

Governor announces appointees to FGCU's New Board of Trustees

Lt. Gov. Brogan announces Gov. Bush's appointees to the new board

On June 21, Lt. Gov. **Frank Brogan** announced Gov. **Jeb Bush's** appointees to Florida Gulf Coast University's Board of Trustees. The Board will set policy and serve as FGCU's legal owner and final authority responsible for efficient and effective use of resources.

"As one of the state's newest universities, Florida Gulf Coast University has made tremendous achievements in a short time," said Lt. Gov. Brogan. "I am confident the new board members will continue to build upon the institution's reputation for excellence in higher education."

Joined by Secretary of Education **Jim Horne**, Lt. Gov. Brogan announced the following appointments:

Brian Cobb is the founder and vice chairman of the Naples Children and Education Foundation, an organization that provides funding to Collier County children's charities.

Chief Larry D. Hart, a native of Ft. Myers, is the recently retired chief of the Fort Myers Police Department.

Renee Lee, of Port Charlotte, is the county attorney for the Charlotte County Attorney's Office.

Dr. Bernard Lester is the president/COO of

Alico Inc, the company that donated the land to the state on which Florida Gulf Coast University was built. He is a resident of La Belle.

David Lucas is the chairman of the Bonita Bay Group, a land development firm. He lives in Ft. Myers.

Scott Lutgert, a resident of Naples, is the president and CEO of The Lutgert Companies, as well as the president and CEO of Premier Properties of Southwest Florida Inc.

Gerri Moll is president of Bank of America. She is a resident of Naples.

Dr. Harry Moon is CEO of Cleveland Clinic Florida. He lives in Ft. Lauderdale.

Edward A. Morton is executive vice president and Chief Financial Officer of Naples Community Hospital and the NCH Healthcare System, Inc., and is past chairman of the FGCU Foundation Board. He is a resident of Naples.

Jerry Starkey is an entrepreneur and 13-year resident of Florida. He is president of WCI Communities.

Linda Taylor is one of the founding members and is a past chairwoman of the FGCU Foundation Board. She is a resident of Fort Myers.

see "Board of Trustees" on page 3

President welcomes new governing board

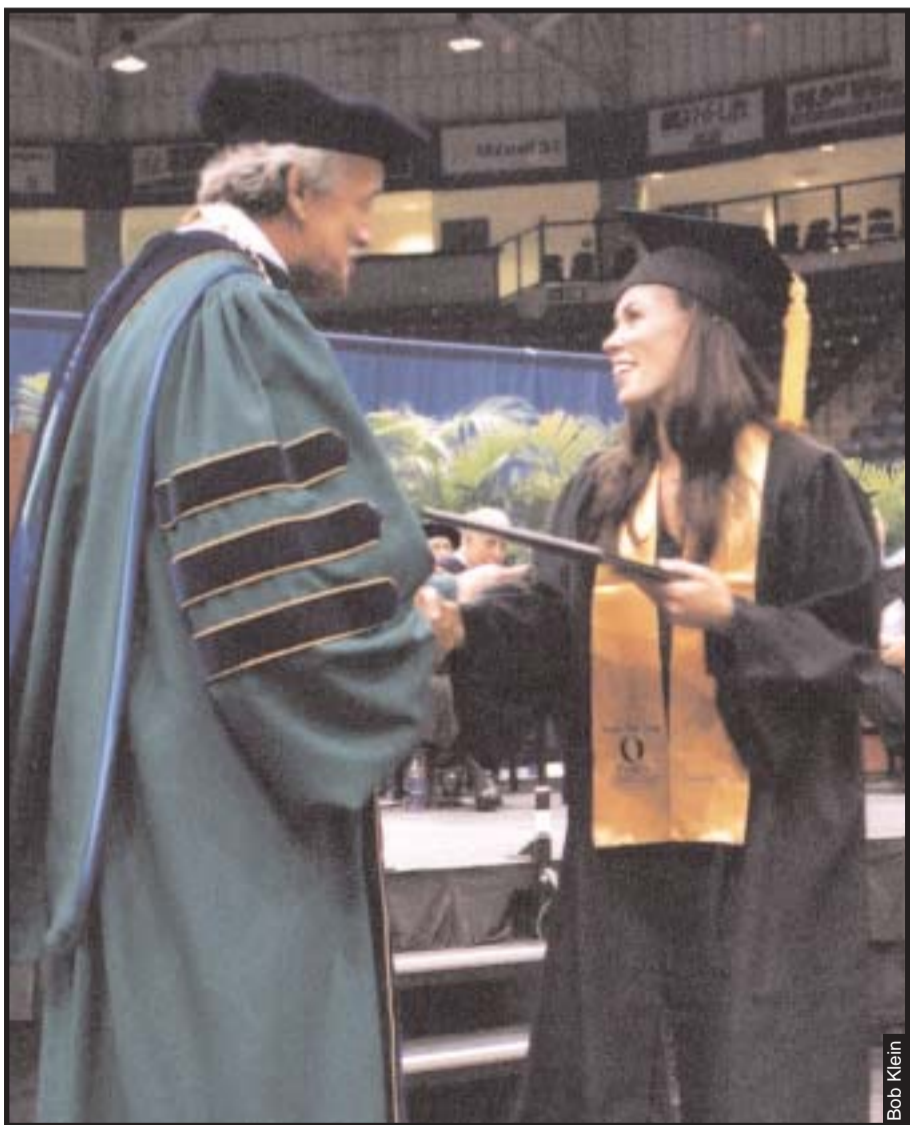
Florida Gulf Coast University President **William C. Merwin** says he is pleased with Gov. **Jeb Bush's** selections for the new Board of Trustees.



Dr. William C. Merwin

"I am delighted with Governor Bush's appointments to the FGCU Board of Trustees, and I am confident that these individuals will be outstanding advocates for our institution, while working with their colleagues throughout the state toward a seamless educational path for Florida's students," he said in a message to FGCU students, faculty and staff the morning of the announcement.

University presidents were provided the names of their trustees on the day of the announcement ceremony on each campus. Earlier Dr. Merwin said that although he did not know yet who FGCU's trustees would be, he was looking forward to the appointment of the individuals who will play such an important role for FGCU.



Students in FGCU's Inaugural Freshman Class Graduate

Students from FGCU's first freshman class, including FGCU's first enrolled student **Mariana Coto**, began graduating at spring commencement on May 5 at Teco Arena. Eighteen students from the "Inaugural Freshman Class of 1997" shared the honor. Spring commencement graduated 275 students.

FGCU is bullish on enrollment!

Florida Gulf Coast University has had consistent enrollment increases over the last four years, but if public sentiment has any say, FGCU could soon see an even more dynamic change.

"My husband, myself and our oldest daughter had the awesome opportunity to preview your university and participate in the new student orientation," **Andrea B. Weiss** from Tampa wrote to President **William C. Merwin**. "Wow! Wow! Wow! is what I can say."

Students are coming for many reasons but the most convincing are apartment-style residence halls, campus-wide technology and small class sizes.

"I transferred from FSU after my freshman year because I hated being just a social security number," **Jamie Withrow**, communication senior

from Lehigh Acres, said. "Most of the time, I was just a face in the sea of hundreds or a thousand in a lecture hall."

Enrollment Activity at FGCU	
ACTUAL	Fall 1997 2,585
	Fall 1998 3,031
	Fall 1999 3,282
	Fall 2000 3,653
PROJECTED	Fall 2001 4,083
	Fall 2002 4,595
	Fall 2003 5,193
	Fall 2004 5,918
	Fall 2005 6,761

FGCU student housing is so new and high-tech that traditional schools can't compete with amenities like a man-made beach and "smart" laundry facilities that inform students via

see "Enrollment" on page 2

FGCU Eagle Athletics well underway

New coaches, new sports

Athletics at Florida Gulf Coast University is building a program and doing it well. Recently FGCU announced its new men's tennis coach and assistant athletic director, **J. Webb Horton**. Earlier in May, the University announced that it hired two new basketball coaches — **Karl Smesko** to coach women's and **David Balza** to coach men's basketball.



J. Webb Horton

Horton will begin at FGCU after serving as the women's tennis coach at Northern Kentucky University. He has been Coach of the Year in the Great Lakes Valley Conference.

Smesko came to FGCU after heading the women's basketball program at Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW) for two years.



David Balza and Karl Smesko

Balza comes to Southwest Florida after leading the men's basketball program at St. Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Ind.

Currently, the University is seeking NCAA Division II membership.

Beginning fall 2002, FGCU will offer men and women's basketball with completion of a modern 85,000 square-foot gymnasium that will seat just under 5,000 people. FGCU currently offers men and women's golf, and men and women's tennis.

Hillmyer-Tremont creates endowed scholarship fund

On April 13, President **William C. Merwin** announced a \$100,000 gift from the Hillmyer-Tremont Student Athlete Foundation to establish a scholarship fund through the Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation, Inc. The goal of the scholarship fund is to attract and assist deserving FGCU student athletes in perpetuity from Lee and Collier counties. The FGCU Foundation is seeking a dollar-for-dollar matching fund from the State of Florida Ethics in Business Scholarship Program.

Student athletes make the grade

FGCU's Department of Athletics sets a high academic standard for its student-athletes, requiring players to maintain a 3.0 grade point average. But FGCU's student-athletes surpassed that goal — and ended the spring semester with a 3.24 collective GPA.

"Our student-athletes have accomplished a great deal in their first year, but this is by far their greatest achievement. Since day one, we have said that academics come first and I believe that our student-athletes' GPAs prove that we are serious," commented FGCU Director of Athletics **Carl McAloose**.

The students attained a 3.20 cumulative GPA for the 2000-01 academic year.

Foundation elects new officers, board members for 2001-02

Owner of Kraft Construction Inc. in Naples, **F. Fred Pezeshkan**, has been named the new chairman of the board for the Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation, Inc. Other officers were also elected for the year 2001-02.



F. Fred Pezeshkan

In the past year, Pezeshkan chaired the highly successful President's Renaissance Celebration fundraising gala and chaired the finance committee. He is also past chair of the development committee.

"Mr. Pezeshkan is taking on this responsibility at a critical time in the history of Florida Gulf Coast University and I couldn't be more pleased to have his leadership for our University Foundation," President **William C. Merwin** said.

Charles K. Idelson is vice chairman. Idelson is the chairman and CEO of SunTrust Bank, Southwest Florida.

Joseph Catti has been elected as treasurer. He is the president of Northern Trust Bank in Fort Myers.

Gerri Moll will serve as Foundation secretary. Moll is president of Bank of America Lee/Collier Counties.

The Foundation Board also welcomed five new members.

Fay R. Biles of Marco Island is president of FAVA Associates Consulting and Co-President of Stress-Free, Inc.

Brad Clark of Naples is associate vice president of McDonald/Key Investments.

Adria Parsons of Naples is Gulfcoast regional president of First Union National Bank.

Brian Presley of Punta Gorda is president of The Presley Advisory Inc., a registered investment advisor, and editor and publisher of the bimonthly *The Presley Advisory Letter*.

Edward L. Wotitzky of Punta Gorda is an attorney with Wotitzky, Wotitzky, Ross and Goldman, P.A.

The purpose of the FGCU Foundation is to support the educational mission of the University.

John Crowley is FGCU vice president for University Advancement, which administers the Foundation. The Foundation encourages, solicits, receives and administers gifts for scientific, educational and charitable purposes, all for the advancement of the University.



John Crowley

Fulbright Scholar from page 2

Academic Affairs **Brad Bartel**. "This is a double recognition because while it's not unusual for someone in the social sciences or humanities to receive the scholarship, it is for someone in law or criminal justice.



Dr. Brad Bartel

"It reinforces the quality of our faculty. Many of our faculty came from prestigious universities and gave up other jobs to come to FGCU. To have a Fulbright Scholar on our campus adds another layer to that quality."

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 as the United States' flagship program for international education exchange. The goal is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people of other countries. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Seay is one of FGCU's original faculty members and even though being a Fulbright Scholar comes with a lot of prestige and honor, she says she wouldn't have received it without the support and backing of the people at FGCU.

Please send your calendar events to Community Relations at communityrelations@fgcu.edu or (ext. 1081) by September 15 to be included in the Fall issue of Vision.

Upcoming Events at FGCU

August 2001

Thursday, Aug. 2

"Powerful Presentation Skills" workshop for the public
Presented by the FGCU Florida Institute of Government
8 a.m. to Noon, Center for Professional Development at Edison Community College
Contact Joanne Hartke at: (941) 590-7815

Monday, Aug. 20

"Office Safety" seminar for the public
Presented by FGCU University Police and Safety
Noon to 1 p.m., Howard Hall Room 111A
Contact Sgt. David Lounsbury at: (941) 590-1916

Tuesday through Thursday, Aug. 21, 22, 23

"Rape Aggression and Defense" training for women
Presented by FGCU University Police and Safety
5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Howard Hall Room 111C
Contact Sgt. David Lounsbury at: (941) 590-1916

Monday, Aug. 27

Classes begin for fall 2001 semester
Admissions and Recruitment
Contact Michele Yovanovich at: (941) 590-7887

Monday, Aug. 27

"Scams" seminar for the public
Presented by FGCU University Police and Safety
Noon to 1 p.m., Howard Hall Room 111A
Contact Sgt. David Lounsbury at: (941) 590-1916

September 2001

Thursday, Sept. 13

"Coaching, Feedback and Discipline" workshop for the public
Presented by the FGCU Florida Institute of Government
9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Center for Professional Development at Edison Community College
Contact Joanne Hartke at: (941) 590-7815

Wednesday, Sept. 19

"Theft Protection" seminar for the public
Presented by FGCU University Police and Safety
Noon to 1 p.m., Howard Hall Room 111A
Contact Sgt. David Lounsbury at: (941) 590-1916

Saturday Sept. 29

"America Goes Back to School"
Presented by FGCU Family Resource Center and FGCU Public Schools Enrichment Partnership (PSEP)
Contact Kay Halverson at (941) 590-7856

Sunday through Tuesday, Sept. 23, 24, 25

Men's and Women's Golf — NSU Fall Classic
Miami, Fla.
Contact Kathleen Henrichsmeyer at: (941) 590-7012

Friday through Sunday, Sept. 28, 29, 30

Men's Golf — FGCU Fall Invitational
Shadow Wood Country Club, Bonita Springs
Contact Kathleen Henrichsmeyer at: (941) 590-7012

Monday through Wednesday, Sept. 24, 25, 26

"Rape Aggression and Defense" training for women
Presented by FGCU University Police and Safety
5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Howard Hall Room 111C
Contact Sgt. David Lounsbury at: (941) 590-1916

October 2001

Friday and Saturday, Oct. 5-6

Women's Golf — FGCU Eagle Fall Invitational
Miromar Lakes Country Club, Estero
Contact Kathleen Henrichsmeyer at: (941) 590-7012

Wednesday, Oct. 10

"Staying Positive No Matter What" workshop for the public
Presented by the FGCU Florida Institute of Government
8 a.m. to Noon, Center for Professional Development at Edison Community College
Contact Joanne Hartke at: (941) 590-7815

Friday, Oct. 19

"10th Annual FGCU Founder's Cup Golf Tournament"
Hosted by the FGCU Foundation Inc.
Bonita Bay
Contact Jodi Quinn at: (941) 590-1074

Saturday, Oct. 20

"FGCU Eagle Expo"
Prospective students and their families are invited to the FGCU campus for open house. Tours of classrooms and campus apartments provided. Visit with faculty and staff to learn about academic programs, admissions, financial aid and student activities at FGCU. Hosted by Admissions and Recruitment
9 a.m. to 1 p.m., FGCU Campus
Contact Michele Yovanovich at: (941) 590-7887

Saturday, Oct. 20

"FGCU-Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk 2001"
Presented by the Center for Positive Aging
1.8 miles on FGCU campus
Contact Linda Buettner at: (941) 590-7497

Sunday through Tuesday, Oct. 21, 22, 23

Men's Golf — UCF Rio Pinar Intercollegiate Orlando
Contact Kathleen Henrichsmeyer at: (941) 590-7012

Tuesday, Oct. 23

"Residential Safety" seminar for the public
Presented by FGCU University Police and Safety
Noon to 1 p.m., Howard Hall Room 111A
Contact Sgt. David Lounsbury at: (941) 590-1916

Friday through Sunday, Oct. 26, 27, 28

Men's and Women's Golf — Bethune-Cookman College/Fall Invitational
Daytona Beach
Contact Kathleen Henrichsmeyer at: (941) 590-7012

FGCU student breaks ground with Meftah Foundation archaeology internship

FGCU junior Amber Wynn is studying in Scotland for the summer

Florida Gulf Coast University student **Amber Wynn** will be traveling in July to Portmahomack, Scotland, to complete a much-anticipated two-month archaeological internship sponsored by the Meftah Foundation. She will be working alongside archaeologists and a handful of other students from around the world as they excavate the site of the ancient church of St. Colman. The buried mysteries and secrets of the ancient Scottish (Pictish) people date back to the 6th century A.D. and Wynn has a front row seat to the exploration.

Wynn, a Naples resident, is a junior majoring in English and minoring in anthropology. For her, this experience "is the opportunity to not only learn more about European archaeology in a hands-on way, but it is the chance to better understand another culture much older and different from our own."

With an incredible sense of herself and her own culture, Wynn is open to new ideas and diverse civilizations. She says, "There is so much we do not know about people and societies of the past that makes archaeology an important field that can provide a way of understanding how cultures develop,

change, move and disappear."

To qualify for the internship, Wynn had to excel in all of her classes, show an interest in the area and initiate her own research on the ancient Scottish people she will be studying.

Michael McDonald, assistant professor of anthropology at FGCU, recommended her for the internship for a variety of reasons.

Among them, Wynn was the first student at FGCU to declare anthropology as a minor, and she is likely to be one of the first to graduate with it.

Foremost, McDonald explains, Wynn is a well-rounded and highly motivated student. She has an "intellectual curiosity about the world and a willingness to suspend judgment and seek connections in the information she encounters. She doesn't think in limiting or narrow disciplinary ways. She has been a highly successful liberal arts student - the sort we wish to nurture at FGCU."

Wynn jumped at the chance for the experience and she assured McDonald, "I will work hard to make this gift from the Meftahs a rewarding one and it is something I truly appreciate."

In preparation for her journey, Wynn is participating in FGCU's



Patricia Meftah, Amber Wynn and Dr. Michael Meftah

archaeological field school at the Randell Research Center on Pine Island, Florida. While excavating, she will learn about the tools, diet, society and the ways prehistoric Floridians adapted to the environment. The excavation techniques and strategies used on the Calusa mounds will enhance and strengthen her skills for the Portmahomack site, which, coincidentally spans the same pre-historic period as the Pine Island site.

The Meftah Foundation will award one or two internships to FGCU students each year to participate in this excavation. According to FGCU Director of Advancement **Judie Cassidy**, "Students are drawn to programs that offer internships and this one is particularly attractive."

Donors **Dr. Michael and Patricia Meftah** are residents of Naples. They started the Meftah Foundation after Michael's brother passed away. The couple was present when Prince Charles dedicated the Church Museum at the excavation site in September 1999.

Of course, Wynn is quick to relate how grateful she is for the opportunity that awaits her. She was notified of the honor in early April and "it has been an exciting whirlwind ever since with meetings, field school preparations and heavy research. It seems so impossible to tell the Meftahs how much this opportunity means to me."

Board of Trustees from page 1

Michael Villalobos is president of the Southwest Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He lives in Fort Myers.

Magali Solimano is the elected FGCU student body president.

"This is an exciting time," vice president of Administrative Services **Curtis Bullock** said. "We literally would not be standing here without the help of so many people. Our goal of a seamless education system is one we applaud, and



Curtis Bullock

we look forward to working with the new Florida Board of Education and the trustees of the other universities."

NASA chooses FGCU student as undergraduate researcher at Glenn Research Center

For the first time, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration hired student researchers for a 10-week summer program. FGCU student Rebekah Hill is one of them.

For Florida Gulf Coast University junior **Rebekah Hill**, the year 2001 definitely will be a space odyssey. The liberal studies student with a major in computer science was chosen through a competitive process as one of America's top undergraduates by NASA to participate in the organization's Undergraduate Student Research Program this summer.

"I am the most excited about working with a group of people in a research environment," Hill said. "I have never been involved in a research group tackling real world problems. It will probably be inspiring to work in a team, to learn from the other members, and to learn new strategies to approach problems."

From the more than 1,100 undergraduates from all over the United States who applied for the new program, NASA chose only 107 student researchers for positions at nine participating NASA centers. Hill will complete her research at the John H. Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field in

Cleveland from June 11 through August 17.

"It just sounded like a great opportunity," Hill said. "The science and mathematics professors I've had at FGCU, especially **Dr. (Chuck) Lindsey** and **Professor (Cheryl) Wiecek**, have always encouraged me to pursue my educational goals and to be open to new avenues of study. I will be working in the Computational Sciences Branch of the Computer Services Division doing a performance comparison of an NT cluster."

Hill's acceptance has other positive

"This is a highly competitive program, and having one of our students accepted is an outstanding accomplishment that will impact recruiting efforts."

~Lindsey

implications as well. "This is a highly competitive program, and having one of our students accepted is an outstanding accomplishment that will impact recruiting efforts," said Lindsey, program leader in mathematics and director of general education at FGCU.

NASA says it created the program to provide rising juniors and seniors with hands-on, challenging research experiences that kindle continued student interest in fields aligned with NASA's research and development mission. It says the program will build a bridge between NASA's existing K-12 Education Program and higher education options, strengthen its commitment to university research, and highlight the critical need to increase the nation's undergraduate and graduate science, engineering, mathematics and technology skill base.

NASA says the Glenn Research Center is its lead center for aeropropulsion, aerospace power and turbomachinery, and conducts world-class research, developing and transferring key technologies to U.S. industries.

The end product is knowledge that is fully available to other NASA centers; the aerospace, energy and automotive industries; other government agencies; and academia.

Student researchers will be required to work 10 consecutive weeks at 40 hours per week. They receive a \$5,000 stipend plus round-trip transportation. At the completion of the research mission, students must write a paper on their NASA-USRP research experience and discuss their research in public forums, if requested.

"It seems likely that I will have a lot to discuss upon my return," Hill said. "Sharing my experiences with FGCU students during forums or workshops might inspire them to get more involved with science and math. It really helps me to have teachers who want their students to learn. Their enthusiasm and respect for their disciplines helps me stay focused and encourages me to put forth my best effort."

Hill is a native of Bloomington, Ill. and now lives in Naples.

VISION

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Vision is sent without charge to employees, alumni, and friends of the University. For access to the electronic version, visit us at: www.fgcu.edu/crm

The contents of *Vision* are based on University news items submitted to Community Relations for promotion in the mass media. Permission is granted to reprint or to excerpt written material from *Vision* for use in the media.

Programs, events, activities and facilities of Florida Gulf Coast University are available to all without regard to race, color, marital status, sex, religion, national origin, disability or age.

Florida Gulf Coast University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award associate, baccalaureate and master's degrees.

Greetings from the Editor

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Vision*, a quarterly newspaper for the faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of Florida Gulf Coast University. The mission of *Vision* is to showcase the University's progress, expertise, and achievements, while highlighting opportunities for you to participate in the growth and development of your University. Articles that appear in *Vision* are selected from among the news events submitted to the Community Relations office for promotion in the mass media.

As a community resource, the University serves not only students pursuing higher education, but through outreach programs and partnerships, it provides leadership in meeting area challenges: Southwest Florida's explosive growth combined with a fragile environment; the changing economy; health, education, and social issues. Through the pages of *Vision*, we will keep you informed and connected to the process as the vision of your University unfolds.

The University recruited talented and experienced faculty and staff from across the nation to establish a supportive, yet challenging learning environment that attracts intellectually curious students from our five-county service region, the state, the nation, and beyond. This healthy mix of faculty and students has created a vibrant atmosphere that energizes the teaching, research and public service mission of Florida Gulf Coast University. We invite you to come grow with us as we share through the pages of *Vision* the experience of working together to create a brighter future for the people of our community. Let us hear from you via communityrelations@fgcu.edu, or otherwise to share your interest in the content of *Vision*.

Audrea Anderson

Five FGCU Health Professions programs earn accreditation

Clinical Laboratory Science, Occupational Therapy Education, Nurse Anesthesia, Nursing and Physical Therapy each received maximum number of years

During the first review process for academic program accreditation, five Florida Gulf Coast University Health Professions programs received accreditation from their respective professional accrediting bodies.



Dr. Cecilia Rokusek

"To achieve accreditation with commendation on the first round is a real affirmation of the quality of health professions programs at FGCU," said Dean of the College of Health Professions **Cecilia Rokusek**.

"It is a tribute to the faculty for building and developing strong academic and

community based experiential programs."

Each program received the maximum number of years possible for accreditation for a new program, ranging from five to seven years for clinical laboratory science, occupational therapy, nursing and physical therapy.

Nurse anesthesia education programs are accredited for the first year after the first class graduates. Physical therapy and nurse anesthesia are master's level programs.

Programs in the FGCU College of Health Professions have received the following accreditation:

- **NAACLS** - National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science accredited the Clinical Laboratory Science program for five years through 2005.
- **ACOTE** - Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education

accredited the Occupational Therapy program for seven years through 2007.

- **COA** - Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs approved the Nurse Anesthesia program through the first year after the first class graduates when it will be re-visited.

- **NLNAC** - National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission accredited the Nursing program for five years through 2005.

- **APTA** - American Physical Therapy Association accredited the Physical Therapy program for five years through 2006.

These individual accreditations give a discipline academic recognition and clout among its peers. It is a badge of honor to be pursued vigorously so that a college can offer students the prestige that comes along with the degree. It is what FGCU provost and vice president for Academic Affairs **Brad Bartel** calls "value added."

Enrollment from page 1

telephone when appliances are available. Purposely shunning the old term "dormitory," FGCU housing is slated to board 280 additional students this fall.

"I was drawn to FGCU by its small classes, family-like environment, and beautiful residence halls," said **Magali Solimano**, finance junior from Pensacola and president of the Student Government Association. "At FGCU, I found a home away from home."

Enrollment has steadily increased about 10-12 percent every year since FGCU opened in August 1997, but the school continues to increase its recruiting efforts.

The Learning Academy, a first semester program for incoming freshmen began this summer and "FGCU After Hours" will offer more classes at night, on weekends and via distance learning.

Later this year, the University will put its marketing efforts into high gear. Other successful measures, such as Eagle Expo recruiting days, will continue.

New Board of Trustee member **Larry Hart** summed it all up, "We will show Tallahassee that we have the best university in the state of Florida."

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Visit our website at: www.fgcu.edu/crm click on "Directory of Experts"

Department chair chosen as Fulbright Scholar

She's a top educator at Florida Gulf Coast University and for four years straight, she has given FGCU students a guided tour of China's criminal justice system. She vacations in Brazil where she talks with natives and fishes for piranha. But now, FGCU Chair of Justice Studies **Pamella Seay**, is facing the opportunity of a lifetime. She's going to Morocco and Tunisia, and she's doing it as a Fulbright Scholar.

Seay calls it the opportunity of a lifetime.

"It's an opportunity to learn. As a professor, you want to aspire to something like this. I hope to share what I get out of this with my students, my colleagues and my community. Sharing knowledge is what it's about."

FGCU is proud of her, too.

President **William C. Merwin**, a Fulbright Scholar himself, personally presented Seay with a certificate of excellence during a surprise visit to the monthly meeting of the criminal justice advisory board.

"Dr. Merwin surprised the daylights out of me. He said my program was one of the best on campus. Then he handed me a blue leather folder with a gold certificate of excellence. It made me feel so appreciated and it was so unexpected. I've never had an honor like this before."

Seay left for her trip on June 19 and returns Aug. 6. She will travel with 16 other Fulbright recipients from around the country. "Some are university faculty, some are history professors, some are community college professors — but every one of us, educators," she said.

"To be named a Fulbright Scholar doesn't happen to everyone, just a limited set of individuals," said FGCU provost and vice president for

see "Fulbright Scholar" on page 4



FGCU Partners with WCI on Green Building Project

Florida Gulf Coast University's commitment to environmental education was forged ahead when Watermark Communities, Inc. president **Jerry Starkey** presented FGCU with a \$350,000 gift. The WCI Green Building Demonstration and Learning Center will foster environmentally sustainable and healthy building and landscape practices in Southwest Florida through demonstration projects and educational outreach programs. The \$500,000 raised from the community by the FGCU Foundation, Inc. is matched dollar-for-dollar by the State legislature. The building will be located on the main entrance to the University.