Retiring Norris is MVP

Dean Norris, professor, Department of Marine and Environmental Systems, is the April Most Valuable Panther. This spring he is leaving full-time teaching after 26 years on the oceanography faculty, but will remain in the department as professor emeritus.

"Dean is almost a one-man history of ocean science at Florida Tech," said George Maul, DMES head. He has mentored over 30 graduate students, published numerous refereed journal articles and taught biological oceanography to hundreds—maybe thousands—of undergraduate and graduate students. A species of phytoplankton, Proorocentrum norrisianum was named for him.

Norris will celebrate his retirement on April 20, 5 to 7 p.m. in the Denius Student Center All-Purpose Room.

For more information, call ext. 8096 or send E-mail to dmes@fit.edu.

Signing with Panama

The School of Aeronautics has signed an agreement with the Technological University of Panama (UTP) to offer several of the school's bachelor's degree programs to UTP students. The UTP students would transfer to Florida Tech during their junior year to complete work on degrees in aviation management or aeronautical science, with or without the flight option. Distance learning and Florida Tech faculty offering courses on-site at UTP will play a role in the course delivery plan.

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Campus Calendar

Panthers Baseball
April 21, vs. Rollins College, 1 p.m.

Panthers Softball
April 21, vs. Lynn University, 1 p.m.
April 22, vs. Barry University, 1 p.m.

April 18
Student Leadership Recognition and Awards Celebration
7 p.m., Gleason Auditorium
Dessert reception follows

April 19
Honors Convocation
3:30-5 p.m., Gleason Auditorium

Biological Sciences
Spring Lecture
by Alan Leonard on his NIH-funded research, which may lead the way to future, improved antibiotics.
7 p.m., F.W. Olin Life Sciences Building

April 20
U.S. Rep. Dave Weldon on Campus
in support of Protestant Campus Ministry
5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
For details, see story on page 4

April 24
Retirement Reception for Andy Revay
Hosted by the Faculty Senate
4-6 p.m., Charles and Ruth Clemente Center for Sports and Recreation

May 5
Spring Commencement
Speaker: Andy Revay
10 a.m., Charles and Ruth Clemente Center for Sports and Recreation

Also see the Calendar of Events, which is listed on the university Web page under News and Events.

Faculty and Staff News

Karen Chambliss and Barbara Pierce, School of Business, presented their paper "Distance learning programs and quality assurance: is the emperor wearing new clothes?" at the Academy of Business Disciplines National Conference in Ft. Myers Beach, Fla. The paper was co-authored by Mike Slotkin ... Mike Barker, School of Aeronautics, was the invited lecturer on international airport management issues and approaches in Tunis, Tunisia, North Africa. The event, a senior management development program, was sponsored by the French government and Ecole National d’Aviation Civile.

In the School of Psychology, Radhika Krishnamurthy presented "Practical issues and logistics of having a gold standard" at the annual Society for Personality Assessment conference in Philadelphia, Pa. At the same conference, she co-presented the paper "PAS-based adjustment of emergency care workers as a function of personality hardiness" with graduate student Brian Nussbaum. She presented a poster, "Personality and behavioral correlates of the Devereux scales of mental disorders," with graduate student Karmon Sears, at the Southeastern Psychological Association conference in Atlanta, Ga.

Carol Philpot earned an award for child abuse prevention from the Task Force of Brevard at an annual banquet hosted by the Yellow Umbrella.

In biological sciences, Michael Grace presented "Immunohistochemical and spectral analysis of a novel sensory organ: the python infrared-imaging pit organ" at the 2001 meeting of the Southeastern Nerve Net, hosted by Florida State University in Tallahassee. Rick Tankersley made a presentation at the annual Benthic Ecology Meeting at the University of New Hampshire. It was titled "Habitat selection and development of postlarval blue crabs Callinectes sapidus: response to chemical cues from Spartina vs. Phragmites."

Also at the meeting, doctoral student Gretchen Ehlinger presented "Spatial and temporal patterns of spawning by the horseshoe crab Limulus polyphemus in a lagoonal estuary." The paper was co-authored by Tankersley and Mark Bush.

Cedric Guigand, graduate student in Ralph Turingan's laboratory, presented a paper, which was co-authored by Turingan, at the First International Tarpon Symposium in Port Arkansas, Texas. The paper was titled, "Feeding behavior and prey capture kinematics of juvenile tarpon, Megalops atlanticus."

Brenda Harris, development, was among the Central Florida residents honored as Superstars of Prevention at the half-time of the April 16 Orlando Magic game. The honor went to citizens recognized for working diligently to prevent child abuse ... Donna Wilt, School of Aeronautics, was chosen as an AOPA ePilot magazine volunteer of the week for her work organizing a local event at the Melbourne International Airport.

Special Library Hours

Evans Library offers extended hours during the final weeks of the semester. For details, call ext. 8086.
Five Faculty Promoted This Spring

This spring, five faculty members have been promoted. Paul Cosentino, civil engineering; Gary Howell, mathematical sciences; and Sam Kozaitis, electrical and computer engineering are now full professors. Bob Taylor, humanities and communication; and Ralph Turingan, biological sciences, are now associate professors. Congratulations on your promotions!

Representing Florida Tech

The Department of Marine and Environmental Systems (DMES) recently sent a contingent to Oceanology International Americas 2001 in Miami, Fla. George Maul presented his paper "Sea level and temperature in IOCARIBE regional global ocean-observing system." Stephen Wood and his students demonstrated their underwater remotely operated vehicle, which can monitor water turbidity and capture video. Gary Zarillo created PowerPoint presentations to showcase the university's science and engineering offerings. Others staffing the DMES booth included John Windsor, Geoff Swain and Lee Harris.

Transitions

Who’s New: Janeen Culver is a senior accountant, business services; Marcus Harris is custodial supervisor, auxiliary services; Michael McLawrence is an admissions counselor, undergraduate admissions; Christopher Lee is a salad preparer/cashier, Evans Dining; David Nichols is work foreperson, grounds; and Betsy Herriman is the resident administrator, Patuxent Graduate Center, SEGS.

Transfers: Susan Massey is now a development executive, WFIT; and Carmen Carvalho is now an information data specialist, institutional research.
Ministry Endowments Grow

Protestant Campus Ministry (PCM) has raised over $32,000 to date from numerous donors toward its endowment goal of $250,000. Catholic Campus Ministry contributors have given $233,000 toward that ministry’s endowment goal of $500,000.

All contributions, which will fund the operating expenses of the ministries, are eligible for matching by the F.W. Olin Foundation of New York City.

In support of the PCM endowment, the Initiative for a Christian Endowment, a committee of community volunteers, and Florida Tech faculty and staff, is bringing U.S. Rep. Dave Weldon to campus for a fund-raiser on April 20. Weldon will speak on the changing ethical climate in Washington, D.C. at 5 p.m. in Gleason Auditorium. He’ll explore campaign finance reform, prescription funding for the elderly through Medicare, taxpayer eligibility for cuts in taxes, energy priorities vs. ecological preservation and gun control vs. the right to bear arms, among other topics. Everyone is welcome to attend this presentation, which is free and open to the public.

Weldon will speak again at 6:30 p.m. on “How Faith Impacts Our National Government” at a $100-a-plate chicken barbecue dinner on the All Faiths Center lawn. For tickets or more information, call Susan Della Cioppa, 773-9808 or Palmer Stiles at ext. 7559.

Fraternity Says, "Thank You"

The campus Alpha Gamma Rho chapter of Alpha Phi Omega extends a "thank you" to the campus community for support of the fraternity’s silent auction, held earlier this spring. The event raised $445 for the service group’s efforts to support local organizations such as the Brevard Zoo, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Yellow Umbrella and Habitat for Humanity.

WFIT Fund Raiser

On April 9, WFIT (89.5-FM) wrapped up its last fund drive until fall after taking in over $25,000. The successful 11-day drive ended nearly a day early, when the station met its goal.

Fr. Doug Is Speaker

The Catholic Campus Ministry’s Newman Society will present a First Friday Mass and Luncheon on May 4 at noon in the All Faiths Center. This month’s presentation, “Answers to Common Attacks on Our Faith,” will be by Fr. Doug Bailey, the ministry’s chaplain.

The cost is $10 per person; no charge for students. Please R.S.V.P. by May 1 by calling ext. 8045.

Faculty Senate Inducts Officers

Jerry Cahill, School of Business, became faculty senate president in induction ceremonies held recently for the 2001-2002 new officers. Bob Shearer, humanities and communication, is secretary and Al Brown, chemistry, is president-elect for 2002-2003. Their terms started April 1.