Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to present the first issue of the college’s newsletter, CAS Quarterly. With this publication, our aim is to keep faculty and staff informed of news within the college as well as promote and build a sense of community across disciplines. It is our hope that the newsletter be a trusted and reliable source that faculty and staff contribute to and look forward to receiving.

With the semester coming to a close, we reflect on many exciting events and endeavors, including the inauguration of President Bradshaw, the naming of Dr. Ronald Toll as our Provost and Vice President, receiving official word that Reed Hall will become home to the Humanities, the addition of new faculty, and the opening of Vester Field Station.

In the fall issue, we will track the construction of Academic Building 7 and the Naples Botanical Garden Facility along with the planning of the Performing Arts building. A feature article will also introduce new department Chairs. Additionally, expect to see updates from the College Governance Team and CAS Leadership Team.

I wish all of you a restful summer with time to pursue travel, teaching and scholarly pursuits!

Best regards,

Donna Price Henry, Ph.D.

On Friday, April 11, the faculty gathered to discuss the current status of pertinent issues facing the college. The meeting started off with a report on assessment, outlining the status of the 2007-2008 CAS Annual Report. The report touched on the importance of program reviews and the upcoming SACS visit to take place in March 2009. The update on College Enrollment showed a continuing increase in FTE, with CAS currently at 3,040 for the year—no less than 52% of the University total. The College also received an overview of the current budget status, as well as projections for the coming year. The CAS space report touched on the first floor of Reed Hall—which will be given to the Humanities faculty—Academic Building 7, Naples Botanical Garden, and Fine Arts 2.

Also covered in the meeting was a recap of the CAS Long Range Planning Meeting held last December. Common themes from that meeting included an emphasis on hands-on collaborative programs, a college-wide goal of focusing on interdisciplinary/integrative learning, concerns over rapid growth, the need to support scholarly activity, as well as a discussion of the college’s core values and mission statement. President Bradshaw has recently suggested that our average class size is too high, and, as a result, the Dean called for feedback from the faculty regarding class sizes, the resources needed to manage large classes, as well as how we will move forward with maintaining quality teaching and learning in difficult budgetary times. The College Governance Team presented information about nominations for college and university service opportunities.

Finally, the college extended a big Thank You to outgoing Department Chairs: Joe Wisdom of Language & Literature, Maria Roca of Communication & Philosophy, and Eric Strahorn of Social & Behavioral Sciences. They will be succeeded this fall by Jim Brock, Glenn Whitehouse, and Joe Cudjoe. The meeting concluded with a wine and cheese reception.
Encouraged by Student Government Senators Sean Terwilliger (now SG President) and Stephanie Martin, the Dean’s office co-sponsored a Meet and Greet on March 18, affectionately calling it an “Eat and Greet.”

The reception was intended to bring students and CAS faculty together so that any interested students—freshmen and sophomores in particular—could learn about the departments and programs offered in the College, become familiar with faculty members, and get direction on choosing the best academic path.

CAS clubs and organizations, including GEO (Gender Equality Organization) and the Math Club, were present to share information. Dean Donna Henry and Associate Dean Deb Hess were also on hand to greet students.

Despite some whipping winds in the Library courtyard, the event included free pizza, soda, and a great turnout. Both students and faculty had encouraging and positive remarks toward the event’s recurrence.

GEO (Gender Equality Organization) is FGCU’s most recent student club, and the newest member of the Sociology program. Dr. Kris De Welde is their faculty advisor. GEO emerged from a service-learning final project in De Welde’s Sociology of Sex & Gender Roles course (SYD 3800).

Just as the semester was beginning, a handful of dedicated students began a conversation about how to raise awareness about sexual assault on our campus. As the conversations evolved, so did their ideas for action.

For its first project, GEO joined the nationwide efforts during the month of April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness month, to end sexual assault, incest, and other forms of abuse. Rebecca Carden, Emilene Delgado, Brittany Hanna, Kelsey Roseberg, and Derek Shembarger are dedicated students leading GEO alongside De Welde. Together they organized the “Make Some Noise!” campaign, which included guest speakers from local and campus organizations, interactive theater, a poetry slam, a public proclamation to end violence on our campus, and a phenomenally successful clothesline project. This was by far their most visible accomplishment.

The clothesline, which is part of a national project that intends to honor victims of sexual and interpersonal violence, extended from the entrances of Howard Hall and the Wellness center around to Ben Hill Griffin; there were just over a hundred shirts hanging, almost all of them made by students.

On Monday, March 31st at 1:45 pm, with the clothesline as a powerful backdrop, Dr. Joe Shepard made a proclamation on behalf of President Bradshaw and the FGCU community, which declared the FGCU Campus as a safe haven that will fight against Sexual Violence and for Gender Equality. He also declared April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month on our campus, in perpetuity. That means we’re just getting warmed up! GEO will be planning events for next year as soon as the fall term begins. Stay tuned for details!
Florida Conference of Historians

One of the outstanding achievements of the history program this year was the success of faculty and students at the Florida Conference of Historians (FCH), which took place in Jacksonville, FL from February 28th to March 1st. The FCH is an annual meeting of local historians that brings together researchers, teachers, students and public history professionals from around the state in an engaging and energetic forum.

This year, FGCU had an exceptionally strong presence at the meeting. Most notably, three history MA students—Ian Morris, Ingrid Fernandez and David Seurkamp—and one undergraduate student, Rick Ramos, presented papers based on research they had done during the previous semester. Ian discussed the role of women scientists in the development of the atomic bomb; Ingrid presented her insights into Argentina’s Eva Peron as a nationalist icon; David reflected on the space race as a window into American Cold War nationalism; and Rick examined the lives of crewmen and sailors who worked on slave ships traversing the Middle Passage.

An additional graduate student, Don Routh, was not able to attend the conference but had his work on German-Americans’ experiences of World War One presented by Ian Morris. All the student papers were very well received, with a good audience turnout for each presentation.

The diversity of student interests and the quality of their research and writing represents a hugely exciting achievement—a real credit to the student’s hard work and budding intellectual development. Dr. Erik Carlson, Dr. Michael Cole and Dr. Mike Epple of the history faculty all presented papers while Dr. Nicola Foote chaired one panel and served as discussant on another. Such a strong presence from FGCU students and faculty served to raise the profile of our university within the organization, and we have been awarded the honor of hosting the conference next year.

Focus the Nation
Event Draws Inspiration from Faculty and Students Alike

On January 30 and 31, FGCU hosted a transformative event that reached out to students, faculty and the public in the name of Global Warming awareness and action. FGCU was one of almost 1,700 institutions participating in this national teach-in.

Over 600 attendees gathered for the 30 different faculty presentations from across five colleges. Following the daytime presentations was Green Democracy, an event that hosted local and state politicians who commented on solutions to be implemented in Southwest Florida and on our campus, engaging in a dynamic exchange with the audience. Seven legislators attended this event, including Senator Burt Saunders, Lee County Commissioners Brian Bigelow and Frank Mann, and Representatives Gary Aubuchon, Matt Hudson, Garrett Richter, and Nick Thompson.

The following event was the 2% Solution, meant to host a live, interactive webcast. Although the webcast could not be accessed, a discussion led by Christine Andrews and Win Everham generated potential solutions for the FGCU campus. The following night, Thursday January 31 saw the presentation of “Climate Change and the Sunshine State,” by Don Miller, a member of The Climate Project trained by Al Gore.

Sponsors for the event included the Coastal Watershed Institute, the Whitaker Center, and the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education.

The FGCU website currently has summaries of the events as well as several presentations from the Teach-In available for download (in PDF format). Plans are in the works to foster growth and expansion from this initial event, to be called FGCU’s “Eco Portal.” This online presence will serve as a reference to students and faculty, providing updates on information regarding global concern.

www.fgcu.edu/focusthenation
GreenFaith

Dr. Maria Roca, Chair of the Department of Communication & Philosophy, has been chosen as a GreenFaith Fellow for 2007-2008. She is 1 of 18 nationwide Fellows.

GreenFaith International is an interfaith coalition for the environment. GreenFaith believes people of faith have a vital role in caring for the environment. Caring for the earth is a moral responsibility and through our relationship with nature, we can grow spiritually.

On a crisp autumn day in Garrison, New York, at a rustic monastery in the Catskill Mountains, Dr. Roca attended the first of three GreenFaith Fellowship retreats. Here, Dr. Roca met the other members of her Fellowship class and began her two year journey in eco-theology.

Along with retreats, the Fellowship includes monthly “webinars” which included a session with Laurel Kearns. Laurel was raised on Sanibel Island and is well known locally. She is currently a faculty member of the Drew Theological Seminary.

Dr. Roca is currently writing her Eco-theology. Upon completion, she will propose and then implement a local project that will advance the mission of GreenFaith.

She will be working with a mentor from the Auburn Theological Seminary. We anticipate follow-ups in upcoming newsletters on her progress and insights.

Fantastic in the Arts

Last month Dr. Eric Otto, Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication & Philosophy, attended the annual International Conference, “Fantastic in the Arts.” One of the many highlights of the conference was meeting the award-winning author, Robert Sawyer (Mindscan, Hominids, The Terminal Experience). Stephen King is among past speakers at the conference. Eric presented his paper titled, Recapturing Science Fiction’s “Sense of Wonder” in the Environmental Age. Eric is happy to report that the science fiction and fantasy scholarship is becoming a “legitimate field of study.”


Philosophy Program hosts FGCU Philosophy Lecture Series

On Thursday evening, March 13th, the Philosophy Club, in cooperation with the Honors Program, hosted the first annual FGCU Philosophy Lecture Series, bringing to campus the internationally renowned Buddhist philosopher David Robert Loy for a talk on Buddhism and the environmental crisis entitled “Healing Ecology.”

The talk was attended by over 60 students, faculty, and staff and was followed by a lively question and answer session and a book signing. Earlier in the day, Loy attended Kevin Aho’s “Existential Psychotherapy” course and led an informal discussion about the Buddhist conception of the self, the problems of dualistic thinking, and the origins of psychic suffering. About his experience at FGCU, Loy said, “I feel very fortunate to be able to visit FGCU. I could feel this sense of freshness and openness applying not only to the teachers but to the students as well.” Loy, a Zen teacher in the lineage of Koun Yamada, was a Professor of Philosophy at Bunkyo University in Japan for many years and is currently the Best Professor of Ethics, Religion, and Philosophy at Xavier University in Cincinnati.

He is the author of a number of critically acclaimed books including, Nonduality: A Study in Comparative Philosophy; Lack and Transcendence: Death and Life in Psychotherapy, Existentialism, and Buddhism; A Buddhist History of the West: Studies in Lack; The Great Awakening: A Buddhist Social Theory; and most recently, Money, Sex, War, Karma: Notes for a Buddhist Revolution.
Since January of 1999, Carl Schwartz has taught drawing and painting for the Department of Visual and Performing Arts. At the end of this semester, he will finally hang up his hat to enjoy the fruits of retirement.

In his time at FGCU, Carl has witnessed firsthand the incredible growth of the University. When he first began teaching here, the Art Program consisted of a single classroom in Reed Hall. It has since blossomed into a program with 7 faculty members, 3 staff members, its own complex, and 100+ majors.

Since joining the Art Program, he has been fabulous and exciting, and the experience alone would’ve students a solid background in teaching goal is to motivate achieve their greatest potential. He new ways of expressing themselves as an artist.

Anyone familiar with Carl’s work inspiration is his backyard, but it’s labor of love, it’s a lush, tropical vegetation, ponds, and of course is even reflected in his artist’s statement: “I am a painter of light. I’m intrigued and fascinated with form. To me, there are two worlds... the one we live in and the one that I create. Painting is the discipline by which I constantly rediscover both of these worlds. After many years designing and building gardens, I am expressing my joy in them as an artist. In my paintings I capture the glorious textures, hues and lusthness of my garden at its peak of perfection. I sit amidst sumptuous surroundings and sketch. Each sketch captures a moment. Then I assemble these notes in a way that a camera never could. I can show multiple view points on the same surface, the illusion of form, color and space from different points of view. Thus, the painting is a more complete idea of what the garden really is.”

So what big plans does Carl have for his retirement? He plans to focus primarily on his own paintings and his garden, which he rarely finds time to do with his current busy schedule. Carl will not completely lose touch with FGCU. Next spring The Art Gallery will feature a retrospective of Carl’s work, containing art from different periods of Carl’s life throughout the past half-century. Additionally, Carl will stay on board as an adjunct, and will hopefully make more of his infamous appearances as Santa during the holidays.

Visual & Performing Arts Events: Where the Wild Things (Still) Are

On Thursday, March 28, The Art Gallery wrapped its month-long exhibition entitled Where the Wild Things (Still) Are. The Art Gallery partnered with CROW (Clinic For the Rehabilitation of Wildlife) located on Sanibel Island, to put on the show for the purpose of increasing public awareness of and raising funds for both organizations. The wildlife themed exhibition featured works from internationally known artists Romero Britto, Andy Warhol, Frank Stella, and Robert Rauschenburg, along with works from local and national artists.

During the opening and closing receptions for the art sale and show, the Arts Complex swelled with about 650 culture and creature lovers. The receptions featured music from locally known artists Porta Sanora, Kat Epple, and a DJ from Envie Lounge. Guests ate food from 55 Degrees, Blu Sushi, Dwyers, and Delicious Things, and drank wine from 55 Degrees and Wine Styles. The courtyard and entryway to the Arts Complex were transformed into tropical gardens with the help of O’Donnell Landscapes, and were expertly decorated and lit thanks to the combined efforts of event planners from Gulf & Main Magazine, and VPA students and staff.

Closing reception highlights of the evening consisted of a fire dance performance by art student Mary Romanowski, and a talk from Dr. P.J. Deitschel, CROW’s Staff Veterinarian and Clinic Director, who was accompanied by CROW founder Shirley Walter.
The President’s Concert

The President’s Concert was held on March 14th in honor of President Wilson G. Bradshaw.

A competition for the privilege of music majors to perform at this concert was held in January. Eight students were selected from a group of 15 finalists to perform. The students selected were freshman Samuel Chadwick, freshman Anna Culp, freshman Roland Felix Forti, junior Justin Goff, sophomore Satoko Hayami, junior Hyae-jin Hwang, sophomore Edward Rizo, and junior Faith Lanctot Sam.

Concentrations of those students selected included voice, violin, percussion, piano, and guitar performance.

Visiting German Instructor Program

This marks the first year that the Department of Language & Literature hosted a visiting instructor from Johannes Gutenberg University (founded in 1476) in Mainz, Germany.

Coordinated by Brad Busbee (Assistant Professor of English) through an arrangement with Professor Oliver Scheiding (Professor of English and Linguistics and Chair of the Department of American Studies in Mainz), Mr. Christian Knoeppler arrived in Fort Myers in August of 2007 and heroically took on three sections of English Composition and one section of Introduction to Literature.

Knoeppler brought to his courses a European perspective and an approach based in American Studies, with an emphasis on the American media. He writes, “I thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of teaching in Florida. I came here to teach and to learn, and my students have given me new ways of looking at the world. For me, it has been a genuine exchange of ideas, ones that will certainly reemerge not only in my scholarship, but also in my life.”

Mr. Knoeppler will return to Mainz in June to resume work on his Ph.D. dissertation, which is titled “Re-imaginations of Alterity in American Film and Television.” Faculty and staff of the department will remember him as the pioneer who set a high standard for future international visiting instructors. He will be missed.

The exchange program will continue this fall with the arrival of another Ph.D. student from Mainz, Christian Schaefer, who will teach two composition classes and a course in German literature in English translation. Mr. Schaefer holds bachelor’s degrees in German, Creative Writing, Electrical Engineering, and a “Staatsexamen” (State’s Exam) the equivalent to a master’s degree in English and German Literature. He is currently writing a dissertation titled “American One-Act Plays, 1960-2000.”

Dr. Busbee writes, “By inviting talented young scholars from Germany like Knoeppler and Schaefer to teach for us, the Department of Language & Literature has found a way to offer students a connection to the wide world of international academia, right here in an FGCU classroom. But more importantly, the program brings us closer to our institutional commitment to diversity by reminding us of the central role language and literature plays in our perception of culture.”
**Promising Pathways: The Road to Best Practices in Autism**

www.fgcu.edu/events/promisingpathways

A conference for physicians, parents and educators addressing autism spectrum disorders was held for the first time on Saturday, April 19th, 2008. In partnership with staff from Eden Florida, FGCU faculty and staff from the Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Education had been planning the one day event for the past year. Psychology Club Student Members have been assisting Dr. Joanna Salapska-Gelleri during the planning of the event and participated as conference stewards on April 19th. National and local experts in the research and study of autism addressed topics, including: the causes of autism, evaluation and treatment, early identification and intervention, treatments for behaviors associated with autism, arrangement of long-term finance for persons with disabilities, sexuality and more.

Featured speakers included Drs. Hendron and Mundy from the U.C. Davis M.I.N.D. Institute (Medical Investigation of Neurodevelopmental Disorders), Dr. Peter Gerhardt, President and Chair, Scientific Council Organization for Autism Research and Dr. Patrick McGreavy, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and Assistant Professor at Florida Institute of Technology. Members of the FGCU and Fort Myers community led panels on behavior services, early years, adults in transition, and financial and legal topics.

The conference was free to attendees, and made possible in part through generous contributions from the College of Arts & Sciences and the Department of Social & Behavioral Sciences.

### Science & Math Corner

Jo Ann Wilson and Terry Dubetz were co-directors for a community outreach program, “Girls in Engineering, Math and Science (GEMS).” The program included three workshops (Oct. 2007, Feb. 2008 and March 2008) for female middle school students in Lee and Collier counties. A summer week-long workshop will be held at FGCU on June 23-27.

On April 3rd, the Math Department held a Math Colloquium here at FGCU. The speaker was Dr. Zhewei Dai from Alma College, Lansing, MI. Over 50 students and faculty attended the talk on Mathematical Inverse Problems.

### New in the Nest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAS welcomes all new faculty, including the following individuals:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Department of Language &amp; Literature</strong> would like to welcome the following new instructors—formerly adjuncts—who joined the CAS family back in the Fall of 2007: Kevin Allen, Sheila Bolduc-Simpson, Lori Cornelius, Jill Drumm, and Nathan Hill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Department of Marine &amp; Ecological Sciences</strong> welcomes Don Duke, Frank Gable, and Serge Thomas. Don Duke comes to us from University of South Florida, Tampa FL with a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Stanford University. He joins the department, specializing in Water Quality Policy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serge Thomas comes to us from Florida International University, Miami, FL with a Ph.D. in Biological Oceanography from Marie Curie University, Paris, France. He joins the department, specializing in Aquatic Biology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Gable comes to us from University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI with a Ph.D. in Marine Affairs. He joins the department, specializing in Coastal Zone and Fisheries Management.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **Bower School of Music** welcomes David Thurmaier. David comes to us from the University of Central Missouri, with a Ph.D. in Music Theory from Indiana University. He joins the BSM as an Assistant Professor of Music and Head of Theory Studies.
Promotions and Props

Congratulations to the following faculty for their success in professional and scholarly endeavors!

Dr. J. Barreto with Drs. T. Beatty, D. Bondehagen, D. Brown, S. Coticone, M. Parsons, and A. Volety obtained a grant in the amount of $1 million for their project “Enhancement of Public Health Preparedness for Dealing with Bioterrorism: Subproject: New Biocides and Decontaminating Agents for Bio-defense,” from the Department of Defense.


Dr. Martin Bourgeois was awarded a two-year grant in the amount of $239,415 for his research titled “The functions of social influence” from the National Science Foundation, Social Psychology Program.

Mary Kay Cassani defended her thesis and is now Dr. Cassani. She received her Ed.D. from UCF. Dr. Win Everham served on her committee.

Dr. Lakshmi Gogate was awarded a two-year grant in the amount of $180,349 for her research titled “A Longitudinal Study of Preterm and Full-Term Infants’ Perception and Attention to Word-Object Pairings and Later World Learning,” from the March of Dimes Foundation.

Dr. Sean Kelly was appointed to Director of the Honors Program back in the Fall of 2007.

Dr. Jo Ann Wilson with Dr. Terry Dubetz obtained a grant in the amount of $5,000 for the implementation of GEMS workshops for Collier middle-school female students from the Community Foundation of Collier County.

Both Wilson and Dubetz also received $50,410 for the implementation of “Girls in Mathematics, Engineering and Science (GEMS)” workshops for Lee County and Collier County middle-school female students, from the American Honda Foundation.

Thank you!

To all who helped this first issue come together, especially department secretaries—we couldn’t have done it without you!