

The
Frostburg
State
University
Magazine

profile

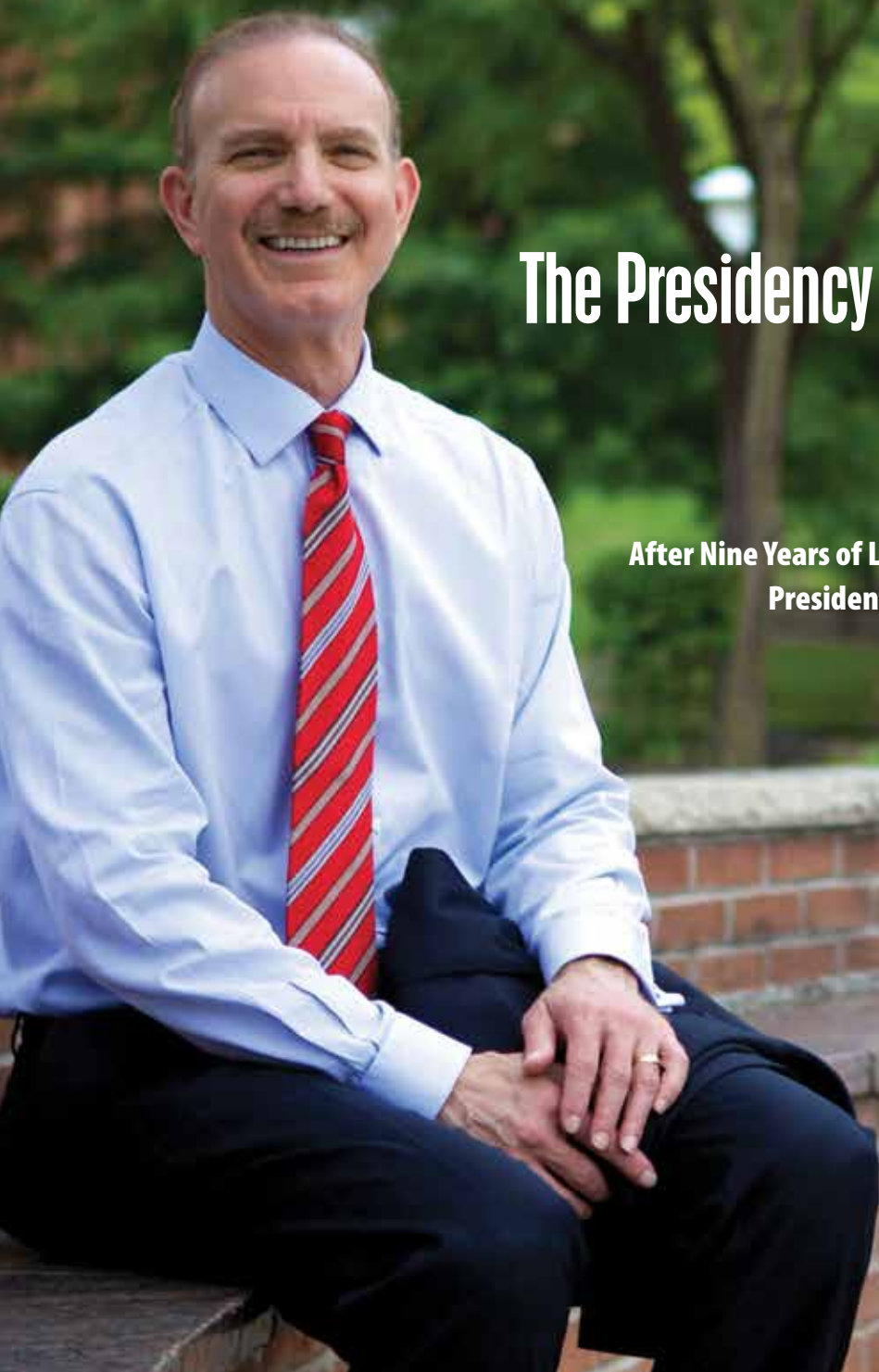
VOL 27 NO 2 SPRING 2015



FROSTBURG
STATE UNIVERSITY

The Presidency of Jonathan C. Gibralter 2006-2015

After Nine Years of Leading Frostburg State University,
President Gibralter Is Moving On



From the President: Reflecting on My Time at FSU

It seems almost unimaginable that, after nine years as president of Frostburg State University, this will be my last edition of *Profile*. My time at Frostburg has been the most professionally rewarding of my career, and I will be very sorry to leave. When Laurie and I arrived in Frostburg in 2006, I will admit it was a huge adjustment for us. We moved here from Farmingdale State College in Long Island, N.Y. We built a house here; we attended

many events on campus, including plays, dance recitals and concerts. We attended many President's Concerts and loved hearing the Chamber Choir under the leadership of Dr. Karen Soderberg-Sarnaker. We went to Homecoming events and galas together.

We also met alumni and became acquainted with this community. We got to know so many alumni from so many generations, even some who attended FSU in the '40s and '50s, like "The Boys" from the '60s, the baseball alumni from the '70s and even the alumni whom I first knew as students. I had the great privilege to bestow honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees to two great friends of FSU, Woodward D. Pealer and W. Dennis Thomas '65. I was particularly glad to be able to present this degree to Dennis shortly before he passed away, as his guidance and friendship had an impact on me that will truly never be forgotten.

This has been one of the greatest privileges of my life

– not only to know so many alumni, but to consider many as friends. I have met CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, Broadway actors and actresses, Hollywood producers, NASA astronauts, members of the Maryland General Assembly, business people, teachers, nurses, medical professionals and guidance counselors. I've been stopped in parking lots throughout Pennsylvania, Washington, D.C., and Maryland. I was pulled over while driv-

ing through the middle of Baltimore by an alum who saw my Bobcat license plate frame. The list goes on and on. FSU alumni are all over the country and the world, in every occupation, and they all tell a version of the same story. That story always starts with these words: "I owe everything I have to Frostburg State University. I wouldn't be who I am today without FSU."

This edition of *Profile* will certainly speak of accomplishments during my tenure at FSU. These achievements, including the "bricks and mortar" accomplishments, are important, but that legacy is not what gives me the most pride. What has truly meant the most to me has been getting to know our students. I always enjoyed my time with them. I worked closely with the President's Leadership Circle and the Student Government Association. I was directed by Mass Communication majors making "Down to Earth With Dr. G" for FSU TV3. I was made an honorary member of Phi Mu Alpha, a music fraternity. I felt so much pride attending students' art exhibits, plays, concerts and recitals, watching them compete athletically, and walking the track with them during Relay for Life. It was a pleasure just working out next to them in the fitness center or sitting and talking with them in the Lane University Center.

My priority first and foremost has been the quality of these students' education and the lives they would come to lead. I want them to leave FSU remembering it for the fine academic institution that it is. From my very first day on campus, I always gave our students the message that my door was open to them. They took advantage of that, and I have learned so much from them over these years. The students who attend FSU are some of the finest young people I have met. Kindness, generosity and intellectual curiosity define them. I always want them to remember that FSU is the place where they got their start.

I am going to miss FSU and will cherish my time here. It has meant the world to me, and I only hope that people feel I made an impact. Certainly, my time in Frostburg had a profound impact on me personally. For that I will be forever grateful. I will always be a proud Bobcat.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jonathan C. Gibalter, President

P.S. I hope Frostburg State University alumni will remain in touch with me after I start at Wells College in Aurora, N.Y., in July. My email address will be jgibalter@wells.edu.

"What has truly meant the most to me has been getting to know the students."



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Beth McMurtrie from *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and President Gibralter were interviewed by Gwen Ifill on *PBS NewsHour* about high-risk drinking.

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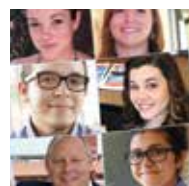
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The FSU student experience builds on academics through real-life practice. Students and alumni recount how their time with **Student and Community Involvement** programs has made a world of difference.



22 BUILDING SOMETHING TO LAST

After 18 years as a member of Towson University's football coaching staff, **John Donatelli '88** has been able to "build something that will hopefully last for the following generations."



profile

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CAMPUS NEWS

FSU Stepping Up to Serve Veterans and Military Students

As more men and women who have served in the military are transitioning to civilian life, growing numbers are headed to college and graduate school, and FSU is stepping up to find new and better ways to serve those who served us.

Following the retirement of longtime counselor and coordinator of Veterans Services **Pat Deasy**, the Veterans Services Office was restructured and a full-time veterans services coordinator was hired. The new coordinator, **Danielle Dabrowski**, has 10 years of experience serving veteran and military students.

"I am focused on building an awareness on campus for our student veterans and helping them to acclimate to the campus community," Dabrowski said.

Part of the need for awareness is based in terminology. "There seems to be a disconnect with identifying veterans. They are not normally the first to jump up and say they are veterans, and the term 'veteran' does not actually encompass all those who are serving – for example in the National Guard or Reserves. They do not consider themselves veterans because they are still currently serving," she said.



Danielle Dabrowski

The Student Veterans Organization, founded a few years ago, continues to grow, with a focus on outreach in the community and raising awareness about benefits for student veterans. The group welcomes all who are currently serving, veterans and/or supporters of veterans of all branches of service in the U.S. Armed Forces. The SVA is a non-political, nonprofit organization that brings people together through a shared respect and desire to help the nation's heroes, many of whom are friends and classmates. Last year, SVA worked with Sigma Tau Delta, the English honor society, to raise money and collect donations for care packages sent to soldiers overseas, and Delta Omicron, a music fraternity, held a concert on Veterans Day to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

"We want to reach out to all members of the campus community who are veterans and include them in our efforts as well," Dabrowski said.

An FSU chapter of the SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society, the first national honor society for student veterans and military in institutions of higher education, was established this year. In addition, a number of initiatives are in the planning stages to help veterans and their dependents, she said. ■

For the fourth straight year, FSU was named to *G.I. Jobs'* Military Friendly Schools list, which honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus.

In addition, late last year FSU was named one of the top-ranked schools in the 2014 edition of the *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Colleges for Veterans rankings, recognizing schools that participate in federal initiatives helping veterans and active service member apply, pay for and complete their degrees.



CCIT to Be Named in Honor of President Emerita Gira



Dr. Catherine Gira

The Center for Communications and Information Technology (CCIT) will be named in honor of **President Emerita Catherine Gira** in a ceremony on Sunday, May 3. Approved by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents at their February meeting, the naming honors Gira's 15 years of service to FSU and her distinguished career in higher education.

"My predecessor, Dr. Catherine Gira, had the dream that, thanks to the efforts of hundreds of individuals over the last eight years, evolved into the incredible Center for Communications and Information Technology," said President Gibraltar. "Frostburg State University and its faculty, staff, students and alumni greatly benefitted from Dr. Gira's leadership and service."

Gira, an early and strong advocate for the construction of CCIT, recognized the need for advanced and appropriate facilities for the rapidly transforming technology disciplines. She was present for the building's grand opening in September.

To be named the Catherine R. Gira Center for Communications and Information Technology, the building houses facilities for computer science, mass communication, communications studies, mathematics, graphic design, the FSU TV3 studios and radio station WFWM.

During Gira's presidency from 1991 to 2006, the Performing Arts Center was completed and opened, and she successfully lobbied for the construction of the Compton Science Center, which was completed in 2003. Under her leadership, FSU experienced significant growth in academic offerings, enrollment, accreditation and attracting research and fundraising dollars.

Following her retirement from FSU, she continues to be active in advocacy for the arts and leadership development through her service and leadership with the Maryland Humanities Council Board of Directors and the Leadership Maryland Board of Directors. ■



Making a Splash for Their Colleagues

Faculty members in the Department of Educational Professions ended their fall planning retreat with the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, in recognition of colleagues who have been touched by the disease. **Joyce Wheaton-Crowe**, at left, had been diagnosed with the disease and has since passed away from it (see *In Memoriam*, p. 35). **Amanda Ruthenberg '89**, pictured third from left, lost her husband Ron to ALS in early 2014.



John Short, Jr., VP for University Advancement and Executive Director of the FSU Foundation

John Short Appointed Vice President for Advancement

John Short, Jr., who was associate vice president for Development at Albright College in Reading, Pa., is the new vice president for University Advancement and executive director of the FSU Foundation, Inc., overseeing all fundraising operations and alumni programs for the University.

"John Short brings to FSU a solid record of achievements in the arena of fundraising and development," said President Gibraltar. "I am confident that he will provide excellent leadership to our advancement staff as we prepare to launch a new campaign. He is looking forward to joining a campus community that is 'focused on transforming the lives of young people.'"

Short was responsible for all aspects of fundraising at Albright. Before that, he spent a decade at American International College in Springfield, Mass., including five years as vice president for Institutional Advancement. Prior to his career in advancement, Short practiced law in Connecticut, where his practice included estate planning and elder law, two focus areas that have served him well in the advancement field.

What the two colleges he served had in common was that, for many students, the ability to pursue higher education was not a given, Short said. He appreciated the life-changing opportunities that financial aid could provide, and he sees similar need among FSU's student body.

"I found I got a lot of meaning personally working at a school where I can see the transformation in students' lives from the opportunity to get an education," Short said. "By raising money for scholarships and other opportunities, in my own little way, I've helped transform the lives of those young men and young women."

Short earned his juris doctor degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law and his bachelor's degree from Franklin and Marshall College.



Music Majors “Stage” a Wedding That Hits All the Right Notes

In a first for FSU’s Department of Music, music majors **Mikayla Young** and **Zachary Dodge** wrapped up their junior recital by tying the knot – right on the Pealer Recital Hall stage.

Young and Dodge, who met during their freshman year in fall of 2009 and got engaged in July of 2013, had planned for a June wedding, but they knew they wanted to be married on the Pealer stage. They decided that since their families would already be there for their recital, why not follow it with the wedding?

After they performed their joint recital with the requisite art songs in multiple languages, they bowed and left the stage. Then they returned, Young in her wedding dress and Dodge in his tuxedo.

They exchanged vows in front of their family and friends, with maid of honor **Bailey Kerr ’14** and best man J.B. Dodge at their sides. Members of Sigma Alpha Iota Lambda Theta chapter lined the stage behind them to sing a benediction, and the newlyweds left the recital hall to the Beatles’ “I Want to Hold Your Hand.” They were then joined by their family and friends for a reception at First Presbyterian Church in Cumberland.

“It was a dream wedding filled with lots of smiles, laughter, tears of joy and so much love,” said the bride.

– **Skye Pinney**



Time to Listen: Students and Savage River Watershed Partner on Marcellus Shale Study

By **Candis Johnson**

Last fall, FSU students partnered with the Savage River Watershed Association to participate in “Marcellus Shale in Mountain Maryland: A Listening Project” to document local hopes and concerns regarding proposed hydraulic natural gas extraction in Western Maryland, sometimes called fracking. The project is part of the Appalachian Regional Commission’s Appalachian Teaching Project, which provides funding for project-related travel and conference participation.

Two FSU classes are working on this project throughout the academic year – “Folklore in Appalachia” and “Sociology of the Environment.” Both courses are taught by Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas, an associate professor in the Department of Sociology. The students are being trained to listen, record and respect a full range of opinions and attitudes, while avoiding imposing an agenda or opinion-based approach to the topic.

Over the fall, students in “Folklore in Appalachia” designed the Listening Project. They conducted door-to-door interviews and set up information tables at several events and regional libraries.

In December, those students presented their work at the annual gathering of the Appalachian Regional Commission’s Teaching



From left, students **Tyler Lindsey**, **Sedia Ngofa** and **Morgan Schurg** review their poster to be presented at academic conferences.

Project in Washington, D.C. View it at bit.ly/MarcellusListen.

This spring, students in “Sociology of the Environment” are continuing these efforts, hosting additional listening sessions, attending several community events and designing an online survey to be made available via social media.

Student representatives from both classes plan to host a poster presentation at the annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association in Johnson City, Tenn., and in April, students and members of the Savage River Watershed Association will collaborate on a presentation at FSU’s Focus Frostburg event. ■

The Circle of Life

For the past two years, **Frostburg Grows**, a greenhouse complex built on a former strip mine on the outskirts of Frostburg, has been growing produce and native tree seedlings, all part of its mission that includes helping area growers expand their seasons and increase the availability of local food. With the entry of Chartwells, a new food service provider on FSU’s campus that is actively seeking local growers as suppliers, Frostburg Grows produce is now being purchased to serve to Frostburg students at Chesapeake Dining Hall.

Now the circle is complete. Chartwells has installed a quick-composting machine called “The Rocket” that is combining pre- and post-consumer food waste from the dining hall – roughly 60 gallons a day – with wood chips from the City of Frostburg’s yard waste collection. That combination creates a rich, dark compost that fills the planters at Frostburg Grows, where tomatoes, squash, lettuce, herbs and more will be grown and eventually served to students in Chesapeake. And the cycle will continue. Frostburg Grows in the past has produced as much as 300 pounds per week of tomatoes and squash. Chartwells has offered suggestions for what produce it would like Frostburg Grows to plant this year. By the time Frostburg Grows’ early planting season begins, five high-tunnel greenhouses will be operational and producing food.

This local, sustainable food production chain will serve as a readily reproducible model for schools and communities around the country, not to mention that composting dining hall food waste will also save the University several thousand dollars in trash hauling fees each year.

A World of Experiences: Calculations in the Cloud

By **Robert Spahr ’13**

FSU computer science faculty and students have partnered with Maryland-headquartered vCalc LLC through a Maryland Industrial Partnerships (MIPS) grant to improve vCalc’s innovative online calculator. The vCalc application embraces the power of the Internet and social media to create a user-friendly, universal, customizable free online calculator for educators, students, scientists, industrial users and laymen.

For **Brad Rinard**, chair of FSU’s Department of Computer Science and Information Technologies, this is his second partnership with a Maryland industry through MIPS. These grants are a “great opportunity for our students,” he said. Four of Rinard’s students in computer science are building equations and sets of constants used in the calculator application. Performing that work, “The students get hands-on experience with a commercial product, which you can’t get in a classroom: dealing with a client, applying knowledge from their courses. It’s great on a resumé.”

The students first interviewed FSU professors from a variety of academic fields outside their major. **Justin Liller**, a senior, said the professors are “giving us textbooks and showing equations that will be useful, then they can use [vCalc] in their class.” The experience was his first time working in the field and a lesson in teamwork, he said.

Once collected, the students coded the information in Groovy, a Java framework. The FSU computer science major “teaches a lot of Java,” according to vCalc CEO Kurt Heckman.

Through her work on the grant, senior **Megan Balukoff** learned better programming skills and better research skills. Collecting data



Members of the student vCalc team, from left, are **Nabeelah Hassan**, **Megan Balukoff** and **Justin Liller**, pictured with vCalc’s CEO, **Kurt Heckman**. Not pictured is **Hunter Metcalfe**, the fourth member of the team.

from other fields of study, she broadened her mathematics knowledge as well, she said.

Senior **Nabeelah Hassan** appreciated the ability to work on a real product, rather than a theoretical classroom project.

Junior **Hunter Metcalfe** appreciated what he learned about programming in Groovy and working on an interfaced website, as well as knowledge he gained about equations.

Heckman likes working with FSU students because they “are good self-starters. They don’t need a lot of handholding,” he said. “The work

the students here are putting in ... will be used by nursing students in our country and others around the world, available freely to people who couldn’t afford to get professional calculator software.” He already

sees the students’ work utilized in more than 60 countries.

As part of vCalc’s educational goal, the company is building a social network around the calculator. “It will be a professional social media network, suitable for educational or professional purposes,” Heckman said. Unlike student work on traditional social media platforms, “the content stays relevant for decades.”

Through the experience of working directly with an industry partner, the students “have a hand up on everyone else for jobs,” Heckman said.

“The students get hands-on experience with a commercial product, which you can’t get in a classroom: dealing with a client, applying knowledge from their courses. It’s great on a resumé.”

Dr. Brad Rinard

Chair, Department of Computer Science & Information Technologies



House of Cards

Over the course of three evenings in October, FSU students built a three-dimensional fractal, a geometric shape that can be subdivided into smaller versions of itself, known as a Menger sponge. Using 3,000 business cards to build it, the students were participating in a global mathematical Mega Menger exercise that was being held at scores of sites around the world. Among the builders were, from left, math major **Michelle Welch**, computer science major **Steven Messmer** and math majors **Laura Simmons**, **Michael Shannon** and **Philip Rose ’14**. Learn more at megamenger.com.

CAMPUS HONORS



Stacey Utley-Bernhardt, coordinator of SOFI at FSU

SOFI Honored for Contribution to Distance Education

FSU's **Student Online Freshman Initiative** (SOFI) program won the Distance Education Innovation Award at the NUTN Network Conference last fall, recognized for the development of an innovative practice that contributes to the field of distance education, specifically a new or ongoing program in student support services.

SOFI allows freshmen to take one or more courses in core skills that are required for graduation in the summer before their first semester. It gives them a head start toward graduation and allows more flexibility as they plan their college careers, such as for study abroad, internships, earlier graduation or pursuing a second major or a minor.

"The conference helped me to think about how we market our online experience here at Frostburg," said **Stacey Utley-Bernhardt**, coordinator of SOFI at FSU. "So many institutions in North America get stuck doing the 'same old thing' when it comes to distance education, and it was great for me to go and share SOFI with other people who are as excited about online learning as we at FSU are." ■



Blair Knouse



Alan Eichhorn



Linda Lewis

FSU Recognizes Three With Staff Awards for Excellence

Three outstanding employees, **Blair Knouse**, **Linda Lewis** and **Alan "Ike" Eichhorn**, were honored at Fall Convocation for outstanding service to the University. The recipients, who have a combined 51 years of service to FSU, were nominated and chosen by their colleagues.

Knouse was honored in the exempt (salaried) employee category. He began his career at FSU in 2013 as the Chemistry Department's lab manager and has become a valuable asset to the department because of his efficiency and the time he takes to listen to others. His attention to detail ensures that the proper equipment and supplies are purchased and maintained. On campus, Knouse is the advisor for the Music Department's Phi Mu Alpha Fraternity. Off campus, he serves as president of the Frostburg Arion Band and plays the flute in the band.

Eichhorn was recognized under the non-exempt employee/facilities-maintenance category and has been at FSU for 34 years, the past 18 as a locksmith. He has literally opened doors in every building on the FSU campus, even installing brand-new locks and issuing the first keys for FSU's newest facilities. Devoted to community service, Eichhorn volunteered on a mission trip to Haiti after the devastating 2010 earthquake. He has served his church in various capacities, been a member of the Frostburg Fire Department and assisted as a "searcher" with the Western Maryland Crime Scene Investigators under the direction of the Maryland State Police.

Lewis, who has been a dedicated FSU employee for the past 15 years, was honored in the category of non-exempt (hourly) employee. She is an executive administrative assistant in the Office of the Dean in the College of Education, where she is diligent, thoughtful and prompt in responding to the needs of the office and an invaluable resource in its day-to-day operations. Concerned for the well-being of FSU's students, Lewis organizes events such as a "hat, scarf and mitten drive" during the cold Frostburg winter season.

Staff Awards for Excellence are funded by the FSU Foundation's Annual Fund Campaign.

Andy Duncan Wins World Fantasy Award

For *Wakulla Springs*, a novella about multiple generations in an African-American family living in a strange place in Florida, **Andy Duncan**, associate professor of English, was awarded the 2014 World Fantasy Award for Best Novella. The awards, widely considered one of the most prestigious fantasy awards, were given at the World Fantasy Convention.

"It's just an amazing honor. I can't get over it," Duncan said.

Wakulla Springs, which Duncan co-wrote with Ellen Klages, was also a finalist for the 2014 Hugo, Locus and Nebula writing awards. This is Klages' first World Fantasy Award and Duncan's third. Duncan previously won in the Collection and Short Fiction categories. His novella *Close Encounters* won a 2013 Nebula Award from the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. He has also won the Theodore Sturgeon Memorial Award for his novella, *The Chief Designer*, and has been nominated for the Hugo Awards multiple times. Duncan is only the eighth person to win three or more times in the fiction categories.

Wakulla Springs is different from other World Fantasy Awards nominees in that it is not fantasy in the traditional sense. Fantastic elements in most fantasy fiction are obvious, like witchcraft in the *Harry Potter* series, but are less so in *Wakulla Springs*.

"The monster never comes out of the woods," Duncan said. "It's about the magical worlds and monsters we create for ourselves."

To read *Wakulla Springs*, visit bit.ly/WakullaSprings. ■



Andy Duncan

Shah Honored as Mentor

Dr. Amit Shah, a professor in the College of Business' Department of Management, has been recognized with FSU's Outstanding Mentor Award. Alumni nominate faculty who have made a significant impact in their students' professional and personal development.

Shah has been working at FSU for more than 25 years and has made a name for himself as a fair, passionate teacher who challenges his students to give their all and rise to meet challenges. He is prolifically involved in his broader academic community and has received awards for several papers.

Students recognize him for going the extra mile and his smart sense of humor, giving advice like, "If you think I'm tough, wait until you get in the real world!" Graduates of his business capstone course say he urged them to be their best.



Dr. Amit Shah accepts the Outstanding Mentor Award from **Shannon Gribble '98**, who nominated him.

Business alum **Shannon Gribble '98** praises his powerful role as a mentor: "He pushed you to do it well and then some, think outside the box, work as a team, value your peers and complete quality work on time with no excuses. He sincerely cares for his students – both as a student and as a person and displays genuine interest in your success professionally and personally."

Shah's passion has spread to the community beyond the Frostburg campus. He has shown his commitment to developing business in Western Maryland through Mountain City Coffeehouse and Creamery, which he owns with his wife, Yashmi, and through his research on Maryland microenterprises.

Shah also welcomes alumni into his classroom to share their invaluable experience, and has worked

with the Alumni Association to take students to their workplaces. In recognition, the Alumni Association granted him the status of honorary alumnus.

"He gets it and shares it ... with a sense of humor and continuous smile," Gribble said.

—**Ruth LaCourse '14**



2014



1974



1936



1894

Second-, er, Fourth-Hand Robe

Tiffany Slye Weschler '14 took the concept of hand-me-downs to a whole new level at December's commencement ceremony. The cap and gown she wore were previously worn by her grandmother, Jenny Slye Saunders, when she graduated from Columbia Union College 40 years before. It was also the one worn by Weschler's great grandmother, Mary Nelson Anderson, Salem College Class of 1936. But that's not all. The first in this long line of proud women to wear the cap and gown was Weschler's great-great grandmother, Jennie Anderson, upon her graduation from Salem in 1894, four years before the founding of Frostburg Normal School No. 2. "It is a great tradition to be a part of," Weschler said.



Dr. Yan Bao

Bao Wins Regents' Award for Teaching

Dr. Yan Bao, an associate professor in the FSU Department of Accounting, has been awarded the Regents' Faculty Award for Teaching, the highest honor that the University System of Maryland Board of Regents bestows to recognize exemplary faculty achievement.

"Dr. Bao has been one of the most dynamic faculty members in our College," said Dr. Ahmad Tootoonchi, dean of FSU's College of Business, routinely earning among the highest evaluation ratings, especially in teaching. "This has been due to her student-centered teaching philosophy and her commitment to innovative and engaging teaching approaches," he said.

Her students' comments have consistently reflected her caring attitude and devotion.

"Some students learn better through lecture, others through reading or Power Points and others may learn better through trial and error. In Dr. Bao's class, you were never at a disadvantage if you learned better through a certain method because she literally made ALL of them available for students," said current MBA student Lauren Martin.

She redesigned the MBA Financial Accounting class for online delivery to provide a learning environment similar to that in a face-to-face class.

She uses an online homework system for instant feedback; an online conference room so students can ask questions and participate in discussions; and a project in which students use annual reports of publicly traded companies to learn how to make a financial statement analysis, applying knowledge to real-world settings.

She also coached other faculty to help them improve their online teaching skills.

Bao was one of the first faculty members to take the lead in incorporating global-experiential learning into FSU's curriculum, organizing two study abroad programs called "Impact China," a combination of travel and online instruction that turned out to be highly valuable global learning experiences for students. These efforts have been expanded to direct communication with universities in China for establishing collaborative academic programs.

ALUMNI
NEWS



Matt Byars '13 and writer/comedian Bruce Vilanch

Alumni Connection Brings Star to Speak to Students

“Hello, I’m Honey Boo Boo.”

That was the joke that Emmy-award winning writer and comedian Bruce Vilanch used to launch his free-flowing, humor-filled question-and-answer session with FSU students last fall. Vilanch’s face is most familiar to fans of the revived game show *Hollywood Squares*, but his humor is familiar to anyone who has watched a major awards show or such classic TV as *The Carol Burnett Show* or *The Sonny and Cher Show*.

Vilanch’s appearance – and the amazing opportunity for students – came as a result of Vilanch’s booking agent, **Matt Byars ’13**. Vilanch was passing through on his way to Washington, D.C., for a writing gig, and he agreed to speak to students at Byars’ alma mater, waiving his usual appearance fee in recognition of that connection.

Byars has his own show biz stories. For example, an early act he worked with was a small neo-soul band that “no one had ever heard of.” That band was The Roots, a group that now has nearly 20 albums and is the house band for *The Tonight Show With Jimmy Fallon*. Byars left FSU before graduating, but he spent the last six years building his business, reputation, connections and client list in the entertainment business. Byars decided to complete his studies in 2013 to add a diploma to his already healthy resumé. ■



Megan Zimmerman '07/M'10 had some high profile observers in her language arts class in February. In the foreground at right are, from left, National PTA President Ortha Thorton, Bates Middle School Principal Paul DeRoo and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.

High-Profile Guests

It wasn’t business as usual for **Megan Zimmerman ’07/M’10**, a seventh-grade language arts teacher, when U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan visited her classroom in February, but she didn’t let on.

Duncan was holding a town hall meeting at Wiley H. Bates Middle School in Annapolis, Md., where Zimmerman teaches, and came to observe her classroom beforehand, along with Ortha Thorton, National PTA President. Both men complimented her teaching.

“It was an honor to have them visit my school and classroom,” Zimmerman said. “I am so proud of my students. They did a great job with our lesson.”

To round out the day, she was later invited to be in a photo op, where she met Dr. Lillian Lowery, Maryland State Superintendent of Schools.



Jessica Frances Dukes '02

young version of the main character, Sutter; Sutter’s mother; and Sutter’s little sister.

Before that, she starred as the title character in *Beneatha’s Place* on Baltimore’s Centerstage. The play, by the Centerstage’s artistic director, Kwame Kwei-Armah, is a follow-up to Bruce Norris’ Pulitzer- and Tony-winning *Clybourne Park*, which is a spin-off of the 1959 Broadway play, *A Raisin in the Sun*. Dctheaterscene.com said Dukes “dazzlingly realized” Beneatha’s character.

Dukes also appeared in an episode in season 6 of CBS’s *The Good Wife*. She has performed throughout the Washington, D.C., area, Baltimore, New York City and more and has taught classes at Imagination Stage in Bethesda, Md., Montgomery College and Howard University. ■

Dukes a Rising Star on Stage

Jessica Frances Dukes ’02 has been busy in the spotlight of East Coast stages.

In February, the four-time Helen Hayes Award nominee played Tonya in Washington, D.C.’s Arena Stage production of *King Hedley II*, a drama about an ex-convict’s homecoming after seven years in prison.

In August and October, Dukes performed in an Off-Broadway play at Playwrights Horizons in New York City. The play, *Bootycandy*, is a series of sketches by Obie-winning Robert O’Hara about growing up as a gay African-American. Dukes played multiple roles, including the



Megan Zimmerman '07/M'10 and U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan.



Dream Revised
Alum Shares Inspiring Story About Life’s Crossroads

By Ty DeMartino '90

Keith Voelker ’73 had a dream that he didn’t publicly share with anyone – until last Homecoming.

At FSU’s 2014 Homecoming, Voelker, a retired educator, stood in front of a group of baseball alumni to accept the Jim Anderson Memorial Award, presented to outstanding alumni who have excelled in their careers. Voelker, a Bobcat Hall of Fame inductee who was a star pitcher at Frostburg State, admitted that his chosen career wasn’t his intention. He fully expected to live his life after Frostburg as a professional baseball player. He was crushed when life put him on a different course.

“It’s the first time I ever articulated it,” said Voelker, admitting that he spent many sleepless nights thinking about this acceptance speech to the gathered group of alumni and students. “I wanted to say something that would hopefully make an impact.”

Voelker recalled his rainy graduation day in 1973 when he skipped his commencement ceremony

to drive to Butler, Pa., to play in an All-Star baseball game with professional scouts in the stands. When he arrived in Pennsylvania, the sun was shining and Voelker took it as a sign.

“As I stood on that baseball diamond, I thought, ‘This is God telling me where I’m going to be.’”

In the locker room, Voelker was approached by reps from the Boston Red Sox, Detroit Tigers and Texas Rangers. They took his number and said, “We’ll call you.” The next day, back in his hometown in Baltimore County, Voelker sat by his phone and waited. The phone never rang.

“I was absolutely devastated,” he recalled. “And then my mom passed me where I was sitting and said, ‘God has other plans for you.’”

She was right.

Fortunately, Voelker had earned a health and physical education degree at Frostburg – a career direction that he had never really intended to pursue. He was hired as a teacher in the Baltimore County School System.

On his first day, Voelker set up cones for a soccer demonstration and rehearsed what he was going to say. Then Leonard walked in. When Voelker placed the ball at the student’s feet, he watched as Leonard kicked it as hard as he could and then lounged on the bleachers for the rest of the class. Should he let the student go or figure out how to reach him?

“I had to find a way to reach Leonard,” he said.

That instance of defiance – in his first class – set Voelker on a course and equipped him with a philosophy that would guide him through his more than 40-year career as an educator.

“Leonard and I finished the year together. But I realized that there would always be those students who were going to challenge me.



Voelker's photo from the 1973 Nemacolin

I had to accept that it was my job to make it work.”

Voelker’s career led to a role as a department chair early in his career, then into administrative jobs. He eventually became assistant superintendent for educational services in the East Pennsboro Area School District in central Pennsylvania where he and his wife, **Anita Nedzel Voelker ’73**, and their children relocated. He even taught at Messiah College as a supervisor of student teachers, sharing his “never-give-up approach” to education.

“There’s no greater compliment for a teacher than when a student comes back and says ‘thank you.’”

At the Homecoming awards ceremony where Voelker shared his journey and his crossroads, he also had “something” to thank. “I thanked baseball,” he said. “It led me to a very fulfilling career.” ■



Anita '73 and Keith Voelker '73 and their rescue dog Nyla at their new home in Cave Creek, Ariz.

Keith Voelker '73 received the 2014 Jim Anderson Memorial Award at Homecoming.

Getting to Know Your New Board Members

As the Alumni Association Board of Directors plans its upcoming outreach to FSU alumni, we wanted to introduce you to five of the newest members of the Board.

RAYMOND "BUSTER" NELSON '77

Fredericksburg, Va.
CEO of Buster Nelson Insurance Agency, Inc., State Farm Insurance
Accomplishments/Activities: Proud entrepreneur of 32 years as agency CEO

What is your favorite FSU memory?
My entire college years were good memories. However, my favorite is sitting on the Chesapeake Dining Hall steps after dinner with friends joking with and about people who passed by.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a Board member?
I hope to bring the resources, business acumen and connections I have established during the years to help the Board reach its goals. Through these efforts, FSU and students will be the recipient of financial support to enhance growth and education.



KEVIN McSHANE '89

Philadelphia, Pa.
FBI Supervisory Special Agent

Accomplishments/Activities: Supervises Intelligence Squad in Philadelphia; team leader for FBI Northeast Child Abduction Rapid Development Team; 12-year veteran of Philadelphia FBI SWAT Team

What is your favorite FSU memory?
One of my favorite memories is playing soccer all four years at Frostburg. Through the sports network, I developed outstanding friendships.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a Board member?
As a Board member, I hope to enhance the learning experience of the students of Frostburg and promote all of the great qualities of the University.



KATHY NICHOLAS BOYKINS '80



Ellicott City, Md.
Allstate Insurance Co. Performance Consultant

Accomplishments/Activities: Ten years as Wellbeing Champion for Allstate, promoting healthy living; 33 years with Allstate

What is your favorite FSU memory?
I often reflect on my time at Frostburg and will always cherish the many memories that have been instrumental in shaping and molding me into the person that I am today. Oddly enough, the classes that gave me the most insight were not always the classes where I got the best grades. . . . However, some of the best memories were of the times that I spent with my fellow classmates in the Lane Center, Chesapeake Hall and the dormitories. I was very active in different organizations and these interactions were just as important as the instruction that I received in the classroom. My time at Frostburg was one of my best life experiences.

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a Board member?
I hope that . . . I can share my passion for giving back to Frostburg and the students with other alumni who have not yet re-engaged themselves with FSU. We must reach back and help those who will be our legacy by giving of our time, talent and treasure to ensure the tradition that has given us so much continues to give to others.

KEITH PRICE '82

Windsor Mill, Md.
Senior Tax Practitioner at The Hutt Co.

Accomplishments/Activities: Active member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity; 15-year career with Hutt Co.

What is your favorite FSU memory?
One of my favorite memories as a student at FSU was participating in Greek Step Shows. This was always an opportunity for the fraternity and sorority organizations to entertain the FSU student body by presenting creative performances of dancing, singing and stepping. I am still a proud, active member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity in my local community. No, I stopped stepping a long time ago!

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a Board member?
I hope to offer my experience to an Alumni Board that has always and continues to play a major role in making Frostburg State University a great place for higher education.



SARAH KUHN '12



Germantown, Md.
Twinbrook Elementary School Fourth-Grade Teacher

Accomplishments/Activities: PTA member; Girls on the Run coach; yearbook co-chair

What is your favorite FSU memory?
My favorite memory from Frostburg was becoming a student leader. I . . . had so many wonderful experiences as a result. I went to New Orleans on the Alternative Spring Break trip and then traveled to Prague with members of the President's Leadership Circle. I thank Frostburg for preparing me for the real world and helping me make memories that I will cherish forever. I also met my closest friends at Frostburg and got a great education that prepared me to become a fourth-grade teacher. Frostburg will forever be my home!

What do you hope to accomplish during your time as a Board member?
I hope to become as actively involved as a Board member as I was as a student and really want recent graduates of Frostburg to know that Frostburg gave us much more than just an education but a lifetime of memories. I really want to give back to the University that gave me so much and helped me become who I am today.

Hayes Elected Maryland State Delegate

Antonio Hayes '00 has been elected as the Democratic delegate to the 40th District in the Maryland House of Delegates. Hayes was appointed as Chief of Staff to the Baltimore City Department of Social Services in 2010. There, he led his team in reducing the number of children in foster care by 58 percent by ensuring they were placed with permanent families. Hayes also improved business practices, promoted efficiency and created a culture of accountability. Under his direction, Baltimore City DSS gained national recognition for the modernization and effectiveness of its social services and is now one of the most well-respected social service organizations in the country. From 2006 to 2010, Hayes was Assistant Deputy Mayor of Baltimore, a role in which he oversaw the city's public safety agencies. ■



Antonio Hayes '00

Kuhn Inducted Into Soccer Hall of Fame

In December, longtime coach and educator **George Kuhn '62** was inducted into the Frederick County, Md., Soccer Hall of Fame, which honors individuals for their contributions to the sport both on and off the field. The lifelong Frederick County resident served as varsity head coach from 1962 until 1995, first at Emmitsburg, then at Catoclin high schools. He was the longest-tenured high school sports coach in any sport in Frederick County history when he retired from coaching in 1995.



George Kuhn '62

Kuhn coached one state runner-up team and seven district champions, plus he made his mark in leadership roles, serving as District I chairman for 10 years and state soccer chairman for 15 years. He organized the first youth soccer clinic in Frederick County, where 750 youths attended an event featuring Navy's men's soccer team. He was the first president of the Frederick County Coaches Association, a charter member of the Blue Ridge Soccer Officials Association and a collegiate soccer official, where he worked NCAA Division I matches. At Frostburg he was a two-sport student-athlete, playing basketball and baseball. ■

Riggleman Back in the Bigs

In November, the Cincinnati Reds promoted **Jim Riggleman '74** again, this time to third base coach of the Ohio team. Riggleman joined the Reds in 2012 as the manager of their Double-A affiliate, the Pensacola Blue Wahoos. For the last two years, he managed their Triple-A affiliate, the Louisville Bats. This season marks his return to the major leagues. Riggleman has coached and managed in major and minor league baseball since 1981. His career also includes managing the Chicago Cubs from 1995 to 1999, the Seattle Mariners in 2008 and the Washington Nationals from 2009 to 2011. "I was happy to get the opportunity," Riggleman told mlb.com. "There were a lot of good candidates, and I'm flattered that they chose me."



Jim Riggleman '74



Starting Them Young

Derek Kirk '01, a freelance cameraman for professional sports franchise in the Washington, D.C., region, shows his daughter, Macayla, the ropes during a Redskins game last season.

CELEBRATING DECADES OF FRIENDSHIP



When a number of alumni, many of whom had been friends for half a century, gathered for lunch last year, they captured those decades of friendship in a photo. Pictured are **Benny Wolford '65**, seated; front row, from left, **Carolyn Smith Roy '67**, **Bill Roy '66**, **Joseph Goldsmith '09**, **Ginny Troxler Wolford '65**, **Jakob Wolford '95** and **Bonnie Benhoff Nash '65**; back row, from left, **Chris Smith '71**, **Donna Pope Wallmark '87**, **Quincy Crawford '65**, **Mary Jo Sirna Howie '64**, **Bill Graves '65**, **Jerry Howie '64**, **Dennis Baker '66**, **Sunday Hammett Wynkoop '67**, **Paul Helm '66**, **Alice Salveron Bell**, **Charlie Bell '66**, **Bob Walker '66**, **Joe Nash '65**, **Sam Wynkoop '67** and **Barbara Renick Graves '66**. Sadly, Charlie Bell passed away last October.

FOUNDATION NEWS

OLD MAIN SOCIETY SPOTLIGHT

Irwin Remembers “Home” With Legacy for First-Generation Students

For 40 years, **Sharon Irwin** called Frostburg State home, instructing would-be physical education teachers and coaching women athletes through an era of dramatic changes. Now retired, she has decided that her estate should benefit students like her and her earliest students, the first in their families to attend college, through the Sharon E. Irwin Scholarship. “Going to college was a big thing for them. Earning a degree was something no one else in their families had done,” Irwin said.

Students in the 1960s could earn a Frostburg teaching degree tuition-free, as long as they taught for two years in Maryland after graduation. Irwin, a first-generation college student herself, saw the difference college made to students like her.

Irwin taught physical education and coached women’s basketball and lacrosse, and she witnessed the change in attitudes toward women in sports firsthand.

“Fortunately, people’s beliefs changed as to what women can do,” Irwin said. Title IX opened up opportunities and an increased emphasis on the Olympics sparked women’s interest in athletics.

Irwin has stayed in touch with many of her students. One of her main joys, “and this is true of all teachers and coaches, is seeing the growth of students . . . and what their education meant to them . . . from immature freshman college students to having professional jobs and taking the lead in their communities. It makes me so proud of all of them,” Irwin said.

While Irwin winters in Lakeland, Fla., she still calls Frostburg home. “Frostburg is where I spent over 40 years of my life. It’s become home.”

To support the Sharon E. Irwin Scholarship, call 301.687.4161 or visit www.frostburg.edu/foundation.



Kathleen Ertel Lloyd '94 with Sharon Irwin



Lauren Weller Sidorowicz

Scholarship Reflects Admiration for Positivity of “Phenomenal Individual”

By Robert Spahr '13

Sometimes in life, we meet people who seem to transcend impossible obstacles. **Dr. Fred Surgent** was teaching a Motor Learning and Human Performance class at FSU when he first met Bobcat Volleyball player **Lauren Weller Sidorowicz '08**, a young woman who showed selflessness and positivity in the face of a terminal disease. He was so moved by this “phenomenal individual” that after she lost her eight-year battle with cancer in December of 2011, Surgent started the Lauren Weller Sidorowicz Academic Support Scholarship.

The scholarship supports students with an ability to provide academic monitoring projects and gives preference to student assistants or student-athletes on the women’s volleyball team. Scholarship recipients are asked to serve on the planning committee for FSU’s annual Relay for Life event, which supports cancer prevention and awareness.

“I hope her legacy will continue on through the scholarship. That’s why there’s a requirement to advocate for cancer awareness,” Surgent said.

Sidorowicz first learned she suffered from Ewing’s Sarcoma, a rare form of childhood cancer, during her freshman year at FSU. When Surgent first met her in his upper-level class, “I didn’t know she had these problems until halfway through the semester. She was just so positive.” One day, Surgent overheard some coaches discuss-

ing her illness. “From that day on, I tried to kind of follow her. She did so well in the class,” and Surgent witnessed the effect Sidorowicz had on those closest to her.

In his own conversations with Sidorowicz, Surgent saw a remarkable young woman. “She always wanted to get married, to coach [volleyball]. She had that opportunity, but not for very long.”

Sidorowicz married her college sweetheart and spent her final years earning her degree in health and physical education, completing the bulk of her studies for a master’s degree in educational administration, coaching volleyball and teaching elementary students at Mother Catherine Spalding School.

During her graduate assistantship, Sidorowicz worked in an office down the hall from Surgent’s, where he would check on her from time to time. “She would go for treatments and come in afterward and would never complain about it. She was an example – a model really – of what a human being can be like under those circumstances.”

Surgent regrets one lost opportunity: “I would like to have given her a hug, just so she knew someone else cared.”

For more information on how to support the Lauren Weller Sidorowicz Academic Support Scholarship, visit foundation.frostburg.edu or call the FSU Foundation at 301.687.4161.

“I hope her legacy will continue on through the scholarship. That’s why there’s a requirement to advocate for cancer awareness.”

Dr. Fred Surgent

Alumni Cross Off Bucket List Item With Scholarship

By Ty DeMartino '90

For **Tyrone '87** and **Sandy Wyche '86 Adams**, establishing a scholarship at Frostburg was a way to show appreciation, give back to a place that gave them their starts and cross off an item from their collective bucket list.

“Since graduating from Frostburg, we have been thinking about ways to give back. We wanted to offer students who were just like us the same opportunities we had,” said Sandy about her and husband Tyrone. “We came to Frostburg State as raw public school students from Baltimore City and County with the drive to succeed, but in need of financial assistance. Over the years, the idea of establishing a scholarship became a bucket list item for us.”

Tyrone and Sandy met on the Frostburg campus, when Tyrone, a math major with a physics minor, and his buddies were “interviewing” young ladies as a part of a “sociology assignment.” Sandy, an English major, immediately saw through the ruse.

“[My roommate and I] politely declined. But that is

how Tyrone and I first met. We started dating a year and a half later.” The Adamses married in 1992 and now have a daughter, Shannon, who is a junior at Duke University.

Both Tyrone and Sandy credit their experiences on the Frostburg campus with giving them the foundation they needed to build successful lives and careers. Tyrone previously worked with NASA on the relaunch of the Space Shuttle after the Challenger disaster and at Johns Hopkins in space science studies and has consulted for UPS and AT&T. He and Sandy created Anysolv Technologies, a small business enterprise specializing in data communication and service transportation systems that has worked on mass transit systems all over the country. Sandy serves as the director of publishing opera-



Sandy '86 and Tyrone '87 Adams with their daughter Shannon (center).

tions at the National Academies Press, where she oversees the editing, design, composition and production of 200 books annually for such organizations as the National Research Council, the Institute of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences, among others. She earned a master’s in publication design from the University of Baltimore and is an adjunct faculty member at Loyola University Maryland.

They agree that several “unique opportunities” at Frostburg paved the way for their creative and entrepreneurial spirit. Tyrone, who was president of the Black Student Alliance, recalls helping restore an old pipe organ in Old Main to learn the principles of physics, while Sandy, who interned in the FSU Office of Publications, was encouraged by her professors to study abroad and spent time in Plymouth, England.

“The best part about mentors at Frostburg was that we did not have to seek them out. They sought us out,” Sandy said. “Truthfully, we did not have enough savvy to know we needed mentors. We are eternally thankful that they stepped up and played those crucial roles in our success.”

Now the Adams family wants to provide that crucial role in the lives of current Frostburg students. The Tyrone and Sandy Wyche Adams Scholarship is presented to qualified students with a major in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, with preference given to graduates from Baltimore City or Baltimore County school systems. The criteria mirror the history of Tyrone and Sandy, who still live in the Reisterstown area of Baltimore. Both

had to rely on a combination of student loans and on-campus jobs to pay for college. They want to alleviate the pressure of finances so students can fully enjoy their college experiences.

“Our hope is that the beneficiaries of this scholarship will be able to concentrate less on paying the bills and will instead take advantage of what the school has to offer,” Sandy added. “We pray that the recipient of this scholarship works hard and makes the most out of their Frostburg experience.”

Like they did.

For more information on how to support the Tyrone and Sandy Wyche Adams Scholarship, visit foundation.frostburg.edu or call the FSU Foundation at 301.687.4161.



THE FSU FOUNDATION, INC. New Named Funds

(as of February 15, 2015)

FSU Accounting Association
Scholarship

Bobcats Beyond Borders
Study Abroad Scholarship

Friends of FSU-TV3

Robert J. Moore, Jr., Memorial
Scholarship – For Sociologists to
Experience Cultural Difference
Through Living Abroad

Dr. David Morton Memorial Fund
for Undergraduate Biology Research

Buster Nelson Scholarship

Paul J. Creamer Family Scholarship

Sue and Jack Ganley
Presidential Merit Scholarship

One University. A World of Involvement.



An ancient Chinese proverb roughly translates to “Tell me and I’ll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I’ll understand.”

That millennia-old axiom underscores FSU’s emphasis on student involvement with experiences that reinforce and enhance classroom knowledge.

And for FSU’s Student and Community Involvement, it’s right there in the name. The people in the department that oversees student activities, Greek life, the Cultural Events Series, civic engagement and the Social Marketing Team focus on involving students in a wide, diverse range of experiences. For students who work with the department or lead the organizations, the experience brings personal and professional enrichment.

By Ty DeMartino ’90

Here are some stories about current students who are making the best of their college years and alumni who have gone on to exciting and rewarding careers. The common denominator is their involvement as students at FSU. Their stories demonstrate the world of experiences FSU has long provided and the lasting impact of learning through involvement.

Greek Life Was on Alum’s Bucket List

When **Michael Dunn ’90** came to Frostburg in the mid-1980s, he wanted to pledge a national Greek fraternity. But when he didn’t find one he liked, he decided to start his own.

“It was on my bucket list to be a member of a national fraternity,” he recalled. “So I said, ‘let me start one. I’ll find 20 guys.’”

That, in essence, is how the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity came to be at Frostburg State University. Dunn says he chose SAE because of its national affiliation, size and strong mentoring and leadership programs. But creating a chapter wasn’t as easy as signing paperwork. Dunn, who was a soccer player putting himself through college, dedicated his spare time to convincing administrators and the Interfraternity Council and recruiting classmates to his cause.

“It was a lot like starting a business from scratch,” said Dunn, who is now an entrepreneur and CEO of the Chesapeake Eyecare and Laser Center in Annapolis. “In order to get the chapter, I had to put in the work.”

All of his hard work and persuasion paid off and the fraternity became a chapter in 1991, a year after Dunn graduated. “It was hard to leave college. But by that time, we had a strong group there,” he said.

Dunn feels that his efforts influenced the trend for more national organizations at Frostburg at the time, when most of the fraternities and sororities were local. Through the years, he has remained an acting adviser for SAE at Frostburg and the president of the SAE Alumni Association. When he visits the chapter, he is proud of their accomplishments.

“The students are great. They are very enthusiastic,” he said, hoping each one will reap the benefits of a fraternity like he has.

“My career started because of SAE. It was definitely the key to my success.”

As for Dunn, who has four sons ranging from age 12 to 18, he secretly hopes that his hard work and love of Greek life will be passed on as they enter college.

“If it fits within their academic career, they should do it. Joining a fraternity is a personal choice,” he said, quickly adding, “But do I want them to be SAE? Absolutely.”



Michael Dunn ’90



Jennifer Cruz

Creating a Service Plan

Jennifer Cruz believes her work in civic engagement is just part of who she is.

“I just like helping people,” she said. “It’s who I am.”

Cruz, a senior from Columbia, Md., was active in community service organizations throughout high school and her church back home. So when she came to FSU, it was a natural fit for her to get involved in civic engagement.

“I wasn’t sure how community service would fit into my plans, but it did. And it made a huge impact.”

Her freshman year, Cruz became a member of the ECHOSTARS residence hall, a living, learning and serving community. Looking back, she admits that was the perfect way to get started and acquaint herself with the campus.

“Joining ECHOSTARS kick-started a lot of my service efforts and got me connected.”

A psychology major, Cruz decided to do a placement at the FSU Children’s Center for her ECHOSTARS service. There, she interacted with all types of young children, including some with challenges, and established relationships with her fellow students.

More recently, service has been incorporated in her role as a residence hall supervisor on campus. She has helped with the Relay for Life event, works with nonviolence and anti-bullying clubs and interned at the FSU Diversity Center, where she helped students organize focus groups on such topics as diversity and campus inclusion. She has been accepted to this year’s Alternative Spring Break volunteer opportunity.

Just as she was uncertain how service would fit into her Frostburg life, she’s uncertain about what will happen after graduation. However, she has applied to the Peace Corps and is awaiting their decision.

“We will see how life works out,” she said with a smile.



Ly-Anh McCoy

Putting the Social in Social Media

If this story had a hashtag, it would be #ironic. It was actually social media that landed **Ly-Anh McCoy** her job as a member of the Social Marketing Team at FSU, even before she was officially a student.

When McCoy, a student from Baltimore, came to Preview FSU, the summer orientation for all freshmen, she began Tweeting about her experiences using the hashtags #Frostburg and #Bobcats. Missy Martz '95, director of the Social Marketing Team, noticed McCoy's posts and did some old-fashioned footwork while networking.

"Missy somehow found me," McCoy said, recalling how Martz walked into the Lane University Center lounge and asked, "Is a Ly-Anh McCoy in here?" It was a case of hashtagging in the right place at the right time.

"Missy tracked me down and offered me a job as a Twitter coordinator."

McCoy never considered herself a big Twitter fan prior to Preview, but she was up for the challenge in the newly formed initiative. She started on the team in her role as the social networking voice of the campus. The mass communication major's goal was to build interaction among students. "It's all about starting a conversation," she said. "You have to be outgoing."

She implemented guerrilla marketing tactics of roaming the campus, finding stories and Tweeting about them. McCoy transitioned into other roles in the three years she was with the Social Marketing Team. She has served as SpotlightOnline coordinator, where she acted as editor for the weekly campus events e-newsletter. The next year, she was promoted to team coordinator, where she oversaw everyone from the graphic designers to the photographers.

"I've been involved for three years, and I've had three positions," she said.

Now a senior, McCoy has also been "social" in Greek Life. She was named 2014 Homecoming Queen, representing her sorority, Delta Zeta, and served as president of the PanHellenic Council and now the Greek Council. She knows all her experiences will help her in the future, whichever way that "trends." She would like to get her master's degree, but would also like to be a PR specialist or event planner.

"To do this job, you have to be outgoing, creative and have strong leadership skills," McCoy said, unknowingly describing herself.

If McCoy's future had a hashtag, it would be #promising.

Service With a Global Impact

Luckily for the world, **Holly Harrington '04** is a born "joiner."

From her early days as a Girl Scout to being in "pretty much every club" in high school, Harrington was ready to get involved when she hit the Frostburg campus. Now, she puts to use those skills she learned at FSU with her activist work in Taiwan.

"I actually got involved on campus the very week I arrived," recalled Harrington who, after many majors, settled on political science with a women's studies minor. "Over time, I got involved in more and more activities like the Student Government Association, *The Bottom Line*, the Western Maryland Student Legislature, Amnesty International and V-Day."

Not only did Harrington get involved, but she was a leader of many of the groups. She is credited with resurrecting the Sierra Student Coalition on campus and a defunct Earth Day celebration. After her graduation, she stayed at Frostburg as an AmeriCorps volunteer to continue to shape campus programming. It was Harrington who was instrumental in changing the way the annual Homecoming king and queen are elected by adding a fundraising component to the competition. She didn't see the fruits of her labor, however, until she was in Taiwan.

"This was the project I initiated and planned in my final months at Frostburg, and I was sad to leave it behind without getting to see how it turned out," she said. When she received a news clipping that candidates raised over \$19,000 for local charities that first year, she was overjoyed and still has the clipping to this day. "It was one of my proudest moments."

Nowadays, Harrington works as a writer and platform strategist for the startup company StorySense Computing, where she develops and promotes news-writing algorithms. Even though she does not directly work in the service field, she continues to be active with causes in which she believes. She is a spokesperson and government liaison for Forward Taiwan, an organization that aims to help Taiwan's future through immigration reform for businesses and start ups. She has also been involved with V-Day Taipei and has raised almost \$30,000 for women's organizations. She performs these duties with the passion and skills she acquired at Frostburg.

Harrington encourages all students to get involved, to lead and to acquire necessary experiences that will help them in the future.

"Being a leader in a student organization is kind of like being an entrepreneur. You have to find resources, build a team, do marketing and implement strategy. When you do all of that, you have to learn to deal with individual personalities and needs, defend your ideas, manage your time and actually meet your goals," she said. "Be involved in anything. [it] really can shape your ability to make things happen and deal with difficulties in your career and in life in general."

Even with all she accomplished at Frostburg and continues to accomplish overseas, Harrington is uncomfortable

with the word "service." It proves that this "joiner" is just doing what comes naturally. "At the time, I didn't see that as service, but I guess that's what it was," Harrington admitted. "It may just be a matter of semantics."



Holly Harrington '04



Alex Roldan '12

The Sweet Sound of Success

What is the sound of success? You could probably ask FSU alum **Alex Roldan '12** to describe it.

The mass communication major is now living his dream of working in the sound field as a designer and mixer. "It was awesome landing a job in audio," he said. "I never thought I could."

Roldan had his sights on sound back in his high school days, working with music. He finally put his love of the craft to work when he became a student at Frostburg and was hired to work on the Technical Services staff of the Lane University Center. Right away, he found himself at the mixing board running live events.

"These were actual events with paying customers," he recalled with a laugh.

That kind of real-world experience is what prepared him for his current career. "My time in the Lane Center definitely molded me into a professional person."

Roldan notes the trust of the FSU staff who gave students these experiences. He credits Lane University Center's **Rob Webber '02** and Austin Huot for allowing students to try and fail, if they had to. But they would always grow.

"On Tech Crew, I got to do a little bit of everything – from scheduling to lighting," he said.

He is now employed by a post-production company called Ott House Audio, where he works on all types of sound mixing for video productions – from feature films to television shows to special projects for groups like the Smithsonian.

And for Roldan, it all officially started at FSU. "Getting that hands-on, real-world experience at the Lane Center definitely helped me get a real-world job."

Production Work Keeps Grad "Happy and Fulfilled"

For **Ashley Amezcua '06**, working with FSU's Cultural Events Series propelled her toward a career that she loves today.

"The Cultural Events Series definitely kicked off my love of live events," she said. "I enjoy seeing an empty auditorium – like a blank canvas – and then seeing it transformed into an entire stage set-up."

Amezcua now calls Nashville home and works in all types of freelance productions. From television to film and concerts to photography shoots, Amezcua admits that she does it all. "I truly do everything you can think of," she said, with a laugh.

A native of Western Maryland, Amezcua graduated with a mass communication degree with a concentration in video production before moving to Nashville because of "her love of country music" and desire to avoid a desk job. "I don't like the 9 to 5," she admitted.

Even though she wandered into town not knowing a soul, her willingness to work immediately helped her pick up jobs as a production assistant on sets. She has helped out in every department – design, hair, makeup, wardrobe – just to learn the ins and outs of the business.

"A good producer should work in every department once so they know what everyone does," Amezcua said.

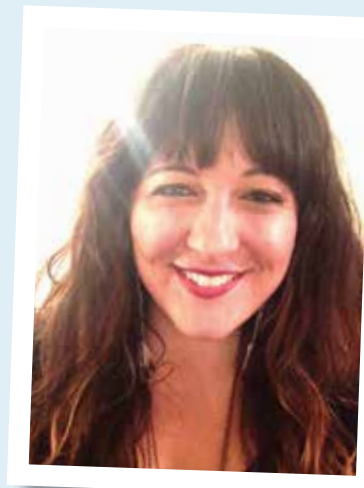
Her strong work ethic landed her more gigs on TV shows shooting in Nashville such as *American Idol* and *The Voice* and music videos such as Eric Church's *Creepin'* and the independent

movie *Blue Like Jazz*. However, it's the live music shows, like the *Country Music Awards*, where Amezcua's experience with CES shows pays off.

One of her fondest CES memories was working with the Goo Goo Dolls when they played FSU. "I don't really get star struck, but it was great to meet them," she said. Most recently, Amezcua worked as a production coordinator for a TV show starring the viral sensation "Kid President," the little boy in a suit who offered the nation a pep talk back in 2013, which aired on the HUB cable network.

While living the life of freelance production can be unpredictable with last-minute calls or wondering what your next gig will be, Amezcua couldn't be happier.

"I want to be happy and fulfilled in what I do. My goal is to work on projects where the content is good," Amezcua added. "This is exactly what I want to do."



Ashley Amezcua '06

You can read more, including stories of some future alumni, here: bit.ly/FSUImpact2014.



PROFILE IN LEADERSHIP

THE PRESIDENCY OF JONATHAN C. GIBRALTER

After nearly nine years leading Frostburg State University, President Gibraltar announced in February that he would step down at the end of June to accept the presidency of Wells College in Aurora, N.Y.

In his message to the campus community, he said, "From the first time I set foot on the campus in March of 2006, I knew what a special place this was and have been very proud and honored to be your president. We have accomplished a lot these past years and have truly transformed FSU together into a competitive regional comprehensive university."

In recognition of what has been accomplished over the past nine years, Profile presents a reflection on some of these achievements, but also thoughts from former students and others to illustrate what cannot be expressed in lists or data.

From his arrival, Gibraltar focused on lifting FSU up – its reputation, its enrollment, its school spirit. To better tell Frostburg's story, he championed the development of a research-based brand and image and the use of new media outlets to get the word out. There are great stories to tell. Here are some highlights.



"Working together (in the President's Leadership Circle), he showed all of us the characteristics of true leadership. He even took the time out of his busy life to write a personal letter of recommendation to help get me accepted into medical school. . . . I really feel that Dr. Gibraltar was one of the main influences on my acceptance."

— Sheena Willison '13



The FSU Research Center at ABC@FSU houses The Active Network which employs more than 400 people.



Signing an exchange agreement with Hunan Normal University.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Gibraltar took up the mantle of regional economic development with enthusiasm.

- Within a year of Gibraltar's arrival, funds had been secured for infrastructure and site preparation at Allegany Business Center at Frostburg State University (ABC@FSU) in preparation for the construction of the FSU Research Center, built by a private developer. ABC@FSU is also home to SERF.
- To strengthen the connection between the University and the city of Frostburg, Gibraltar helped acquire a grant to renovate the fire-damaged Lyric Building on Main Street. FSU's Advancement operation, the FSU Foundation and the Center for Creative Writing are now tenants.
- Mountain City Traditional Arts, a collaboration between FSU and local government, also opened on Main Street.
- FSU was the 2012 Allegany County Chamber of Commerce "Business of the Year."
- A 2012 study determined that FSU's operations, employees and students had an economic impact conservatively estimated at \$173 million on Maryland.

FSU's primary role in economic development is education. The University has established active partnerships with regional business and organizational leaders to ensure academic programs will produce graduates with the knowledge these organizations need.

ENROLLMENT GROWTH

	Fall 2006	Fall 2014
Total	4,910	5,645
Undergraduate	4,252	4,915
New Transfers	269	570
Masters	658	661
Doctoral	0	69

Retention, graduation rate and average time to degree have all improved. The campus has also become more diverse, from a 21 percent minority population in 2006 to 40 percent in 2014, with a larger population of international students.

GLOBAL EDUCATION

Early on, Gibraltar recognized that to prepare future leaders to "meet the challenges of a complex and changing global society," as the FSU Mission Statement says, a Frostburg education had to have a global focus. He started by renewing the relationship with FSU's oldest international partner, Mary Immaculate College. FSU hasn't stopped since. The newest partnership is with Communication University of China in Beijing, which will leverage the resources in CCIT.

Other partnerships with international higher education institutions include:

- Hunan Normal University, China
- Hunan University of Commerce, China
- Northumbria University, United Kingdom
- Vanung University, Taiwan

"President Gibraltar was actively engaged in developing these partnerships. I saw the personal work he put forth in meetings with the leaders of these institutions, both here and abroad," said Dr. John Bowman, vice provost, who oversees international programs.

Gibraltar was also very supportive of the effort to partner with TLC-Frostburg, a branch of The Language Company which brings in students wanting to learn English. Since it opened in March 2013, about 30 TLC-Frostburg graduates have enrolled at FSU.

Nearly 120 international students enrolled at FSU during the current academic year, up from 27 in 2006-2007. Likewise, the number of FSU students who have studied abroad in either short-term or long-term programs has more than doubled since 2006, with about 90 students heading overseas each year. And opportunities like participation in the President's Leadership Circle further encourage international engagement, all designed to present students with "a world of experiences."



"Dr. Gibraltar could be seen everywhere. . . . His presence on campus sent a clear message that the students were his primary concern, that we were important to him and that he cared about us."

— Dr. Shavonne Shorter '07



Bobcat Stadium Complex



Lane University Center renovation



Sustainable Energy Research Facility



Athletic Training's Underwater Treadmill

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

The beautiful new Center for Communications and Information Technology, which opened in September 2014, is the most visible sign of campus improvements since 2006, but it's far from the only one.

- New Bobcat Stadium Building with facilities for athletic trainers, home and visiting teams and officials; expanded concession area; media and hospitality suites as well as new bleachers
- Renovated and expanded Lane University Center, adding a new University Store, fitness center, game room, and meeting and dining spaces
- FSU's Sustainable Energy Research Facility (SERF), an off-the-grid center for the study of a variety of renewable energy technologies
- Renovations to Cordts Physical Education Center, including expanded fitness and athletic training facilities; additional classrooms; new and improved climbing gym; renovations to the pool, locker rooms and Hall of Fame Room
- Modernized uphill residence halls, most built in the 1950s and '60s, and renovation of downhill halls begun

These projects also meant added employment for local construction tradespeople.



"What stands out for me has been President Gibraltar's commitment to shared governance, as seen through his accessibility. In addition to his answering all of our questions at Faculty Senate each month, ... he made it a policy for his office to ensure I was able to see him quickly, even if that meant other appointments had to be rearranged. His commitment to being available to talk with the Chair of the Faculty, in my opinion, truly shows his commitment to our shared governance."

— Dr. Michael Murtagh
Chair of the Faculty



Gibraltar was present at the signing of the bill to ban high-proof alcohol in Maryland.



Outside the Classroom and the Gordie Foundation presented Gibraltar with the \$50,000 Presidential Leadership Award.



Jonathan and Laurie Gibraltar jointly honored donors at the first gala for Staking Our Claim: The Campaign for Frostburg.



"The Foundation's interest in raising money for merit scholarships to attract the best and brightest complemented Dr. Gibraltar's goal of directing more institutional funds toward need-based scholarships. He understood that private fundraising could open a lot of doors – literally and figuratively – for students and the University as a whole."

— Mary Clapsaddle '83
President, FSU Foundation, Inc.

NEW DEGREE PROGRAMS 2006-2015

Bachelor's

- Computer Information Systems
- Elementary-Middle School Dual Certification
- Engineering
- Nursing (RN to BSN online)
- Information Technology
- Secure Computing & Information Assurance
- Approval pending:
 - Adventure Sports Management
 - Health Sciences
 - Secondary Education

Master's

- Nursing (online)

Doctoral

- Educational Leadership

Programs Now Online

- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science in Computer Science
- Master of Science in Recreation and Parks Management



Gibraltar was all aboard during a visit to Cumberland's rail yard to learn more about CSX's role in the local economy.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND HIGH-RISK DRINKING REDUCTION

Spurred by the serious injury of a local man by a drunken student in Gibraltar's first month on campus, the new president quickly took on the twin issues of high-risk drinking among FSU's students, a mirror of a national problem, and the deteriorating relationship related behaviors were creating between the University and the year-round residents of Frostburg. He brought together people from all corners with the aim of building communication and keeping students and year-round community members safe.

Those initial meetings have evolved into the campus Alcohol Task Force, which oversees a wide range of initiatives, and its offshoot, the Frostburg Community Coalition, which is addressing underage and high-risk drinking in young people ages 12 to 24. One of the most active such groups in Maryland, the Coalition was recently awarded a 300 percent increase in its state grant and a highly competitive



Gibraltar and Flanigan sign the historic public safety agreement, which includes shared jurisdiction.

Drug-Free Communities grant.

University Police and City of Frostburg Police now share jurisdiction of the neighborhood immediately surrounding the campus, increas-



Gibraltar joined Frostburg Mayor Robert Flanigan '92 behind the grill to feed Beautify the 'Burg volunteers.

ing police visibility with a focus on proactive community policing.

And the binge-drinking rate, those students drinking five or more alcoholic beverages at a sitting, has dropped from 54 percent in 2006 to 41 percent in 2012. The average number of drinks per week dropped from 8.5 to 3.9 in that same period.

Mayor Robert Flanigan '92, who was a former Frostburg police officer and later, Frostburg Commissioner of Public Safety, has seen the transition in the relationship. He credits Gibraltar's accessibility and willingness to collaborate as a key to the change.

"President Gibraltar always went out of his way to make me really 'feel at home' whenever I was on campus," Flanigan said. "If I needed to review an issue with him, I would just pick up the phone. It has been much more than a working relationship – it's a true friendship.

"Having the opportunity to spend time together as two CEOs has been such a learning experience for both of us," Flanigan continued. "But reuniting a university and city is what I am most proud of!"

NATIONAL REPUTATION

Gibraltar has become a national figure on the issue of high-risk drinking reduction among college students. He has shared his expertise and insight in numerous articles and presentations and has been interviewed by national media outlets, including PBS *NewsHour*, NPR's *All Things Considered*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

- 2008, Presidential Leadership Award for success in promoting a vibrant intellectual and social campus climate that de-emphasizes the role of alcohol.
- 2011, FSU joins the inaugural Learning Collaborative on High-Risk Drinking, coordinated at Dartmouth College.
- 2012, named chair of the President's Working Group to Address Harmful Student Drinking for the National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Invited to join the group in 2011.
- Member of the Governing Board of the Maryland Collaborative to Reduce College Drinking and Related Problems.

FUNDRAISING & PHILANTHROPY

INSTITUTIONAL

Gibraltar came to campus during the quiet phase of the FSU Foundation's comprehensive campaign to raise \$15 million. Energizing the Foundation Board and revamping the Advancement operation allowed Staking Our Claim: The Campaign for Frostburg to surpass that goal, raising \$16.7 million by the time the campaign ended in 2011.

FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING	2006-07	2014-15
Scholarship dollars awarded	\$253,730	\$581,886
Scholarships per year	289	618
Endowment value (millions)	\$10.16	\$17.68

PERSONAL

- **J. Frederick Gibraltar Regional and Cultural Arts Endowment:** for regional and cultural arts programs at FSU.
- **Jonathan Gibraltar Presidential Leadership Fund for Alcohol Awareness and Education:** for programs geared toward alcohol awareness and the importance of responsible behaviors and decision-making.
- **Dr. Jonathan C. and Ms. Laurie Gibraltar Presidential Merit Scholarship:** for incoming freshmen, with preference given based on academic ability and financial need.

To support any of these funds, contact the FSU Foundation at foundation.frostburg.edu or 301.687.4161. ■

SUSTAINABILITY

Gibraltar set the tone for sustainability when he scheduled his inauguration on Earth Day in 2007. That was also the day he signed the American College and University Presidents' Climate Commitment on behalf of FSU, to move toward a goal of being climate neutral. By 2009, FSU had submitted a Climate Action Plan outlining strategies to reduce the University's carbon footprint, improve environmental education, encourage research and outreach and set sustainability goals in operations and purchasing.

FSU's sustainability landmarks:

- 2011 recipient of Second Nature's Climate Leadership Award for Institutional Excellence
- Listed in the Princeton Review's *Guide to Green Colleges* four times
- Named a *Sierra Magazine* "Cool School" three times
- STARS Silver Rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
- The renovated Lane University Center is certified LEED Gold
- CCIT and SERF are both designed to LEED Gold standards, with certification pending
- FSU named a Tree Campus USA for three consecutive years
- Established a minor in Sustainability Studies



Second Nature President Anthony Cortese presents Gibraltar with the Climate Leadership Award.



"His impact isn't just in the structural and academic improvements at Frostburg. It is in the lives he touched and the personal connections he has made with countless students, faculty, staff, parents, community members and educators across the state, nation and even the globe."

— Ashley Wisner '08/M'09



On the set of the student-produced TV show, "The Frostburg Experience."



"Dr. Gibraltar... has helped push Frostburg into the spotlight of higher education. What was once a small school in Western Maryland is now a nationally recognized institution."

— Greg Brightbill '11



Gibraltar routinely walked in Relay for Life, FSU's largest single volunteer event.



"I truly appreciate the life-changing guidance that a great person like him could give a young person like me to never stop until I reach my ultimate goal in life."

— Sharita Sivels '12



Laurie Gibraltar presents a bouquet to the 2007 Homecoming Queen.

BOBCAT SPORTS

Donatelli Mentors No Lions, but Tigers and a Bear

By David Driver

After spending a frustrating freshman season with the football program at Division II Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, **John Donatelli '88** decided to enroll at Frostburg in the mid-1980s as a sophomore.

It was there he was reunited with **Bob Novak '89**, his former teammate at Calvert Hall High School in suburban Baltimore who had transferred from Widener. "I played center and he played guard," Donatelli said.

The transfer worked well for both Donatelli and Novak, who have remained lifelong friends as veteran football coaches. Baltimore native Donatelli is in his 18th season as a member of the coaching staff at Towson University. He counts Novak, an assistant coach at Loyola Blakefield, as one of his mentors.

Donatelli was part of a 13-3 2013 team at Towson that advanced to the championship game of the NCAA Football Championship

Series before losing to powerhouse North Dakota State 35-7 in the title game.

"It has been a great experience," said Donatelli, a three-year starter at FSU and the Bobcats' Lineman of the Year in 1987. "It hasn't been easy by any means. I have had the opportunity to stay in one place and build something that will hopefully last for the following generations."

Donatelli is the offensive line coach for a team that posted a record of 29-10 in a three-year span.

"He has a great perspective on kids," said Rob Ambrose, the Towson head coach. "He has been doing it so long and in one place.



John Donatelli '88

He understands the kids that come here and where they come from. He has coached in multiple offensive systems."

Donatelli has helped develop several stand-out offensive linemen for the Towson Tigers. But perhaps the most notable pupil is former Towson tackle Jermon Bushrod, who was a fourth-round pick by the New Orleans Saints in 2007 out of college. In his first season as a starter in the NFL, he was part of a top-ranked offense with New Orleans that triumphed over the Indianapolis Colts in Super Bowl XLIV.

A two-time Pro Bowl player now in his eighth NFL season, Bushrod signed with the Chicago Bears in 2013.

"It is like a proud father; it is the exact feeling," said Donatelli, who has stayed connected to Bushrod. "Before every game, my phone rings three hours before kickoff and we talk. We will talk about (his) opponent. All that does is strengthen the relationship. That is what keeps me here at Towson."

Donatelli said he draws some of his football acumen and leadership skills from Augie Miceli, his former coach at Calvert Hall; former Towson coach Phil Albert; and his late father, Dan, who served in the U.S. Air Force.

"Augie was in his mid-80s and teaching math at Calvert Hall," Donatelli noted. "He was very instrumental with my coaching and I reached out to him. Phil is one of the greatest men I have ever known. I took a principles of coaching class with him and worked with him at Towson."

Donatelli's father enforced values of honor, respect, courage and commitment. "He was never one to force a military mindset on us," Donatelli said.

The veteran coach was part of some lean years with the Towson program. "From standing in the rain to being in the sunshine" is Donatelli's analogy. "We have had a lot of adversity."

Donatelli and his wife, Maria, are the parents of Samantha and Luca and live in Harford County.

David Driver is a freelance writer. He can be reached at www.davidsdriver.com.

In 18 years on the sidelines for the Towson Tigers, John Donatelli '88 has mentored standout offensive linemen, including Jermon Bushrod of the Chicago Bears.



Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Becoming a Force for Bobcats

By Robert Spahr '13

While Bobcat student-athletes work tirelessly in the classroom and on the playing fields or in the arena, an organization of Bobcats goes even further, working to enhance the experience of student-athletes at FSU.

The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee "allows FSU athletes to have a voice in NCAA rules and regulations," said current President **Aimee Petrides**, a junior in the athletic training program and Bobcat volleyball player. "We also provide an organization for athletes to come to with concerns or questions about rules or events that we can discuss and bring forth to coaches or the athletic director."

Petrides' goal for the SAAC this year is to have an "awesome and successful" DIII Week, a celebration each spring of what is special about Bobcat athletics and the NCAA's Division III, and to continue community service outreach projects, including building the relationship with Special Olympics Maryland. Other community outreach programs have included lunches at Beall Elementary, Thanksgiving baskets for local families, food drive competitions for the Frostburg Food Pantry and a shoe drive. SAAC also has a "Breakfast With the Professors" to build relationships among professors and student-athletes.

"Students play a huge role on the committee," said field hockey player and SAAC Vice President for Community Service **Jacqueline Gover**. The sophomore in sports science encouraged other student-athletes to join. Each team has two representatives.

Gover and **Kayla Porter** – a sophomore in athletic training, volleyball player and SAAC vice president for Legislation – traveled to Washington, D.C., to represent FSU and the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) at

the 2015 NCAA Convention, where they attended legislative meetings sessions about new DIII programs at other institutions. "We were given the chance to participate in round-table discussions with many important people about budgeting, non-traditional seasons and diversity and inclusion," Porter said, getting a good look at "all of the work that goes into DIII athletics."

At the conference, the two SAAC officers also attended a session with the CAC regarding pending NCAA legislation, during which they were asked to provide the student-athlete's perspective on the proposed rule-changes.

Gover said the opportunity "was an amazing experience, and I learned so much. (We) could not wait to bring back and share some of the

One of the community service outreach programs of the SAAC is a food drive. Recent participants were, from left, front row, **Zach Douglas**, **Liz Nelms '13**, **Kathleen Endrusick** and **Kyler Redmond**; middle row, **Ashley Johnson** and **Malory Brunett**; and back row, **Matt Collins**, **Marissa Howk**, **Teron Tyre**, **Victor Vaughan**, **Zachary Lawhorn** and **Kathryn Bickerstaff**.

things we learned at the conference."

The members of the SAAC gain valuable experience through their service, said former President **Malory Brunett**, elementary education senior and Bobcat lacrosse player.

"While taking on the role of president, I realized my true leadership potential. It gave me the confidence to excel on my team as captain and helped me be a teacher and a leader in the classroom," she said.

"My proudest accomplishment was turning the SAAC into a serious, respected organization," Brunett said. When she joined the SAAC, the organization had about eight members and meetings were run by the coach-advisor, who also did much of the committee's work. "Now the SAAC has about 32 active, passionate members who attend almost every meeting."

Brunett is proud to see the SAAC fulfill its purpose of enhancing the Frostburg student-athlete experience.

The SAAC-hosted DIII Week is an opportunity to celebrate the many accomplishments of Bobcat student-athletes. Last year's event kicked off with a student-athlete picnic and banner contest and featured a week of athletic and social events designed to bring student-athletes of all sports together and raise awareness of athletics at FSU.

Other student-athletes should join the SAAC, Porter said. "The sole purpose of the committee is to improve the student-athlete experience. We are constantly looking for new ideas and opinions on how to do so." 🐾

RETURN TO "THE ROCK"



After the Bobcats bested nationally ranked Ithaca in a thrilling overtime upset, these football alumni decided to revisit the good-luck tradition of touching "the rock" at the entrance to Bobcat Stadium. From left are **Philip Swann '01**, 2014 Bobcat Hall of Fame inductee **Grant Burrough '04**, **Andy Wilson**, **Derek Kirk '01** and **Rodney Miller '01/M'04**.

Sports Wrap-up

FALL

Women's Soccer

Record: 13-4-6, 5-2-2 Capital Athletic Conference

Highlight: Bobcats advanced to the NCAA tournament.

Recap: After earning the fourth seed in the CAC Tournament, the Bobcats began a late-season surge that propelled them to the CAC Tournament Title and into the NCAA Tournament for the eighth time in the past 14 years. Frostburg shut out five opponents at home, but none was sweeter than a 2-0 blanking of Mary Washington in the CAC title game on Nov. 8. FSU led the CAC in scoring (48 goals, 33 assists) and had a trio of players named to the All-CAC teams: senior Stephanie Fazenbaker and juniors Brooke Longo and

Jessa DiTullo. Fazenbaker was also selected as a Capital One Academic All-American for the third-consecutive year.

Next Season: Frostburg loses Fazenbaker and senior keeper Katie Smith, but head coach Brian Parker has a young roster loaded with talent that is poised for another CAC title.

Men's Soccer

Record: 10-6-3, 5-3-1 CAC

Highlight: Frostburg advanced to the CAC Tournament for the fourth straight season.

Recap: The Bobcats earned the third seed in the 2014 CAC Tournament Championship and posted 10 or more wins for the fourth straight season. And they did it with defense behind one of the region's top goalkeepers. Sophomore keeper Hassan Mostafa and freshman defender Jabiri Hawkins both earned All-CAC honors and spearheaded a defense that allowed a CAC-low nine goals in 19 games. Frostburg, which also posted a league-best 0.45 goals against average, finished with 11 shutouts, including a run of five straight games without a goal allowed in mid-September. As a team, FSU finished second among 402 NCAA Division III schools in save percentage (0.909) and ranked fifth nationally in goals against average (0.45). Mostafa finished second in NCAA Division III in save percentage (0.905) and was named to the National Soccer Coaches



Brook Longo was named to the All-CAC team.

Association of America All-South Region team and was selected as an Eastern College Athletic Conference South All-Star.

Next Season: Mostafa and Hawkins return as Frostburg State aims for a CAC Title.

Football

Record: 4-6, 2-6 Empire 8

Highlight: Bobcats win four games, including an upset of 25th-ranked Ithaca.

Recap: DeLane Fitzgerald was hired in January 2014 to turn around the Frostburg football program and his impact was immediate. Frostburg won four games for the first time since 2011, including a 38-37 overtime upset of No. 25 Ithaca at Bobcat Stadium for Homecoming. The Bobcats, who started 2-0, made vast improvements from a season ago, but none were more evident than on defense. Frostburg finished fifth in the league in scoring defense (27.3) and total defense (359.6), allowing 17.4 fewer points per game and 104.3 fewer total yards than in 2013. Sophomore defensive end Will Sewell, junior linebacker Rowan Pinkett and junior defensive back Salaman Riddell were all named to the All-Empire 8 teams. Senior quarterback Ken Emmons was voted as Frostburg's Sportsman of the Year.

Next Season: The Bobcats return numerous starters on both sides of the ball as they begin their first year of competition in the New Jersey Athletic Conference.



Jacqueline Gover earned All-CAC honors.

Field Hockey

Record: 6-12, 0-6 CAC

Highlight: FSU posted six wins, and Jacqueline Gover earned All-CAC honors.

Recap: Frostburg posted six wins on the season and finished runner-up at the annual FSU Tournament in early September. The Bobcats, who posted three shutout wins on the season, led the CAC in saves (182), behind Second Team All-CAC goalkeeper Jacqueline Gover. She led the CAC with 146 saves, while junior Alexandra Darrow finished sixth in the league in scoring (30 points).

Next Season: Frostburg returns its top two scorers along with Gover in goal as the Bobcats push for a spot in the CAC Tournament.



Macey Nitchie broke three school records at the CAC Championships.



Nick Smoot led the Bobcats in scoring.

Women's Cross Country

Highlight: Bobcats take fifth at the CAC Championships.

Recap: FSU posted two wins on the season entering the CAC Championships in early November. The Bobcats won both the Westmoreland/Pitt-Greensburg Invitational and Hood College Open before finishing fifth at the CAC Championships. Senior Bryn Allston captured runner-up (19:42.1) at Westmoreland/Pitt-Greensburg and was the team's top finisher at the NCAA Mideast Regional meet. Meanwhile, sophomore Casey Columbus paced Frostburg at the CAC Championships, taking 28th place (24:00.01).

Next Season: The Bobcats return four of their top five runners as they look to improve at next year's CAC Championships.

Men's Cross Country

Highlight: Frostburg finishes eighth at the CAC Championships.

Recap: Frostburg captured three straight top-five finishes before taking eighth at the CAC Championships. The Bobcats finished fourth at Messiah and improved one place to third at the Westmoreland/Pitt-Greensburg Invitational, behind a fifth-place finish from freshman Brad Baker (27:51). Two weeks later, Frostburg registered fifth place the Hood College Open before finishing eighth at the CAC Championships. The Bobcats capped their season with a 38th-place showing at the NCAA Mideast Regional as freshman Gordon Bickerstaff emerged as the team's top finisher.

Next Season: Frostburg lost just one senior and returns a roster loaded with young talent that should help improve on its finish at next year's CAC Championships.

Women's Basketball

Record: 6-19 Overall, 3-15 CAC

Highlight: Ronje James nabs First Team All-CAC honors.

Recap: Frostburg State showed signs of life late in the season under first-year head coach Carrie Saunders as the Bobcats won five of their final eight games, including a 78-76 double-overtime win over York. Senior guard Ronje James was named to the All-CAC First Team following a season in which she led the conference in scoring (526 points). James capped her four-year Frostburg career ranked 12th in school history with 1,300 points.

Next Season: Frostburg carries momentum into next season following the late surge but the team will have to replace four seniors, including its top two scorers.

Women's Swimming

Highlight: The Bobcats set five school records and sent five swimmers to the ECAC championships.

Recap: The Bobcats placed sixth at the Capital Athletic Conference Championships while earning six ECAC "A" cuts. The 400-yard and 200-yard medley teams set school records at the CAC Championships and were the first Bobcat swimmers to qualify for the finals at the ECAC Championships. Freshman Macey Nitchie broke three school records and earned three ECAC "A" cuts at the CAC Championships, including the 50-yard freestyle (24.79), the 100-yard freestyle (53.79) and the 200-yard freestyle (1:56.07).

Junior Kaitlyn Donch earned the Bobcats' sixth ECAC "A" cut in the 100-yard breaststroke with a personal season-best time of 1:09.48.

Next Season: Nitchie will headline a Bobcat roster that will look to move up in CAC standings and continue to compete at the ECAC Championships.

Men's Swimming

Highlight: The Bobcats set a pair of school records while placing sixth at the CAC Championships.

Recap: The men placed sixth at the CAC Champions and individually did not fail to impress. Freshman Christian March earned three ECAC "A" cuts and an NCAA "B" cut. March set the school record in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 57.61 and broke the FSU record with a time of 2:07.23 in the 200-yard breaststroke. He earned his final cut for the championships in the 50-yard freestyle with a seed time of 21.52. Junior Jon Shepard was the final Bobcat to earn a pair of ECAC cuts at the CAC Championship meet. Shepard swam the 100-yard breaststroke with a seed-time of 59.36 and the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:11.60. Freshman Zach Shattuck set three Paralympic American records at the CAC Championships in the 50-yard freestyle (29.60), the 200-yard freestyle (2:30.23) and the 500-yard freestyle (6:53.90).

Next Season: March will highlight a roster that has a great deal of youth and depth that will look to continue to improve on its CAC standings. 🐾

— Noah Becker

Fazenbaker Racks Up Academic, Athletic Honors

Senior **Stephanie Fazenbaker** is wrapping up four years at FSU with an extraordinary academic and athletic career behind her. Fazenbaker, a soccer player and biology major, was named to the 2014 Capital One Academic All-American Women's Soccer Division III First Team, making her the first student-athlete in school history to earn the prestigious academic honor three times. She is also a two-time member of the All-Capital Athletic Conference First Team, and received an honorable mention for the NSCAA Scholar All-East Region Team.

Fazenbaker has helped lead the Bobcats to a 52-17-13 record over four years, with four appearances in the CAC Tournament, two trips to the NCAA Tournament and an ECAC Tournament Championship in 2011. This fall she helped her team make the NCAA Tournament, its eighth NCAA appearance in 14 years. She finished her final season with the fourth-most assists in program history (29), placed sixth in scoring (113 points) and seventh in goals (42). 🐾



Stephanie Fazenbaker

FSU HOMECOMING '14



President's Leadership Circle student and Student Government Association President Katie Morgan enjoys dinner at the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony with President Gibraltar.



FSU alumni and friends pose in front of the sign for Susan Eisel Drive, named in honor of her 40-plus years of service in Bobcat Athletics and the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.



Homecoming Queen Ly-Anh McCoy and King Keith Smith wave to the crowd during halftime of the football game against Ithaca College.



Arianna Ayers, Darlene Jackson '13, Jimmy Swindell and 2012 Homecoming Queen Amanda Wallace '13 were among many FSU friends and alumni who came out for the late-night Frostburg Finale.



Dr. Bill Bingman reunites with former FSU employees Adelia McKenzie and Ralph Murphy at the annual Retired Employees Luncheon.



Dr. John Bambacus presents Ken Coffey '77 with the Patrick McKenna Professional Achievement Award at the Jim Anderson Memorial Baseball Breakfast.



The Department of Athletics recognized the 50th anniversary of women's basketball at FSU. Eleven former players and three head coaches returned for the celebration.



Congratulations to the 2014 Bobcat Hall of Fame Induction Class: Grant Burrough '04, Carlos Acker '86, Lisa DeLauter Westwood '89 and Barry Holder '84.



Homecoming weekend wrapped up with a men's basketball alumni game.



The Department of Athletics celebrated the accomplishments of the 1984 field hockey team on its 30th Anniversary. The team posted the field hockey program's first NCAA win.



CLASSNOTES

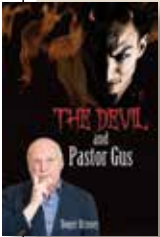
ClassNotes listed are those received as of December 31, 2014

1969

Michael C. Wilt, Ph.D., retired from his position as general manager, Global Engineering and Sustainability, at Energizer Holdings, Inc., in April 2013. Mike owns and operates Apache Trails Enterprises LLC, which trades in buying and selling antique firearms. He is also a member of the Technology Advisory Board for Blue Spark Technologies, the world's leading producer of solutions for thin film batteries, and the Board of Trustees of Valley Riding Inc., a nonprofit affiliate of Cleveland Metroparks, which provides English and therapeutic riding lessons and horse camps for city and disadvantaged youth.

Books by Alumni

The Devil and Pastor Gus
By Roger Bruner '68
Bruner's third novel, a satire that he calls "quirky inspirational fiction," combines elements of "The Devil



and Daniel Webster," the biblical story of Job, and C.S. Lewis' *Screwtop Letters*. Pastor Gus Goppello wishes to leave a legacy by writing a book so rich in spiritual symbolism that even the Devil takes notice. It works. Soon, the Devil tries to strike a deal with Gus: Gus can be privy to the spiritual world of good and evil if he gives a "truthful" account of the Devil's rise, fall and enduring success. When Gus instead comes out with a scathing satire of the Devil's arrogance, the Devil wants revenge, and, hoping to protect everyone he holds dear, Gus signs one final contract with him — for his soul. But Gus has a few tricks of his own. Available from online booksellers.

1972

Charles Day was inducted into the Glen Burnie High School Wall of Honor. Charles began his 40-year teaching career at Glen Burnie High School in Glen Burnie, Md., in 1972. Recently retired from a 40-year career teaching French, English and reading during which he received numerous awards. He is very active in his church and the community.

1977



Lisa Nichols Martin won Salisbury University's 2014 Sea Gull Century Art Contest. The work features a cyclist's dark silhouette and a lone seagull, backed by marshy Eastern Shore scenery and a colorful evening sky. It was showcased on T-shirts and promotional materials for the bike ride across the lower Eastern Shore.

1982

David Mathews M'82 was named to the Western Maryland Health System Board of Directors. With more than 37 years of banking experience, David is the business development coordinator/consultant with Standard Bank.

1985

Linda Arrington was promoted to branch chief at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the Office of Pesticide Programs.

1988

Dawn Humberson King was promoted to vice president and director of Credit Risk at First United Bank & Trust, where she has worked since 1991. Dawn resides in Friendsville, Md., with her husband, Dennis.



1989

Dr. Karen Ackerson Keller M'92 was awarded tenure at FSU in the Department of Biology.



1990

Scott Mallery was honored with the Kathryn Gene Salem Award by the West Virginia Directors of Senior and Community Services. The award is presented to someone who has demonstrated selflessness, exhibited a long-term commitment to service and the betterment of the Aging Network and has had a significant impact on the lives of senior citizens.

1991

Michael L. Gentry, CPA, CCIFP, CCA, was elected to the Board of Directors at KatzAbosch, one of the largest CPA and business consulting services in the Mid-Atlantic region. He joined the firm in 1998 and serves as co-chair of the Construction Services Group.



1992

Philip Rodeheaver M'01, who is market area president for First United Bank & Trust, graduated from the American Bankers Association Stonier Graduate School of Banking in Philadelphia. Stonier is ABA's national graduate school of banking, an intensive three-year program for bank executives.



1993

Dr. Rae Ann Smith M'04 was promoted to professor at Allegany College of Maryland. Rae Ann teaches in the Occupational Therapy Assistant program and is the program's director. She joined the ACM faculty in 2003.

1994

Sarah Ivy joined the law firm of McNees Wallace & Nurick LLC as an attorney in the firm's Employee Benefits group within the Labor Employment practice group. Her practice focuses on employee benefits law,

taxation and executive compensation. She is employed in the firm's Lancaster office.

1996

Beth Grapes M'98 was a recipient of the 2014 Simon A. McNeely Award from the Maryland Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Beth is a physical education teacher at Fort Garrison Elementary School in Pikesville, Md.

Dawn Scheffel Lewis was promoted to vice president — audit manager at First United Bank & Trust. She was also chosen as one of Maryland's Next Leaders in Banking in 2014.

1997

Christine Krell Finamore was selected as Alpha Xi Delta's Alumnae Philanthropist of the Year for 2013-2014. In her role as volunteer community outreach ambassador for Autism Speaks, Christine has helped to educate her local community in Calvert County, Md., about autism spectrum disorders by attending local charity events, hosting educational and awareness programs and raising thousands of dollars in donations for the Walk Now for Autism Speaks D.C. event.



Nikki Werner Walker received the Zern Excellence in Teaching Award at Mercersburg Academy in Mercersburg, Pa. Nikki has been a member of the Mercersburg faculty since 2006. She is head of the school's Physical Education Department, teaches science and is the head girls outdoor track and field coach. She and her husband, Dan, live on the school's campus with their two children.

1998

Dr. Richard Ammon M'98 joined Southwest Technical College in Fennimore, Wis., as the dean of Business, Management and General Studies. His duties will include leadership of the Business and General Education academic areas. Richard previously held positions at Milwaukee Area Technical College, Frederick Community College and Hagerstown Community College.



1999

Greg Hughes served 10 years in the U.S. Air Force and then went to work for the federal government. He will celebrate 10 years working for the government with the Joint Chiefs of Staff as a member of the Physical Security/Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Team.

2000

Dr. Sharon Colantonio Carano is employed as an assistant professor of kinesiology at Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, Texas. She married her husband, Alan, in 2013 and earned her doctorate in 2014.

Tracie Ellis M'00 joined Garrett College in McHenry, Md., as director of Student Life, bringing with her over 16 years of experience in residence life and student affairs, including at FSU.



Andrew Miller was named an "Indy's Best and Brightest" finalist by Junior Achievement of Central Indiana. Andrew is senior vice president of Operations for Bose Public Affairs Group and was also named the overall winner of the Government category, an honor placing him at the top of a highly competitive category. Sponsored by Junior Achievement, the "Best and Brightest" award program identifies 100 of the city's most outstanding young professionals age 40 and younger.

Kati Townsley was named executive director of the Carroll Technology Council. CTC is an independent, nonprofit, technology-focused organization providing leadership, information and resources to educate, attract and influence technology in Carroll County, Md.

2001

Matthew Growden M'04 was promoted to vice president, director of IT and security officer at First United Bank & Trust.

Matthew was also named one of the 2014 Next Leaders in Banking presented by the Maryland Bankers Association, the Warren Group and *Maryland Banker* magazine.

2006

Stacy Holler joined Garrett College as coordinator of marketing and public relations.

2008

Ryan Bowie starred in the Leonard Bernstein musical *On the Town* and David Sedaris' *Santaland Diaries*, both at the Roxy Regional Theatre in Clarksville, Tenn.

2009

Erica Kempler joined the Art Department at Hagerstown Community College in Hagerstown, Md., as an adjunct faculty member. She teaches beginning and advanced ceramics courses.

2010

Griffin Detrick was promoted to a senior accountant in the Family Office Services Group of Arthur Bell CPAs. He joined the firm in 2011 and obtained his CPA license in 2013.

2012

Jenna Mathews Gorgol was awarded the Mary Linn Fox First-Year Teacher Award at Paw Paw Elementary School in Paw Paw, W.Va. She and her husband, David, reside in LaVale, Md.

2014

Dylan Scherpf had his article "Wikileaks Revelations on Trans-Pacific Partnership Ignored by Corporate Media" published in *Censored 2015: Inspiring We the People* (Seven Stories Press), which includes work he did in FSU's English 355 course, Socially Networked Journalism. ■

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- APRIL 18**
Field Hockey Alumni Game
Bobcat Stadium, Hospitality Suite
Noon — 3:00 p.m.

APRIL 25
6th Annual Baseball Spring Golf Invitational
Fore Sisters Golf Course
Rawlings, Md.
11:00 a.m. Registration

MAY 1
Undergraduate Research Symposium
Lane University Center
10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

MAY 2
Rugby Alumni Game
FSU Campus

MAY 3
CCIT Dedication In Honor of President Emerita Catherine R. Gira
CCIT
11:30 a.m. — 2:30 p.m.

MAY 6
D.C. Public Policy & Government Relations Affinity Group
Laughing Man Tavern,
Washington, D.C.
5:00 — 7:00 p.m.

MAY 9
Spring Fest
Face painting, Student Alumni Association
Upper Quad, FSU Campus
11:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.
- MAY 21**
146th Commencement Ceremony
Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award Presentation
Tickets required

JUNE 6
Golden Anniversary Reunion
Celebrating the Class of 1965 and before
CCIT
10:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Greatest Couples of All Time
Lane University Center
8:00 p.m. — Midnight

JUNE 12-13
8th Annual Frostburg Football Golf Outing & Reunion
Rocky Gap Casino & Resort
Friday: 8:00 p.m. Signatures Bar & Grill
Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Golf Registration

JUNE 29
Bobcat Invitational Golf Tournament
Holly Hills Country Club
Ijamsville, MD
8:00 a.m. Registration

JULY 18
Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting

OCTOBER 15-18
Homecoming 2015
FSU Campus
- For more information, email us at alumni@frostburg.edu or call 301.687.4068. You can also visit us online at alumni.frostburg.edu or join our Facebook page to get further details.



SEND US YOUR NEWS!

SHARE YOUR NEWS ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



OR BY MAIL OR EMAIL:

- Email alumni@frostburg.edu
- Snail Mail: Profile, FSU, 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532-2303

MILESTONES

Marriages

2007

Meghan Chandler married **Bradley Yost '12** on Sept. 6, 2014. Meghan is a librarian with the Baltimore County Library System. Brad is a physicist with the Patuxent Naval Air Base. The couple resides in Lexington Park, Md.

2011

Katie Johnson married **Daniel Gares '11** on July 6, 2013. Katie is attending graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh, working toward her doctorate in physical chemistry. Daniel is employed by Elliott Group as an engineer and is working toward his master's degree. The couple resides in Pittsburgh.

2012

Sheree Arbogast M'14 married **John Glencoe '14** on June 15, 2013. Sheree is employed as a crew leader at Roy Rogers. John is employed at Roy Rogers and Cumberland Country Club in the Pro Shop. The couple resides in Clarysville, Md.

Births

1997

Tracee Wilkins Short and her husband, Tyrone, announce the birth of their daughter, Ella Vaughan, on Nov. 10, 2014.



Judith Avenue Photography

1998



Christa Floresca and her husband, Jason Wilson, announce the birth of their daughter, Hope Olivia, on Nov. 7, 2014.

2002

Leann Behrend Mongelluzzo and her husband, Bobby, announce the birth of their son, Anthony James, on Oct. 5, 2014. Anthony joins big brothers, Thomas and Robert, who are 5 years old.

2004

Julie Schibbleshut Rando M'09 and her husband, **Rick '00**, announce the birth of their daughter, Dylan Mackenzie, on Aug. 12, 2014. Julie is the assistant director of Admissions at FSU. Rick is the owner/president of Kick Masters Karate in Frostburg.

2005

Dr. Melody Hanna Kentrus and her husband, **Ryan '04/M'07**, announce the birth of their daughter, Kallie Grace, on Dec. 9, 2014. Melody is an assistant professor in the Department of Kinesiology and Recreation and Ryan is a lecturer in the Department of Management at FSU. The family resides in Frostburg.



2009

Joseph Brickey-Goldsmith and his wife, Cassandra, announce the birth of their daughter, Arianna Elise, on May 22, 2014. Joe is the director of Choral and Vocal Activities at Henry E. Lackey High School in Indian Head, Md.



The Brickey-Goldsmith family

2010



Erin Gobbi Rethemeyer and her husband, **Brandon '06/M'08**, announce the birth of their daughter, Mia Sidney, on Oct. 10, 2014. ■

Farewell and Thank You

Frostburg State University wishes the following faculty and staff the best of luck in their retirements:

Mary Ann Ali, housekeeper, joined FSU in 1987.

Raymond Brode, groundskeeper lead, joined FSU in 1984.

Mark Housel, groundskeeper, joined FSU in 1994.

Larry Orndorff, manager of Mail and Printing Services, joined FSU in 1988.

Roger Smearman, housekeeper, joined FSU in 2007.

Sharon Kuhlman, administrative assistant II in the Department of Kinesiology, joined FSU in 1999.

Mary Tola, director of Student Health Services, joined FSU in 2003.

Retirements from September 2014 to January 2015 ■

Swim Team Reception

Families of the men's and women's swimming teams gathered in January before the Bobcats hosted a tri-meet against the Randolph-Macon Yellow Jackets and the York Spartans.



In Memoriam

Alumni

1936 Margaret E. Doak M'57
Dec. 30, 2014

1939 Pauline Arnold Weber
Aug. 25, 2014

1940 Oberlin T. Chaney
Oct. 28, 2014

1941 Martha E. Meek
Oct. 16, 2014

1942 Robert L. Himmelwright, Jr.
Sept. 13, 2014

1949 Helen Georg Corbett
July 22, 2014

1951 Barbara Bachtel Flinn
July 13, 2014

Charles J. McCormick
Sept. 10, 2014

1952 Charles H. "Skeeter" Bowman
Dec. 28, 2014

1953 Lois Mackay Elliott
July 28, 2014

Mary E. Kammauf Lacy
Oct. 19, 2014

Harold W. Moyer
Dec. 31, 2014

1954 Fredric M. Eichhorn M'67
Sept. 6, 2014

1955 Clover J. Clopper Fearer
July 20, 2014

Leatrice Shrock Hochard
Dec. 30, 2013

A. Leah Clise Wishard
July 28, 2014

1956 Ronald R. Rowan
June 19, 2014

1959 Peter M. Wilson
Dec. 10, 2014

Stanley E. Wilson
June 27, 2014

1962 Sally A. Layman Vann
Nov. 16, 2014

1963 Louise Wigfield McCoy M'71
Sept. 19, 2014

H. Kenneth Poling M'71
Aug. 25, 2014

1966 Charles E. Bell
Oct. 9, 2014

Warren H. Funk, Jr.
Dec. 4, 2014

1967 Eileen L. Llewellyn Diffenderfer
July 26, 2014

Kenneth E. Garrison
March 29, 2014

1968 David H. Pitts III M'68
Aug. 30, 2014

Omar B. Wessel, Jr.
June 30, 2014

1969 Jon Paul R. Daddysman, Sr.
Oct. 16, 2014

Charles C. Morris
Aug. 10, 2014

1975 Edward C. Athey M'75
Aug. 5, 2014

Eleanor C. Fike Teats M'81
Oct. 27, 2014

Brenda L. Kline Williamson
Jan. 9, 2014

1976 John W. Ottinger M'76
Dec. 10, 2014

Karen L. Thorn Smith M'81
Nov. 11, 2014

1977 Loay L. "Bud" Twigg M'77
July 15, 2014

1979 Gregory J. Wright
Aug. 2, 2014

Delores A. Lewis Yeager
Sept. 16, 2014

1980 Ronald R. Turner
Dec. 25, 2014

1981 Jeffrey W. Kaufman
Nov. 7, 2013

Cmdr. Charles E. Letourneau M'81
Feb. 17, 2014

1982 Marcia A. Burton Hadley M'88
Oct. 20, 2014

Helen A. Leporati Hatfield
Aug. 26, 2014

1983 Patricia A. Eisler
June 21, 2013

Stuart F. Oster
June 28, 2014

1988 Paul A. Gerrety
July 26, 2014

1994 Marianne Garcia M'96
June 9, 2014

1997 Karen M. Aycox M'97
June 21, 2013

1999 Mathew J. Habersack
Jan. 5, 2015

2005 The Rev. Daniel B. Andrews
June 15, 2014

2009 Kalie M. Hostutler Ashby M'10
Dec. 20, 2014

Friends of the University

Dr. Donald Alexander, Sr.
Sept. 18, 2014

Harriet J. Cavallaro
Dec. 20, 2014

Sandra K. Cochrane
Nov. 28, 2014

Mabel V. Hoffman
Jan. 2, 2015

James K. Howes
July 1, 2014

Marian A. Knieriem
Oct. 14, 2014

Corrinne R. McCormick
Nov. 12, 2014



Dr. David Morton who died Aug. 22, 2014, taught biology at FSU from 1982 to his retirement in 2009 and also served as department chair. He earned his Bachelor of Science from the State University of New York at New Paltz and his doctorate from Cornell University. At FSU, he taught histology, electron microscopy and human anatomy and physiology. The Dr. David Morton Memorial Fund for Undergraduate Biology Research has been established in his memory.



Dr. Ken Jablon, who died Sept. 7, 2014, had been part of the FSU community since 1967, and over the course of his four-plus decades here, served as acting president, vice president for academic affairs, dean and chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature. His colleague Dr. Maria-Luisa Sanchez was inspired by his "congenial friendship and team spirit, expressed through a sincere and all-inclusive commitment to establish and engage in meaningful communication with the people around him – colleagues, visitors and, most importantly to him, students."

Irvin T. Morgan, Jr.
Aug. 5, 2014

Anthony Petrelli
July 19, 2014

Linda K. Pifer
Jan. 23, 2015

Ronald A. Ruthenberg
June 27, 2014

Gloria R. Saville
Feb. 19, 2014

Allen D. Shirk
Nov. 20, 2014

Janet R. Nicodemus Smith
July 28, 2014

Dale L. Sturtz
Oct. 28, 2014

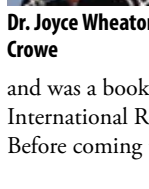
John W. Zembower
July 2, 2014 ■

Dr. J.B. Kerbow, who died Nov. 10, 2014, served as chair of the Modern Foreign Language Department at FSU for 23 years until his retirement in 1993. In the 1950s, he was a French interpreter for NATO; he taught jet mechanics to visiting French military. After his tour with NATO, he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in French from Southern Methodist University and later earned his doctorate in French from Yale. He taught at SMU, the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Dallas before accepting his position at Frostburg.



Dr. Frank Parks who died Nov. 22, 2014, was a professor of English at Frostburg for 36 years. He taught a variety of courses, from journalism to literature – he was "like an adjustable wrench ... willing to teach almost anything," Dr. Sydney Duncan, chair of the Department of English, said. An outstanding educator known for making his students better writers, he was the recipient of three FSU Faculty Achievement Awards. His colleague Dr. Gerald Snelson said he was a scholar and a voracious reader with a dry and witty sense of humor. He is survived by his wife, **Dr. Karen Parks**, professor of mathematics at FSU.

Dr. Joyce Wheaton-Crowe, who died Feb. 4, 2015, retired in 2013 after more than 40 years of teaching and service to the Department of Educational Professions, including as director of Elementary Education in the Office of Field Experience. Her passion was reading and literacy; she presented on the topic at conferences around the world and was a book reviewer for the International Reading Association. Before coming to FSU, she taught



first grade in West Virginia. One could always "hear a smile in her voice," colleague and friend Dr. Fannia Boayue said.



Dr. Richard C. Weimer, who died Feb. 8, 2015, taught mathematics first in high school, then at FSU, where he taught computer science as well. He served as department chair for 21 years, and authored several mathematics textbooks, including *Statistics*, which has been used internationally. He was active in his community, serving as a councilman and the Commissioner of Finance for the City of Frostburg for several years. "He will be remembered for his kindness and warmth," said Provost Bill Childs.

W. Dennis Thomas '65, who died Sept. 23, 2014, rose to success in a career in the public sector and another in the private. He was part of President Reagan's administration, eventually deputy chief of staff. He later joined International Paper, retiring at senior vice president of Public Affairs and Communications. He was one of the founders of the Sloop Institute for Excellence

in Leadership and fostered the J. Glenn Beall Public Affairs Institute. He and his wife, Dr. Dawn Thomas, who also attended Frostburg, established the Dennis and Dawn Thomas Presidential Leadership Scholarship to support students in the President's Leadership Circle. He was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 1985 and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from FSU in 2014. ■

A Fellow Graduate

University System of Maryland Chancellor **William E. "Brit" Kirwan**, who will soon retire after 51 years in higher education, spoke at the 145th commencement in December. He told the graduates, "I, too, graduate today and prepare for a transition to a new phase of life, just as you do."

"I chose this campus for my last commencement because of my enormous appreciation and respect for Frostburg State University, its commitment to the education of its students and the advancement of the surrounding community. Frostburg exemplifies the best of what higher education can do for the people and region it serves."

"So, fellow graduates, know that you are privileged to graduate from a great university. Go forth and do well in this world while you do good for others. For that, indeed, is the spirit that defines Frostburg State University."



Increasingly, alumni and friends of Frostburg State University have chosen to leave their stamp on the University in a more literal way, associating their name or the name of someone they love and admire with a space on campus. These “naming” opportunities involve financial gifts to support the University, and in some cases, a related program. They are a visible demonstration of a commitment to FSU.

A number of opportunities exist to create a permanent association with a space on campus, starting at the \$5,000 gift level. To learn more, contact the FSU Foundation, Inc., at 301.687.4161.



The ribbon flutters to the floor as FSU student-athlete **Malory Brunett** dedicates the new Bobcat Stadium building and bleachers during Homecoming. Representatives from the Belt Group of Companies and the Bushey Feight Morin architecture firm, which performed the work, accompany Brunett, **President Gibraltar**, Athletic Director **Troy Dell**, to the left of Brunett, and the FSU Bobcat in the ceremony.



B.J. '81 and **Krista McGowan Davisson '82** cut the ribbon on the computer lab in the Lane University Center. Their gift benefits Lane Center programs and activities.



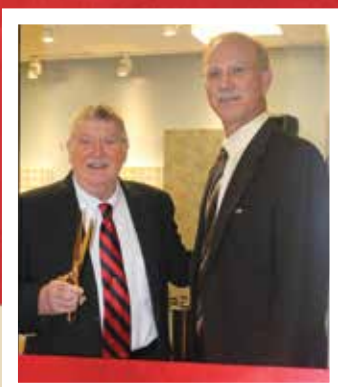
President Gibraltar and **Dr. Lea Messman-Mandicott**, Library director, unveil the **Dr. David M. Gillespie Special Collections** in the Lewis J. Ort Library as retired Library Director Gillespie looks on. The library staff advocated to honor Gillespie for his decades spent developing the library's resources, special collections and eight endowed funds.



Gladys Faherty '55 named the Math Education Lab in honor of her late husband and brother-in-law, both math teachers.



Ashley Wisner '08/M'09 laughs with **President Gibraltar** after she cut the ribbon on the break-out area that will bear her name in the Center for Communications and Information Technology. Wisner serves as vice president of the Alumni Association Board of Directors.



Dr. Gary Cook, professor emeritus of speech communication and theatre and a supporter of jazz programming on WFWM, stands at the ready with **President Gibraltar** to cut the ribbon on the NPR-affiliate's new recording studio in CCIT.



Joseph Lambert '79 supported computer science at Frostburg by naming the department chair's office.





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Foundation Opportunity Grants Connect Students to the Campus and the World

Sometimes, all a student needs is one opportunity to connect.

For student **DeShawna Jones**, the Student Leadership Retreat her freshman year gave her an opportunity to connect with other students. Now, nearly three years later, she is thriving as the president of the Global Business Club in the College of Business.

"Even in my junior year, I still talk about that experience with my friends," Jones says. "I learned that being a leader involves integrity and always doing the right thing — even when you think no one is watching."



DeShawna Jones

The Student Leadership Retreat, held every September at Camp Allegheny in Stoystown, Pa., is supported through an Opportunity Grant administered through the FSU Foundation, Inc.

"The retreat helps students identify with one another and with Frostburg," said Director of Leadership and Experiential Learning Doug Baer. "These freshmen come in not knowing anyone, and they leave feeling like a part of the campus. That's the best part."

Programs supported by Opportunity Grants give students the chance to participate in transformational experiences and assist in student retention.

FSU
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