

Patriot Digest

The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter

May 14, 2004

274 degrees awarded at spring commencement

Two-hundred-and-seventy-four degrees were awarded during commencement exercises at Francis Marion University, Saturday, May 8.

These included 222 undergraduate degrees and 25 graduate degrees awarded by Francis Marion and 27 bachelor's degrees awarded through a cooperative nursing program with the Medical University of South Carolina.

The William H. Blackwell Award was presented by Timothy F. Norwood, vice chairman of the FMU Foundation board of directors, to William Sloan Anderson of Timmons-ville, Amber Ayers Dorrell of Timmons-ville, and Steven Blane McCracken of Florence.

The Blackwell Award, named in memory of the founding chairman of the FMU Foundation, is presented to the undergraduate Francis Marion University student, or students, with the highest grade point average (for all academic work undertaken at FMU) of those graduating during the past academic year. All three students compiled perfect 4.0 grade point averages and graduated summa cum laude. McCracken also graduated with University Honors.

Anderson, a graduate of Hudgens Academy, attended Francis Marion with a LIFE Scholarship, an FMU Academic Excellence Scholarship, the Margaret M. Bryant Scholarship, and the Rhett Davis Memorial Scholarship. He served as a student marshal, and is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Beta Beta Beta honor societies.

At the university's recent 2004 academic awards ceremony, he received the Biology Outstanding Senior Award and the Scholastic Achievement Award. Following graduation, he plans to enter the medical

profession.

Dorrell, a product of Florence Christian School, was also a recipient of a LIFE Scholarship and the FMU Academic Excellence Scholarship. She is a member of Phi Kappa Phi and Sigma Tau Delta honor societies. At the academic awards ceremony, Dorrell received the Scholastic Achievement Award. After graduation, she plans to attend law school at the University of South Carolina.

McCracken, a graduate of West Florence High School, attended Francis Marion with a LIFE Scholarship and a Presidential Scholarship, among others. He is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Pi Sigma, and Omicron Delta Kappa national honor societies. Last summer, he performed research on solar astrophysics at Montana State University in Bozeman. At the academic awards ceremony, he received the Physics Award, the Duane P. Myers Honors Award, the Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship Candidate Award, and the Scholastic Achievement Award.

He was awarded a nationwide Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship for graduate study. Following graduation, he plans to pursue a doctorate in astrophysics.

Norwood also presented the Distinguished Professor Award for the 2003-04 academic year to Jesse J. Jordan, professor of psychology, coordinator of the psychology program, and director of institutional research at FMU.

Honorary Doctor of Humanities degrees were conferred upon Florence physician Sompong Kraikit, FMU psychology professor Charlene Wages, and Marva A. Smalls, a Florence native who is executive vice president of public affairs and chief of staff of

Nickelodeon, Nick at Nite, TV Land, Noggin and Spike TV.

Smalls was also the commencement speaker.

Richard N. Chapman, provost at FMU, presided at the commencement ceremony. Luther F. Carter, president of FMU, gave the official welcome and conferred the degrees.

Pamela A. Rooks, director of the FMU Honors Program, vice chair of the Faculty Senate, and professor of English, presented honor cords to three students: Larry Michael Jackson of Effingham, Sherief N. Khalil of Dillon, and Steven Blane McCracken of Florence.

Honor cords are presented to graduates who compile a minimum grade point average of 3.25 for all academic work and for a minimum of 21 hours in Honors courses.

State senator Hugh K. Leatherman Sr., a member emeritus of the FMU Board of Trustees, presented diplomas to graduate students, while W.C. Stanton, a member of the FMU Board of Trustees, presented diplomas to undergraduate students.

Chapman presented the candidates for nursing degrees. The degrees were conferred by Gail W. Stuart, dean of the MUSC College of Nursing, and presented by Tara M. Hulsey, department chair of the MUSC College of Nursing and an associate professor of nursing.

Four nursing students received their degrees with honor: Karenmarie Davis of Timmons-ville, Sharon J. McManus of Florence, and Jennifer D. Purvis of Effingham received their degrees magna cum laude (3.8-3.89), while Crystal J. Lambert of Effingham received her degree cum laude (3.7-3.79).

Faculty/Staff News

Gregory Fry, assistant professor of art, won the \$500 Second Place Award at the Gilbert Construction/ Florence Museum 26th annual Statewide Art Competition.

The juror also selected work by professor of art Kathleen Pompe and by associate professor of art Steven Gately, who won a \$75 Honorable Mention. The exhibition continues at the Florence Museum through May 30.

Joe Aniello, assistant professor of management, had his essay, "Getting close and personal with student-athletes," published on the website www.CollegeAthleticsClips.com, April 27.

Anna C. Myers of Dillon has joined the FMU staff as Foundation officer. She graduated from FMU May 8 with a B.B.A. degree in management information systems.

While attending FMU, she was a student worker for four years in the Foundation office and the president's office.

Brenda Calcutt, a library technical assistant in the James A. Rogers Library since 1987, was awarded a bachelor's degree in elementary education from FMU, May 8. She has taken classes for 17 years while working full-time at FMU to earn this degree.

FMU receives science grant to partner with local school districts

Francis Marion University, in partnership with six local school districts, was recently awarded a \$100,000 grant by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education.

The funds for this program are from the U.S. Department of Education. The program will partner FMU faculty with area middle-school teachers to improve their science knowledge.

The school districts participating in the partnership are Florence 1, Florence 2 (Hannah-Pamplico), Florence 3 (Lake City), Florence 5 (Johns-ville), Marion 1, and Marion 2

(Mullins).

The main event in the program will be a four-week Middle School Science Institute to be held at FMU from June 7 to July 1.

The Institute will involve 18 area middle school science teachers working with three FMU science faculty and one science educator from the South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics.

In addition, the program will include follow-up support during the academic year. During the middle two weeks of the Institute (June 14-24), 96 middle-school students will participate

in a science camp and provide a chance for the teachers to enact curriculum in a realistic classroom setting.

The participating FMU faculty are Derek Jokisch, assistant professor of physics, Lisa Pike, assistant professor of biology, and Jeannette Myers, assistant professor of astronomy, along with Randy LaCross from the Governor's School.

The grant proposal was written in collaboration with faculty at the University of South Carolina. A similar program will take place at USC this year with Columbia-area school districts.

Staff Service Award nomination deadline extended to May 19

The Outstanding Staff Service Award, established in 1999, honors two permanent, full-time, non-academic employees of Francis Marion University for sustained exceptional service in their jobs. These awards, which carry a \$1,000 cash prize and a plaque, will be presented at the annual staff luncheon, scheduled in July at a date to be announced. The awards recognize the outstanding contributions of employees to the university and community at large.

One award is designated for the university's service

areas, including physical plant staff, custodians, groundskeepers and dining services. The second award is designated for academic and administrative support staff.

Nominations are encouraged to honor those employees who are truly making a difference for Francis Marion University. Nominations should be submitted no later than **May 19, 2004**, to the Communications Services Office, 116 Stokes Administration Bldg. A nomination form appeared in the March 31 Patriot Digest. For additional nomination forms, contact the Communications Services office.

Employee donations sought for Community Health Charities

The annual Community Health Charities state campaign is being conducted at FMU during the month of May. Community Health Charities affords all employees an opportunity to support the health agency or agencies of their choice.

The health agencies use gifts in the following ways: research, prevention and treatment of disabling and life-threatening diseases, support groups for those afflicted and their families, public education, early detection, and screen-

ing programs.

All employees received a pamphlet and pledge form, which can be used for payroll deduction or a cash donation. Checks should be made payable to Community Health Charities. Please return the pledge form or a check by May 30. Contributions are tax-deductible.

The goal is to raise \$2,000 in contributions from the FMU family. For more information, contact Libby Cooper at 1221.



The first National Library Workers Day, "Libraries Work Because We Do," was celebrated in the James A Rogers Library April 20, during National Library Week.

As a part of the national commemoration, President Fred Carter signed a proclamation declaring this historic event on the FMU campus.

The library staff received many surprises throughout the day, beginning with a continental breakfast, e-cards, paper balloons and a box of chocolates.

Library Dean Paul Dove ended the day with an awards ceremony for the staff whereby door prizes were won and certificates were presented for categories such as Most Scholarly, Customer Service, and the H. Paul Dove Teamwork Award (all voted on by the staff).

The American Library Association-Allied Professional Association Council adopted the resolution for National Library Workers Day during

the 2003 ALA Annual Conference in Toronto. The purpose of NLWD is to recognize all library workers, including librarians, support staff, and others.

"The Patriot Act, Libraries, and You" is the title of an exhibit in the James A. Rogers Library that gives factual information and graphics about the USA Patriot Act (Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism).

Overwhelmingly, members of both the United States Senate and House supported this act that became a law on Oct. 21, 2001 when President Bush signed it.

This is a 242-page document that was written in response to the attacks of Sept. 11.

Since its enactment however, several cities, organizations, libraries, institutions, and individuals have protested, challenged, and questioned its legality and constitutionality.

In April of this year, the American Civil Liberties Union filed a suit in the U.S. District Court in New York alleging "that a section of the Patriot Act is unconstitutional because it allows the FBI to request financial records and other documents from businesses without a warrant or judicial approval."

The suit also says that such requests, known as "national security letters," are being used much more broadly than they were before the Patriot Act.

The Council of the American Library Association and the South Carolina Library Association, along with other such organizations, have adopted resolutions against the Patriot Act that "infringe on the rights of library users."

Thus, the purpose of the exhibit in the James A. Rogers Library is to encourage the FMU community to become more familiar with the Act and how it can impact everyone, professionally and personally.

FMU part of grant from the National Institute of Health

Francis Marion University is part of a multi-institution group that was recently awarded a \$1.4 million research grant titled "Advances in Skeletal Dosimetry through Microimaging."

The research is in the field of health physics, which is the study and practice of radiation safety.

Derek Jokisch, an assistant professor of physics at FMU, is a co-investigator for the project. The National Cancer Institute, a component of the National Institute of Health, is funding the research.

The work will develop improved methods and data for assessing the amount of damage done by radiation in the skeleton. This research will benefit not only general radia-

tion protection, but will also lead to benefits in the medical uses of radiation therapy.

The work will utilize modern imaging techniques such as MRI and CT to provide detailed bone structure information. This structural data will then be used in a computer program that simulates how radiation moves and deposits energy in tissue. Ultimately the work will produce reference data for males and females that can be scaled to individuals of different ages, sizes, and health.

FMU is working on the project with the University of Florida, the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, and the Johns Hopkins University. The four-year project runs through January 2007.

Art gallery to exhibit environmental photo essay by 2 professors

"Danger in the Idyllic: South Carolinians at Risk," a photo essay by FMU professors Lisa Pike and Lynn Hanson, will be on display at FMU as part of the university's Art Gallery Series, May 18 through Aug. 2.

The exhibit is open to the public, free of charge, and may be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday in the Smith University Center gallery.

This photo essay is one of the culminating products of an interdisciplinary project involving students in Pike's

Honors Environmental Science class and Hanson's Business Writing and Technical Communication classes during the fall 2002 semester.

Approximately 150 students were involved in the project, with about 60 contributing to the content of a CD titled "The Mercury Problem in South Carolina's Freshwaters." The 15 photos and interpretive labels focus on the danger of eating mercury-contaminated freshwater fish in South Carolina.



FMU summer camps scheduled

ACTIVITIES CAMP

DATES: May 24-June 25 (8 a.m.-Noon)

AGES: 5-12 (boys and girls)

COST: \$235 (or by sessions)

DIRECTOR: FMU athletic coach Mark Bluman

INFORMATION: Call 843-661-1239

SOCCER CAMP

DATES: June 7-11 (9 a.m.-Noon)

At Freedom Florence sports complex

AGES: 7-13 (boys and girls)

COST: \$85 (\$75 if paid before May 21)

DIRECTOR: FMU men's coach Murray Hartzler

INFORMATION: Call 843-661-1237

MIGHTY TOTS SOCCER CAMPS

DATES: June 7-11 (9 a.m.-Noon) at Freedom Florence

July 26-30 (9 a.m.-Noon) at Freedom Florence

AGES: 4-6 (boys and girls)

COST: \$85 (\$75 if paid before May 21)

DIRECTOR: FMU men's coach Murray Hartzler

INFORMATION: Call 843-661-1237

MEN'S BASKETBALL

INDIVIDUAL CAMP

DATES: June 7-10

(8:30 a.m.-Noon and 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.)

AGES: 9-15

COST: \$75 half day, \$150 full day

DIRECTOR: FMU men's coach John Schweitz

INFORMATION: Call 843-661-1244

MEN'S BASKETBALL

JUNIOR PATRIOT CAMP

DATES: June 14-17 (8:30 a.m.-Noon)

AGES: 6-8

COST: \$75

DIRECTOR: FMU men's coach John Schweitz

INFORMATION: Call 843-661-1244

BASEBALL CAMP

DATES: June 14-18 (9 a.m.-Noon)

AGES: 9-12

COST: \$70 (\$60 if paid in advance)

DIRECTOR: FMU head coach Art Inabinet

INFORMATION: Call 843-661-1240

TENNIS CAMP

DATES: June 14-18 (9 a.m.-noon)

AGES: 8-18 (boys and girls)

COST: \$60 (\$55 if paid in advance)

DIRECTOR: FMU head coach Garth Thomson

INFORMATION: Call 843-661-1185

Jobs On-Campus

(as of 5-11-04)

- Instructor of English
- Assistant Professor of English
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (2)
- Assistant Vice President for Accounting
- Executive Director of Francis Marion University Foundation/ Director of University Development
- Assistant Professor of History (East Asia)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education

Visit Human Resources, SAB 105, call 1140, or access job openings at <http://www.fmarion.edu/~hrjobs>

Coming Up On Campus

MAY

18-Aug. 2 "Danger in the Idyllic: South Carolinians at Risk," a photo essay by Lisa Pike and Lynn Hanson, UC gallery
 19-22 S.C. Senior Sports Classic
 25-29 8:30 pm Observatory viewing session
 31 Late spring classes end, examinations

JUNE

1 Registration for Summer I classes
 2 Summer I classes begin
 10-11 Orientation
 24-25 Orientation

Patriot Digest deadlines

Patriot Digest is published twice monthly and distributed on paydays. The printing schedule is:

Copy due	Publication
May 24	May 31

Submit articles via e-mail at thudak@fmarion.edu. Questions or comments? Contact Todd J. Hudak at 1227.

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