Art Museum: Luminous Landscapes: Paintings by Larry Leach

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 22**

8–10 p.m. **Talent Show:** Clemente Center

**THURSDAY, OCT. 23**

Noon **Daily Mass:** All Faiths Center



6 p.m.  
**FIT Homecoming 5K Run/Walk:**  
Downtown Melbourne

7 p.m.  
**Volleyball** vs. Florida Southern College, Clemente Center

**FRIDAY, OCT. 24**

10 a.m.  
Embellished: **A Celebration of Wearable Art**, Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts Gallery 2nd floor

11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Panther **Basketball Tip-Off Luncheon:** Featuring a special guest speaker



6 p.m.–1 a.m.  
**Homecoming Fest:**  
Downtown Melbourne

**SATURDAY, OCT. 25**

**Men's and Women's Rowing**  
Alumni Races

11 a.m.–12:15 p.m.  
**Homecoming Tailgate Party:**  
Florida Tech Campus  
Shuttles to football game

1–4 p.m.  
**Homecoming Football Game**  
vs. Mississippi College: Pirate Stadium

6:30 p.m.–10 p.m.  
**Homecoming Awards Gala:**  
Clemente Center, featuring live entertainment

10 p.m.–2 a.m.  
**Homecoming Dance**

10–11 a.m.  
**Homecoming Parade:**  
FIT campus

4:30 p.m. **Women's Soccer**  
vs. Palm Beach Atlantic

7 p.m. **Men's Soccer**  
vs. Palm Beach Atlantic



General Ann E. Dunwoody (Ret.) '88 M.S.:

# Service Leadership

THE U.S. ARMY'S FIRST FEMALE FOUR-STAR GENERAL

## IN SPITE OF HER FAMILY'S DEEP MILITARY ROOTS, THE U.S. ARMY'S FIRST FEMALE FOUR-STAR GENERAL NEVER ENVISIONED HERSELF JOINING THE ARMED FORCES.

Four generations of West Pointers came before her, but as a physical education major at the State University of New York at Cortland, Ann Dunwoody's passion was sports and coaching.

A college-based initiative aimed at recruiting more women for the Women's Army Corps got her foot in the door, but her unexpected love for the work—serving, leading, making a difference—transformed her two-year commitment into a highly decorated 38-year career.

Dunwoody rose through the Army's ranks in a variety of key staff and command positions. She attended airborne school in 1976 and reveled in her position as a parachute officer in the 82nd Airborne Division.

As a commanding officer, her specialty was logistics—in essence, a role that helps sustain the fight. Moving beans, bullets or equipment, logistics is getting supplies where they are needed, when they are needed, including maintenance and repair responsibilities. In 1988, she earned her master's degree in logistics management from Florida Tech's Fort Lee site.

Her Army career culminated as the Army Materiel Command's commanding general, where Dunwoody led and ran the largest global logistics command in the Army comprising 69,000 military and civilians, located in all 50 states and more than 140 countries. She managed a budget of \$60 billion and was responsible for oversight of approximately \$70 billion in service contracts. She also prepared the Army's global supply chain in support

of Iraq and Afghanistan and contingency operations in Haiti, Pakistan and Japan.

The Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, General Ray Odierno, called her “quite simply the best logistician the Army has ever had.”

General Dunwoody has been recognized by the NCAA with its highest honor, the Theodore Roosevelt Award, by the Intercollegiate Tennis Association with its lifetime achievement award and by France with its National Order of Merit.

Today, she is president of First 2 Four, LLC, a leadership mentoring and strategic advisory services company and serves on the board of directors for L-3 Communications, Republic Services and Logistics Management Institute.

She serves on the leadership council of the Aspen Institute's Franklin Project, an effort to improve citizenship by giving every young person in America the opportunity to participate in a year of service, and she is dedicated to efforts that support returning veterans.

“For me, serving in the military was the most professionally rewarding career I could imagine,” says Dunwoody. “I tell women that the doors continue to open. No matter how long they are in for, they will be better citizens when they leave the military.”

Dunwoody's exemplary service and leadership personify the ideals of the Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni award and make her a fitting recipient for this year's honor.

—Christena Callahan



**The true measure of a university's greatness can be found in the achievements of its alumni. Florida Institute of Technology has established a worldwide reputation for developing leaders and innovators across diverse fields, from academia to private industry to government. In that stratum of “the best of the best,” FIT alumni have gained their unique distinction through successes in their professions, service to the university and contribution to their communities.**

**The Jerome P. Keuper Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes an alumnus whose career accomplishments honor the university's legacy of excellence. This year's recipient is Ann Dunwoody '88 M.S. who will be presented with the award at the Homecoming Awards Gala on Oct. 25.**

**ALUMNOTES**

share your news!  
Submit your AlumNotes to alumni@fit.edu

1970s



**DEBORAH HEYSTEK '79** and Pete enjoy the view at Table Mountain, Cape Town, South Africa.



On June 5, **BRUCE PRINGLE '84** M.S., MBA, was one of only six auxiliary selectees to participate in the 200th annual re-setting of the Francis Scott Key ceremonial "Stars and Stripes" buoy. He is currently a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, a U.S. Army Vietnam era veteran and a retired Department of Defense civilian.

1980s



**CLARKE FOWLER '80** found Pete in South Africa recruiting Penguins for the cheering team in May. Here he is leading them to victory!



**ROBERT BUTTERFIELD '86, '88** M.S., and Pete visited the World's Largest Catsup Bottle in Collinsville, Illinois, this summer.



In May, **DIANE M. BALDERSON '87** M.S. was named vice president for contracts and pricing at Northrop Grumman Corporation. She previously served as the contracting department head for NAVAIR Air Assault and Special Missions and acting deputy directory in the Office of Acquisition Management for the EPA.

**MIKE PERRY '88**, director of undergraduate admission at Florida Tech, was promoted to the rank of full colonel in the Florida Army National Guard on June 25. He earned his master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College in July.



**STEVEN BARNICK '89** and Pete stand in Red Square, Moscow, on June 3, 2014.

1990s

**SCOTT ARMSTRONG '95**, Florida Tech Soccer 1993–95, attended the UEFA A license this summer in Northern Ireland. He met ex-professionals from all over the world. Armstrong had a great experience learning and coaching the new material and will be continuing his education and licensing over the next two years.

2000s



**NOEL R. MÉNDEZ-CEREZO '01** welcomed daughter Evie Lisette into the world.

**1980 Time Capsule:**

**TOP GROSSING FILM:**  
*The Empire Strikes Back*

**TOP TUNE:**  
"Call Me," Blondie

**GALLON OF GAS:**  
\$1.25

**POP CULTURE HIGHLIGHTS:**  
*Rubik's Cube, Sony Walkman, Yoda*

**ON THE ROAD**  
Boston



Mark Ricci '89 with President Catanese



Bino Campanini, Sara Catanese, President Catanese and Tom Bohrer '86,



Bernic Fuchs '70, Sara Catanese and President Catanese



**OLIVER '01 and ELLEN WAGNER '02** welcomed their daughter, Veronica Jillian, on Nov. 11, 2013. Oliver is currently an electronics engineer at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, and Ellen is a research physicist at the Naval Research Laboratory.



**LYNN BECKLEY WILLIAMS '05** Psy.D. recently obtained her post-master's in nursing certificate as a family psychiatric nurse practitioner. She is now able to prescribe medications to her private practice patients.

**DOUGLAS CAMPBELL '09** was recently hired by FreeFlight Systems, a leading ADS-B and avionics manufacturer.

Continued on page 36

**Pete Panther: World Traveler**

**DANA MESSIER '07** is a pilot flying Boeing 747s for Atlas Air. He flies freight and VIP passengers to just about every country on the planet. He lives in Sarasota and is based out of Anchorage, Alaska. This summer, he and Pete went to Hawaii, Japan, Alaska, Guam and Germany.



**Pete the Panther Flower Garden Banks Scuba Trip**

Pete the Panther accompanied **AARON GELFAND '98** as a crew member aboard the M/V *Fling* for the Down Under Out Yonder (DUOY) trip. The DUOY program ([www.gulfmex.org/education-training/down-under-out-yonder](http://www.gulfmex.org/education-training/down-under-out-yonder)) is a 5-day workshop that teaches educators about coral reef systems and various methods for teaching them in a classroom.



**ON THE ROAD**  
**Dad Vail**



Dennis Bourne '81, Cheryl Bourne, Brandon Bourne '13



Dan Bertossa '86, Jeanne Bertossa '86, Bino Campanani, Megan Mellinger '89, Paul Mellinger '88, Mark Mellinger '90



Mary Ann Lindner, Christy Lindner, Jim Lindner '74, Beth Hanish, Asaf Hanish

## ALUMNOTES

Continued from page 35



Pete the Panther vacationed with the Joy family in Oahu, Hawaii, in June. **STEPHANIE JOY '09**, future panther Sarah, and **JASON JOY '11** took Pete to the top of Makap'uu Point. Stephanie is a 15-year employee of Florida Tech's Extended Studies Division.

After working as a firefighter and paramedic the past three years, **MARK RICCI '09** left in August for pilot school in the Air Force to become a KC-135 pilot.

## 2010s

**QUIANA BRADSHAW '10** M.S. graduated with her doctorate of computer science in June. Her dissertation is titled "Learning Game Design Characteristics through the Study of Flow and the Elemental Tetrad in the World of Warcraft & Minecraft."

Submit your AlumNotes to [alumni@fit.edu](mailto:alumni@fit.edu)

## 2011 Time Capsule:

### FROM THE FIT ARCHIVES

University merges with Brevard Art Museum; \$1 million gift establishes it as the Foosaner Art Museum



**CANDICE CHESSER '10** M.S. is the principal deputy program manager for the Air Combat Electronics Program Office (PMA 209) at the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) located at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland. She is also the recipient of the Department of the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Award.



**DANIEL DIVINE '10** M.S. and his wife Monica welcomed their son, Cameron, on Feb. 21, 2014. Cameron weighed 6 pounds and was 18.5 inches. Daniel is the research and

development manager with the Orange County Sheriff's Office, and Monica is a teacher with Brevard Public Schools.



Shirlene and **JOSEPH PINDELL '10** M.S. spent some quality time with Pete at the Panama Canal Expansion.



**ERIN KENDALL '10**, **MEAGAN DUREL '10** and **ALANA HEBERT WOOD '11** met up with Pete the Panther in Colorado for a Florida Tech reunion to go snowshoeing in the mountains.

## Calling All Panther Cubs!

Congratulations! If you've recently welcomed a Panther Cub to your family, contact us for your free Panther Cub apparel item.

Choose from a **T-shirt, bib** or **onesie**. Then send us a photo of your child in their Panther swag, and an AlumNote about yourself. We will proudly display it in *Florida Tech Today*.



Email [hrosskamp@fit.edu](mailto:hrosskamp@fit.edu) for details

## ON THE ROAD

### New York



Robert Wilkes '12, Daniela Natali '11, Alexis Jagger '11



Joe Caruso '73, James Cicardo '04, Matthew Tary '05



Richard Halprin '80 and President Catanese



**LISA SALVADOR** '12 M.S., '12 MBA, has been named national director of the 2014–2015 national board of directors for the Accounting & Financial Women's Alliance (AFWA), a national membership organization dedicated to empowering women in the accounting and financial fields since 1938. Salvador is a subcontract administrator/program analyst at Qualis Corporation, a woman-owned small business that provides technical services in the areas of engineering analysis, design, testing and support services to both commercial and government customers.

**BRIAN THAI** '13 is serving as a math and science teacher through the Peace Corps in Ghana.



**VANESSA SANYER** '13 MBA and husband Giancarlo welcomed their son Nicholas, a future Florida Tech graduate. Vanessa currently works for Lockheed Martin Global Information Systems.



**AMY HANES** '14 M.S. welcomed sons Braden and Declan on Nov. 1, 2013. Hanes graduated with a master's degree in human resources management from Florida Tech's Orlando site in May.

*In Memoriam*

**JOSEPH WILLIAM BAGGS** '79 passed away on May 17, 2014. Before retiring, he was co-founder and president of Advanced Manufacturing Technologies, Inc. and then Optical Process Automation, Inc. and co-author on multiple U.S. patents in the fields of micro-electronic fabrication and optical processes. Memorial gifts can be made in his name to Florida Institute of Technology, Office of Development, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901.

**JOHN BALCEROWSKI** '77 A.S. passed away at his home on March 18, 2014. He spent his long and successful career with Raytheon Industries and L-3 Communications. He is survived by his sisters, nieces and many loving cousins, family and friends.



**HOLMES BEAUSANG**, dean of university admissions in the late 1970s and early 80s, passed away June 1 in Melbourne. Among many fond memories, his campus friends recall the conch shell he would blow during home basketball games of the Engineers, before our mascot became the Panther.

**ANDREW WILLIAM BUONANNI** '10 passed away suddenly on July 19, 2014. He lived in Orlando and worked for Lockheed Martin as a systems integration analyst. The family requests donations in Andrew's memory to be made to the FIT baseball team, Attn: Coach Berkemeier, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901. Condolences may be shared at [wyliebaxleymerittisland.com](http://wyliebaxleymerittisland.com).

**RICHARD FOCH** '79 passed away the morning of April 14, 2014, following a battle with cancer. Rick spent over 30 years as a senior scientist with the Naval Research Laboratory and was presented with the Navy Distinguished Civil Service Award. He is survived by many loving family members.



Join us for a celebration of Florida Tech and its Alumni!  
**Homecoming: October 21-26, 2014**

*See page 30 in this issue for more details*

ON THE ROAD  
UAE



Tarik Ozkul '84, Ahmed Al-Shamrani '12



Bino Campanini, Mustafa Al Sharif '12 Ph.D., Muzaffar Shaikh



Ahmed Al Mazrouei '05, Khalifa J Al Kaabi '03

# Make your own memories abroad with Pete the Panther

FIT partners with Brevard Zoo for educational adventures in Botswana and Ecuador in 2015.



An educational adventure awaits in 2015! FIT Alumni Association has partnered with the Brevard Zoo to offer these two unique opportunities.

Join the Brevard Zoo and FTAA in Botswana: Animal Kingdom's Water Wilderness in Spring 2015. Watch the sandy Botswana desert suddenly burst into life from a bird's-eye view as you descend into the Okavango Delta by small plane to begin your journey.

Six hundred miles off the coast of Ecuador, Charles Darwin used the Galapagos Islands as his living laboratory to gather evidence for his theory of Natural Selection. In Summer 2015 you can swim and snorkel with sea lions and come within mere inches of Blue-footed Boobies and iguanas while aboard M/Y Letty/Eric/Flamingo 1.

Contact the Alumni Association for more information at [alumni@fit.edu](mailto:alumni@fit.edu).

BE A PART OF THE TRADITION

Florida Institute of Technology  
High Tech with a Human Touch™

For more information on your official class ring, please visit us online or call 1-866-225-3687.

**balfour**  
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The advertisement features a large, detailed image of a gold class ring on the left side, with the text "FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY" and "1958" visible. In the center, there is a photograph of a university campus with students walking. On the right, there are two smaller images of class rings: one is a gold ring with a red gemstone, and the other is a silver ring with a red gemstone. The background is a dark red color.



Receiving the trophy of the Best Manager Award from the bank board members in 2013.

## Meet Ibrahim Albalooshi

Assistant vice president/regional manager in Ajman of Dubai Islamic Bank

### On the Job:

“I’m in charge of six branches within the cities of Ajman and Sharjah. I periodically track and evaluate the performance of the branches with branch managers to ensure the financial achievement of the set targets of the zone and business growth objectives. I also ensure high levels of customer service in all branches by having proper customer service measures and tools in place. In order to improve the score and to ensure high customer satisfaction, I periodically monitor and review customer complaints and mystery shopping results and take necessary measures and initiatives.”

### On Florida Tech:

“During my five years at Florida Tech (1 year at ELS), I didn’t even think once of transferring to another university. I liked the school and the community. Due to the low student-faculty ratio at Florida Tech, most of the professors and instructors knew their students by name, and they were always available to meet them during office hours.

This is considered a great advantage. At Florida Tech, I built my personality and enhanced my leadership skills by being an active member of MSA and later became MSA resident. I was exposed to various cultures, which helped a lot in my job, which requires meeting customers of different cultures.”

**DEGREES:** '01 B.S. Mechanical Engineering

MBA from the American University of Sharjah (AUS) in 2006

**NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:** Winner of the Performance Excellence Award as Best Manager in Dubai Islamic Bank 2012/2013; two of the branches within our region won Best Branch Award 2013/2014

**FAMILY:** 1 son and 3 daughters

**HOBBIES:** Besides soccer, I used to have many hobbies, which I learned during school days in Florida, such as horseback riding, tennis, roller skating and ice skating. But unfortunately, I had to stop doing all that due to a sports injury. Nowadays, I mainly enjoy swimming and traveling.

News from the desk of

## Bino Campanini '90, '92 MBA

Vice President for Alumni Relations  
and Executive Director, Alumni Association

### DO YOU LIKE US?

Our graduates aren't the only ones on the rise! The Alumni Association Facebook page gained thousands of new followers as part of our Panthers on the Rise campaign and giveaway contest launched in April. More than 3,500 alumni joined in on the fun by simply "liking" the Alumni Facebook page and entering to win several prize packs—including a VIP package to the 2014 Homecoming Weekend (won by **GUS ANDERSON '91**) and signed memorabilia by notable alumnus **TIM WAKEFIELD** (won by **DONALD DOUGLAS '05**). Throwback Thursday (TBT) pictures highlighting graduates "back in the day" are another big hit. Like us on Facebook and stay tuned for more giveaways! The next winner could be you!



### OUR DIVERSE ALUMNI

One of the great aspects of my job is traveling around the country and overseas meeting with alumni. The opportunity to find out about their careers and on occasion visit their workplace is a lot of fun. I have toured airports, military bases, fortune 100 companies, a professional soccer facility and a seven-star hotel in Dubai. **Most recently, I had the pleasure of spending time at the NYPD's 10th precinct with alumnus Kevin Keegan. I am glad to say that the only ride I took in the squad car was in the front seat!**

### GRAD BASH PROVIDES WELCOME TO FTAA

The FTAA is eager to engage our student body before they leave campus and increase awareness of the alumni association. We've done a good job in recent years partnering with the SGA and CAB to develop FIT Homecoming Fest and other Homecoming activities with the student body. This past semester, we launched our REAL WORLD 101 program designed to give students a perspective on life after college. The culmination of these outreach efforts was our Panther4Life Grad Bash for graduating students and their families. Held on Crawford Green, the event featured food, drinks and live music by local band Simone and the Supercats, while allowing us to congratulate our graduates and welcome them into the FTAA.



### GLEASON GETS NEW SEATS THANKS TO YOU

This summer the Gleason Performing Arts Center got a much-needed facelift with 500 brand new seats. In response to the FTAA's "Name the Seat" campaign, we received tremendous support from alumni around the country who donated \$500 to have a personalized name plate placed on the back of a seat. The good news is there still time to name your own seat and support your alumni association. I am proud to have my name on a seat and to be part of this alumni initiated and supported effort. For more information about purchasing a seat and payment options, go to [alumni.fit.edu/gleasonseats](http://alumni.fit.edu/gleasonseats).

### ON ALUMNOTES ...

We want to hear from you! Surveys show ALUMNOTES is one of your favorite sections of the magazine, so I encourage you to help us expand it.

Send your news to [ALUMNI@FIT.EDU](mailto:ALUMNI@FIT.EDU). We will share it with the 60,000+ alumni worldwide!



*Where is*

*Pete?*



## *You tell us!*

Take a photo of  
**YOU AND PETE**  
in a unique destination.

Then, email us at  
**pete@fit.edu**

## *AlumNotes*

Send us an update  
about yourself with  
your photo and we'll  
include it in the  
*Florida Tech Today*  
AlumNotes.





Florida Institute of Technology

Office of Marketing and Communications  
150 W. University Blvd.  
Melbourne, Florida 32901-6975

# Welcome to Florida Tech!

In 1984, new student check-in took place in Hedgecock Gym. Were you there? Do you remember your first day on campus?

Tell us about it at [fltechtoday@fit.edu](mailto:fltechtoday@fit.edu).



**SOJA** is rocking Homecoming Fest in Downtown Melbourne on Friday, Oct. 24. See page 30 for information.

