

Patriot Digest

The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter

Oct. 31, 2006

FMU to host women from United Arab Emirates, Nov. 13-14

FMU's Mass Communication and Gender Studies programs will play host to a forum titled "Middle East Meets West: Intercultural Dialogues with Women of the United Arab Emirates," Monday, Nov. 13.

The event will begin at 4 p.m. in the Lowrimore Auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public.

FMU will host 10 female students from Zayed University in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates. The students will be on campus all day Monday, Nov. 13, and Tuesday, Nov. 14. They will attend classes, dine with faculty and students, tour the campus, participate in interviews with FMU mass communications students and participate in the forum.

All of the Zayed University students are mass communication majors and will be traveling with former FMU broadcast journalism professor Ed Freedman, who now lives in Abu Dhabi and teaches mass communication at Zayed University.

Zayed University also hosts a bi-annual "Women as Global Leaders" conference, which last year attracted such distinguished speakers as Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland, and Queen Rania of Jordan. FMU French professor Liz Zahnd presented a paper at the conference last year, and is organizing the Emirate women's visit.

"During my stay in the United Arab Emirates, I was impressed by the graciousness and hospitality of the Emirate people and I found the Zayed University students to be extremely well-read and articulate," said Zahnd. "This is a wonderful and rare opportunity for cultural exchange between South Carolinians and Middle Eastern women."



Pee Dee Fiction Festival

November 9-11, 2006

Francis Marion University

Francis Marion University is proud to announce its first annual Fiction Festival, a celebration of the book.

All scheduled events will be held on campus.
Admission is free.

Featured Speakers

 <p>Ellen Gilchrist National Book Award Winner for <i>Victory Over Japan</i>. A native of Mississippi, Gilchrist attracted national acclaim with the publication of her book <i>In the Land of Dreamy Dreams</i>.</p>	 <p>Dinah Johnson A writer of children's books including <i>All Around Town</i> featuring the photographs of Richard Smith Roberts, a South Carolina photographer in the early part of the 20th century.</p>	 <p>Andre Dubus, III New York Times No. 1 best selling author featured on Oprah's Book Club for <i>House of Sand & Fog</i>. <i>House of Sand & Fog</i> was the basis of a major motion picture starring Ben Kingsley.</p>
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For more information and directions, visit our website:
<http://alpha1.fmarion.edu/~pdfiction/> or its link at www.fmarion.edu
or call the English Department at 843-661-1371.

Faculty/Staff News

Kenneth Kitts, professor of political science, is the author of the September 2006 guest commentary for Praeger Security International Online (PSIO).

His analysis of "National Security, Party Politics, and the Presidential Election of 2008" was prepared at the invitation of the editor. PSIO is a subscription-based database for professionals that contains an extensive array of reference works, primary documents, bibliographies, and topical commentaries.

James (Jamie) Danford of Florence has joined the FMU staff as a lead groundskeeper. He is a native of Ariton, Ala.

Joyce Durant, acquisitions librarian, has completed the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission's Equal Employment Opportunity Professional Certification Program. Durant serves as FMU's Affirmative Action coordinator and Title IX officer.

J. Darren Robinson of Turbeville has joined the FMU staff as a crafts-

man-electrician.

Wendy Watts of Sumter has joined the FMU staff as accounts receivable manager.

Benefits Day 2007 is scheduled for Oct. 3. Mark your calendars for another terrific day of fun, fellowship, and benefits education. FMU Athletics has scheduled its annual Chicken Bog fundraiser, along with the Student Alumni Association Book Fair, for the same day.

United Way seeks help from faculty and staff for campaign

The United Way campaign for 2007 is under way. Traditionally, the faculty and staff at Francis Marion University have supported this important community effort, and we ask for your participation once again. When you give to United Way, you give to 20 agencies that know how to change lives in our community.

The theme for this year's campaign is "What Matters." And, what matters is that you can help change lives through your support of United Way.

For more than 50 years, United Way of Florence County has served the greater Florence community. United Way has cared about the health, education, and needs of the children, adults, families and seniors living throughout Florence County, including the cities of Florence, Johnsonville, Coward, Scranton, Timmonsville, Pamplico, Olanta and Lake City.

When you support the United Way, you are helping people right here in our community. Your donation remains in

Florence County assisting those who need our help all over the county.

A brochure and gift form have been sent to faculty and staff through campus mail. You may make a one-time gift by simply writing a check made payable to "United Way" or you may contribute through payroll deduction. Return the form to the Community Relations Office by Nov. 15. If you have any questions, call Community Relations at 1225.

Entrepreneur magazine lists FMU in ranking of top programs

FMU is listed in Entrepreneur magazine's fourth-annual ranking of the nation's top entrepreneurial colleges.

The listing is a joint effort between Entrepreneur magazine and the Princeton Review. The Princeton Review, a leading provider of educational services, surveyed more than 700 undergraduate and business schools about their offerings in entrepreneurship. The survey included questions covering everything from mentoring, experiential learning and specific course offerings to alumni successes and career prospects of current students.

The magazine ranks the top 25

undergraduate and top 25 graduate programs. FMU appears on a list of additional entrepreneurship programs, along with schools such as Cornell University, Dartmouth College, the University of Florida, Johns Hopkins University and the University of Michigan.

The FMU School of Business and its Donald E. Kelley Small Business Institute conduct a number of entrepreneurship programs. In July, FMU hosted a three-day program of entrepreneurship training for 29 local teachers. Also in July, FMU hosted a weeklong residential business camp for 16 students from Marion High School.

"The faculty, staff, and students in our School of Business deserve the praise for creating an environment where creativity, innovation, and new venture creation are recognized as the keys to wealth creation in our society," said Barry O'Brien, dean of FMU's School of Business. "In our entrepreneurship camp this summer, seeing 16-year-olds feel the magic of creating their own business plan was exciting to behold."

For more information about the rankings or to view FMU's listing, go to <http://www.entrepreneur.com/top-colleges>.

UPCOMING HOLIDAY PARTIES - MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Faculty & Staff Christmas Party • Friday, Dec. 8 • 5-7 pm Drop in at Wallace House
Christmas Party following at the Cottage from 7-10 pm
Santa Party for Children • Wednesday, Dec. 13 • 3:30 - 5:30 pm at Wallace House

Business students raise \$1,000 for Boys & Girls Clubs

A group of business students at Francis Marion University has raised \$1,000 for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Pee Dee.

The students presented a \$1,000 check to the Boys & Girls Clubs on Oct. 17.

The project was part of the Honors Program Introduction to Business class taught by Mary R. Dittman.

"The students raised every penny of this money," said Dittman, an instructor of marketing at FMU. "The class was challenged to develop a service project that would benefit the community, and the students chose to raise money for the Boys & Girls Clubs. While the funds are specifically for children's programs at the clubs, we felt that each local club should have the discretion about how to best



provide for members' needs."

Class members Will Cantrell, Paul Cheezem, Laura Corbin, Jeffrey Matthews, Ryan Melton, Bryan Morrison, Matthew "Taylor" Norfleet, Sarah Pierce, Samone Thomas, and Tiffany Williams worked with businesses and individual donors to raise the funds. One hundred percent of the money raised will be donated to the Boys & Girls Clubs.

"It's a great feeling to be helping kids," said Pierce. "There are only 10 of us, but it's really rewarding to know that local children are going to benefit from our efforts."

For more information, contact Dittman at 1495 or mdittman@fmarion.edu.

FMU hosts high school students for Teacher Cadet College Day

Francis Marion University hosted 188 Teacher Cadets from 13 area high schools for Teacher Cadet College Day, Wednesday, Oct. 25.

The guest speaker was Jennifer "Buffy" Murphy, a fifth-grade teacher at Irmo Elementary School in School District Five of Lexington and Richland counties and the 2007 South Carolina Teacher of the Year.

Twice each year, the FMU School of Education sponsors a College Day, when cadets visit campus to meet other cadets from the area and get a taste of university life at FMU.

These cadets have FMU ID cards made, take a tour of the Rogers Library with the reference staff, tour the Hewn-Timber Cabins, and take a tour of the campus, all to acquaint them with FMU facilities, programs, and services available to them as members of the FMU family.

The students also had a group activity and heard presentations about early childhood education and financial aid.

Participating high schools were: Aynor, Dillon, Hartsville, Kingstree Senior, Lakewood, Lamar, Manning,

Marlboro, Mayo, Mullins, Timmons-ville, West Florence, and Wilson high schools.

High-achieving high school juniors and seniors with an interest in becoming educators can apply to South Carolina's Teacher Cadet program.

The Teacher Cadet program is an introduction to the teaching profession. Its main purpose is to encourage students who possess a high level of academic achievement and the personality traits found in good teachers to consider teaching as a career.

Patriots named an NFCA Academic Scholar-Athlete Team

The National Fastpitch Coaches Association recently announced its Academic Scholar-Athlete Teams for the 2006 season, and Francis Marion University was one of 56 NCAA Division II programs to garner recognition – and the only Peach Belt Conference school to be named to the list.

The Academic Scholar-Athlete Teams are based on cumulative team grade-point averages submitted by NFCA member head coaches for the 2005-06 academic year. Squads are

named in six categories: all three NCAA divisions, NAIA, junior college, and high school.

The Patriots compiled a 3.163 cumulative grade-point average and were ranked 43rd among Division II programs. FMU was one of only three South Carolina institutions to make the Division II list. FMU previously earned this honor in 1999 and 2000.

"This is an award that obviously makes a coach proud," said FMU head coach Stacey Vallee. "The team members are succeeding both on and off the

playing field, and are successfully upholding the moniker of 'student-athlete'."

Francis Marion posted a 27-16 record this past spring, finished sixth in the Peach Belt Conference regular-season standings, and narrowly missed a bid to the NCAA Division II Tournament for the third consecutive year.

Ten of the squad's 16 players were named to the PBC Presidential Honor Roll following the season.



Retirement discussions on November 8

Francis Marion University will host another of the ongoing series of Retirement Discussions on Wednesday afternoon, from 2:30 pm to 4 pm. Glenn King, South Carolina Retirement System representative, will bring us up to date on legislative changes for this year in the Hendrick Room of The Cottage. The discussion will include

enrollment options for new hires, service purchase options, TERI disbursement options, retirement options, and any other concern you may have regarding your retirement plan.

Please plan to take advantage of this opportunity. You may stay later than 4 pm for individual conversations with Glenn King.

8th Annual McLeod Diabetes Center Health Fair

McLeod will host a free diabetes health fair at the McLeod Medical Plaza on 800 East Cheves Street on Saturday, November 4 from 10 am until 2 pm.

Screenings will be offered for blood sugar and blood pressure. There will also be eye screenings and foot checks. Nutritional information will be available as well as current information on medication.

Vendors will have the latest diabetes products for your inspection, and head and neck massages will be

give. Srr prizes will be awarded and much, much more.

There will be several special presentations including a Healthy Holiday Cooking demonstration, an exercise demonstration called "Work that Sugar Down," and "Laughter - The Best Medicine." Men's Issues and Diabetes in Children of the Pee Dee will be addressed by Pamela Clark, M.D. and Johnny Willis, MS, LPC/I, CAC.

For more information, call the McLeod Diabetes Center at 843-777-6000.

Jobs On-Campus

(as of 10-30-06)

- Assistant Professor of Accounting
- Grant Writer for Center of Excellence Activities (Part-time, Temporary)
- Chief Information Officer
- Police Officer
- Assistant/Associate/Professor of Accounting - Managerial/Cost Accounting
- Assistant/Associate/Professor of Accounting - Financial Accounting
- Assistant Professor of Political Science
- Chair, Department of History
- Assistant Professor of Sociology (Criminal Justice)
- Assistant Professor of Sociology (Gerontology/Health)
- Assistant/Associate/Professor of Management
- Assistant/Associate/Professor of Mass Communication (Broadcast Journalism)
- Assistant Professor of Psychology (Cognitive Psychology)
- Assistant Professor of Psychology (School Psychology)
- Assistant Professor of Psychology (Experimental Psychology)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Elementary Education)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Special Education)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Educational Research)
- Computer Technician - Academic Computing Services
- Assistant Professor of English
- Assistant Professor of Art Education
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Theatre History
- Instructor of Chemistry
- Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs
- Assistant/Associate/Professor of Nursing (2)
- Assistant Professor of Spanish
- News Editor/Writer
- Assistant Professor of Biology
- Assistant Professor of Biology (Tenure-track)
- Assistant Professor of Physics
- Craftsman

Visit Human Resources, SAB 105, or call 1140.

Coming Up On Campus

NOV.

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| through Nov. 16 | Art Gallery Series: "4-Series," Drawings and Sculptures by Linda McCune, HFAC gallery |
| through Nov. 16 | Art Gallery Series: "Predicated by Loss" Ceramics by Doug Gray, HFAC gallery |
| through Nov. 20 | Art Gallery Series: Student Works by FMU Photography Classes, UC gallery |
| 7 | 7:30 pm Concert: Florence Symphony Youth Orchestra, McNair auditorium |
| 9-11 | Pee Dee Fiction Festival, Lowrimore Auditorium, CEMC |
| 12 | 3 pm Dooley Planetarium Show: "The Evening Sky," CEMC |
| 14 | 8 pm First Tuesday Arts Event Concert: Sherry and Benjamin Woods, viola and piano, Kassab Hall, HFAC |
| 16 | 12:45pm Artist Lecture by Linda McCune, Room 213, HFAC |
| 16 | 8 pm Concert: FMU Jazz Express, McNair auditorium |
| 21-Dec.16 | Art Gallery Series: Senior shows by FMU graduating visual arts majors, HFAC gallery |
| 26 | 3 pm Dooley Planetarium Show: "The Christmas Star," CEMC |
| 28 | 8 pm Concert: Cut Time Show Choir, Kassab Hall, HFAC |

Patriot Digest deadlines

Patriot Digest is published twice monthly and distributed on paydays.

The printing schedule is:

Copy due	Publication
Nov. 8	Nov. 15

Submit articles via e-mail at gballard@fmarion.edu. Questions or comments? Contact Garry Ballard at 1220.

Patriot Digest is produced for the Francis Marion University faculty and staff by the Office of Communications Services, SAB 116.