On October 18 Associate Professor of History Dr. Nicola Foote hosted a one-day academic symposium entitled “New Directions in the Social and Political History of Colombia and Latin America,” which was held to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month. The event took place in the Sugden Ballroom, and featured leading historians from around the world, including speakers based at Harvard, McGill, and the University of Geneva.

The symposium celebrated the work of Christopher Abel, the well-known British historian of Latin America, who pioneered the study of the history of social policy in Latin America, and whose work on the Catholic Church and the politics of violence in Colombia has been incredibly influential.

Appropriately for a symposium that sought to showcase new research in these areas, the seminar opened with a panel featuring the contributions of FGCU students to research in Latin American history. History undergraduate Michael Rodriguez presented his work on the construction of racial difference in new world encouters between Europeans and indigenous peoples; M.A. student in history Ginger Kalinski discussed the contribution of women to sanitation and medicine during the construction of the Panama Canal; and a group of four honors students – Tamara Edwards, Cynthia Rubio, Gabriella Roude and Carlos Rubiano – presented findings from oral history interviews they had conducted with settlers in the Galapagos Islands this summer.

The students’ insights were followed by a panel on nation-formation in Latin America. Speakers from the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Geneva, and Nicola Foote assessing how the formation of a nursing school in Quito, Ecuador provides a window into nationalist ideas about gender and the home.

The symposium ended with a panel evaluating the politics of violence in Latin America. Speakers from McGill and the University of Virginia addressed how ideas about honor, courtesy and citizenship shaped violent state practices. Paul Bartrop, the new Director of the Center for Judaic, Holocaust and Genocide Studies at FGCU, presented a powerful paper recounting survivor testimonies from the Guatemalan genocide of the 1980s, and underlined the horrendous human consequences that can result from state violence.

The event represented a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty to listen to cutting-edge historical research and to participate in academic dialogue.

Funding and support for the symposium was generously provided by the Student Government Diversity Initiative, the College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of Undergraduate Research, and the Honors Program. Special thanks to Donna Henry and Benjamin Hernandez.
Dear College of Arts and Sciences Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that we are preparing to enter finals for the fall semester. In this issue of the CAS Quarterly, we reflect on many important events marking continued growth and achievement for the College. In early November, I attended “A Morning with Tim O’Brien” along with over 250 first year students who had read his book as part of the First Year Reading Project. Bestselling author, Tim O’Brien, visited the FGCU campus on Friday, November 9th to speak to First Year Students as part of the First Year Reading Project. Students from the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education led a successful Terry Tempest Williams Student Dialogue. Community attendance at recitals, concerts, gallery openings and theatre events has been overwhelming. The College of Arts and Sciences has become an integral part of the southwest Florida community.

We continued the “First Friday” tradition after the first week of classes. The balcony was windy, but a great place to socialize. In November, the “Buckingham Barbecue” was well attended and introduced many of you to the university land to the east of the main campus. I look forward to seeing all of you for our upcoming “CAS Holiday Gathering.” We will convene in the Arts Complex on December 13 from 2:00-5:00. Please come and share your favorite holiday dish!

I hope you enjoy this issue of CAS Quarterly. Please consider sending in a contribution for a forthcoming newsletter. I wish you a smooth wrap up of the fall semester and a joyous time with family as we welcome the New Year!

Best Regards,

Donna Price Henry, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Biology
CAS Professors Participate in Service Project by “Braving the Shave”

On Wednesday October 24, 2012, four CAS professors: Dr. Sean Kelly, Dr. Billy Gunnels, Dr. Timothy Sutton, and Jesse Millner participated in FGCU’s second annual St. Baldrick’s Day!

St. Baldrick’s Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research is a national organization devoted to finding a cure for childhood cancer. The foundation raises awareness in a fun way by having participants receive sponsorship in order to have their heads shaved.

Last Wednesday 105 shavees, including our four faculty members, helped to raise $7,293.87 to help find a cure for childhood cancer!

Dr. Kelly’s team and Dr. Sutton’s team were the lead sponsors of the event raising $1,832.00 and $800.00 respectively. This year was the second year Dr. Kelly and Dr. Gunnels participated in the event. First-timer, Jesse Millner, spontaneously decided to join in the festivities as he was walking by the event, claiming he “needed a haircut.”

FGCU’s St. Baldrick’s Day started in Fall 2011 as an assignment for Jessica Rhea’s Honors Foundations of Civic Engagement course. Five classmates: Claire Gorman, Catherine Gorman, Andrea Lizarazo, Lindsey Sellers, and Jessel Serrano teamed-up to organize the Inaugural St. Baldrick’s Day on FGCU’s library lawn. The students chose to create the event as part of a service learning requirement associated with the course. St. Baldrick’s Day 2011 was a huge accomplishment that raised over $3,600.00 and included 70 shavees.

Due to the success of the event, Dr. Sean Kelly, Director of the Honors Program, created a service-learning scholarship offered to Honors students who plan and organize major service projects. Four scholarships were granted for the 2012-2013 academic year. Claire Gorman received one of these scholarships for her commitment to service and St. Baldrick’s. Catherine Gorman, Andrea Lizarazo, Karen Muhl, and Danielle Visone joined with her to organize and host this year’s outstanding event.

FGCU’s St. Baldrick’s Day has proven to be a high-impact service experience that is helping to find a cure for childhood cancer by creating lots of bald heads on our campus.
The Philosophy Program at FGCU was thrilled to see that the latest edition of *Hispanic/Latino Issues in Philosophy Vol. 12 (1)*, published by the American Philosophical Association (APA), was devoted entirely to the “Philosophy without Borders” conference held on the FGCU campus in the spring of 2012. The issue was edited by our own Dr. Elena Ruiz and includes contributions by emerging and distinguished scholars such as Jorge Gracia (SUNY Buffalo), Ofelia Schutte (University of South Florida), Elizabeth Millan (Depaul), Marianna Ortega (John Carroll University), and Andrea Pitts (Vanderbilt) as well as articles by FGCU philosophy faculty, Dr. Ruiz and Dr. Kevin Aho. The issue highlights the recent recognition of FGCU’s Philosophy Program by the Pluralist Guide to Philosophy http://pluralistsguide.org/#awp as one of a handful of undergraduate programs in the United States (and the only one in the Southeast) that are recommended for Latin American and Latino/a Philosophy.

The 2012 Florida Kids and Alcohol Town Hall Meeting, which explored the connection between alcohol and drugs, made full use of local PBS resources as well as new social media and communications technology. On April 3, 2012, nearly 100 youth and adults gathered at Pinellas Park High School in Largo, FL. WEDU taped the production onsite and collaborated with WGCU to include 50 audience members from Fort Myers. There were two televised panels of experts: One from Pinellas County, including the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office and Operation PAR, Inc., and one linked in via Skype from Fort Myers. Dr. Sandra Pavelka, Director of the Institute for Youth and Justice Studies served as the facilitator at the WGCU/FGCU based town hall meeting site. Representatives were featured from the Lee County Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida Board, Drug Free Collier, Florida Gulf Coast University Institute for Youth and Justice Studies, the Florida National Guard, and the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco. The audiences included parents and representatives from schools, law enforcement, Explorer Scouts, universities, and health and human service agencies, an estimated audience of 250,000 in a 16 county area. Another positive outcome is the possibility of Town Hall Meeting broadcasts tailored to the Fort Myers audience. The Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida and FGCU Institute for Youth and Justice Studies are planning their own future Town Hall Meeting broadcast to address the need for information about underage drinking issues specific to these geographic areas.

This collaborative project gained national recognition from SAMSHA for coordinating community forums covering current issues relating to children, alcohol, and drugs. See https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/TownHallMeetings/get-involved/tellyourstory.aspx?ID=8
Holocaust Center Update

In August 2012 the College welcomed Dr. Paul Bartrop who comes to us from Australia and most recently taught at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. Dr Bartrop has been recruited to formally establish FGCU's Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Human Rights Studies. One of his first initiatives has been to change the name of the Center slightly, to bring it more into line with the majority of other, kindred centers elsewhere in the nation. From now on, the College will be home to the Center for Judaic, Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

Since his arrival, Paul has signed up a number of outstanding scholars, all leaders in the field, who have agreed to become inaugural “Associates of the Center,” thereby lending their reputation to the Center by aligning with its central objectives. In alphabetical order, the Associates are Professors Alex Alvarez (Northern Arizona University), Christopher Browning (University of North Carolina), Herbert Hirsch (Virginia Commonwealth University), Steven Leonard Jacobs (University of Alabama), Ben Kiernan (Yale University), and Carol Rittner (Richard Stockton College of New Jersey). It is expected that this list will soon expand, as other Associates from around the nation and internationally are also invited.

Paul is an historian of the Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and is recognized as one of the world’s leading scholars in these fields. A Past President of the Australian Association of Jewish Studies, in 2011-2012 he was the Ida E. King Distinguished Visiting Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Richard Stockton College, prior to which he taught for many years at various colleges and universities in his native Australia. A much-published author, his latest work is entitled An Encyclopedia of Contemporary Genocide Biography: Portraits of Evil and Good (2012). His major current project is Experiencing Genocide: Personal Accounts from Victims, Perpetrators, and Witnesses.

We look forward enthusiastically to seeing the Center established on a firm footing under Paul’s leadership, and to what will hopefully be a number of fascinating campus events under the aegis of the Center over the forthcoming year.
FGCU students and staff learned how to nourish their mind, body and soul through a Student Dialogue on sustainable food in October. The Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education held the Seventh Annual Terry Tempest Williams Student Dialogue to raise awareness about the ethical and health implications behind sustainable food choices and the benefits of utilizing local resources. More than 200 people attended to engage in a passionate discussion about how local and organic food choices can make big impacts on a personal and global scale.

A networking session beforehand allowed 14 local organizations and student groups to share information about their sustainable practices and food systems. Marine science major Anna Larson was happy to learn about fish farms and the positive effects of reducing her meat intake. “I was also interested to see what sustainable food means, other than fruits and veggies,” she said. The Center created a “Guide to Eating Sustainably in Southwest Florida” with resources necessary to make healthy, affordable, and sustainable decisions about food, and Larson planned to share its list of farmers markets with her parents.

The interactive event successfully illustrated campus and community interest in the growing, production, consumption, and disposal of food and the overwhelming drive to participate in sustainable practices. This year’s Dialogue was moderated by Center Associate and Instructor of Interdisciplinary Studies and Civic Engagement Brandon Hollingshead, who was instrumental in establishing the first event in honor of Terry Tempest. Food Foragers Club President Kelly Walsh proudly represented the student body during the ‘mind’ segment, while Dr. John Edwards, local chiropractor and real-food activist, addressed the physical effects of eating sustainably for the ‘body’ portion of the lecture. Dr. Kris De Welde, Director of General Education and Associate Professor of Sociology, discussed the moral and ethical dimensions of sustainable food systems in the ‘soul’ segment. Dr. De Welde also works closely with the Center as a Senior Faculty Associate.

Together the speakers cohesively explored the ethical, moral, and health components of sustainable food systems and the application of these ideas was further discussed through the question and answer portion of the evening. Dean Mitchell Cordova of the College of Health Professions and Social Work and senior Tyler J. Offerman were designated the Keynote Listeners for promoting sustainable food choices in the community. Offerman is the first student to have received this honor for his legacy of advocating environmental justice and he encouraged students to value their daily decisions on the matter. He insisted that students and participants divest themselves of the idea of only being able to affect the issues and structures of food systems in the future, years after graduation, and recognize that all are able to make changes now through their choices and purchasing power. A round of applause for his comments demonstrated the Dialogue’s success in engagement and application.

The Center would like to thank everyone who helped with the event’s achievements. For more information on the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education, please contact us cese@fgcu.edu or (239) 590-7166.
FGCU Wetlands Center Conducts Wetland Restoration Course

The Everglades Wetland Research Park, a new center at Florida Gulf Coast University, hosted 12 environmental consultants, professors, graduate students and agency land managers from 5 states (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Indiana, and Montana) and two foreign countries (China and Jamaica) in a 3-day short course: Creation and Restoration of Wetlands at the Kapnick Center at Naples Botanical Garden on Thursday through Saturday November 8-11, 2012.

This course introduced the basics of both freshwater and coastal wetland creation and restoration for mitigating the loss of wetlands or for wildlife habitat creation, often done as compensation for urban development. The course emphasized proper landscape approaches and working with site hydrology. Case studies from Florida and several other locations in the USA were used to illustrate principles.

Several wetland creation and restoration sites in SW Florida were visited by the class as part of the course, including the 2,800-acres Panther Island Mitigation Bank adjacent to Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, the 1025-acre Fruit Farm Creek mangrove restoration on Marco Island, and a planned 100-acre wetland restoration research park at the Naples Botanical Garden. The wetland site visits provided real-world illustrations to the course of different approaches for creating and restoring successful wetlands.

“The students this year brought their experiences on wetland creation and restoration from many locations around the USA. The students in our class often learn as much from each other as they learn from us” said Robin Lewis, President of Lewis Environmental Services, Inc., Salt Springs, Florida and a co-instructor of the class.

Professor Bill Mitsch, the new Director of the Everglades Wetland Research Park at FGCU, and the organizer and co-instructor of the class, brought this short course to SW Florida from Ohio State University when he moved to FGCU recently. He and Lewis taught this course in Columbus, Ohio for the last 15 years.

“FGCU’s Kapnick Center at the Naples Botanical Garden was a wonderful venue for this course,” said Mitsch. “But just as important are all the fascinating created and restored wetlands in SW Florida. This region is wetland heaven for ecological engineered wetlands” he said.

Based on the success of this course, Mitsch said that his research park will sponsor this and perhaps other ecology and wetland management short courses annually for national and international participants to come to Naples.

“This is good business for SW Florida to showcase our beautiful and functional wetlands to the rest of the world” Mitsch said.
Faculty Highlights

Professor of English, Rebecca Totaro's most recent publication *The Plague Epic in Early Modern England: Heroic Measures, 1603–1721* is a compilation of ten of the most poignant plague poems in the English language, which have been transliterated into modern English from the original documents originally set in Blackletter, for ease of reading and study for scholars and students today. Many of these poems express the passion and restraint of the authors trying to rationalize and justify the ways of God during the plague years. These poems (called a "plague epic"), relate thematically to Milton's Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained and adds to the scholarly research of the epic, didactic verse and studies of the seventeenth century.

*Green Speculations: Science Fiction and Transformative Environmentalism* – Eric C. Otto

Science fiction goes green? In his new book, Eric Otto, Associate Professor of Environmental Humanities in the Department of Communication and Philosophy, explores literary science fiction's engagement with a central concern of our times: ecological degradation. Situated at the intersection of science fiction studies and environmental philosophy, *Green Speculations* (Ohio State UP) highlights key works of environmental science fiction that critique various human values for their roles in instigating such degradation.


*Green Speculations* demonstrates how environmental science fiction can be read not only as reflecting the ideas of environmental philosophies such as deep ecology, ecofeminism, and ecosocialism, but also as instrumental in thinking through the tenets of these philosophies. As such, the book places science fiction at the center of environmentalism and considers the genre to be an essential tool for prompting needed social and cultural transformation.

One reviewer of Otto's book writes, "The notable insight of Green Speculations is how science fiction, with its imaginative worlds and possible futures, makes visible the costs and damages of our current economic systems that are simply ignored, overlooked, or erased by particular ideologies. Eric C. Otto’s study greatly expands the purview of ecocriticism and makes an impressive case for the relevance of science fiction in environmental discussions."

Associate Professor of English, Brad Busbee has coedited a festschrift titled *Translating the Past: Essays in Honor of Marijane Osborn*, which contains essays drawing upon medieval and modern notions of translation. Published by the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the volume engages as its theme the full spectrum of the meanings of translation, ranging from literal to metaphoric forms. The volume includes a new modern English translation of the Old English poem “The Wander,” as well as essays on the reception and translation of Old English literature, women in medieval literature, and J.R.R. Tolkien’s medieval inspirations. A comprehensive introduction to the works of Marijane Osborn (Professor Emeritus, University of California, Davis), who had as the central activity to her career grappling with and explication of the idea of the past for students and fellow scholars, establishes in broad strokes the idea of translation as a process of moving ideas across the span of time separating us from the medieval period.

Additional Publications:

“Spatial Dispersion of Interstellar Civilizations: A Probabilistic Site Percolation Model in Three Dimensions”

Thomas W. Hair & Andrew D. Hedman
International Journal of Astrobiology
Cambridge University Press

Our new philosophy professor, Dr. Mohamad Al-Hakim has a new co-authored refereed journal article coming out in late November (the online copy is already available). The article titled “Hate as an Aggravating Factor in Sentencing” will be published in the journal New Criminal Law Review. Please congratulate Mo when you see him!
Faculty Kudos

Professional Presentations


Jeanie Darnell, Dr. Michael Baron, College of Arts and Sciences, Bower School of Music, “Distinguished Artist Voice Recital, Vocal Master Class, Lecture”, Austin Peay State University, Department of Music, Clarksville, Tennessee, September 19-20.

Robert Diotalevi, College of Arts and Sciences, Justice Studies, “The First Amendment”, Southwest Florida Chapter, Paralegal Association of Florida (PAF), Fort Myers, FL, FL, September 27.


Pamella Seay, Maggie Mooney-Portale, Lewis, Longman & Walker PA, College of Arts and Sciences, Justice Studies, JD, LLM, “Use or Abuse: When is a Public Record not a Public Record, and other Essential Ethics Stories?”, 16th Annual Eminent Domain Conference, CLE International, Tampa, FL, October 11-12.

Publications


Kristopher Kimbler, College of Arts and Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Ph.D., “The Role of Supportive Messages and Distracting Thoughts on Everyday Problem-solving Performance”, Experimental Aging Research, Quarterly, pp. 537-558.


Awards or Recognitions


Johnny McGaha, College of Arts and Sciences, Justice Studies, Ph.D, Appointment to Homeland Security/FBI Region 6 (10 County) Constitutional Protection and Privacy Advisory Board, SW Florida Regional Fusion Center Director, September 20.
Tim O’Brien Visits FGCU

Bestselling author, Tim O’Brien, visited the FGCU campus on Friday, November 9th to speak to First Year Students as part of the First Year Reading Project. All FGCU incoming First Year Students had read O’Brien’s book The Things They Carried as part of the project. His talk, “A Morning with Tim O’Brien,” was well attended, and it was clear that students were riveted to his powerful words, as not one student nodded off or played with their smart phones! They asked thoughtful questions, and O’Brien answered every one of those questions with humor and honesty. O’Brien graciously lingered afterwards, and signed nearly 100 books and posed for photos with students. O’Brien’s literary accomplishments are extensive and he has received numerous prestigious awards. In fact, he was leaving FGCU to go to Ohio to receive the Richard C. Holbrooke Distinguished Achievement Award from the Dayton Literary Peace Prize Foundation. Early in his career, he received the National Book Award in Fiction in 1979 for his novel Going After Cacciato. In the Lake of the Woods, published in 1994, was chosen by Time magazine as the best novel of that year. The book also received the James Fenimore Cooper Prize and was selected as one of the ten best books of the year by The New York Times. In 2005 The Things They Carried was named by The New York Times as one of the twenty best books of the last quarter century. It received the Chicago Tribune Heartland Award in fiction and was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. The French edition of The Things They Carried received one of France’s highest literary awards, The Award for the Best Foreign Book. The title story from The Things They Carried received the National Magazine Award and was selected by John Updike for inclusion in The Best American Short Stories of the Century. In 2010, O’Brien received the Katherine Anne Porter Award, presented by the American Academy of Arts and Letters for a distinguished lifetime body of work. O’Brien’s short fiction has appeared in The New Yorker, Atlantic, Esquire, Playboy, Harper’s, and numerous editions of The O. Henry Prize Stories and The Best American Short Stories. His novels have sold more than three million copies and have been translated into more than 20 languages. Many thanks to Dean Donna Henry; this event would not have been possible without her encouragement and support.

Hilary Thompson, laboratory technician, and Danial Marchio, graduate student, both at the new Everglades Wetland Research Park at Florida Gulf Coast University, were awarded registration scholarships of $250 each to attend EcoSummit 2012 in Columbus, Ohio on October 1-5, 2012. The scholarships were due to the generosity of a long-time wetland supporter from Columbus, Ohio, Ms. Judy Kauffeld. Each student received the donations from Prof. Bill Mitsch, Chair of EcoSummit 2012 and the Director of the Everglades Wetland Research Park, located at the Naples Botanical Garden, Naples, Florida. The donation was made directly to the secretariat of EcoSummit for registrations.

“Judy has been a long-time friend and supporter of wetlands and she wanted her donation of $500 to EcoSummit to do the most good for young scholars. So it was an easy decision for us to choose two Ohioians who were now part of our Florida Everglades wetland research team” said Mitsch. EcoSummit 2012 hosted 1600 delegates from 76 countries in Columbus, Ohio. This is the 4th EcoSummit ever held and the first one in the USA. The theme of the meeting was broad to include both the science and practice of ecology and the protection and development of sustainable ecosystems for their many services. The first 3 Ecosummits were in Copenhagen, Halifax, and Beijing. The fifth EcoSummit was announced at EcoSummit 2012 to be in Montpellier, France in 2016.

Last March, the Enrollment Management Retention Committee (ERMC) conducted the first ever all campus “Student Engagement Day Workshop” with special guest Dr. George Kuh from the The National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE). The following are some of the recommendations comprised by the ERMC on steps towards improving student engagement and success:

- ERMC to organize cross campus, once a semester roundtable discussions to focus on best practices, methods to improve and to keep the focus on student engagement and retention.
- Faculty and Staff Workshops to focus on Student Success
- Work with the new Dean for Graduate studies to further assess issues dealing with the engagement and retention of Graduate students.
- Create better retention and enrollment reports and distribute to entire campus.
- Continue using NSSE data and distribute results - inform entire campus of results. Center faculty and staff development around use of NSSE results.
- Provide resources to develop and enhance a true First Year Experience on our campus that is intentionally organized, outcomes-oriented, and properly assessed, by beginning a First Year Seminar program – courses taught by faculty in their areas of expertise, interest, research, etc.
- Develop a post-orientation, pre-semester program to build on topics introduced at EVO while acculturating students to FGCU.
The American String Teachers Association recognized Roland Forti as the Outstanding New Teacher in the state of Florida. A 2011 graduate out of the Bower School of Music, Roland teaches orchestra and choir at Diplomat Middle School in Cape Coral. In addition to those duties, he re-established the Lee County All-County Orchestra, conducts the Sinfonia [part of the Southwest Florida Symphony’s Youth Orchestra program], and serves ‘on call’ as a violinist with the SWFL Symphony.

On October 19 the Bower School of Music hosted its annual Fall Choral Festival. Over 200 students from four high school choirs from across the state participated in the event led by Dr. Trent Brown, Assistant Professor of Music. Some of the participating ensembles left their hometown at 4:00am to make it in time for the festival.

As a part of the festival, Dr. Brown wanted to include a brand new piece of music that would be given its world premiere performance at the festival. For this, he turned to Dr. Jason Bahr, Assistant Professor of Music Composition and Theory and Composer-in-Residence for the Bower School of Music. The two would collaborate on a new work to be written especially for the festival.

Dr. Jeanie Darnell worked with students in a one-on-one vocal Masterclass setting. The high school students also worked with the festival’s guest clinician Dr. Elizabeth Schauer from the University of Arizona.

FGCU received positive feedback from the participants who enjoyed the high-caliber musical experiences offered to them that day, the scenic campus and the state-of-the-art facilities. Several students indicated that they could imagine themselves attending FGCU.
Dr’s Brown and Bahr decided to create a new piece for the Fall Choral Festival. The collaboration came at just the right time for Jason. He had just gotten married, was in the middle of buying a house and was getting ready for the new school year. “It was actually a good time,” said the composer. “With so many things going on, it was good to have a creative outlet.”

The first step was deciding what text to set to music. With such a tight due date (less than a month), there was no time to research texts under copyright and get permission to use the text in time. The two would need to find a text in the public domain. Trent’s idea for the text was the first couple of lines of “Gloria” from the Ordinary of the Mass (this is taken from Luke 2:14). Jason agreed to this text.

The two colleagues would also need to decide on the parameters of the piece. Trent wanted a work that was an appropriate “opener” or “closer” for a concert. This means something that uses a fast tempo, is not too long, and would be rather ‘flashy.’ There were other considerations driven by the medium itself—high school choir. In high school, the voice is not yet fully developed, and musicians have limited experience. This means the work should not use extremely high or low notes, and should be not too difficult to learn. The choirs would work on the music at their respective schools, but would only have one day to work together to sing the piece.

As Jason sketched ideas, he sent these to Trent for feedback and approval. After a couple of weeks, the work was complete and in the hands of the singers. Every musical performance is a collaboration between the performers and the composer. Most of the time, the composer has little input beyond the written music (since most of the time, the composer is dead). Here, Jason was able to attend rehearsals with the FGCU Chamber Choir (who sang along with the high school choirs at the festival) and offer feedback. He also addressed the high school choirs the day of the festival before the performance.

Thus Gloria was born. The FGCU Chamber Choir also performed the work at their recital on October 21st. The Chamber Choir will perform the work again in January at the Florida Music Educators Association conference in Tampa. It is only fitting that this work be presented this year when the title of the conference is Uniting Music Education: Models for Collaboration.
Mark your Calendars and
Save the date!

Rachel Carson Distinguished Lecture
The Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education is thrilled to announce that Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award recipient Mary Oliver will deliver a poetry reading with commentary for the 2013 Rachel Carson Distinguished Lecture. Many readers will recall that last year’s Lecture had to be cancelled due to Oliver’s serious illness. She has recovered and has a new collection of poetry, *A Thousand Mornings*, from which she will read.

The Lecture will be held on Friday, February 8, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at Saint Michael and All Angels Church on Sanibel Island. The Center will also hold its Ninth Annual Fundraising Celebration the following evening, Saturday, February 9, 2013 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Sanibel Island beachfront home of Peter and Mallory Haffenreffer. The lecture is free and open to the public, but seats will be reserved for contributors to the Fundraising Celebration.

For more information on these events, please feel free to call Center Director Peter Blaze Corcoran at (239) 590-7166 or visit the Center at www.fgcu.edu/cese.

CAS Holiday Party
December 13th
2:00 – 5:00
Arts Complex Lobby & Courtyard
Please bring a dish to share &
RSVP to Pi Rice (price@fgcu.edu)