Gender Equality Organization’s (GEO) Second Annual V-Day events were wildly successful thanks to the support of our campus community, dedicated students, a few brave professors, as well as the support of the Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences and the College of Arts and Sciences. “V-Day” is a global movement to raise awareness and end violence against women and girls, and includes performances, education/outreach, activism, and fundraising.

This year’s events at FGCU included discussion sessions, community-created artwork, homemade baked goods and crafts, and the phenomenal Vagina Monologues performances on February 11th, 12th, and 14th. Students from across the university performed or otherwise supported the performances, which raised a grand sum of $2,300! These funds will be distributed to our local beneficiary, Human Trafficking Awareness Partnerships, Inc. (www.humantraffickingawareness.org) and V-Day’s spotlight campaign for 2011: Women and Girls of Haiti (www.vday.org/spotlight2011).

Students Casey Smith (Sociology) and Ellie Candee (Communication), co-presidents of GEO, orchestrated a seamless week of events after attending an organizers workshop in New York City (December 2010), where they worked directly with V-Day’s founder Eve Ensler! Their goals for this year’s V-Day included increasing their outreach into the campus community so that more people could experience V-Day in an effort to be more inclusive. For example, this year GEO sponsored V-Men, an interactive workshop for men to participate in the efforts to end violence against women.

Drs. Kris De Welde and Meryl James-Sebro delivered powerful keynote addresses on the current status of women and girls in Haiti. They both discussed the ongoing humanitarian crisis that emerged from the devastating earthquake just over one year ago, and the importance of solidarity across borders as Haitians heal and rebuild. Guest monologues were performed by Dr. De Welde, Dr. Michelle Hayford, and Dr. Elena Ruiz-Aho and her students.

Incidentally, GEO’s V-Day in 2010 won the 2009-2010 Registered Student Organization Award for “Legendary Event.” If you have missed this event two years in a row, mark your Valentine’s Day calendar now for 2012’s “legendary event!”
Dear Colleagues,

I want to again thank you for all of your hard work and dedication in advancing the college mission and for your excellence in teaching our students. A great deal has happened over the course of the year, including searches for 21 faculty positions, continuation of the Teaching Innovation Series, the Peter Seldin Portfolio workshops, and university-wide conversations about alignment. Additionally, Academic building 7 received its official designation of LEED Platinum certification, we added the M.S. in Math program and opened and dedicated the new Bower School of Music building, designated LEED Gold certification.

During the course of the year, we offered several interdisciplinary courses, including “Earth and Spirit,” with Maria Roca and Tricia Fay; “The Four Horses of the Apocalypse,” with Eric Otto, Miles Mancini, and Sam Walch; and “Environmental Literature and Philosophy,” with Jim Wohlpart and Kevin Aho. This summer, several exciting study abroad trips will take place to locations including the Bahamas, Guatemala, and the Dominican Republic.

We expect an additional 200 FTICs this fall for a total of 2,450 FTICs, with another increase of 10% in overall enrollment. As in the past, our majors have also increased so that we now have the largest unduplicated headcount of any of the colleges at FGCU. We look forward to our new colleagues joining us in the fall to help teach our growing student body.

With the conclusion of the Positioning and Alignment Task Force, I look forward to developing a process to review the CAS structure that includes our new colleagues from Justice Studies and Public Administration.

I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable summer.

Best regards,

Donna Henry
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Professor of Biology
Teaching Innovation Series

Friday, March 25 saw a presentation in the college’s Teaching Innovation Series on creative approaches to the large lecture class. The presentation was titled: “The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse” and “The MANcini Report.” The presenters included Miles Mancini, Eric Otto, Sam Walch, and Andrew Wilkinson.

Presentations will resume in the fall. Thanks to all faculty who make this series such a success!

Please visit the series website for updates www.fgcu.edu/CAS/tis.html.

Ampersand: The science of art, the art of science

Are we ready for a 21st Century Revival?

Ampersand was a refereed electronic journal of undergraduate work from the College of Arts and Sciences at Florida Gulf Coast University that was published bi-annually from Fall of 1997 through Spring 2000.

The original mission of the online journal states that the “College of Arts and Sciences at Florida Gulf Coast University is strongly committed to excellence in undergraduate studies, promoting critical and creative thinking and effective communication. Ampersand, an inclusive journal that publishes a wide range of undergraduate work such as creative writing, artwork, research articles, and essays, serves as a vehicle to recognize and encourage a diverse range of outstanding student work in the College of Arts and Sciences. The journal also provides an avenue to share this work both inside and outside the College and the University, emphasizing the importance of these activities to the students’ academic experience.”

Historical details including submission guidelines are available at the following website: http://itech.fgcu.edu/.

Now is the time for your feedback and to gauge interest and participation in reviving this journal.

Do you have classes and or student work that you think should be showcased in Ampersand?

Are you interested in being a member of the editorial board?

If we revive Ampersand, would we limit the submissions to CAS, or should we include submissions from other areas such as the Colloquium? Should we include graduate work?

Please send your feedback to Nora Demers at ndemers@fgcu.edu, call 590-7211 or stop by Whitaker Hall 218.
CHAD goes to the Dominican Republic

Students and faculty from Florida Gulf Coast University will travel to Santiago, Dominican Republic to help economically disadvantaged children and community members May 2-7, 2011. The students are members of CHAD (Community Health Aid Development) student organization on the FGCU campus.

The organization president is Lis Chimaras. Faculty advising for this service project are Drs. Richard Coughlin (Political Science) and Jo Ann Wilson (Biological Science). Student participants include Lis Chimaras, Vitor Suguri, Michael Paz, Kathleen O’Connell, Albaro Perez, Melissa Hendricks, Geoffrey Rosenaw, and Benjamin Garrot.

The students will be working with a non-profit organization based in the Dominican Republic, “A Mother’s Wish Foundation.” FGCU students will contribute to the crucial work of assisting awareness of personal and community hygiene to elementary school children including the current threat for cholera, safe drinking water, HIV, and dental hygiene. In addition, they will be distributing donations of hygiene products such as soaps, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and shampoo as well as clothing for the children.

The students volunteer for the trip as part of their mission of their student organization and have the value added of experiencing life in a developing nation firsthand. These students will earn credit for service learning for their participation in this opportunity for community involvement.

2011 First Year Reading Project

All incoming first year students at Florida Gulf Coast University will read John Strelecky’s Life Safari in order to explore FGCU’s Learning Goal Ecological Perspective. Life Safari is a work of fiction that will open your eyes to the potential that resides within each of us. The summer reading assignment expects students to analyze the issue of ecological perspective in the book, as well as to consider the relationship between what students learn in the book and their own interactions with the natural world and with other human beings.

FGCU Music Adjunct Secures Funding for Naples Music Club

The United Arts Council (through the Community Foundation) awarded the Naples Music Club $800 to help continue the middle school master classes for low income students. This project was initiated by FGCU adjunct, Judy Evans, in Collier County for students on free or reduced lunch. The students received four, ninety-minute small group lessons. The Naples Music Club requested $700 to help continue the program and received $800. Evans will be working with the Music Club members and Education Foundation to continue this program.
TEDxFGCU Event TEDx

x = independently organized TED event

The Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education hosted a TEDx event on Friday, April 1st at the WGCU Studio on FGCU campus. The campus event is called TEDxFGCU, where x = independently organized TED event. The event included short talks by four women scholars, writers and educators who will present new narratives of the human experience, beginning with a journey of the universe and ending in an alternative story for Africa.

TED (Technology Entertainment and Design) is a nonprofit organization, supporting what the company calls “ideas worth spreading.” At the TEDxFGCU event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combined to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group.

We invite you to browse the web site (www.tedxfgcu.com) to learn more about this year’s speakers and view the schedule.

FGCU’s Confocal Microscope Kickoff

On Friday, April 8 at noon, the Whitaker Center hosted a kickoff seminar to highlight the capabilities of FGCU’s new confocal microscope – the only instrument of its kind in our region. The event was held in the Biology SCALE-UP classroom in Academic Building 7 room 221. More than 50 students and faculty were in attendance from the College of Arts & Sciences and the U.A. Whitaker School of Engineering.

The seminar was led by Tim Randall, Imaging Specialist from Hunt Optics & Imaging, who helped to set up our system. Tim gave a brief primer on fluorescence microscopy and dedicated most of the presentation to describing what FGCU’s confocal microscope setup can do for both STEM education and research.

The primary advantages of confocal microscopy over conventional optical microscopy is the elimination of out-of-focus information that degrades image quality and the ability to optically “slice” thick specimens into serial optical sections or z-stacks.

The microscope was acquired jointly by the Departments of Biological Sciences and Bioengineering through a National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation award and is housed in the 3rd floor of Holmes Hall.

Faculty and students interested in using the confocal microscope should contact Chris Geiger, Assistant Professor in the Department of Bioengineering, Sharon Isern, Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, or Scott Michael, Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Rachel Carson Distinguished Lecture

The Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education held its Rachel Distinguished Lecture on Friday, April 1, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. The lecture theme was: “The Africa You Don’t Know: A Woman’s Perspective.” The Center hosted Akpezi Ogbuiwge of Nigeria, Head of Environmental Education and Training, United Nations Environment Programme, and Heila Lotz-Sisitka of South Africa, Murray & Roberts Chair of Environmental Education and Sustainability, Rhodes University. The lecture was held at Saint Michael and All Angels Church on Sanibel Island, and included remarks from Center Director Peter Blaze Corcoran and Center Co-chair Mary Evelyn Tucker.

The Center also held its Seventh Annual Fundraising Celebration on Sanibel Island, Saturday, April 2, 2011 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Creative Writing Club Jail and Bail Fundraiser

On February 15 and 16, faculty and administrators volunteered for the Creative Writing Club’s annual “Jail and Bail” fundraiser. The fundraiser helps support the club’s free “MiniCon” which invites speakers—including FGCU faculty—and offers workshops in fiction, poetry, and blogging.

International Film Series

The department of Communication and Philosophy presents the 2011 International Film Series in conjunction with the course, “Science and Technology in Cinema and Time.” The March 24th showing featured winner of the Un Certain Regards Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, No One Knows About Persian Cats (2009, Iran).

For more information on the series, contact supporting faculty member Farshad Aminian at faminian@fgcu.edu or 590-7963.

Naples Botanical Gardens Event

On February 23, members of the community gathered at the Naples Botanical Garden Kapnick Center to celebrate the Judy Sproul-endowed partnership between the Gardens and FGCU. The inaugural event sought to appraise the community as to how the partnership is developing, informing them of progress made through research grants provided last year to Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Brian Bovard and his students. Bovard presented “Plant Ecological Research at FGCU and the Naples Botanical Garden: The Classroom, Undergraduate Research, and Graduate Research.”

Take Back the Landscape Class Project

Linking Education, Research, and Community Service

Residential Florida communities are typically landscaped with non-native flora. These species have intense water and fertilizer requirements, and reduce habitat value for Florida’s wildlife. This semester-long project was an attempt to immerse ourselves in native landscaping and share our ecological awareness—and plants!—with the larger FGCU community. Students identified 19 native plant species to study, collect and attempt to grow.

Students experimented with various plant propagation techniques. At the conclusion of the course, students participated in the FGCU Earth Day Celebration and gave away (over 600 plants) at a table they set up to educate the public/peers on the benefits of landscaping with native plant species.

Climate Change Research

Growth Chamber Studies (Undergraduate Research)

Brian and his students are in the pilot study phase of beginning to investigate the impacts of rising CO2 concentrations and salinity affects on the leaf tissue chemistry in red mangroves and how these changes impact the growth and development of mangrove tree crabs.

Field Studies (Graduate Research)

Falon Cartwright, a graduate student in environmental science, is working with Bovard to determine how much carbon is stored in mangrove ecosystems. She is the recipient of the Naples Botanical Garden Dorothy M. Rygh Fellowship. Her research is being conducted on Sanibel Island in three different mangrove habitat types.
First FGCU International Lunch

The wonderful and delicious International Lunch that Delphine Gras organized is certainly the highlight from the Language Corner this spring. In other news, Carol Fulton’s German students were invited to the Leadership Collier Foundation, Inc. at the Naples Chamber of Commerce to hear a lecture by the German Consul General, Eva Countess Kendeffy, on the 20th anniversary of German reunification. Students of all ages participated and enjoyed both the lecture and the wine and cheese reception.

In March, David Haider, a young Austrian from the Austrian Holocaust Memorial Service (AHMS), came to campus to speak with language and history students on Austria’s role in the Holocaust. Students were particularly interested in the concept of collective guilt and the sense that today’s German and Austrian youth has of the Hitler era.

Thanks to the support, enthusiasm, and hard work of the Department of Language and Literature, International Services, and Bon Appétit French Bistro, Friday March 25th 2011 saw the first FGCU international lunch. Designed to promote cross-cultural exchanges between national and international FGCU students who want to get to know each other and learn more about other cultures and languages, this event was crowned with success with over 50 students in attendance who mingled and learned a word or two in a new language as they shared some good laughs and great French food.

We now look forward to the next lunch at the end of April and many more to come. We hope that these informal gatherings create the momentum necessary to encourage students to learn foreign languages and consider study abroad opportunities. Thanks again to all who helped make this lunch a success and let’s continue opening our students’ horizons!

The Language Corner

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Visual and Performing Arts

The **artGallery** is located within the Arts Complex on FGCU’s main campus. The university is located off Ben Hill Griffin Parkway, east of I-75 between exits 123 and 128.

The **artLab** is located within the FGCU Library on our main campus.

Parking is available in Lot 7 for gallery visitors; parking passes are available at the parking kiosk located at the university’s entrance.

**Hours**
10a - 4p
Monday - Friday
11a-2p
Saturday
or
by appointment

Free and Open to the Public

Please call 590.7199 for information or email: asturdiv@fgcu.edu

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**theatreLab**

**A Performance Constellation: Suit My Heart**

A civically engaged theatre collaboration between FGCU Theatre and local non-profit Footsteps to the Future - April 6 - 17, 2011

The Florida Gulf Coast University Theatre Lab and local non-profit, Footsteps to the Future, dedicated to empowering women who are in and “aging out” of foster care, collaborated to bring “Suit My Heart,” an original, ensemble-created performance to FGCU’s Black Box Theatre. “Suit My Heart” was performed from April 6 to April 17.

“Suit My Heart” was the second in the Performance Constellation series of civically engaged theatre works created collaboratively under the direction of Dr. Michelle Hayford, Assistant Professor of Theatre at FGCU. The play was developed over an eight-month period wherein FGCU theatre students interviewed the mentors, mentees and volunteers of Footsteps to the Future, and then transcribed those interviews as the basis of the script. The play utilized many performance mediums including dance, song, music, film, ensemble scenes, and duet scenes. "I feel the play exploits what is exciting about original, ensemble theatre, in that we have not been constrained by only one way to tell these stories, but in fact, the diversity in the performance mediums accurately represents the diversity of those we interviewed," stated Dr. Michelle Hayford.

The play also includes personal narratives from the cast and director, as the entire ensemble was inspired by the universal themes of family, home, abandonment, survival, transcendence and love in the interview narratives of the Footsteps to the Future collaborators. "Talking to these women and interviewing a volunteer in Footsteps who advocates for foster youth in court really made me step back and take a look at my life and realize how privileged I am to be where I am today," said Armando Rivera, cast member and sophomore at FGCU majoring in Theatre. "I think this play will help our community by opening their eyes to the problems foster youth encounter in the system," said Artkeda Hunt, a cast member and mentee of Footsteps to the Future.

**Palter than Grass**

by Brittney Brady

June 15 - 19, 2011

As time compresses into memory, the past divides into worlds. These worlds, however fragmented and brief, contain their own atrocities and victories; they build walls, create demons, share sorrows and bathe in the light of their gods. If you focus on any one of these worlds—a tiny mote of dust in a sunbeam—you can feel the heat on your face; a light that illuminates and burns.

Tickets available online after June 1, 2011.
Seating is limited, so advance purchase of tickets is highly recommended.

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**Finals: 2011 Spring Senior Projects**

Thursday April 21 - Sunday May 1, 2011

Opening reception: Thursday, April 21 • 5:00 - 7:00pm
Presentation of Senior Projects: 6:00pm
Senior Project Faculty: Patricia Fay
Co-sponsored by the FGCU Alumni Association

Hours 10a - 4p Monday – Friday; 11a-2p Saturday
Or by appointment
Free and Open to the Public

Please call 590.7199 for information or email: asturdiv@fgcu.edu
The Sanibel Island Writers Conference is pleased to announce its sixth annual gathering this year, to take place November 3 through November 6. This esteemed event invites aspiring writers to attend a variety of workshops, panels, lectures and readings presented by celebrated and experienced writers and teachers. Attendees participate in a variety of morning workshops in fiction, poetry, screenwriting, children’s literature, memoir, songwriting, and creative nonfiction. Afternoon panels include workshops in publishing, freelance writing, journalism, obtaining a literary agent and the creative process.

Says Tom DeMarchi, director of the conference and FGCU instructor, “The conference is open to any aspiring writer who wants to create new work or refine a project already in progress.” In between events, participants are encouraged to nap, explore the beautiful twenty-six miles of Sanibel, collect seashells, exercise, manuscript conference, or enjoy cocktail hour at BIG ARTS (held daily between 4:45-6pm).

The tentative 2011 lineup includes:
- Steve Almond (creative nonfiction)
- Lynne Barrett (fiction)
- Dan Bern (songwriting)
- Nickole Brown (poetry)
- Kevin Canty (fiction)
- Ron Currie Jr. (fiction)
- John Dufresne (fiction)
- Stephen Elliott (screenwriting/editor)
- William Giraldi (fiction/editor)
- David Kirby (poetry)
- Jeanne Leiby (fiction/editor)
- Robert Root (creative nonfiction/editor)
- Christopher Schelling (agent)
- Wesley Stace/John Wesley Harding (songwriting)
- Darin Strauss (memoir)
- Thomas Williams (novella/editor)
- Tom Zoellner (journalism)

More presenters will be announced soon, including a very special keynote. Please visit the conference website for updates [www.fgcu.edu/SIWC/](http://www.fgcu.edu/SIWC/).

Sixth Annual Sanibel Writers Conference

The Florida Gulf Coast University Wings of Hope program has a new addition to the CREW hiking adventure environmental education program: the Panther Mobile. The Wings of Hope program hikes approximately 2,000 4th /5th grade Collier and Lee County students through the CREW lands, led by 220 FGCU students and the Wings of Hope staff.

Many handicapped students can now fully participate with the Panther Posse at CREW. We load up the wheelchairs in the back of the cart and secure students with back problems, respiratory problems, muscular dystrophy, broken ankles and legs, and any other physical problems that may hinder them when out hiking.

The panther/mule cart was donated by FGCU and painted with a panther by Linda Barone, a FGCU art student. Thanks to many supporters: Dr. Joe Shepard, Dr. Donna Henry, Steve Magiera, Jim Hehl, George Brown, and many others.

For more information on the Wings of Hope program, visit [www.fgcu.edu/cas/wingsofhope](http://www.fgcu.edu/cas/wingsofhope). For information on hiking at CREW, visit [www.crewtrust.org](http://www.crewtrust.org).
Holocaust-era Boxcar Exhibit

Florida Gulf Coast University hosted a “Holocaust-era Boxcar” exhibit March 15-18. The display featured 12 panels illustrating the devastation of the Holocaust and other genocides, past and present. The authentic World War II boxcar, acquired by the Holocaust Museum of Southwest Florida, is being used as a traveling education tool for schools in Southwest Florida.

Says John Cox, director of FGCU’s Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Human Rights Studies, “This boxcar has proven to be a valuable educational tool. We can never imagine what it would be like to be packed with 100 other people into a death trap like this—en route to a terrible fate—but this boxcar helps to make the Holocaust less abstract and more real. The museum has done a marvelous job of employing it to not only teach about the Holocaust, but to bring attention to other genocides and to ongoing atrocities and human-rights abuses.”

Gender in Latin America: Resistance Movements for Human Rights

On March 29 faculty from the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Department of Communications and Philosophy, John Cox, Kris De Welde, Nicola Foote and Elena Ruiz-Aho hosted a one-day symposium on Gender and Resistance Movements for Human Rights in Latin America.

The event began with a plenary session in which Dr. Maritza Stanchich of the University of Puerto Rico – Rio Pedras discussed the human rights crisis in Puerto Rico. Her talk focused especially on the repression of the student movement, and she showed some powerful and disturbing video footage of police violence against peaceful protesters on the University of Puerto Rico campus. She placed the current attack on public education and civic assembly rights in the historical context of government-sponsored human rights abuses in Puerto Rico, including non-consensual experiments with the development of the birth control pill and military exercises in Vieques.

This was followed by a bi-lingual keynote session on femicide and violence in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, featuring Veronica Leyva and Corry Banton of the Mexico Solidarity Network. Leyva, a native of Ciudad Juarez, spoke about how drug trafficking, militarization, globalization and sweatshop labor are contributing to horrifying levels of violence, of which the primary victims are women. Handmade woven items from the Women’s Weaving Collective of the Zapatista communities in Chiapas were sold during this discussion. Both presentations were very well-attended, and filled up the Student Union Ballroom.

In the afternoon, a series of workshops were hosted, including a skype video conference with student protestors at the University of Puerto Rico; a skype video conference with SUNY Professor of Sociology, Marina Sitrin, on post-economic crisis social movements in Argentina; and a session with Nely Rodriguez, leader of the Women’s Group of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, on sexual abuse within Florida agriculture.

The symposium was sponsored and endorsed by a range of student groups and campus organizations including FGCU Amnesty International; FGCU Center for Judaic, Holocaust, and Human Rights Studies; FGCU Gay Straight Alliance; FGCU Gender Equality Organization; FGCU Honors Program; FGCU Politics, History, and Culture Club; FGCU Service Learning Program.
Faculty Highlights

Drs. Joe Kakareka, Robert Erdman, and Michael Fauerbach attended the AAC&U (American Association of Colleges and Universities) March conference in Miami to present “Using Integrated Technology to Improve Classroom Participation and Student Learning in STEM.” The conference theme was “Engaged STEM Learning: From Promising to Pervasive Practices.” The FGCU faculty who participated in the conference teach biology, physics and astronomy, and chemistry.

Dr. Rebecca Totaro has been awarded the prestigious Monroe Kirk Spears Award for her essay “Securing Sleep in Hamlet.” The Spears award is presented annually in recognition of the essay published SEL Studies in English Literature 1500-1900. Supported by an endowment provided by the Hobby Family Foundation, the award enabled Dr. Totaro to join the editors of and contributors to this internationally recognized journal at the annual meeting of the Modern Language Association in Los Angeles this past January, where the award was presented. http://www.sel.rice.edu/Content.aspx?id=67

Dr. Totaro has also recently been appointed the new editor of Duquesne University Press’ Medieval & Renaissance Literary Studies (MRLS) book series.

In December 2010, Dr. Nicola Foote (History) and a colleague who teaches at Appalachian State University, René Harder Horst, published a co-edited book, Military Struggle and Identity Formation in Latin America: Race, Nation, and Community During the Liberal Period. Their publisher is University Press of Florida, one of the leading presses for Latin American history and culture. The book reassess the role that black and indigenous Latin Americans played in military struggles of the mid-19th to mid-20th century, and how these efforts contributed to the formation of ideas about race and national identity.

New Faculty Hires

The College of Arts and Sciences is pleased to welcome the following new faculty members for Fall 2011.

Bower School of Music
Tobin Steward, Assistant Professor of Strings Conducting

Department of Biological Sciences
Felicia Goulet-Miller, Instructor of Biology
Mustafa Mujtaba, Assistant Professor of Biology

Department of Chemistry and Mathematics
Cara Brooks, Assistant Professor of Mathematics
Nicole Legge, Instructor of Mathematics

Department of Communication and Philosophy
Kimberly Huff, Instructor of Communication
Mike Kennedy, Visiting Instructor of Communication and Public Relations
Richard Kenney, Associate Professor of Journalism

Department of Language and Literature
Allison Dieppe, Instructor of Composition
Jason Elek, Instructor of Composition
Joyce LaOrden, Instructor of Spanish

Department of Marine and Ecological Sciences
Felix Jose, Assistant Professor/Hydro Modeler
Joanne Muller, Assistant Professor of Paleoclimatology

Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Jessica Doll, Assistant Professor of Psychology
Melodie Eichbauer, Assistant Professor of History
Terrence Leary, Instructor of Psychology
Jan-Matijn Meij, Assistant Professor of Sociology
Elena Stepanova, Assistant Professor of Psychology
Habtamu Tegegne, Assistant Professor of History
Adam Zaleski, Instructor of Psychology

Department of Visual and Performing Arts
Michael Salmond, Assistant Professor of Digital Media
**Student Highlights**

**Chris Spears**, alumnus and former Communication major, landed a job with Ft. Lauderdale CBS Sports Interactive as a Live Data Entry specialist. Says Spears, “The description of the title calls for me to enter live statistical data through our main database, which can viewed through the Gametracker feature on www.cbssports.com. Basically, if you are a sports fan and you don’t have a television nearby to watch the game, you can go to the website and follow the game in real time. I will be covering Major League Baseball through the season. This job is so tedious in terms of the sport I’m covering because I have to enter practically every type of stat including the pitch location, mph, balls and strikes, the play, who is on base, etc. There are also other sports that we are covering, including basketball and hockey. I’m going to try to work the football schedule as well.”

**Kyla Grace Filkowski** is a senior, Communication major with a PR concentration. Kyla has landed a PR job at Royal Shell Vacations/Real Estate. Says Grace, “As a Communication major with a concentration in PR, I was expected to turn out press releases and flashy blogs every day. That isn’t the case here, but the work is just as challenging. Eventually, I’ll be working on the company’s Facebook and Twitter accounts. In the meantime, I’ve spent my time pretty much handling cleanup around the office (editing CEO’s documents and emails, ordering office furniture for our new 5th Avenue location, redesigning letterhead and making coffee). So, I’m not hosting events and running huge campaigns, but I’m getting a lot of other experience I’d never thought I’d get. By far, the biggest thing I brought with me from the PR program is the ability to write. You don’t think about the importance of good writing until you have to send info to an attorney.”

**Patrick Wrobel**, senior and Communication major with a PR concentration was awarded the 2011 USTA Florida Tennis On-Campus Club of the Year Award.

**FGCU Student wins Prestigious OPC Foundation Award**

Press release and images provided by Jane Reilly, OPC

**Alex Pena**, a senior at Florida Gulf Coast University, became the first FGCU student to ever win a prestigious Overseas Press Club Foundation Scholarship. He received the $2,000 award at the Foundation’s 2011 Annual Scholarship Luncheon held at the Yale Club in New York City.

Pena was among 14 aspiring foreign correspondents selected by a panel of leading journalists from a pool of 175 applicants from 55 different colleges and universities. His winning essay described traveling in the back of a Mexican Drug Task Force pickup on a typically murderous night in Ciudad Juarez. With video camera in hand, he captured some of the violence that makes this border city one of the deadliest places in the world.

Pena was the first recipient of the Walter & Betsy Cronkite Scholarship. He received the award from their son, Chip Cronkite. At the luncheon, Pena was the guest of CBS News.

The scholarship winners were also honored with a reception at Reuters the night before the luncheon and toured The Associated Press headquarters in New York City.

The OPC Foundation is the nation’s largest and most visible scholarship program encouraging aspiring journalists to pursue careers as foreign correspondents.

For more information on the OPC Foundation and its scholarship program, see www.overseaspressclubfoundation.org.
Alumni Highlights:

**Tiziana Marchante, ’04 (Psychology)**, and her husband announced the birth of their daughter, Sarah Elizabeth on February 3. She weighed 7 pounds and 1 ounce.

**Melissa Richards, ’07 (Communication)**, and Chris Delacroix announced their engagement to family and friends. They will have a destination wedding in Jamaica in February 2012. Richards is the marketing manager for Adams & O’Reilly, Inc (McDonalds).

Danielle Ruh, ’08 (Communication), and Mitchel Kuhn, ’08 (Communication) were married on March 28 in Boca Raton, FL.

**Katelyn Clem, ’10 (Master’s, School Counseling)**, and Ryan Uhler, ’06 (Communication), were married on January 1 in Captiva.

Newsmakers

**Jennifer Hamilton, ’08 (Communication)** has accepted a position as an account executive at Hill & Knowlton’s Tampa office, a world-wide public relations agency. Previously, she was an account executive for RFB Communications Group, a local public relations agency in Tampa.

**Michael McCabe, ’00 (English)**, has joined the law firm of Henderson, Franklin, Starnes & Holt, P.A. as an associate in the Worker’s Compensation division. He represents insurance carriers, third party administrators, and employers in the defense of workers’ compensation claims.

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Alumni Association Happenings:

For a complete listing of event details and registration, please visit [www.fgcu.edu/alumni](http://www.fgcu.edu/alumni).

**Eagles on the Road: D.C. area Networking Night**  
May 4 | 6 p.m.  
Join an FGCU alumni representative for a casual evening of fun and networking. Learn how your University is expanding while reconnecting with alumni and friends in your area. Complimentary beverages and appetizers will be provided. 6 p.m., 3 Bar and Grill, 2950 Clarendon Blvd, Arlington, VA 22201.

**FGCU Baseball vs. Stetson**  
May 6 | Swanson Stadium  
Join fellow alumni for an exclusive tailgate as FGCU baseball takes on Stetson. This is one conference game you do not want to miss! Food provided by Bar Louie.
Where Are They Now?
Tina Langley: Fashion Focused

Tina Langley stands in the midst of the Seventeen magazine fashion closet.

Byline: Drew Sterwald

Glamour, Harper’s Bazaar, GQ. Tina Langley (’04, Communication) has worked at some of the biggest names in fashion media on the road to becoming a fashion trend spotter – and trendsetter.

“It’s about who you know in fashion – that’s how you get anywhere,” she says by phone from her apartment in the hip Williamsburg section of Brooklyn.

Langley, 31, got her stylishly heeled foot in the door through a semester-long senior internship at Glamour magazine. That led to a summer internship and eventually to a job as a fashion assistant at GQ, where she assisted on photo shoots, coordinated accessories and kept track of designer samples in the magazine’s fashion closet. Think Anne Hathaway in “The Devil Wears Prada” – perhaps without the acid-tongued boss. “The closet is the hub of the magazine,” Langley says.

A similar job at Harper’s Bazaar led to an associate editor’s post at Nylon and eventually the title of accessories editor for Seventeen. During four years there, she was responsible for choosing all the jewelry, shoes and other accessories featured on the cover and inside the magazine. “I loved it – it was fun,” she says. “I’ve always wanted to work in fashion – even in high school (Lely in Naples). It was something I was always passionate about.”

After seven years in New York, Langley takes in stride the glamour of rubbing elbows with celebrity cover models such as Jude Law, Jessica Alba and James Gandolfini of “The Sopranos.”

“When you live in New York you get used to it,” she says. These days, Langley is getting used to her newest job as fashion director at Marc Fisher Footwear, which designs and distributes footwear in the United States. Brands include Guess, Marciano, Marc Fisher and Ivanka Trump. As a liaison between the design and production teams, she now has a hand in making trends rather than merely chronicling them. “I do tons of research,” she says. “I check blogs every day. I know lots of designers. It’s more like trend directing.”
Mark Your Calendar

Peter Seldin Portfolio Workshop
May 17-20

New Faculty Orientation
August 15, from noon to 3:00 p.m.

All-College Meeting
August 17, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please consider submitting an article to a future issue of CAS Quarterly!