

Here is my last weekly email of the spring 2023 semester:

Employee Recognition Week. We are celebrating the many contributions of our faculty and staff this week. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the educational experience of our students. And remember regardless of your job title and responsibilities, we are all working to help educate the next generation of citizens as they move forward in their lives. I suspect our current students will join in with what I hear from our FSU alums – someone here saw something in them that made the difference in their lives.

Commencement. I hope many of the faculty and staff will join us for this Saturday's commencement ceremonies. Prior to each ceremony, graduates are asked to nominate a faculty or staff member that has made a difference in their lives and invite them to the ceremony. Congrats to these individuals who have made a significant difference in the lives of our graduates:

Gina Andrews
Jennifer Bishoff
Kelly Bulp
Natalia Buta
Holly Clark
Latisha Cooper
Ashley Daniels
Julia De Leon
Susan Dodge
Tracy Edwards
Jenna Epstein
Julie Fanning
Jeff Farr
Jennifer Flinn
Mark Hughes
Kimberly James
Kathleen Jocoy
Scott Johnson
Karen Keller
Elisabeth Lean
Robert Lewis
Tamara Lowry

Christopher Masciocchi
Emily Milleson
Jill Morris
Jamison Odone
Evan Offstein
Barbara Ornstein
Richard Raesly
Jennifer Rankin
Michael Root
Chelsea Schrader
Heidi Shadel
Mark Smith
Jason Speights
Linda Steele
Lazareth Sye
Clara Thiel
William Wetherholt

Undergraduate Research Symposium and Honor Recognition. Many individuals have demonstrated their excellent work over the past few weeks. The Undergraduate Research Symposium was a highlight this year, as it always is. I was humbled and impressed by the accomplishments of so many students. I will admit that I was speechless when I listened to one presentation (and I understood the information on a very basic level) and learned the research was conducted by a first-year student. I also offer congrats to students who participated in the senior art show, some of whom are continuing their studies and love of art after graduation. Thank you, also, to the students and faculty who performed in the many music recitals over the past week. We will celebrate the accomplishments of faculty and many students at this Friday evening's honors convocation. Congratulations to Prof. Puthoff, Raucci, Chory, Hurst, McGee and Thomas who were recognized in this morning's Cumberland Times-News for their honors.

Athletic Successes. Congratulations to our Women's Lacrosse team on winning their first MEC championship – in some miserable weather – with a victory over Notre Dame College. And congrats to the FSU baseball team for making it to the MEC Championship game. Even though we lost in the title game, the team fought through adversity and let the rest of the league know that FSU's baseball team will continue to be a force in the upcoming years.

I wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer. I'll provide a monthly update via email throughout the summer. Go Bobcats!