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June

Flagler Honors Abare '46 Years of Making an Impact'

More than 450 people paid tribute to retiring Flagler College President Dr. William T. Abare Jr., with a sendoff that included the announcement that a new student residential complex will be named Abare Hall and the presentation of a presidential medal. The event celebrated Abare's career at Flagler, which has spanned 46 years, including 16 as president of the college. He will step down from the presidency at the end of June.



Flagler Board of Trustees Chairman Frank D. Upchurch III made it official that the \$23 million student housing complex under construction on King and Malaga Streets along the banks of the San Sebastian River will be named for the president. It will open this fall, and will house 148 upperclassmen. He also presented Abare with the Flagler College Presidential Medal, which has only been given to one other person: former President and Chancellor William L. Proctor.

Speakers heaped praise on Abare for his years of service. "His legacy is evident when you look across this campus, and even the town," said Flagler alumna Diane Evia-Lanevi, '87. "However, I believe his greatest legacy lies in the relationships that he has forged with the students and the alumni throughout his 46 years here at Flagler College."

Assistant Professor of Humanities Steve Voguit said he was always drawn to Abare's sincerity and passion for what he was doing. "Bill Abare cares deeply about this place," he said. "But most importantly, he cares so much about the students who choose to come here, and about those of us who are fortunate enough to teach here."

Other speakers included former St. Augustine Mayor Greg Baker, former Flagler Board of Trustees member Delores Lastinger and Chancellor Proctor, who gave a tribute to Abare's wife, Susan. Abare has been president of Flagler College since 2001, and has worked at Flagler College since 1971 when he was hired as director and dean of Admissions. Prior to serving as president, Abare was executive vice president and dean of Academic Affairs at Flagler for 12 years.

Dr. Abare announced his retirement in spring of 2016 saying, "The more I thought about it, I realized there was never going to be a perfect time. There will always be another initiative to begin, another program to get underway, another project to start and finish, another fundraising effort to mount. There isn't a perfect time. I just felt like this was the right time."

Ringling Game Art Graduate Wins First at E3!

Ringling College of Art and Design graduate, Trent Sivek (Game Art, '17) has won first at the 2017 E3 (Electronic Entertainment Expo) College Game Competition. He exhibited his game, *Phonetica*, a playable game with stunning artwork. This marks the first time in the history of the Ringling College Game Art program that a student or graduate's work has been selected for the E3 College Game Competition. On top of that, Sivek conceptualized, created, and programmed his game by himself, competing against and defeating games in the competition that were created by teams of many students. Of his win, Sivek says, "I am honored to have been able to showcase my project on such a public stage and am humbled by its warm reception."

Sivek created *Phonetica* as a Ringling College Game Art senior thesis project rendered in real time using Unreal Engine 4. It is an interactive game in which the players make their way through a musical palace. Founder and head of the Ringling College Game Art major Jim McCampbell states, "This is the Game Art major's finest moment. Game Art faculty have worked relentlessly to develop and refine a curriculum that would enable artists to make beautiful, playable games. That structure, combined with great teaching and the superior work ethic that students like Trent possess, are allowing us to create a new generation of super-artists. Congratulations to all of the Game Art faculty, students, and staff in making this a reality."



Trent Sivek

Saint Leo Women's Athletics Produces Golf Champion and Top-Tier Runner

Saint Leo University golfer Marie Coors completed an impressive collegiate career by capturing the individual national championship of the 2017 NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship. The individual title is the first NCAA national championship—team or individual—for Saint Leo in women's athletics and the third national championship in university history. Coors also won the NCAA Elite 90 award for the 2017 NCAA Division II Women's Golf Championship for having the highest grade point average of any competitor in the national championship. She graduated *summa cum laude* and received her bachelor's degree in economics just three weeks before the competition. After the season was completed, Coors was named the PING/Women's Golf Coaches Association (WGCA) Division II Golfer of the Year and a First Team All-American.

Runner Colett Rampf, an Economics major as well and 2017 graduate (*cum laude*), made the Lions proud by placing third in the women's 3,000-meter steeplechase final at the 2017 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championships. Rampf also placed seventh in the championship's 5,000-meter run. She earned All-American honors in both events. Rampf was also a member of the Saint Leo cross-country team. She has one more year of athletic eligibility and is interested in graduate studies at Saint Leo. Both Coors and Rampf came from Germany to study and compete at Saint Leo.



Marie Coors



Colett Rampf

Florida Southern Graduate Receives Fulbright Award

Florida Southern College graduate Zoe Trout, a communication and advertising major, is the recipient of a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award. Trout will spend a year teaching English in Thailand. She is an honors graduate and a Hollingsworth Scholar. The Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program provides grants for U.S. students to help teach English abroad while serving as cultural ambassadors. It is part of the highly esteemed Fulbright U.S. Student Program, administered under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State.

In her award-winning application essay, Ms. Trout, who previously taught in an orphanage in Nepal, focused on how American volunteers can make a positive difference in their overseas experiences. "The ability to communicate with people different from yourself makes you a whole human being," she said. "That's why the Fulbright program is so important. Being in another country for a year, you can invest in its culture."



Zoe Trout

Warner Students Win 2017 Student Project

Every year, a few Warner business senior students from the Seminar in Organizational Strategy and Policy class partner with the Florida SBDC (Small Business Development Center) at USF to assist local small businesses around Lake Wales. The teams meet with the business owners to understand the nature of the business and client's needs, and work throughout the semester to develop a strategic plan to address these needs. Team members, John Kent, Travis Espich, Cody Stephens and Tiffany Hulse, worked with the Family Elder Law Firm in Lake Wales. The team effectively worked with the client to develop strategic analysis providing an action plan based on the client's needs. The students conducted extensive research and provided the client with a comprehensive report. Due to their excellent work, the team was subsequently selected as the 2017 Florida SBDC Student Team of the Year.



(l-r) Warner's Dr. Verna Omanwa, Jason Penrod of Family Elder Law, and students John Kent, Tiffany Hulse and Cody Stephens

The University of Tampa Names Head of Advancement

L. Keith Todd, who recently spearheaded the largest fundraising match in U.S. philanthropic history, has been named The University of Tampa's vice president for development and university relations. As vice president, Todd will be tasked with further building a strong culture of giving at UT that will provide unprecedented support for scholarships, endowment and institutional initiatives. He will focus on increasing philanthropic support of the University, building relationships across Tampa Bay and nationwide, securing private support from donors and increasing public awareness of UT. Furthermore, Todd will serve as an advisor to UT President Ron Vaughn on key advancement and university relations topics, and other institutional issues.



L. Keith Todd

Education Magazine Names Beacon Among Admired Institutions

The Knowledge Review, a global education magazine and online platform that covers educational resources, courses and learning technologies for students, educators, and universities, named Beacon to its list of 'The 50 admirable educational institutions 2017.' "The higher education system of [the] United States provides an incomparable level of flexibility through a number of diverse institutions that the States encompass," The Knowledge Review observed. "It is indeed the most attractive feature of the U.S higher education system for scholars hailing to refine their skills from all over world. With the variety of available competent educational institutions, students are sure to find the right fit for their academic, financial, and personal needs."



The magazine reviewed myriad areas including academic offerings, facilities, president profiles, faculty experience, and unique offerings to compile its registry. "The Knowledge Review's ranking of Beacon College among its '50 Admirable Education Institutions 2017' follows a wave of recent attention by national higher education ranking services," said Beacon President George J. Hagerty. "The quality of the institutions included among the publication's list places Beacon in respected company. That which is most important in this recognition and others is that our community pursues its daily work with students who learn differently in a way that is unduplicated in student outcomes."

Everglades Student Honored as First Veteran of the Month

U.S Army Veteran Doug Richart was honored as the first Fry, Jordan and Wilson Insurance Agency Veteran of the Month. Doug joined the Army in 2011 and was stationed at Fort Campbell. He was a member of the 187th 3rd Brigade combat team of the 3rd Battalion. Doug did two tours in Afghanistan with the Screaming Eagles of the 101st Airborne in 2012 and 2013. "I learned a lot of leadership and management skills and an appreciation of what I have. When you get deployed, it opens your mind up to what we have back here," stated Richart.

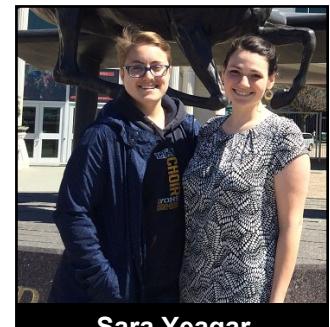


Doug Richart (center)

He completed his time in the Army in 2015 and enrolled in the Construction Management Program Online with Everglades University. Doug is currently working in the construction industry, attending classes, and raising his three children. "It's a great honor, it means a lot to me especially for the ones who aren't with us anymore," stated Richart when asked how it feels to be honored as the first Veteran of the Month.

Florida College Students Attend Alpha Chi National Convention

Two students, Abigail Smith and Sara Yeager, from Florida College's Florida Xi chapter of Alpha Chi attended the Alpha Chi National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky and gave presentations. Abigail Smith spoke on the topic, "Transatlantic Ties: Cato, Whigs, and American Patriots." Sara Yeager's presentation was entitled "Let's Talk about Jesus: Hero Patterns in the Canonical Gospels."



Sara Yeager
& Abigail Smith

Alpha Chi is a national, coeducational academic honor society that admits college students from all academic disciplines. Membership is limited to an institution's top 10 percent of juniors, seniors and graduate students, and there are more than 300 chapters of Alpha Chi located in 45 states and Puerto Rico.

Ave Maria Transitions Operations

Ave Maria University announced that an agreement has been reached to transfer ownership of the Rhodora J. Donahue Academy to the Diocese of Venice in Florida. This move by the University complements the January 2017 sale of the Oratory church to the Diocese. The effective date for the transition of Academy operations is July 1, 2017. The Rhodora J. Donahue Academy currently enrolls 235 students in K-12 education in a 48,000 square foot building located on a 10.56 acre property that opened in 2007.

AMU Chancellor and Founder Tom Monaghan applauded the news of the sale of the Academy to the Diocese. "Just as I said when the Oratory was sold, having the Academy as a diocesan school is a win for the town, University, Academy, and Diocese," said Monaghan. "This move assures that a quality K-12 Catholic education will be available at Ave Maria for many years to come."

Rollins Receives Federal Grant for Upward Bound Programs

U.S. Rep. Stephanie Murphy recently announced that Rollins will receive \$322,335 from the U.S. Department of Education to administer Upward Bound programs designed to prepare low-income high school students for college. "We are deeply grateful to the Department of Education for the opportunity to serve students in Central Florida through the Upward Bound grant," said Micki Meyer, Lord Family Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Community. "The Upward Bound Program at Rollins College is committed to access in higher education by providing selected high school students from underserved backgrounds with innovative curriculum, positive mentoring, and strategies for college success. We are proud of all of the students, teachers, and staff who dedicate their time and talent to making a difference and are excited to continue this important work through this new federal grant." Upward Bound projects serve high school students from low-income families and from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree. The goal of Upward Bound is to help more students complete their secondary education while preparing them to enroll in and graduate from institutions of higher education.

Bethune-Cookman Graduate Strives for Societal Change

Marlene Holmes, a 2008 Bethune-Cookman University graduate will begin her doctoral program in social work, in fall 2017, at Barry University in Miami, Florida. This program will enhance the development of Marlene's leadership qualities, social work knowledge and advanced practice. The doctoral program also emphasizes the importance of scholarly inquiry and direct practice.

In 2006, Marlene was recruited to B-CU on a full athletics scholarship to play volleyball for the lady wildcats. While at B-CU, Marlene earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology with a minor in social work. Later, she was accepted to the University of Central Florida and earned her graduate degree in social work. "Being accepted into the PhD program, I will have concrete data to support the gaps in the economic and educational systems which limit our communities," Holmes said. "I will be able to interact directly with key community leaders, students, families, and organizations. My vision is to develop solutions and collaborate with others to produce change within societies globally," she added. Currently, Marlene serves as the Director of Prevention at the Drug Abuse Foundation in Delray Beach, Florida. In her spare time, she teaches Mindfulness Meditation within the South Florida region. She also speaks to local athletes and students on the importance of maintaining a drug free lifestyle. Her goals include owning a private practice, and becoming a professional educator and motivational speaker.



Marlene Holmes

Everglades University President Honored

The Commonwealth Institute has awarded Kristi Mollis, President of Everglades University, the honor of being one of the 2017 Top 10 Women-Led Non Profits in Florida. The Commonwealth Institute, a non-profit organization devoted to advancing businesswomen in leadership positions, compiled the list through a study that looked at the characteristics of female leaders.

President Mollis has been the President of Everglades University for over 15 years and was named the South Florida Business Leader of the Year for Education in 2012. "It was an honor to have been chosen to stand among so many successful and impressive women leaders. I am humbled to be among the Top 10 Women-Led Non Profits in Florida and thank the Commonwealth Institute for this tremendous opportunity and beautiful event," said Mollis.



Kristi Mollis

Florida Tech Awarded STARS Sustainability Certification

Florida Institute of Technology has received certification under the prestigious Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS), solidifying its standing as a state and national leader in university sustainability. After a year of data collection and processing, Florida Tech achieved a Bronze rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, higher education's leading sustainability organization and the developer of the STARS program. Florida Tech becomes one of just five colleges and universities among more than 150 in Florida to be STARS certified.



Certification at the Bronze level requires demonstration of rigorous performance across dozens of individual areas within four categories of sustainability: Academics, Operations, Engagement and Planning and Administration. For example, the Academics category focuses on curricula and research. The Engagement category focuses on how sustainability is incorporated into campus life and community partnerships. The Operations category focuses on campus environmental footprint reduction through energy and water conservation efforts, greenhouse gas emissions and waste diversion. And the Planning and Administration category examines how sustainability is utilized by the management structure of the university.

The initiative was led by University Sustainability Officer Daniel Sutton and Sustainability Program Chair Ken Lindeman, with assistance from several campus offices and faculty, staff and federal workstudy students Melissa Bramble, Montana Steell and Marcus Farley. "Together, our campus community is working toward improving campus operations, and many programs, policies and practices are continuing to develop through these partnerships," Sutton said. "This has helped identify the importance of sustainability and will encourage future initiatives across campus."

The primary contributor to the point totals needed for certification was Florida Tech's academic program, which offers both major and minor programs in sustainability. "The support for innovations in sustainability has been continuous at all levels, from students to senior administrators to off-campus partners," Lindeman said.

Jacksonville Hires Renowned Shark Researcher

He's one of the great shark researchers and taggers, and now Jacksonville University has tracked him down to teach marine science and combine his student-centric efforts with the University's new partner, world-renowned shark collaborative OCEARCH. Dr. Bryan Franks starts in mid-August as an Assistant Professor of Biology and Marine Science. "We had an outstanding pool of applicants, and he was the consensus pick among our selection committee," said JU Marine Science Research Institute Director Dr. Quinton White. "With his background in Bimini and his teaching and research qualifications, he brings a high level of maturity and experience to our program."

Dr. Franks will begin teaching an introductory course in oceanography and will develop a graduate course in coastal and ocean observing systems that includes usage



Dr. Franks & students

of shark tagging, satellites to predict weather, ocean drifters and more. Eventually he is expected to embark with students on the M/V OCEARCH research vessel, which is now home-ported in Jacksonville but currently at sea on an expedition. The vessel returns to Jacksonville in late fall for an overhaul. Dr. Franks will meet with world-renowned OCEARCH founder Chris Fischer and other OCEARCH staff members, with the expectation to be on board with students by next spring.



Dr. Bryan Franks

University of Miami Names New Provost and Business Dean

University of Miami named Jeffrey Duerk, the dean of the School of Engineering at Case Western Reserve University, as the school's new provost, a role that also serves as the university's executive vice president and chief academic officer. Duerk will start his new job overseeing UM's 11 schools, colleges and research initiatives on July 1. The move from Ohio to Miami is the first time he's served as faculty at another university, after earning his Ph.D. in biomedical engineering at Case Western in 1987 and getting hired the next year. He received a B.S. and M.S. in electrical engineering from Purdue University and Ohio State University, respectively. UM's focus on research, particularly for a young university, attracted Duerk. He said he wanted to work at a university that tried to "define how research is done and should be done."

UM also named John Quelch, a professor at Harvard Business School, as dean of the UM School of Business Administration and vice provost for executive education. "I'm gratified and very proud to work for a university that takes this seriously," he said. "It's just such a great opportunity."



John Quelch



Jeffrey Duerk

Hodges Named Top University for Professional Sales Education

Students interested in marketing and professional sales programs, as well as employers looking to hire qualified candidates with particular skill sets will now have another reason to look at Hodges University, which was recently named a “Top University for Professional Sales Education” by the Sales Education Foundation (SEF). Featured in the SEF 2017 ANNUAL magazine, SEF recognized Hodges for preparing students for successful careers in professional selling and helping to elevate the sales profession. “Our goal is to equip students with the necessary sales courses and skills to prepare them for high-end positions in the workforce,” said Dr. Aysegul Timur, dean of the Johnson School of Business.

Professional sales/selling is one of the most common jobs for students graduating with a sales degree. Recent research suggests that 60 percent of all business majors and 88 percent of all marketing majors begin their professional careers in a sales-related role. Sally Stevens, executive director of the Sales Education Foundation, noted that companies should have an increased focus on partnering with university sales programs and hiring their graduates.

Palm Beach Atlantic Names Provost for Instruction

Palm Beach Atlantic University Provost and Chief Academic Officer E. Randolph Richards announced the appointment of Dr. Nathan Lane as Associate Provost for Instruction. In this new role, Lane will oversee faculty development, general education, the Frederick M. Supper Honors program and special projects. He will coordinate the work of the director of the First Year and Transfer Experience Program in conjunction with the Office of Student Development. He will continue to teach in the School of Ministry. “Nathan Lane’s passion for teaching is known across campus as well as his understanding of the opportunities that the classroom affords for mentorship, intellectual discipleship and career transformation,” Richards said. “I am grateful for his willingness to take on these new duties that will strengthen these programs through expanding the scope of the present faculty development process.”



Dr. Nathan Lane

Southeastern Announces New Exec VP

The Southeastern University Board of Trustees has approved the appointment of Dr. Chris Owen as its next executive vice president. Owen has served previously as the vice president of student development and is an alumnus of the university. “I am confident in Dr. Owen’s ability to collaborate with our team and move our university forward in this next phase of growth,” said Dr. Kent Ingle, president.



Dr. Chris Owen

Internationally Acclaimed Pianist Joins Stetson Faculty

Sean Kennard, an internationally acclaimed classical pianist who has won many piano competitions and played as a soloist with orchestras around the world, has been selected as assistant professor of piano for the Stetson University School of Music. Kennard performed in Carnegie Hall and won the International Chopin Competition of the Pacific before he turned 12. A long list of prizes, awards and performances followed.



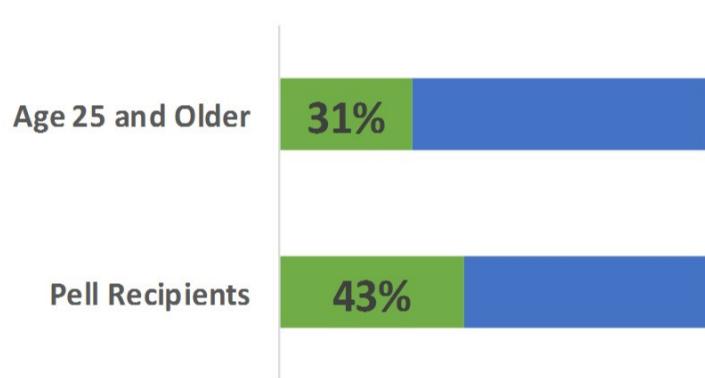
Sean Kennard



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Source: NCES IPEDS.

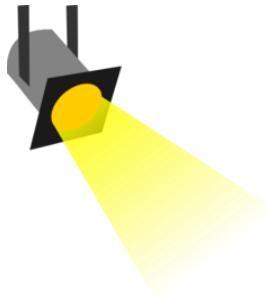
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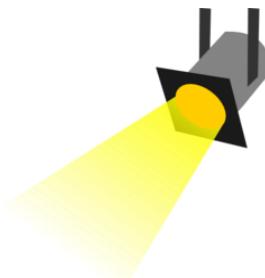
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