Joe Wisdom

“He was an old man who fished alone in a skiff in the Gulf Stream…” – Ernest Hemmingway

Joe Wisdom joined Florida Gulf Coast University in the Fall of 1997 as a founding faculty member in Interdisciplinary Studies and the coordinator of our interdisciplinary program. Founding Dean Jack Crocker, working with the faculty (Donna Henry, Chuck Lindsey, Myra Mendible, Win Everham, and many others), had created an interdisciplinary core of courses called the Collegium of Integrated Learning. This core included 24 hours of study and was required of every student in the College of Arts and Sciences (and back then we had no majors; every degree was a Liberal Studies degree with a concentration in a particular discipline).

Joe was hired to oversee the Collegium, which he did for the first few years of FGCU’s history before he became the Associate Dean for the “right bank.” From 1998 to 2000, we had two Associate Deans in the College, Donna Henry and Joe Wisdom, one for the “left bank” (sciences and social sciences) and one for the “right bank” (humanities and arts). Joe continued to oversee our interdisciplinary programs in this role and eventually, after we created departments in 2000, moved back to the faculty to do what he loves (second) best: teach twentieth century American and Caribbean literature.

But Joe’s real love has always been his family (and, if possible, doing something adventurous on the water with his family). I remember a trip I took with Joe shortly after the university opened. We had a conference in San Antonio, Texas. One of his sons was working at Big Bend National Park and had gotten a room for us at the inn in the park. We drove seven hours across western Texas to spend three days at Big Bend. I got to see a side of Joe that few get to see: Joe as a loving and kind father to remarkable sons.

In his retirement, Joe will spend a great deal of time not only with his sons but also with his grandson, and much of that time will be on the water. He will be missed for his even keel, for his grasp of the silliness of much of the bureaucracy that crowds out our living, for his sardonic (but always right on) humor, and for his very positive temperament. Joe has had a real influence on who we are as a college, and for that we are extremely grateful.

Jim Wohlpart
Dean, Undergraduate Studies
Dear College of Arts and Sciences Colleagues,

As we move into the summer semesters, I encourage each of you to find time to rejuvenate and reflect on your successes over the past year. This has been a busy year for the College. Collectively, CAS hired thirty-eight new faculty colleagues who will join us in August. Twenty-two of these positions are new lines, added to supplement our instructional capacity to accommodate enrollment growth. We are on target to enroll 2950 First Time in College (FTIC) students between summer and fall 2012. This is an increase of 300 students from fall 2011. As you know, CAS is responsible for the majority of the instruction for this cohort of students.

In response to the College Reorganization, I have been able to implement the addition of Associate Chairs in the Departments of Chemistry and Mathematics, Marine and Ecological Sciences and Social and Behavioral Sciences. This additional administrative support will assist in the transition year to our final reorganization. I am working with the CAS Leadership Team and the College Governance Team to develop a plan for the fall College Meeting that will allow for productive conversations about the Departmental Clusters.

In this issue of the CAS Quarterly, we are celebrating the good work of the faculty and students of the College of Arts and Sciences. You will read about faculty ventures in areas of scholarship, advising, service and teaching. Each of these endeavors is a source of pride for the College of Arts and Sciences.

I look forward to seeing you in August at our College Meeting. In the meantime, please enjoy the summer months.

Best Regards,

Donna Henry
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Biology

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Florida Gulf Coast University was represented by Neil Wilkinson, an environmental education instructor in the college of Arts and Sciences, on April 16th, to the White House Council on Environmental Quality and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This was the first White House Summit on Environmental Education which included about 100 environmental education leaders and practitioners from around the country for a series of panel discussions and action workshops. Lisa Jackson, Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Arne Duncan, Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education welcomed guests by announcing the reconvening of a federal task force to coordinate environmental education between 15 federal agencies including the E.P.A., and departments of Education, Interior, Health, Transportation, and Labor. The importance and role of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) education was reinforced, as was the focus on inclusion of children from low income families (only 8% are likely to earn a bachelor’s degree by the age of 24 compared to 80% of children from high income families). Richard Louv, author of The Last Child in the Woods was the featured ending keynote speaker.

Formal and informal initiatives were promoted and attendees participated in a series of action workshops designed to explore best practices that foster lifelong environmental stewardship and assess environmental education accomplishments. Participants were provided the opportunity to highlight their successes and promote ideas. Wilkinson took the opportunity to highlight Florida Gulf Coast University’s environmental mission and commitment to graduating ecologically literate students, through our signature course on sustainability required by all undergraduates (The University Colloquium: a Sustainable Future), our focus on service and civic engagement, and the many partnerships with local organizations and agencies that support FGCU’s commitment to environmental stewardship. Neil is a senior faculty associate for FGCU’s Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education that supports scholarship, service, and teaching related to its mission.

[http://www.epa.gov/education/eesummit.html](http://www.epa.gov/education/eesummit.html)

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**The Clinton Foundation**

FGCU Assoc. Professor John Griffis joined President Bill Clinton, Honorary Chair Chelsea Clinton and Honorary Ambassador Josh Charles in Washington, D.C. on April 1, 2012 for an evening of music, networking, and support for the life-changing work of the Clinton Foundation. “A Night Out with The Millennium Network”, held at the National Museum for Women in the Arts, also featured a musical performance from singer-songwriter, Amos Lee. The Clinton Foundation Millennium Network is about motivating the next generation of philanthropists and leaders to tackle the world’s most pressing issues such as improving global health, strengthening economies, promoting healthier childhoods, and protecting the environment by fostering partnerships among governments, businesses, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and private citizens to turn good intentions into measurable results.
Washington Visit continued: The Clinton Global Initiative

From March 30-April 1, 2012, FGCU student Renato Talhadas attended the Clinton Global Initiative University at George Washington University in D.C. Renato was invited to speak on the power of “Service Learning,” and volunteer for various event projects. He met with influential leaders like President Clinton, activist Vandana Shiva, entertainers John Stewart and Usher. Recently he has been recruited to work for Teach for AmeriCorps in the San Francisco Bay Area. He will be teaching social studies and humanities at an inner city high school. Renato hopes to create a service-learning program to encourage students to create change in their communities. Renato is a senior majoring in sociology with minors in education, gender and interdisciplinary studies. He would like to thank professors like Jessica Rhea, Kris De Welde, his advisor Lucero Carvajal, and the many other who have inspired him.

Arts & Sciences Welcomes Its Newest Members To The Fold

CAS would like to extend a warm and hearty welcome to our newest members, to join the college from Justice Studies & Public Affairs as of this fall. Here are some highlights and info on your “new” colleagues. Thank you to those below that provided bios for this edition of the newsletter:

**Peter J. Bergerson**
*Professor, Public Affairs*
Dr. Bergerson received his MPA degree from Indiana State University and his PhD in Political Science from Saint Louis University. He was selected as a James J. Malone Fellow, National Council on U.S./Arab relations, for study and travel in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain and also received the National Endowment for the Humanities Grant to study the “Diffusion of Public Policy Among the American States.” Dr. Bergerson taught at Southwest Missouri State University for 34 years and held the position of Chairperson and Director of the Public Administration program. His areas of interest and research include the Second Amendment, Ethics, War Powers Act and Congressional Elections.

**Vanessa Cournoyer**
*Executive Secretary, Justice Studies*
Vanessa Cournoyer is the Executive Secretary for the Division of Justice Studies, College of Professional Studies. Vanessa joined FGCU in the General Counsel’s office in February 2010. Prior to that, she served as Legal Secretary/Executive Assistant at the law firm of Nixon Peabody, LLP in both the Providence, RI and Boston, MA offices. Vanessa has more than 25 years of experience working in many areas of the law including: real estate, benefits, employment/labor, corporate, syndication (tax credits), litigation and estate planning.

Vanessa is a Rhode Island native, but
Arts & Sciences Welcomes Its Newest Members To The Fold continued

moved in September 2009 from Swansea, MA to Punta Gorda, Florida with her husband Denis who works in the FGCU Physical Plant.

Robert (Bob) Diotalevi, Esq., LL.M
Associate Professor, Justice Studies
Bob has been a lawyer for twenty-seven years as a member of the Massachusetts and Florida bars. He possesses four degrees and has been internationally published. In 2009 Dr. Diotalevi published his book by Cengage Learning entitled, The Florida Paralegal, with Attorney William Statsky.

Dr. Diotalevi was a professional broadcaster for eight years and held managerial positions in radio, news and production. Dr. Diotalevi’s works have been published in SMU School of Law’s Computer Law Review and Technology Journal, The Paralegal Educator, The Journal of Paralegal Education and Practice, and The Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration. He also serves as an editor for The Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration. Dr. Diotalevi presents at national and regional law-related conferences as well as at various colleges and law schools around the country.

Duane L. Dobbert, Ph.D, FACFE
Professor, Justice Studies
Fellow, American College of Forensic Examiners
Dr. Duane Dobbert is Professor, and Graduate Coordinator of the Forensic Studies at Florida Gulf Coast University. Dr. Dobbert is a Criminal Justice professional serving in clinical, administrative, research, and consulting capacities. He is a Fellow of the American Board of Forensic Examiners, Psychological Specialties, and a Department of Justice expert witness.

He is the author of the books, Halting the Sexual Predators Among Us, Understanding Personality Disorders, and most recently Psychopathy, Perversion, and Lust Homicide and the retired Forensic Psychology Series Editor for Praeger Publishing. Dr. Dobbert is a member of the SW Florida CART and the NE Indiana CART (Child Abduction Response Team) and is developing and training CARTs in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Utah.

Dr. Dobbert regularly conducts professional training on sexual predators to Law Enforcement, Judicial, Corrections, Public School, Mental Health, and Domestic Violence personnel throughout the United States. Over the last 6 years he has trained school bus drivers from over 5000 school districts in the United States on the nature and behavior of child sexual predators.

Dr. Dobbert’s Pupil Transportation Personnel training program, School Bus Drivers: The 1st Line of Defense Against Child Sexual Predators, is endorsed as the national training initiative by the US Department of Homeland Security.

Duane and his wife Joyce have 4 married children, 7 grandchildren ages 4-11, and new little granddaughter arriving in August, 2012.

David E. Steckler, J.D., LL.M.
Instructor, Justice Studies
David taught at FGCU from 2005-08 as an adjunct, and is now an Instructor in Legal and Justice Studies. David is admitted to the Bars of New York and Florida, and practiced law in New York from 1976-2008, where he was a white collar prosecutor and then defense attorney, concentrating in health care, medicare/medicaid and tax investigations and prosecutions. In addition to teaching online and live courses in criminal law, ethics, legal research, constitutional law, etc., David volunteers with the Legal Aid Service of Collier County, and represents clients seeking domestic violence injunctions for protection in Collier County Circuit Court. For more on David, be sure to see his article on Communication internships with Amanda Parke on page 7 of this newsletter.

Roberta Ward Walsh
Emeritus Professor, Public Affairs
Roberta joined FGCU as a founding faculty member during the institution’s inaugural year in 1997. She earned her Ph.D. degree from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University, master’s degree in economics from Cornell University and bachelor’s in education from Framingham State University in Massachusetts. Her previous experience includes 15 years as a professor at the University of Vermont and earlier government service with the U.S. Department of Energy and Federal Trade Commission in Boston. At FGCU she served as Public Affairs’ division chair until 2006, laying the foundation for the Master of Public Administration (MPA) program which received the first professional accreditation by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration for an exclusively internet-based degree. In 2009 Dr. Walsh was recognized with Emeritus status for “…exemplary support of public affairs education…[and] a distinguished record of accomplishment both as an academic and public servant.”
Bower School of Music Students Hit All the Right Notes

The National Association of Teachers of Singing is the largest vocal pedagogy and voice science organization both nationally & internationally. Sponsored students audition against singers in specific categories in classical voice and musical theater. Voice teachers from around the state adjudicate these highly competitive auditions.

On February 25, 2012, twelve FGCU Bower School of Music vocal students traveled to the University of Tampa to attend the state chapter of the Tampa Bay National Association of Teachers of Singing (TBNATS) Student Auditions, where vocal students from eight universities and colleges in Florida competed in Classical Singing and Musical Theater. FGCU students received the following awards:

In the Classical Singing division:
- First-place
  - Monica Plazas-Freshman Women
  - Lorena Vargas-Junior Women
  - Heather Jones-Senior Women
- Second-place
  - Danelle Spicer-Freshman Women
  - John McCann-Sophomore Men
  - Raul Escalona-Junior Men
  - Jaimie Bocco-Senior Women
- Third-place
  - Zachary Aretakis-Sophomore Men
  - Meagan Bradford-Senior Women

In the Musical Theatre category, FGCU students received the following awards:
- Second-place
  - Danelle Spicer-Freshman Women
  - Zachary Aretakis-Sophomore Men
  - Heather Jones-Senior Women

In additional Bower School of Music news, the school hosted a master class by Metropolitan Opera soprano Patricia Racette on Saturday, March 17, in the U. Tobe Recital Hall, in conjunction with Opera Naples. Ms. Racette worked with two Young Artists from Opera Naples, and two voice students from the Bower School of Music, John McCann, sophomore tenor, and Raul Escalona, junior baritone. Another vocal master class sponsored by Naples Opera Society took place in the U. Tobe Recital Hall on Friday, April 13, 12-2 p.m., taught by the distinguished opera soprano Stella Zambalis. Ms. Zamballis has sung major opera roles at the Metropolitan Opera, among others throughout the United States.

Lorena Vargas Junior music major at the BSM, received multiple awards including Most Promising Female Singer of the 2012 Auditions (an award that the members elect at the completion of the finals round), the Southwest Florida Symphony’s Van Sickle Scholarship Competition, and the Classical Vocal Division of the Fort Myers Alliance for the Arts Young Artist Competition in Feb. 2012. Junior Raul Escalona also received an Honorable Mention in the Southwest Florida Symphony’s Van Sickle Scholarship Competition.
FGCU Student Projects Assisting Local Nature Center

David Green’s students have been busy helping local science education centers by performing high-quality course-based service-learning projects that benefit the local community by incorporating elements of “SENCER” into their coursework. SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities www.sencer.net) promotes “student learning and interest in the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics by connecting course topics to issues of critical local, national, and global importance.”

David (Instructor, Department of Marine and Ecological Sciences) and Jessica Rhea (Director of Service Learning) were recently joined by students Kiera White and Jeanie Weber to present a summary of service-learning projects to the “Friends of the Bonita Nature Place” from David’s Environment of Southwest Biology course. The entire presentation was recorded by the City of Bonita Springs and will air soon on the City government TV channel.

Jessica explained FGCU’s mission and strong commitment to service-learning projects. She highlighted student requirements and networked with City of Bonita Springs Council members who were present in the audience. David reflected on the importance of course-based service-learning projects as related to his class “Journey Down the Corkscrew Watershed.” In these courses, students work with the local community by giving back to the same organizations that allowed the class to participate in field excursions and site visits. Kiera and Jeanie, students in David’s fall 2011 class, remained involved through the “The Straw Hat Brigade.” The Brigade helps students continue their projects after the end of the semester, and the students also gain supervisory and leadership skills by serving as student-leaders during the next round of projects. The students’ work has resulted in an interactive QR Code trail at the CREW (Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed) marsh trails and has been featured in a recent CREW newsletter. Kiera and Jeanie spoke passionately about their project and showed several of the video clips they created.

Participants were given a guided nature walk that highlighted recent FGCU student projects at the Bonita Nature Place, which include:

- Nature trail construction and maintenance
- Vegetation plantings
- GIS map creation for trails, features, and vegetation
- Educational video clips and brochures

The Bonita Nature Place is an urban nature center that sits at the headwaters of the Imperial River, and is under the jurisdictional control of the City of Bonita Springs Parks and Rec Department. Adjacent Conservation 2020 property provides an additional 200 acres of hiking trails and wildlife habitat. City Councilwoman Janet Martin, a strong supporter of the Nature Place, frequently speaks to David’s classes and regularly invites students to the Bonita City Hall where they learn about the intersections between local political decisions, environmental issues, and economics. If you have any questions about the Bonita Nature Place, please contact David Green (dgreen@fgcu.edu) or have a look at their webpage http://bonitaspringsrecreation.org/natureplace.html. For information about service-learning at FGCU, please contact Jessica Rhea (jrhea@fgcu.edu).

Student Highlights: Eric Strong

Eric Strong is graduating this spring with a BA degree in chemistry and he has been accepted by the George Washington University School of Medicine as an M.D. student. He is currently conducting research with Drs. Chou and Barreto on an ONR funded grant. His project focuses on synthesis of metal doped photo-catalysts and developing an analytical method to analyze the doped materials. He will present his research results at the Florida Annual Meeting and Exposition (FAME) held at the Innisbrook Resort in west Tampa, this May. In addition, he is nominated as an outstanding graduating chemistry major (BA) at the South Florida American Chemical Society section (SoFL-ACS) this year and was honored at SOFL-ACS awards banquet on Saturday, April 21 in Miami. This summer, Eric will be joining the Medical Research Track program at George Washington University. He looks forward to applying the training he has received from FGCU in Chemistry and the art of scientific research to a career in nuclear medicine.
Ethics in Journalism

Dr. Rick Kenney, Associate Professor of Journalism, spoke at a national convention in New Orleans on the topic of “Ethics of the Last Editor Standing” on April 13.

Kenney challenged members of the American Copy Editors Society (ACES) to ask themselves if they were prepared to use their critical mind, to take an ethical standpoint and to use their “virtue of excellence” to challenge copy as final guardians of journalism ethics. He said editors must prepare to do the right thing alone because, with copy desks everywhere shrinking, the chance for collaborative decision-making also is shrinking. Kenney suggested editors consider following a prescription for becoming existential journalists and finding reward in authenticity. Kenney has been leading sessions on ethics at ACES national and state conventions since 2006. For more about the conference, please go to: http://nola.copydesk.org/blog/ethics-and-editing-on-your-own

CPS-CAS collaborative effort on “Civic Engagement Internships”

The CPS-CAS merger is already creating synergies in interdisciplinary cooperation, which has resulted in a new way to look at internships.

In June 2010, David Steckler (Instructor, Legal Studies) volunteered to represent domestic violence victims from the Naples Women’s shelter in Collier County Family Court, and enlisted Legal Studies students to work with him. He now has 3-4 interns performing 180 hours of client intake/interview and document preparation work. The students prepare clients and witnesses for testimony in court, attend settlement conferences with opposing counsel, attend court ordered mediation and more.

David met people from other organizations who were looking for interns from other academic disciplines and contacted Amanda Parke (Instructor, Communication) to meet with Collier County Legal Aid Service, and The Women’s Shelter for Women and Children. This venture established opportunities for Communication majors to assist in website overhaul, and special projects such as publishing yearbooks, brochures and outreach.

The internships offer students an opportunity to have a direct impact on the lives of real people in the students’ own communities. For example, at the Women’s Shelter and Legal Aid, approved Communication and Legal Studies students will attend the Shelter’s Core Competency Classes (32 hours of internship or service hours). Once completed, the students are considered “advisors” to clients of Legal Aid. Interns and counsel interview clients to learn facts of alleged domestic violence, and then assist in preparing and filing injunction applications, case cover sheet, summons, etc.

Interns may also, under the indirect supervision of the supervising attorney, contact witnesses, read police reports, and conduct independent legal research to prepare legal memoranda as well as prepare the clients and witnesses for the court appearance, by explaining how the hearing will function, and actually going through a “dry run” (i.e. asking the questions, showing the client/witness documents to be presented in evidence, etc.)

On court hearing day, interns meet clients in court, give them any needed support by reviewing the questions, and sit near the client (in the jury box) during the hearing.

“We feel like these types of internship opportunities will give our students an advantage when they leave our University because they will have had an opportunity to become involved in the lives of people in our community and actually provide help and support to them during difficult times. These students are actually helping change and heal people within our own community,” said Parke, “and each discipline offers a different yet important element to that process so it is ideal when they can collaborate.”

Even though the collaboration is in its earliest stages, opportunities for such interdisciplinary internships are growing as nonprofits are in need of interns in a variety of areas. New developments in other socially important areas are also on the horizon for the students in David’s and Amanda’s courses. Please contact either David (dsteckle@fgcu.edu) or Amanda (aparke@fgcu.edu) if you would like to become involved in their programs as they invite all of their colleagues to consider how their students can join the growing cohort of interactive participants.
Civilians and War Conference

At the end of February, 28 of the world’s leading scholars of warfare came to FGCU to participate in a three-day international conference on the theme of Civilians and Warfare in World History, organized by Dr. Nicola Foote, Associate Professor of History at FGCU. Speakers came from all over the United States, as well as the U.K., Canada, and Australia, and were drawn from the disciplines of history, archaeology, philosophy, literature and political science.

The conference opened with two panels examining the blurred line between civilians and combatants in wars ranging from ancient Greece to the Pacific battlefields of World War II, allowing a deeper questioning of how the meaning of “civilian” has changed over time. The next panel explored how labels of combatant and non-combatant were impacted by ideas about ethnicity and nationalism, using the border wars between: England and Scotland in the 14th century; Native American participation in colonial conflicts; and the role of Afro-Latin Americans in the civil wars of 19th century Latin America as case-studies. Day two examined the ethical debates and practical consequences of attacks on civilians. Papers probed the strategic value of deliberate assaults on civilians, and traced the emergence of the principle of non-combatant immunity in modern warfare. One panel looked specifically at the role of women and children in warfare, assessing the agency of child soldiers in a range of wars from the U.S. Civil War to contemporary conflict in Central Africa, and evaluating the ways in which sexual violence has been used as a weapon of war across time. Day three was devoted to the way in which warfare shapes civilian politics and culture, and papers assessed the role of disabled veterans in pushing forward the expansion of social rights, and the way in which air bombing shaped women’s writing during WWII.

In addition to the scholarly papers, the conference also integrated a mini-film festival, showcasing a range of documentaries, including a film on Hiroshima made by CAS faculty members Farshad Aminian-Tankei and Sachiko Tankei-Aminian. The conference ended with a roundtable at which graduate and undergraduate students from the history program presented their perspectives on the work of the previous panels.

The conference was the largest scholarly forum ever hosted at FGCU, and provided a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty members to hear some cutting edge research. The conference proceedings are currently being collated into an academic volume that will be published with a leading academic press.

Advising Beyond FGCU

Thanks to the professional development support from CAS Leadership, Academic Advisors Laura Brazzeal and Lucero Carvajal attended the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Region Four conference held on March 2012 in Miami, FL. NACADA “promotes and supports quality academic advising in institutions of higher education to enhance the educational development of students. NACADA provides a forum for discussion, debate, and the exchange of ideas pertaining to academic advising through numerous activities and publications.”

Laura and Lucero led two presentations, a concurrent session and a poster session. The concurrent session, “Evolution of an Academic Advising Unit within a Growing University” had an attendance of 45 NACADA members.

The poster, “Sustainable Practices for a Successful Initial Connection with Students” earned Best Poster Award. Laura and Lucero are proud of this accomplishment, particularly in light of the fact that this was the first poster session ever held at a NACADA Regional Conference. The reward, the newest edition of “Academic Advising: A Comprehensive Handbook” by Gordon, V. N., & Habley, W. R. will add to the advising resources within the CAS Advising Office.
Philosophy Without Borders

On April 6th, Florida Gulf Coast University hosted the Philosophy Without Borders Symposium, honoring the career of pioneering Latin American philosopher, Feminist, and Nietzsche scholar Ofelia Schutte (PhD, Yale) who is retiring as Professor of Philosophy from the University of South Florida. The event centered around issues of diversity and pluralism in philosophy and showcased FGCU’s recent recognition in the Pluralist Guide to Philosophy as one of a handful of universities recommended for undergraduate study in Latin American Philosophy. The event brought together a number of distinguished and emerging scholars in Latin American Philosophy and Latina Feminism including Jorge Gracia, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy and Comparative Literature at the University of Buffalo, Elizabeth Millán, Professor of Philosophy at DePaul University, Marianna Ortega, Shula Chair of Philosophy at John Carroll University, Andrea Pitts, Philosophy Fellow at Vanderbilt University, and our own Elena Ruiz-Aho, Assistant Professor of Philosophy at FGCU.

Marianna Ortega kicked off the proceedings with a keynote address entitled “Self-Mapping, Belonging, and the Home Question” which focused on the experience of being an exile from one’s home country and the philosophical problems associated with the search for an identity that is tied to a sense of ‘belonging’ or ‘home’. Former students of Professor Schutte, Elena Ruiz-Aho and Andrea Pitts gave talks that addressed issues of cultural identity, racial marginalization, and the prospect of genuine pluralism in philosophy today. Following this panel, Professors Millán, Gracia, and Ortega each discussed the impact of Professor Schutte's groundbreaking work in the areas of Existentialism, Feminism, and Latin American Philosophy. The seminar concluded with Professor Schutte herself giving a talk that traced key historical moments in the development of Latin American Philosophy in the United States and the ongoing transformation of philosophy as a field that continues to grapple with issues of diversity and pluralism.

The symposium was organized and funded by the FGCU Philosophy Club with philosophy students playing an important role throughout the day moderating panels, introducing speakers, and raising significant funds with local businesses and community partners. The FGCU Honors Program, Department of Communication and Philosophy, and CAS Dean’s Office were also instrumental in their support of the event.

FGCU Students and Faculty Travel to Dominican Republic

For the past three years, CAS faculty advisors have led the Dominican Republic Outreach Program (DROP), a Registered Student Organization, to Santiago, Dominican Republic, for an alternative Spring Break trip. DROP's main goal is to cultivate community engagement in FGCU students. The student members raise money for school supplies and sports equipment for at-risk youth in Santiago through annual fundraising events. The students deliver the collected supplies and spend over a week working with Acción Callejera (Street Action), a Santiago-based outreach program.

Acción Callejera works with children in and around Santiago, and their mission is to promote basic rights for children, many of whom work in the streets as shoe shiners or are vulnerable to other adverse experiences or situations. This past March, DROP members spent ten days working with Acción Callejera and the boys who consider it a refuge. Each morning, DROP members and Acción's resident boys, who range from 8 to 14 years old, gathered on the tile veranda outside Acción's downtown location. In the cool morning air, they played patty-cake and tag, chatted, took pictures of one another, participated in team-building activities, and participated in group activities that culminated in an end of the week talent show, where the students and kids danced and sang together.

Ultimately, this trip introduces FGCU students to diversity and fosters civic engagement. The students come back more aware of the world around them and better able to understand different worldviews. For more on Acción Callejera, please visit their website at: http://www.accioncallejera.org.
In May, 22 students from the College of Arts and Sciences, Education, and the Honor’s Program will visit mainland Ecuador and Galapagos Islands on a university-sponsored study abroad trip. This is a truly remarkable opportunity to visit the mecca of evolutionary biology.

The Galapagos Islands were made famous by Charles Darwin who was inspired by the incredible variety of plants and animals found on this archipelago. Not surprisingly, students will study evolution by natural selection among the finches, scalesia trees, and other wildlife. The Galapagos Islands are also notable because of a recent migration of Ecuadorians to these islands; nearly 30,000 Ecuadorians moved to the Galapagos between 1970’s and 1990’s. Students will have the opportunity to learn about the development of this new society and culture.

Our time in the Galapagos Islands is bookended by visits to the important colonial city of Quito and the Ecuadorian cloud forest. On top of everything else, students will conduct three days of service learning. Students will either work and learn about environmental education in the highlands of the Galapagos or compile oral histories of Galapagonians that they then share with elementary students. This faculty-led study abroad trip is a marriage of history and political science, environmental studies, biology, as well as civic engagement. Faculty participants include:

- Nicola Foote – History and Politics of Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands
- Charles (billY) Gunnels – Natural Selection of Galapagos Islands and Ecuador
- Win Everham – Latin American Environments
- Ariel Chomey – Latin American Environments

All incoming first year students at Florida Gulf Coast University will read Tim O’Brien’s The Things They Carried during the Summer of 2012. The Things They Carried is a powerful book that reminds the reader of the weight of actual and psychological burdens young people carry on the battlefield and through life. Florida Gulf Coast University’s First Year Reading Project introduces incoming students to the expectations of learning at an institution of higher education. All first-year students read a common book during the summer and come to their fall Composition I course prepared to discuss the book and engage in conversation and writing with the ideas presented there. The First Year Reading project engages students in critical thinking and writing skills preparing them for a rigorous academic experience, and connects them to the campus community. In this way, students become a part of the community at Florida Gulf Coast University and come prepared for our unique learning experience. For more information, please visit [http://www.fgcu.edu/FYrp](http://www.fgcu.edu/FYrp).

Louise Patrick, Bower School of Music faculty member, presented original research at the National Association for Music Education Biennial Conference held in March in St. Louis, MO. Her topic, “Enriching a Special Needs Preschool Environment with Music”, was selected for both the research poster session and an invited research address to the Early Childhood SRIG (Special Research Interest Group) - an assembly of music educators/researchers from the United States whose focus is on music for Prekindergarten populations. This research targeted preschool children with diagnosed communication disorders from Three Oaks Elementary (Lee District) and included music education strategies that focused on both musical and speech/language communication goals.

For more information on the conference, please visit: [http://www.nafme.org/documents/biennial/2012_biennial_program_guide.pdf](http://www.nafme.org/documents/biennial/2012_biennial_program_guide.pdf)
2012 Florida Archaeology Month Celebration Events Hosted by the Florida Public Archaeology Network

The Southwest Regional office of the Florida Public Archaeology Network hosted events in celebration of Florida Archaeology Month during March. This year’s theme was “Florida in the Civil War” which is highlighted on beautiful educational posters that are still available at the FPAN Southwest Office in Whitaker 232. Please feel free to stop by and get one if you are a Civil War enthusiast, know one, or have children who might benefit from learning more about Florida’s role in this tragic chapter in our nation’s history.

FPAN’s Speaker Series entitled “More than a Trifling Affair: A Tour of Southwest Florida in the Civil War” spanned the entire month and highlighted FGCU faculty members Irvin Winsboro and William Mack from the History Department, as well as others. Archaeology Day at the Clewiston Museum offered visitors an opportunity to engage in thought-provoking activities and to interact with an Archaeo Cart that contains archaeology activities as well as a touchscreen monitor that explores the archaeology of Florida on land and underwater.

To cap off the month-long celebration, FPAN Southwest co-hosted a kayak tour to Mound Key that allowed participants to experience Estero Bay just as the Calusa Indians would have – with paddle in hand! Koreshan State Historic Site land managers guided kayakers to the landing and provided a tour of the key, exploring the archaeological features still found there today.

Check out the FPAN web site to discover what events are scheduled in the Southwest Region as well as the other regions throughout Florida – www.flpublicarchaeology.org or contact us at asnapp@fgcu.edu (phone number 239-590-1330) for more information.

Professor Granted Editorship at University Press

The College of Arts & Sciences congratulates Professor of English, Dr. Rebecca Totaro on her selection to serve as General Editor to Duquesne University Press’s acclaimed book series, Medieval & Renaissance Literary Studies (MRLS). Founded in 1960, the series is recognized as one of the finest sources of scholarship in its field and has achieved numerous distinctions. As General Editor, Totaro works closely with the press director to review book proposals and manuscripts, recommend external reviewers, and to reach out to scholars in the field. The press also publishes the recent MRLS book series publication, Sean Lawrence’s Forgiving the Gift: The Philosophy of Generosity in Shakespeare and Marlowe.

FPAN’s Newest Employee

Jessica Mendes is homegrown from FGCU! She received a Master’s in Public Administration in 2011, a Bachelor’s in Communication in 2008 and was named FGCU Graduate Student of the Year in 2011. She recently accepted a position with the Florida Public Archaeology Network as a Program Assistant. Jessica’s academic and professional interests are in conservation, sustainability, and electronic waste management.
Florida Gulf Coast University has had an active role in the LCGC organization for many years. LCGC was created in July of 2011 as a result of a merger between Literacy Volunteers of Lee County and the Literacy Council of Bonita Springs. Currently two faculty members of the Department of Language and Literature, Doug Harrison and Sheila Bolduc-Simpson, serve on the Executive Board. In February of 2012, The Language and Literature Department announced a collaboration between the Spanish program and the LCGC, whereby the intermediate students in the Spanish classes taught by Marta Ramos and Joyce LaOrden will volunteer in Literacy Council programs and advanced students will present their oral presentations (in Spanish) to the agency’s adult students.

The Literacy Council Gulf Coast (LCGC) is a welcoming place where over 3,000 adults and children from 40 different countries come for free English language instruction. This non-profit organization’s main headquarters is in Bonita Springs, with branches in North Naples, Fort Myers, Lehigh, and Cape Coral. Its 800 tutors work with individuals and groups in adult literacy, family literacy, or workplace literacy programs making a difference to those who have come to America to improve their lives and contribute to their communities.

Some of LCGC’s programs include:
- Tutoring for the English language learner who needs to learn general English
- Helping to prepare for the GED to obtain a high school diploma or apply for US citizenship
- Classes for those needing computer skills
- Trained and certified tutors of the Barton System of Reading who work one-on-one with native English speakers with learning disabilities or who lack basic literacy skills
- A very successful program called the Carol DeJoy Moms and Tots Family Literacy Program in eight locations in Lee County which serves 900 parents and their preschool children preparing to start school on an even level with native English-speaking preschoolers
- Partnerships with gated communities, such as Pelican's Nest, Pelican Sound, Colliers Reserve, Bonita Bay, to provide on-site employee literacy programs to help non-native English speakers improve their quality of life and their earning potential

If you wish to support literacy, you can do one or more of the following:
- Participate in Literacy Council’s 4th annual run/walk event, the IMA Gulf Coast Classic 5K, Saturday, June 23, 2012 right here on the FGCU campus
- Be a tutor
- Donate at http://www.literacygulf-coast.org/
- For more information, please visit the website at http://www.literacygulf-coast.org/

Make a difference and change a life by helping someone in your community reach his or her potential as a parent, a community member or an employee.

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Faculty Publications

Representing the Plague in Early Modern England
– Rebecca Totaro
Professor of English, Rebecca Totaro has co-edited a volume of scholarly articles, which this summer will be released in paperback. Published by Routledge Press as part of its cutting edge series, Routledge Studies in Renaissance Literature and Culture, Representing the Plague in Early Modern England came out in hardback just earlier this academic year. The essays in the volume offer readers a timely encounter with the historical experience of people adapting to a pandemic emergency and the corresponding narrative representation of that crisis, as early modern writers transformed the plague into literature. The essays in this collection grew out of a seminar entitled “A Plague on Both Your Houses,” which Totaro directed for the Shakespeare Association of America in 2008.
Faculty Publications continued

Then Sings My Soul: The Culture of Southern Gospel Music — Doug Harrison

In some ways, Associate Professor of English Douglas Harrison has been preparing to write this book all his life. Growing up in rural evangelical churches in the Ozarks and playing gospel piano as a child and young adult for church choirs and gospel quartets, Harrison was immersed in the art and soul of gospel music and religious culture. Now, drawing on his training as a scholar of American religious literature and culture, Harrison has provided the first book-length critical examination of southern, white gospel music, one of one of American evangelicalism’s oldest — and most academically ignored – musical traditions.

At its heart, the book, which is published by the University of Illinois Press as part of its Music in American Life series, re-examines southern gospel’s historical emergence and its cultural function within evangelicalism. Rather than seeing the music as a single rhetoric focusing on the afterlife as compensation for worldly sacrifice (the common view among those few scholars have explored the music), Harrison presents southern gospel as a network of interconnected messages that evangelical Christians use to make individual sense of both Protestant theological doctrines and their own lived experiences. Harrison explores how listeners and consumers of southern gospel integrate its lyrics and music into their own religious experience, building up individual — and potentially subversive – meanings beneath a surface of evangelical consensus.

Along the way, the book provides reassessments of the contributions of key figures such as Aldine Kieffer, James D. Vaughan, and Bill and Gloria Gaither. Then Sings My Soul traces an alternative history of southern gospel in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, one that emphasizes the music’s interaction with broader shifts in American life beyond the narrow confines of southern gospel’s borders. This alternative account of the music includes an extended exploration of the “gay-gospel paradox” — the experience of non-heterosexuals in gospel music — as emblematic of fundamentalism’s conflict with the postmodern world.

The book grows out on a nearly decade-long critical engagement with the world of southern gospel that Harrison has sustained through his blog, www.averyfine-line.com, which has become a popular point of convergence online for fans and professionals in the world of southern gospel (incidentally, Harrison will be presenting on blogging at the Sanibel Island Writer’s Conference later this year).

More than just a study of music as mode of performance, the book offers new understandings of both southern white gospel music and evangelical religious practice. As one reviewer has put it, “Harrison treats seriously a music that has long been dismissed and neglected as simplistic and is thus vastly understudied.”

Another reviewer described the book as “compelling and eloquent” and noted that “one couldn’t conjure up a scholar better equipped to write on this topic, which Harrison addresses with notable authority and ambition.”

Then Sings My Soul is scheduled to be published May 1. More information is available at the University of Illinois Press’s website.

FGCU Research into the Impact on Microorganisms in the Gulf Affected by Deepwater Horizon

Toshi Urakawa (Assistant Professor, Department of Marine & Ecological Studies), Juan Garcia (Environmental Studies MS student), Jose Barreto (Professor, Department of Chemistry and Mathematics), and some members of the Green Technology Group recently joined to write an article on the effects of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico for the February 2012 issue of the journal Environmental Pollution. The article was picked up by National Geographic and featured in their online “Daily News” section April 19th titled “Gulf Oil Spill Pictures: 10 New Studies Show Impact on Coast.”

The article focuses on the impact of the oil spill to the nitrogen cycle, which is one of the major biogeochemical processes in our planet. The research found that the microorganisms in the Gulf (archaea and bacteria) have different susceptibilities to oil contamination and may have ecological significance, since a shift to bacterial dominance in response to an oil spill could potentially persist and alter trophic interactions. The implications are wide spread for potential consequences throughout each stage of the ecological cycle of the Gulf.

To see the full articles in Environmental Pollution (sciencedirect.com) and National Geographic, please go to:


Juan Garcia
FGCU Panther Posse Expands Its Impact

In May 2010, Ricky Pires, director of the Wings of Hope and Panther Posse programs here at FGCU, presented at the 10th Annual Mountain Lion Conference in Montana. While there, Cougar Fund co-founder and wildlife photographer, Tom Mangelsen and Cougar Fund Development Director Lisa Rullman attended Ricky’s presentation on the FGCU initiatives.

The Florida Panther Posse program, under the umbrella of the Wings of Hope is a program using over 220 college students during the Fall and Spring semesters to help teach 4th graders about the research concerning the endangered Florida panther, South Florida wildlife, and water conservation. One key element of the program is that every student is required to teach two or more people. Another is the students’ direct link to research through “Pennies for Panthers.” The money collected is used to purchase motion-triggered infrared cameras. The photos of panthers and wildlife are given to FWC panther team, Florida Panther Refuge, CREW, and posted on the Wings of Hope website for all the students, teachers, and community to enjoy.

Wanting to emulate the program, Lisa contacted Ricky and formed a partnership with FGCU. One of Ricky’s dreams was to expand the Panther Posse, and the partnership with The Cougar Fund and the creation of the Cougar Posse has helped to fulfill those dreams.

Through multiple meetings in Jackson Wyoming and Ft. Myers, Ricky and Lisa worked with potential funders, local educators and volunteers sharing knowledge, program supplies and experience. Ricky and Lisa created a connection between classrooms in Florida and Wyoming to compare and contrast panther and cougar habitats, prey, and conservation issues. During the training of the new Cougar Posse, Marilyn Cuthill, cougar biologist, and Craighead Beringia, a biologist for South Teton Cougar Project Wildlife, escorted the team on snowshoes through the cougar habitat (cougar caves). Marilyn and Craighead will be working closely with The Cougar Fund and the “Wings of Hope” programs to adjust the curriculum for the western habitat.

On March 22nd, the first Cougar Posse program was presented to the Kelly School in Wyoming at the Broken Arrow Ranch. The 4th graders were bussed up the mountain to an incredible ranch with large cabins that hosted the program and the Cougar Posse started collecting “Coins for Cougars” to purchase their motion camera to monitor cougars and wildlife in similar fashion to the “Pennies for Panthers” program. During the upcoming Fall and Spring semesters, the Panther Posse and the Cougar Posse will connect through classroom skype technology, emails, and “Puma Pals” letters.

This is an incredible legacy for the FGCU Wings of Hope program, now building bridges all over the world. Next year the Wings of Hope will further the Cougar posse with the Wings of Hope/CREW hiking adventure program. In May, Wings of Hope will travel to Atlanta Georgia start a Georgia Panther posse. The FWC panther team feels this connection is needed due to the future reintroduction of the Florida panther into the Georgia habitat.

Check out www.fgculedu/cas/wingsofhope for new Florida panther and wildlife photos taken with the Florida Panther Posse motion camera.

Ricky wishes to express her many thanks for the continued support from Dr. Wilson Bradshaw, Dr. Donna Henry and staff, Dr. Ronald Toll, Brenda Brooks and Deb Hanson from CREW, Eric Otto (Environmental Humanities) and Professors and staff, FGCU Foundation, Steve Magiera, Pinnacle staff, Wings of Hope staff, many local organizations, FWC Panther Team and volunteers.

For more information go to:
Pinnacle Magazine Summer issue
The Cougar Fund: [www.cougarfund.org](http://www.cougarfund.org)
The 15th Annual Celebration of Excellence awards were announced on April 13th to the University community celebrating the achievements and accomplishments of our faculty and staff over the past academic year. Of the awards given, the College of Arts and Sciences received the following recognitions of excellence:

- USPS Employee of the Year: Emily Moretta, Executive Secretary, Department of Communication and Philosophy
- Student Government McTarnaghan Teaching Award: Jessica Rhea, Director of Community Engagement and Service Learning
- Individual Faculty Excellence Award for Service: Kris DeWelde, Associate Professor of Sociology
- Advising Excellence Award: Lucero Carvajal, Academic Advisor II
- Junior Faculty Excellence Award for Scholarship: Jaffar Ali Shahul-Hameed, Assistant Professor of Mathematics
- Junior Instructor Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching: Emily Vallier, Instructor of Composition
- Senior Instructor Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching: Miles Mancini, Instructor II of Communication
- Junior Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching: David Thurmaier, Assistant Professor of Music
- Senior Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching: Randall Cross, Associate Professor of Biological Science

Congratulations to everyone!
Kudos to CAS Faculty

The College of Arts & Sciences would like to acknowledge the following award recipients from Research Day held on April 20th at Alico Arena:

Internal Grant Awards College of Arts & Sciences
- Dr. Ju Cho Biosynthesis of Gold Nanoparticles and Rapid Bioassay for Antioxidant Activity from Fresh Fruits
- Dr. David Fugate Pilot Study of Mediation of Sediment Characteristics of SW Florida
- Dr. Michael LaGier, Jan DeJarnette Using Genomics to Characterize the Stress Tolerance of the Radiation-resistant Bacterium Deinococcus maricopensis, a Relative of “Conan-the-Bacterium”
- Dr. Mustafa Mujtaba Identification and Optimal Growth Requirements of Southwest Florida’s Oil-eating Microbes
- Dr. Joanne Muller Developing a Long, Continuous History of Hurricane Landfalls in Southwest Florida: the Inner Clam Bay Record
- Dr. John Reilly Mapping the Structure of the Skin Enzyme histidine ammonia lyase
- Dr. Serge Thomas Determining Groundwater Seepage and Subsequent Nutrient Loading in a Detention Pond (FGCU Campus Fort Myers, USA)
- Dr. Hidetoshi Urakawa Nitrifying Microorganisms in the Aquarium Nitrogen Cycling

Presidential Awards: Faculty and/or Staff Oral Presentation
- Dr. Trent Brown Stylistic Influences and Application of Gebrauchsmusik in the Late Choral Cantatas of Daniel Pinkham

Poster Competition Overall Poster Winner
- Dr. Michael LaGier, Igor Bilokopytov Characterizing the Function of a Potential Virulence Factor cheY from the Human Oral Pathogen, Campylobacter rectus

Best Practice in Teaching
- Mr. David Green M.S. Implementing A Hierarchical Civic Engagement Strategy Into Two Environmental Sustainability-focused General Education Course Redesigns

Presidential Awards: Graduate Students Oral Presentation College of Arts & Sciences
- Chrystal Matey From Woman to Worse than Beast: “The Threat of the New Woman to Victorian Ideals in the Great God Pan”

Poster Competition College of Arts & Sciences
- Matthew Neubek Eastern Oysters vs. Invasive Green Mussels – A Mathematical Model

Presidential Awards: Undergraduate Students Oral Presentation College of Arts & Sciences
- Michael Rodriguez Revolutionary Creole Patriotism in Colonial Spanish America

Poster Competition College of Arts & Sciences
- Salvatore Grasso Enhancing the Imaging Capabilities of the Egan Observatory

Student Art Exhibit College of Arts & Sciences
- Alysa Baer

Watershed Council of Southwest Florida Award College of Arts & Sciences
- Jennifer Thera Biomagnification of Mercury through a Subtropical Marine Food Web

College of Arts & Sciences Dean’s Awards
- Rachael Benaksas The Effect of Human Tears in Aid Giving and Bonding Behavior
- Keith Green Constitutive Expression of Buckwheat Fagopyritol Synthase Genes in Transgenic Arabidopsis Plants: A Novel Strategy for Plant Based Drug Production for Type II Diabetes
- Casey Zakroff Adaption to Estuarine Variability: Acute Osmotic Response to Salinity and Desiccation Stress in the Green Porcelain Crab, Petrolisthes Armatus
- Melissa Sanchez Study of the Expression of a Brassica Oleracea Gene by Transformation of Protoplasts and GUS Assays
- Mark Barton Composition of Suspended Particulate Matter Across an Energy Gradient in Relation to Seagrass Health
Mark Your Calendar

Check back again in our August issue for more!

The CAS Quarterly

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