

Patriot Digest

The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter

April 13, 2007

FMTC offers tours of archaeology site



Map of South Carolina Historical Trails

The Francis Marion Trail Commission is offering public tours on Saturday, April 14, of an archaeology site in Marion County believed to have

been occupied by General Francis Marion.

The tours of the archaeological work of Steven D. Smith, FMTC contrac-

tor and University of South Carolina archaeologist, will be on a possible Francis Marion site in the Britton's Neck area of Marion County.

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the FMTC teamed up to initiate the excavation. Based on discoveries in preliminary surveys, Smith said the site is the possible location of a redoubt or fort and camp used by General Francis Marion, the "Swamp Fox" in 1780 and 1781. The site is near Dunham's Bluff on the Great Pee Dee River across from Snow's Island.

Guided tours of the site will be conducted at 9 and 11 a.m., and 1 and 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 14. The staging area for the tours is on Hwy. 378, nine miles east of the Hwy. 378 and Hwy. 41/51 intersection in Kingsburg. This intersection is approximately 30 miles south of FMU and three miles north of Johnsonville.

Parking is available. The tour is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Robert C. Barrett, executive director of the FMTC at 843-229-1136.

Educator and Businessman to Receive Honorary Degrees, May 5



Frank H. Avent

An educator and Florence businessman will be awarded honorary degrees from Francis Marion University during spring commencement ceremonies at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 5, in the Smith University Center gymnasium.

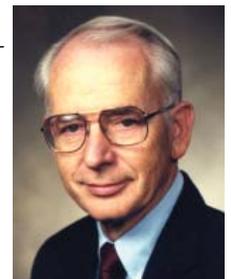
Selected to receive honorary doctoral degrees are: William C. Moran of Murrell's Inlet and Frank H. Avent of Florence.

Moran also will be the commencement speaker for the 386 candidates for FMU degrees. Candidates include 347 students for undergraduate degrees and 39 for graduate diplomas.

Moran retired as president of Lander University in 2000

and served as special assistant to the minister of higher education and scientific research for United Arab Emirates from 2000 to 2005. Prior to his eight-year stint as president of Lander, he served as vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty at FMU for 14 years.

The lifelong educator began his career as a teacher of high school Latin and English in Baltimore, Md., nearly 50 years ago. After earning his doctorate in English at the University of Tennessee in 1965, he taught at Southeast



William C. Moran

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...HONORARY

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Missouri State University and then at Berry College, where he also chaired the department of English and was named Faculty Member of the Year and Charles A. Dana Distinguished Professor. In 1971, he acceded to academic dean at Berry, and from 1975-1978 was dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Winthrop University.

During his career, Moran served on and often chaired numerous civic, educational and charitable committees to include the United Way, the Boys Scouts of America, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education, the Peach Belt Athletic Conference, the South Carolina Association of State Colleges and Universities and Kiwanis International.

Moran has also been awarded the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor.

He and his wife Margaret have two sons, Kevin and Thomas.

Avent spent many years as president and chief executive officer of Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Florence until his family sold the business on July 1, 2005. He is currently the general manager of Pepsi Cola of Florence, LLC.

The lifelong Florence resident was a 1958 graduate of McClenaghan High School. From there, he went on to earn a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of North Carolina in 1962.

His extensive community involvement includes his service as a board member for the following corporations and organizations: FMU Foundation Board of Directors, Seibels Bruce Group Inc., Miller Communications, IRIX, the S.C. Soft Drink Association, the Boys & Girls Club of the Pee Dee, United Way, House of Hope Advisory and Development, the Salvation Army, and Coker College. Avent is also the chairman of the board of trustees at Central United Methodist Church.

As a member of the FMU Capital Campaign Steering Committee and in many other ways, Avent has been an avid supporter of FMU. In 1977, the company established the Pepsi Cola Bottling Co. Scholarship, which is funded annually. Avent and Pepsi also established the A.R. Avent Chair in History in 1987, and contribute to the Patriots athletic program and numerous other university endeavors.

For his service to the community, Avent has been awarded the Order of the Palmetto, the United Way Ashby P. Lowrimore Community Service Award, Florence County Chamber Business Person of the Year Award, Boys & Girls Club Champion of Youth Award and Board Member of the Year Award for the S.C. Soft Drink Association.

He and his wife Jean have three children, Celeste Lindeman, Angela Lynch and Mary Holland.

FMU to hold poster fair

Faculty and staff are asked to identify and encourage students to participate in this year's campus-wide Research Poster Fair to be held Monday, April 23.

The Fair will take place from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Lowrimore Auditorium lobby.

Whether they are seniors working on special projects, upper-level students who are performing experimental research or research papers, or similarly engaged students, faculty and staff are asked to encourage them to present their findings or projects at the fair this year.

A 50-word abstract must be submitted with the project by Wednesday, April 18 in order to participate in the fair.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three presentations.

For more information, call Teresa Herzog at 1562, or by email at therzog@fmarion.edu.

FMU hosts math conference

College students from the eastern Carolinas and Georgia participated in the Spring 2007 Francis Marion University Undergraduate Mathematics Conference on March 30.

The keynote speaker was Arlie Petters of Duke University. The topic of his speech was "Gravity's Cosmic Shadows."

Petters is a professor of mathematics and physics at Duke University. He was recruited by Duke from Princeton in 1998. Prior to his current position, Petters was an assistant professor of mathematics at Princeton from 1993 to 1998 and was an instructor of pure mathematics at MIT from 1991 to 1993. He holds a 1991 Ph.D. in mathematics from MIT with specialization in mathematical physics.

The conference included student presentations in all areas of mathematics. The event also included a graduate school panel discussion and a student awards ceremony.

Representatives from graduate programs at Winthrop and FMU and industries such as General Electric participated in the panel discussion. Students from FMU and Charleston Southern University attended the conference.

The conference was funded by Kappa Mu Epsilon, Houghton Mifflin, and an NSF grant through the MAA Regional Undergraduate Mathematics Conferences program.

Want the latest news about the Patriots?

Join the FMU sports e-mail list by e-mailing Michael Hawkins at mhawkins@fmarion.edu



Faculty/Staff News

Farrah Hughes, psychology faculty member, and husband Rhett have an addition to their family. Hughes gave birth to Rylie Julianne Hughes on April 5 at 8:15 p.m. Their baby girl weighed six pounds, 15 ounces.



Farrah Hughes

Sharon Moore Askins, assistant professor in the school of education, has been selected to serve on the Education Oversight Committee Task Force for Teacher Recruitment and Retention for 2007. The purpose of the task force is to evaluate current teacher recruitment and retention policies, particularly those that impact schools that have historically under-achieved. Included in the task force are representatives from the Department of Education, the Center for Educator Recruitment, Retention, and Advancement, institutions of higher learning, the Student Loan Corporation, the Commission on Higher Education, and classroom teachers from throughout South Carolina. The task force will make its report to the General Assembly in January 2008.



Sharon Moore Askins

Administrative Professionals Day will be held Wednesday, April 25 at the Cottage. There are two seating times: 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Reservation is required. Please contact Cortnie Turnberger, at 1262 or by email at cturnberger@fmarion.edu to do so.

Buddy Bilbrey, assistant professor of management information systems and computer science, co-authored a paper that was recently accepted for publication in the International Journal of Management titled: "Generating Due Date Assignment Data Sets for the Single-Machine Scheduling Problem: A Managerial Approach."



Buddy Bilbrey

The deadline to collect canned goods to benefit the Manna House and win the FMU Psychology Club's competition is **Friday, April 20**.

The canned-food competition is between the different departments on campus. Each department was given a blue collection bin on March 20 in which to place their canned goods.

Students, faculty and staff are all encouraged to participate in the competition and show their pride for their departments.

For more information, contact Teresa Herzog at 1562.

Francis Marion University will present academic awards to outstanding students during a ceremony **Monday, April 16**, at 7 p.m. in the McNair Science Building auditorium on campus.

Individual awards will be given to students judged to have the most promise of success in their respective academic programs.

Jennifer Liethen Kunka, assistant professor of English, **Latasha Decher Brand**, assistant dean of students, and **Teresa Johnson Ramey**, dean of students, along with 18 students were



Jennifer Kunka



Latasha Brand

initiated into Omicron Delta Kappa, Thursday, April 5.

Omicron Delta Kappa is a national leadership honor society which recognizes and encourages achievement in scholarship; athlet-

ics; social service and religious activities; campus government; journalism, speech and the mass media; and creative and performing arts.



Teresa Ramey

Nominations sought for Outstanding Staff Service Award

It is time again for Francis Marion University faculty and staff to make nominations for the Outstanding Staff Service Award. The 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 staff. 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 FMU.

Nominations should be submitted no later than May 15, 2007, to the Communications Services Office, 116 Stokes Administration Building. A nomination form appeared in the March 30 issue and is available to be submitted electronically from our website at www.fmarion.edu/news/nomination.htm. Contact Nancy Wright at 1220 for additional information.



Human Resources Update

McLeod offers health and fitness screenings

McLeod Health & Fitness is offering healthcare screenings throughout the month of April.

All screenings are held at the McLeod Health & Fitness Center located at 2437 Willwood Drive.

A blood pressure screening will be held Monday, April 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The cost of the screenings is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members.

For more information, contact the McLeod Health & Fitness Center at 843-777-3000.

To find out more about other McLeod Health & Fitness Center offerings, contact Rebecca Culbertson, coordinator of benefits, at 1143 or email her at rculbertson@fmarion.edu.

McLeod Health offers breast cancer screenings

McLeod Health is offering free breast cancer screenings on Tuesday, April 17, at McLeod Family Medicine Center at 555 E. Cheves Street. The screenings will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

To register, contact McLeod Reservations & Scheduling at 843-777-2005 or 800-667-2005.

Prevention Partners issue newsletter

The following link will provide employees with access to the Spring 2007 edition of *Avenues*, the S.C. Wellness newsletter from Prevention Partners: www.eipnews.sc.gov/newsletter.cfm. Topics include: Asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure, strokes and much more.

Jobs On-Campus

(as of 4-12-07)

- Assistant/Associate/Professor of Management
- Assistant Professor of English
- Assistant Professor of Art Education
- Assistant Professor of Physics
- Assistant Professor of Speech Communications
- Assistant Professor of History (Public History/United States History)
- Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs
- Performing Arts Center Director
- Child Care Director
- Visiting Assistant Professor of Management
- Director of University Communications
- Custodian
- Police Officer
- Part-time adjunct English faculty
- Part-time, temporary reference librarian

Visit Human Resources
SAB 105, or call ext. 1140

Coming Up On Campus

APRIL

April 3-17	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	Art Gallery Series: Student Works by FMU Visual Arts Classes, UC Gallery
April 10-May 5	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	Art Gallery Series: Senior Shows by Graduating FMU Visual Arts Majors, HFAC Gallery
April 15	3 p.m.	University Concert Choir, HFAC's Kassab Recital Hall
April 17	8 p.m.	University Wind Symphony, McNair Auditorium
April 17, 19	8 p.m.	Cut Time Show Choir, Kassab Recital Hall
April 19-May 5	8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.	Art Gallery Series: Student Works by FMU Painting Classes, UC Gallery
April 22	3 p.m.	Dooley Planetarium, Savoring the Night, CEMC, Second Floor
April 22	7:30 p.m.	FMU String Ensemble, HFAC's Kassab Recital Hall

Patriot Digest Deadlines

Patriot Digest is published twice monthly and distributed on paydays. The schedule for the next edition is: **Copy Due** April 25 for **Publication** on April 27. Submit articles via e-mail at acrosland@fmarion.edu.

Questions or comments? Contact Angela Crosland at 1227.

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