FLORIDA TECH MUSIC PROGRAM ENJOYING INCREASED ENROLLMENTS, EXPANDED OFFERINGS

By Rolanda Hatcher-Gallop, The Communicator

Melissa Neary looks down at the sheet music for Beethoven’s “Sonatina in G” and smiles at the handwritten words and sweeping arrows mingling with the musical notes on the page.

“I tend to write out a lot of what I need to do,” she says, eyeing the words ‘stretch’ as a reminder to lengthen her fingers to hit the right key and ‘move’ for when her hand has to travel across the keyboard.

“I think seeing some sort of step-by-step process, some visual cues, kind of makes my brain focus on it,” says Neary, one of seven students in Mariana Garciagodoy Cervantes’ group intermediate piano class.

This sort of thinking serves the sophomore biomedical engineering major well in her studies.

Now, she is finding that it is helping her to learn to play the piano, too.

“I’ve had this piece for probably three weeks now, and I’ve gotten all the way through the first movement. Now, I’m starting on the second movement,” Neary says before covering her ears with headphones and returning to practice in the new piano/keyboard lab located on the fifth floor of the Crawford Building.

In many ways, Florida Tech’s music program is in its second act in recent years, adding additional classes and offering opportunities to students from all majors to learn or expand their musical interests.

“We’ve increased enrollments in our large ensembles (Concert Choir, String Orchestra, Wind Ensemble and Panther Big Band) and created several applied group courses such as Beginning and Intermediate Piano, Beginning and Intermediate Guitar, and Recording Studio Workshop,” says Kevin Burke, director of music programs since 2014.

“We’ve also bolstered our infrastructure in terms of marketing, record keeping and equipment, so we are reaching a larger and broader segment of the student body and are able to provide adequate resources for those students,” he said.

And the students are responding.

This was evident by the need for risers to accommodate all of the student musical groups that participated in Florida Tech’s 60th Anniversary concert in the Gleason Performing Arts Center on Feb. 12.

Burke said it was an amazing feeling to see the risers.

“At the end of my first year at Florida Tech, our Paris Artist in Residence, Paul Anquez, had an idea to write music for all of our student ensembles, which filled Gleason’s stage. Four years later, it’s amazing and gratifying to have programmed music for those same groups again and have them overflowing into risers in front of the stage,” he says.

“It was a visual testament to our growth over four years and encouragement that we will continue to expand.”

He added that the variety of programming, as well as the sheer number of students on stage that night, reflected Florida Tech’s support of the arts in the curriculum and community.

Continued on page 9
SAVE THE DATE

SPRING/SUMMER 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Spring Student Vocal Recital
April 22 at 5 p.m. | Gleason Performing Arts Center

Spring Student Instrumental Recital
April 22 at 7 p.m. | Gleason Performing Arts Center

WHERE CHAMPIONS ARE BORN
Communication Senior Design Documentary
April 24 at 6:15 p.m. | Olin Life Sciences 130, Auditorium

COM Faculty Meeting
April 26 at 2 p.m. | Crawford 611 Communication Lab

ACADEMIC CALENDAR
April 24 Last Day of Classes
April 25-26 Study Days (no classes)
April 29-May 1 Final Exams Week
May 1 Spring Commencement Ceremony
May 13 First day of summer classes,
   6, 9, and 12-week terms
May 27 Memorial Day (no classes)
July 4 Independence Day (no classes)
July 27 Summer Commencement Exercises
Aug. 19 | Fall 2019 Classes Begin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FACULTY PROMOTIONS
Congratulations to Lisa Perdigao, promoted to assistant provost for Florida Tech's Honor's College. Also, congratulations to Andrew Aberdein, promoted to chair for the humanities program.

STAFF
Amolola Boye, Administrative Assistant II, Student Services
Amanda Culver, Administrative Assistant II, Faculty Services
Margaret Moore, Administrative Assistant III

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Rolanda Hatcher-Gallop, M.S.

VISITING INSTRUCTORS
Ingrid Bradley, M.S.

ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS
Marie Christine Balducci
Dana Beattie
Andrei Belyi
Erik Cole
Kyle Creeden
Jeffrey D. Gallego
Marianna Garcia-Paredes-Carranza
Stephanie Gonzalez

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Editor: Rolanda Hatcher-Gallop • Designer: Stephanie Herndon

CONNECT WITH US:

The world was a very different place in 1958. Dwight Eisenhower was president, and Nikita Khrushchev led Russia. NASA was founded to take Americans into the new space age, and rock and roll Elvis Presley was drafted into the U.S. Army.

The No. 1 hit song in America was Domenico Modugno’s “Volare” (“I did not believe it, either!”) and a small band of visionary engineers and scientists founded the Brevard Engineering College in Melbourne, Florida, that—in a decade—would become Florida Institute of Technology.

Some 60 years have passed, and the world and our university have seen many momentous changes, but our commitment to quality education and student success remains the same.

The School of Arts and Communication (SAC) played—and continues to play—a major role in the life of Florida Tech. Moreover, as our 60th anniversary celebrations continue, we are reminded of the truly remarkable progress of this university since the late 1950s. Seeing the success of our graduates warms our hearts and stokes our pride in them. The efforts of generations of faculty and staff here have helped these people accomplish amazing things in their fields and their lives.

They are living testaments that the Florida Tech story is a great one and that we all have a part in it.

However, too much can be made of nostalgia for past achievements and glories. To quote the famous western philosopher, actor John Wayne, in the film “True Grit,” “Looking back is a bad habit.”

The SAC looks to the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow as the next chapter in Florida Tech’s life is written. A new Asian civilization humanities core sequence goes online in fall 2019, making that core truly internationalized. Our humanities degree is now reconceived to offer separate degree options in history, literature and philosophy. At the same time, our strategic communication and multimedia journalism programs continue to gain strength with new courses and ideas.

Lastly, the music program flourishes with a new piano lab and faculty offices on the fifth floor of the Crawford Building. In addition, the hugely successful 60th anniversary concert held in February was surely a prelude to the ambitious and beautiful performance events of tomorrow.

I know I can join with faculty, staff and students in welcoming future semesters with confidence.

As the poet Robert Browning said, “our best is yet to be.”

FROM THE CHAIR

Robert Taylor, Ph.D., Associate Dean, College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, and Head of the School of Arts and Communication

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THE COMMUNICATOR
Building connections through skills of prior knowledge is a well-known area of study in the world of education. However, how does this apply to teaching writing in the college classroom? Better yet, how does it apply to design in the communication class?

My poster presentation at the Southern Conference of Teaching and Learning in Savannah, Georgia, this past January addressed this issue. An icebreaker in both my scientific and technical communication course and my professional communication course introduces students to some of the concepts we will be exploring throughout the term.

Using a child’s building toy called Connectagons (roughly $25 per box from hearthsong catalog), I divide the sets into groups of six making sure to have no more than three colors per set. In groups of four, the students have ten minutes to build a structure and present their story to the class. They must also answer the question of how they would improve this structure with more time and money. Not only does this allow for some fun and bonding, but by incorporating the sense of touch with the visual color of the children and by listening to the story of each group, it aids in the overall learning that takes place in such a simple assignment.

As a class, we review how the simple scheme of colors aids in design and how we will often explore how time and budget affect projects we will write.

An interesting side note from this activity is seeing the types of sets the students may be gleaning from their prior knowledge with this activity, but this is an area for further study.

Later in the semester, the Lego build becomes an assignment in my scientific and technical communication course. Here the students are given a Ziploc bag of Legos and one class period to build a set of their own, complete with an introduction, parts list, build steps, photos and a restricted estimated build time of no more than 10 minutes for their classmates in the next class to rebuild. Then, during the next class, the students must move round robin around the class every 10 minutes to see which set of instructions is the most user-friendly in the time given for rebuilding.

By using Legos, a best-selling toy globally, most students connect with instructions and enjoy creating while also visualizing and understanding all the steps that go into clear instruction writing.

Overall, the poster session succeeded in sharing a few of my best teaching practices from all over the east coast of the United States. It is easily adaptable to many different subjects and involved simple steps to get students thinking more creatively in the classroom.

While building on childhood experience and knowledge, these activities also utilize our critical thinking skills which is a transferable need in our daily jobs.
NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS BEGIN IN THE FALL

By Andrew Aberdein, for The Communicator

This fall will see a bold innovation in the School of Arts and Communication’s offerings: three new majors—B.A. Humanities-History, B.A. Humanities-Literature, and B.A. Humanities-Philosophy. Each of these new majors replaces one of the tracks within the old humanities degree. They are also intended to capitalize on the success of B.A. Humanities-Fine Arts, which will receive a more modest overhaul for the new catalog year.

The new majors share a common skeleton with the Fine Arts degree, including many of the same English and art history-level classes as well as the research-focused capstone design project sequence in the junior and senior year.

They diverge in the specific requirements. Philosophers, for example, will now be expected to study some psychology classes as well as philosophy optives. The new majors were made possible by two recent developments within the SAC.

First, the successful introduction of minors in history, literature, and philosophy provided an essential foundation. The minors allowed students to anticipate how much students for each field much more clearly than the tracks within the old humanities degree. In the future, the relationship between each art history and its corresponding major should be transparent.

Second, revisions to the general education core curriculum have allowed us to offer a broader range of survey courses on a predictable schedule. Crucially, students of all majors may now choose from a menu of humanities survey courses, rather than just Civilisation 1 and 2. These survey courses form the backbone of the new majors.

We hope that the new majors will be more attractive to potential students. Because humanities cover such a broad range, and because the humanities B.A. was a relatively unusual major, it could be a hard sell.

Marketing materials were obliged to cover a very wide range of potential student interests, and the result was that the quick took the careful out of dating. In the future, we will be able to produce separate materials for history, literature, and philosophy, and set the world know what we do well.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

ROTC CADETS LEARN THE IMPORTANCE OF LEADERSHIP AT D-DAY BATTLE SITES

By Sonja Michaels, for The Communicator

Over spring break in early March, Florida Tech’s senior ROTC cadets completed their staff ride, a battle analysis trip with interspersed discussions and presentations. During the trip, students analyzed the logistics of a battle site to determine the reasons for key events and how they could apply the experience to their own leadership skills.

The trip began in London, where the cadets visited underground headquarters used by Winston Churchill in World War II before crossing the English Channel and arriving at D-Day battle sites.

Robert Taylor, head of the School of Arts and Communication (SAC), said the battle analysis instills in the attending students the importance of having capable leaders with the ability to adapt to changing situations.

“It’s all about the importance of leadership,” Taylor said. “No want our army officers to be prepared to win decisively.”

The weeklong trip included a busy itinerary.

“The Panther Battalion staff did such a phenominal job in planning it,” Taylor said.

Eric Periera, a senior ROTC cadet studying computer science, said that as busy as they were, they still found time for discussion. He said he gained a greater understanding of the region’s terrain and what the troops at Normandy went through.

“Attending D-Day battle sites was a one of a kind,” he said.

“If the year is to hear about it and read about it, then when you actually see the terrain you can sort of imagine them rolling in low tide and having to push through before high tide, trying to take the terrain and how difficult it must have been,” he said.

Periera described the experience of seeing battlefields less than a hundred years ago, was storming the beaches to try and take land back,” he said.

The exercise made an indelible impression on many of the students, said the battle analysis instills in the attending students the importance of seeing battlefields less than a hundred years ago, was storming the beaches to try and take land back,” he said.

Continued on page 11

FLORIDA TECH LAUNCHES HONORS COLLEGE THIS FALL WITH PERDIGAO AT THE HELM

By Lisa K. Perdigao, for The Communicator

This is an exciting time for Florida Tech as we prepare to launch an Honors College in the fall with inaugural classes of freshmen, sophomores and juniors.

The Honors College recognizes the talent and initiative of high-performing students across the university’s four colleges—College of Aviation, Bisk College of Business, College of Engineering and Science, and College of Psychology and Liberal Arts.

In my role as assistant provost for the Honors College, I will be working directly with students, administrators and faculty. A group of honors faculty fellows representing the four colleges will be involved in reviewing student applications and faculty proposals for courses, participating in honors curriculum and planning honors activities.

Incoming and current Florida Tech students have already been invited to join the Honors College for the 2019–2020 academic year. Their selections were based on their GPAs, class rank and test scores.

Honors College students have the opportunity to enroll in interdisciplinary seminars and advanced study in their disciplines, work with faculty members on independent research projects and participate in social and cultural activities that foster a global mindset, civic engagement and professional and personal development.

Requirements for GPA, credit hours and honors activity hours increase at each level. For example, Honors College scholars are required to fulfill 15 honors credit hours and 20 honors activity hours while maintaining a 3.2 university GPA and 3.0 honors GPA.

The School of Psychology offers a Psychology Honors Program that begins in junior year and culminates in a senior thesis, and Florida Tech is looking to expand its Honors in the Major program beginning in 2020–2021.

“Those three tiers of university honors that can be attained by Honors College students—Mercury (honors), Gemini (high honors), and Apollo (highest honors) are required to fulfill 27 honors credit hours and 30 honors activity hours while maintaining a 3.2 university GPA and 3.5 honors GPA.

Continued on page 11

STUDENTS BECAME TEACHERS IN COM CLASS ACTIVITY

The Communicator staff reports

The tables were turned in Amy Laakman’s Professional Communication for Executives class (COM 3070) when student groups were assigned a textbook chapter to teach.

“Each group was assigned 50 minutes to instruct their classmates in topica ranging from concepts of teams and meetings, conflict, negotiation, and technology to cultural awareness and nonverbal communication,” Laakman said.

Students created interactive demonstrations, showed instructional videos, used PowerPoint and other activities to complete the assignment.

The exercises made an indelible impression on many of the students, said Keesemaet Kehinde Kolowwaca Otiti, a junior accounting major from Nigeria.

“It made us interact more with our classmates, I got to talk to some people I had never spoken to throughout the semester,” she said.

“We also had a lot of fun.”

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Students in Amy Laakman’s Professional Communication for Executives course engage in instructional activities and demonstrations designed by their peers. Photo credit: Amy Laakman

Continued on page 11

Photo credit: Rolanda H. Gallop

Continued on page 11

2019–2020 academic year. Their applications and faculty propos-
als for courses, participating in honors curriculum and planning honors activities.

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Gemini Scholars are required to fulfill 23 honors credit hours and 24 honors activity hours while maintaining a 3.5 university GPA and 3.3 honors GPA.

Apollo Scholars are required to fulfill 27 honors credit hours and 30 honors activity hours while maintaining a 3.7 university GPA and 3.5 honors GPA.

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Photo credit: Eric Heaney
EIGHTH ANNUAL FREE SPEECH WEEK ACTIVITIES RESONATE WITH STUDENTS

The Communicator Staff Reports

Be it students writing thoughts and quotes on a wall, folks temporarily exchanging their freedoms for food on the Crawford Green or award-winning journalists discussing developments in the media industry, Lindsay Isaac looks forward to Free Speech Week every year. The eighth annual event, sponsored by The Crimson student newspaper and held Feb. 18–22, was no different. I sba enjoyed the week’s activities. However, it was the message behind the events that resonated the most with Isaac, a 2018 communication graduate now pursuing her master’s degree in global strategic communication.

“While attending these types of events, I am able to reflect on the rights afforded to us under the First Amendment,” she said.

This year’s Free Speech Week featured a talk by professor Heidi Hatfield Edwards about “All the President’s Men,” a keynote speech by Robin Somesin, a radio producer for “This American Life” who recently won a Peabody Award for her work telling the story of a rape survivor whose accounts weren’t believed by those around her.

Here are a few takeaways from students who attended Free Speech Week 2019 activities.

“Free Speech Week is important for the student community to be a part of because of what it represents, the fact that we often take our freedom for granted,” Eleanor Mathers, editor-in-chief of The Crimson, said.

“It was really interesting to hear how they balance opinion and facts and it’s something people often find difficult to do,” Patrick Banks, junior sports psychology major, said.

“Ethical concern can be illuminated by participation in these types of events,” Sara Torkabi, sophomore scholastic doctorate candidate, said.

“I asked for pizza and they gave me a roast beef sandwich. I don’t even like roast beef!” - Sarita Neary, a sophomore math major, at the Live Free or Eat Free event

“We are able to offer something to all Florida Tech students, regardless of their major, that they can use as a creative outlet. Our music program enriches the lives of students by providing them an opportunity to engage in artistic expression. It helps them to make more well-rounded human beings,” Garciagodoy says.

“People came to our table and I spent most of the event talking about our music program. The prospective students were curious about being able to take our music courses without being music majors, something that a lot of colleges and universities require,” Taylor said.

“Many times with Isaac, a 2018 communication major, at the Live Free or Eat Free event

“Fake news is two things: it shapes a particular narrative (bias). If students want to be part of that narrative, then they can be a part of because of what it represents: the fact that we often take our freedom for granted,” she said, adding that people can support the program by checking in on all the great music students are making, whether in Gleason Performing Arts Center or online.

“We’re always trying to offer something new, including different ensembles, integrating film and live actors and presenting a diverse selection of music,” he said.

“Our patrons empower us to try new things like livestreaming our concerts. They allow us to make good on our open-door policy by acquiring large instruments like a tuba, double bass and baritone (baritone) sax that most students would not own personally.”

“Our music program enriches the lives of students by providing them an opportunity to engage in artistic expression. It helps them to make more well-rounded human beings,” Garciagodoy says.

“In interesting idea, but I definitely wouldn’t like it if it was real life.” - Veronica Thordardottir, sophomore mathematics major, at the Live Free or Eat Free event

“We need to have received many generous donations from a dedicated group of patrons that regularly attend concerts and receptions.”

“We’ve established an active Facebook page and are now livestreaming most of our concerts,” he said, adding that people can support the program by checking in on all the great music students are making, whether in Gleason Performing Arts Center or online.

“We’re always trying to offer something new, including different ensembles, integrating film and live actors and presenting a diverse selection of music,” Garciagodoy said.

“The key to achieving a good community is journalism. We give students a voice to influence change,” Mara Bellaby, executive editor of Florida Today, at the newspaper panel.

“Free Speech Week is important for the student community to be a part of because of what it represents, the fact that we often take our freedom for granted,” Eleanor Mathers, editor-in-chief of The Crimson, said.
MEET KHEMARI HOWARD

Hello, my name is Khemari Howard, and I am a senior multplatform journalism stu-
dent in the School of Arts and Communication.

First, I can usually be seen with a blue marching band jacket. It is part of a tradition I wore during a competition back on St. Thomas called “Battle of the Bands.”

It was my first year in the marching band. I’d never played marching snare—which was considered one of the hardest marching instruments. I made the line through sheer determination and continued practicing until I became Rookie of the Year. That same spring semester was the competition.

Though it was my first time competing, I played my heart out, and I won.

I continue wearing the jacket today because it’s a reminder that I can do almost anything I put my mind to. It’s also the only piece of the trackstick I still have left.

Second, I’ve been told that a lot of my personality doesn’t match my size.

Throughout high school, I was always asked why I didn’t play football. Truth be told, I like the sport and do enjoy watching it, but I don’t think playing it is for me.

I chose marching band over football. I’d rather sit and read a book while listening to some kind of classical music I love writing. I’ve probably written more short stories than I can count. While I like reporting and editing, my ultimate goal to be a novelist.

Third, my first major “aha” accomplishment was surviving pneumonia at the age of two.

My mother told me that she spent several days in the hospital with me. She wasn’t sure if I’d make it or not. At the time, I was her only child. After what seemed like forever, things were starting to look better. I’ve been told by both my parents that they knew I’d be alive after I survived that:

Also, despite my current internship at WFIT—a job that has me recording PAAs almost every day—I suffer from serious stuttering.

My stuttering dates back to a very young age. Back then, any sound that required my tongue to touch the top of my mouth (such as pronouncing B’s, D’s and T’s) would make me blush, and hard C and S sounds were horrible.

I developed a fear of talking publicly due to childhood humiliation from stuttering. Eventually, it got better over time, and now I rarely even notice when I do it. I’m kind of circumvented it by developing a speech pattern that puts more emphasis on the words than the beginning.

But my stuttering only really comes out whenever I’m talking excitedly or discussing something that I really love, like writing or reporting. I’m trying to speak faster than I can think.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

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SUNDQUIST, ISAAC NAMED OUTSTANDING STUDENTS DURING HONORS CONVOCATION

Congratulations to Annaika Sundquist, a senior multi-
platform journalism major, on her recognition as this
year’s outstanding undergraduate student for the School
of Arts and Communication. She was recognized during
the university’s Spring 2019 Honors Convocation on
April 1.

Lindsay Isaac also was recognized as the SAC’s out-
standing graduate student of the year. A 2018 communi-
cation graduate, Isaac is now pursuing a master’s degree
in global strategic communication. She also works part
time at HarrisCorporation in Melbourne, helping to
develop strategic marketing, media relations and
communication efforts for the company’s ommunicated
Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Solutions.

LAMBDA PI ETA INDUCES NEW MEMBERS

By Annaika Sundquist, special to The Communicator

The Upalii XI chapter of the Lambda Pi Eta Communication Honor Society has been hard at work this semester, participating in a phone-a-thon, holding elections, having meetings and recruiting new members.

Five communication majors were inducted into the society on April 8 during a ceremony in the Link Room of Evans Library. The group welcomed Alexandra Betserman, Dylan Fleming, Julia Hutton, David Thompson and Eboubo Ohou.

Members must have a cumulative GPA above 3.0 and a department GPA above 3.25.

Robert Taylor, associate dean and head of the School of Arts and Communication (SAC),generously sponsored the costs of induction for each student. Taylor said he believes that Lambda Pi Eta is noteworthy because of the work it does.

The society is now under the SAC’s wing instead of being a student gov-
ernment organization.

In addition, the chapter held elections in the fall, with new officers assum-
ing their roles in January. Emily Walker serves as vice president; Ashley Leber is secretary and Nicole Kern in the chairperson’s secretary. They joined Aniska Sundquist, who continues to serve as president.

In February, as an on-campus organ-
ization, Lambda Pi Eta participated in the university’s phone-a-thon. This was an important required service event for the semester, and it was

SAC OFFERS THREE NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS

Continued from page 6

The new majors should also be an asset for our future graduates. In the last few years, we have had more graduates and successful placing people in good graduate schools. However, it can be a challenge to explain what we do to such schools and reassure them that our students are as well-qualified for graduate study as any other students.

We trust that putting the student’s primary area of study in the name of the degree will be helpful for everyone.

Existing as these changes are, it is impor-
tant to remember that each of the new majors is still a humanities degree. One of the great strengths of the humanities faculty at Florida Tech is our commitment to interdisciplinarity. In most universities, history, literature, philosophy and other humanities disciplines are the responsibil-
it of separate departments who may select individuals; yet, the purpose of our work is often deeply intertwined.

Our students will learn that their disciplines are integral parts of a greater whole.

LAMBDA PI ETA GROWS, PROMOTES PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Continued from page 10

Members also see the luncheon as an exceptional way to promote the six values of Lambda Pi Eta, which include recognizing, fostering and rewarding outstanding scholastic achieve-
ment in communication; stimulating interest in the field of communication and promoting and encouraging professional development.

The chapter also strives to provide an opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas, to estab-
lish and maintain close relationships between faculty and students and to explore options for graduate education in communication.

HONORS COLLEGE OFFERS THREE NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS

Continued from page 6

HONORS COLLEGE OFFERS THREE NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS

Continued on page 11

ROTC CADETS LEARN IMPORTANCE OF LEADERSHIP AT D-DAY BATTLE SITES

Continued on page 11

This spring I offered a Special Topics in the Humanities course on the topic of “Engineering the Future” to a group of students in the Panther Distinguished Scholars program as a pilot for the fall 2019 honors seminar. The course contained units on the creation of life, cloning, the body as a machine and artificial intelligence.

Examples of future honors seminar topics include “Race to the Moon” and “War and Technology.”

Beyond the classroom, Honors College students can expand their studies through lectures, panel discussions and colloquia with alumni and guest speakers. As membership and leadership opportunities promote personal and professional development, we are establishing programs in which Florida Tech alumni mentor Honors College students and honors students mentor first-year Honors College students.

Honors activities also inspire students to become involved within local and global communities. Honors College students and alumni also participate in state, regional and national honors councils and other honors initiatives.

In addition, field trips within and outside of Florida, study abroad and civic engagement activities also count toward honors activity hour requirements.

HONORS COLLEGE OFFERS THREE NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS

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HONORS COLLEGE OFFERS THREE NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS

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HONORS COLLEGE OFFERS THREE NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS

Continued from page 6

HONORS COLLEGE OFFERS THREE NEW HUMANITIES MAJORS

Continued from page 6
SAC PROFESSORS HONORED WITH GARDEN RENAMING

Florida Tech’s 15-acre Botanical Garden is now the Joy and Gordon Patterson Botanical Garden.

Gordon Patterson has been an English professor in the School of Arts and Communication for nearly four decades. His wife, Joy, recently celebrated her fifth year as a full-time English instructor in the SAC. The couple made a generous commitment to the health and vitality of the Botanical Garden.

Adam Lowenstein, Florida Tech’s director of media communication, contributed to this report.

FREE SPEECH WEEK EDUCATES STUDENTS ON FIRST AMENDMENT FREEDOMS, Continued from page 8

In addition, there was a discussion panel with four journalists from the local newspaper Florida Today on issues facing their organization and industry as well as a banned book reading outside the WFIT studios.

“I had never even heard of or considered the idea of banned books before today,” Kiana Zanganéh, a junior biomedical sciences major, said while attending the reading.

And that’s the kind of sentiment that drives Ted Petersen when planning the week each year.

“I think students appreciate a lot of the aspects of Free Speech Week,” he said, adding that the event is designed to celebrate the First Amendment as well as spur on conversations about the freedoms it guarantees.

Petersen, a journalism professor and faculty advisor to The Crimson, said the free speech wall shows that the First Amendment covers everyone and pretty much anything.

“Dr. Edwards’ talk about Watergate showed how journalists hold politicians accountable. The Florida Today panel shows that local journalists are fighting on behalf of their citizens.

“The free food festival shows what you get through the First Amendment, and the banned books reading shows what you’d lose, namely powerful stories, without the protections of the First Amendment,” he said.

“But for me, hearing Robyn Semien talk about the power of storytelling was the best part,” Petersen added.

Additional reporting by Kenika Bouchelle, Sara Carroll, Gregg Gonzalez, Melanie Langgle and Sonja Michaels.