

Patriot Digest

Faculty and Staff Newsletter for Francis Marion University

February 15, 2008

FMU to celebrate Homecoming 2008

Francis Marion University will celebrate Homecoming 2008, Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 28-March 1. This year's theme is "Join the Revolution."

The events will kick off Thursday with a wine and cheese reception for School of Education alumni at 4:30 p.m. at The Cottage on the FMU campus.

As part of this year's Homecoming festivities, the School of Business will hold an alumni leadership breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in Erving Dining Hall on the university campus, Friday, Feb. 29. At this event, business alums have an opportunity to network with colleagues old and new.

On Friday night, festivities continue with an FMU Alumni Night at Redbone Alley restaurant at 7:30 p.m. There will be an alumni hospitality area upstairs with drink specials.

Saturday's festivities begin at 11 a.m. with the women's basketball alumni game in the Smith University Center gymnasium followed by the men's basketball alumni game at 11:30 a.m.

The PatriotFest feast of hamburgers and hotdogs will begin at noon on the lawn in front of the Smith University Center featuring live music and entertainment. A doubleheader between the Patriots and

Armstrong Atlantic State University will begin at 1 p.m. on the FMU softball field.

As part of homecoming celebrations, the FMU Athletic Department will sponsor a silent auction from 1:30 to 5 p.m. in the Smith University Center. All proceeds from the auction will support Patriot athletics. Also on Saturday, the Patriot Bookstore in the Smith University Center will offer special Homecoming sales and discounts from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Patriots will take on Clayton State University with the women's game beginning at 2 p.m. and the men's game at 4 p.m. Admission to the games is free. A Hall of Fame induction will be held at 3:45 p.m. The 2008 inductees are former basketball players Daryl Blume '80 and Jennifer Grande Parker '00.

FMU alums are invited to wrap up Homecoming activities at The Grille on the university campus at 7 p.m. where they will be entertained by the local band, "Midlife Crisis."

For more information, call Kim Turbeville, FMU director of alumni affairs, at ext. 1228.

Written by FMU Mass Communications student Cassadra Lopez

ROTC program offered on FMU campus

Francis Marion University is well on its way to becoming a host institution for the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program, offering students an opportunity to earn commissions on campus beginning this semester.

FMU students enrolled in the ROTC program are now working to become commissioned officers in the U.S. Army, Army Reserve and National Guard on the university campus instead of making the commute to the University of South Carolina, which currently serves as its host campus.

"There is a rich tradition of Army ROTC at Francis Marion, and we are excited that the program has been re-established on the campus,"

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said Darryl Bridges, FMU vice president for student affairs. "The program offers a great number of opportunities for student success while in college and beyond."

FMU had an on-campus Army ROTC program from 1983 through 1998. The

program was closed during the period the U.S. Army was downsizing in the 1990s. FMU commissioned more than 100 officers during its history, and the quality of second lieutenants from the program was consistently high.

The program resurfaced in April 2002 when the university, under the leadership of FMU President Fred Carter, entered a partnership agreement with the University of South Carolina and Morris College in Sumter to provide ROTC instruction and training for qualified FMU students on the USC campus.

That instruction continues with USC as the host site and the FMU campus is the place where a comprehensive curriculum of leadership and military courses and first hand experience is offered to those who enroll. Army ROTC is a two-year program for veterans and members of the Army Reserve and National Guard or four years for students with no prior military experience. It incorporates classroom and practical training in leadership, organization, planning, decision making and military skills. Two, three and four-year scholarships are available for qualified students.

Cpt. Chad Jones is the officer in charge with Lt. Michael Cason assisting in establishing the fundamentals of the on-campus program.

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Faculty news...

Mike Hughes, assistant professor of finance in the School of Business, co-authored the article titled "The effect of auctions on daily treasury-bill volatility" which was recently published in a 2008 edition of the prestigious Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance. Hughes' article makes another significant contribution to the understanding of intraday volatility in the key U.S. T-Bill market. Key findings are that for 52-week T-bills, issue-weeks demonstrate greater volatility than non-issue-weeks at the end of a run. Also, all three T-bill series exhibit higher volatility on the day they begin to trade in the when-issued market, as opposed to the day of issue.

In an effort to assist the library in its outreach to the Hispanic community in the Florence area, FMU Associate Professor of Spanish Wendy Caldwell and her Spanish 202 Honors students will be offering

a bilingual storytime series in the Children's Library. The series titled "La Hora de los Cuentos/Children's Storytime in Spanish and English," is for six weeks every Tuesday night at 7 p.m., from Feb. 12-March 18, in the Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation Library. The series is funded through a grant from FMU.

Terence L. Jackson of Florence has joined the FMU staff as a student services counselor in admissions.

Anna E. Poston of Pamplico has joined the NESAs staff as marketing manager of investor relations.

Michael W. Gaines Jr. of Darlington has joined the FMU staff as a programmer.

State Health Plan Prevention Partners Events for March 2008

The goals of The State Health Plan Prevention Partners are to increase the knowledge of state employees about health promotion and education topics, to increase the number of state employees who practice healthy lifestyle behaviors and to encourage the practice of early detection of disease. These goals are accomplished through program objectives in the areas of health promotion, disease prevention, early detection of disease and demand management. The State Health Plan Prevention Partners have provided a calendar for March 2008 offered for employees who are members of the state insurance program.

STATE HEALTH PLAN PREVENTION PARTNERS HAPPENINGS FOR MARCH 2008						
EMPLOYEE INSURANCE PROGRAM						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month	National Nutrition Month	Save Your Vision Month	National Brain Injury Awareness Month		1
2	3 Weight Loss Skills Workshop Columbia, SC	4	5	6 Living With Diabetes Columbia, SC	7	8
9	10	11	12 Healthy Eating for Healthy Numbers Columbia, SC	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 The State Health Plan Preventive Worksite Screening Aiken, SC	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Jobs on Campus

2-20-08

- Assistant/Associate Professor of Economics
- Assistant Professor of Management
- Assistant Professor of English
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Computer Science
- Assistant Director of the Donald E. Kelley Small Business Institute
- Director of Compliance
- Lead Teacher
- Lead Teacher-Certified in Early Childhood Education
- Custodian

More...

Jobs continued...

- Student Services Counselor-Admissions
- Part-time Press Operator
- Part-time Teaching Assistant/Floater (Business)
- Part-time/Temporary Substitute Teaching Assistants
- Part-time/Temporary Teaching Assistant

Visit Human Resources in
SAB, Rm 105 or call ext. 1140.

Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank establishes scholarship at FMU

Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank in Marion has established a scholarship at Francis Marion University in honor of Raphael Wolpert.

The Dr. Raphael Wolpert Scholarship has been established to honor Wolpert who has served on the Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank board for nearly 37 years and as chairman since 1998.

"We are pleased to pay tribute to the service of Dr. Wolpert by supporting education at Francis Marion. We feel the university has done a tremendous amount for the Pee Dee area just as he has," said William Johnson, CEO of Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank.

The recipient of the scholarship must be a resident of Marion. Preference will be given to an incoming freshman with a score of 1000 or above on the SAT. An upperclassman must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

"Bill Johnson and the Pee Dee Federal Board have been friends of this university for decades and their support is vitally important to us" said FMU president Fred Carter. "This generous gift will enable deserving students from Marion to remain in the Pee Dee to pursue their higher education."



(L-R): Dr. Fred Carter, Dr. Raphael Wolpert and William Johnson

Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank established two other scholarships at FMU. The James C. Hooks Jr. Memorial Scholarship was established in February 2001 to honor Hooks, who served as chairman of the board. The Malcolm C. Woods Jr. Scholarship was established in May 1987 to honor Woods, former president and director of the bank.

ROTC ... *Continued from front*

Both are enthusiastic about the potential for the students at FMU to be able to earn their degrees and commissions on campus, serving

both their state and country as commissioned officers.

"This is a great opportunity for students to establish leadership skills to use in military situations, and gain countless noble lessons to

make them successful in all their life endeavors," Jones said.

For more information, contact Cpt. Jones on campus at FMU at ext. 1836, email cjones@fmarion.edu.

Events Calendar

February/March

Art Gallery Series Feb. 19-April 3
 • Colleen Appleton Critcher: Abstracts;
 Angela Ketcham; Recent Works
 • Art and Craft: Robert F. Lyon
 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. HFAC

Dooley Planetarium Feb. 24
 "Follow the Drinking Gourd"
 3 p.m. CEMC, 2nd Floor

Homecoming March 1

First Tuesday March 4
 Chamber Music and Art Exhibits
 8 p.m. HFAC

Dooley Planetarium March 9
 "The Evening Sky"
 3 p.m. CEMC, 2nd Floor

Spring Break March 10-14

Hewn Timber Cabins March 11
 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

FMU to host Graduate and Professional Program Open House, Feb. 21

The Francis Marion University Office of Graduate Programs will host a Graduate and Professional Program Open House, Thursday, Feb. 21.

The event will be held from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in The Cottage on the FMU campus.

This event will highlight FMU's master's degree programs in psychology, education and business, as well as FMU's undergraduate

Bachelor of Science in Nursing program.

Faculty from each of these areas will be present to meet prospective students, outline program requirements and answer questions. Staff members will also be available to discuss admission and financial assistance.

For more information, call the Provost's Office at ext. 1284.

Astronomy Club interest meeting to be held

Individuals interested in being a part of an astronomy club are invited to attend a meeting on Friday, Feb. 29, at 7 p.m. in Room 102 in Leatherman Science Building.

The event is hosted by the FMU Physics and Astronomy

Department.

The meeting will help determine area interest, how often the group should meet, and provide information about telescopes for the amateur astronomer.

Todd Vaccaro, professor of

physics and astronomy, will give a brief presentation followed by a special observing session at the campus observatory (or planetarium show in case of inclement weather).

Contact Vaccaro at ext. 1553 for more information.

Twenty-eight students to participate in S.C. Physics Scholars Institute

Twenty-eight South Carolina and North Carolina high schoolers will participate in the second annual S.C. Physics Scholars Institute at Francis Marion University, Feb. 21-23.

The program will focus on nuclear physics, astronomy, laser physics and computational physics. Students will be introduced to the methods of thought and understanding that are used in physics and astronomy. They will perform experiments, analyze data and be encouraged to make sense of their observations in a scientific manner.

Numerous academic and social activities are also planned. The event will kick off with a welcoming reception that will be hosted by the faculty and students of the FMU Department of Physics and Astronomy. The core academic experience of the institute will be participation in advanced experiments in physics and astronomy. Participants will receive tours of FMU's signature laboratories, and there will be group activities in the FMU observatory.

All participants were nominated by their high school physics teachers, and have demonstrated aptitude in science and mathematics.

"The FMU Department of Physics and Astronomy is pleased to host some of the

state's brightest high school juniors and seniors for this event," said David Peterson, chair of the FMU physics and astronomy department and director of the institute. "These outstanding students will have a great opportunity to learn more about all areas of physics through a variety of experiments and other academic activities."

Participants in the S.C. Physics Scholars Institute, by hometown, are:

Anderson: Drew Hogg, Mark Manganello and Justin Rowland, T.L. Hanna High

Charleston: Sean Monahan, Cathedral Academy

Columbia: Chazz Sims, Ben Lippen High

Darlington: Dave Cohen and Kenny Winburn, Mayo High School for Math, Science and Technology

Effingham: Jessica Perkins, Christian Assembly

Florence: Kasey Bradley, Home School; Eric Fulmer, Florence Christian; Hunter Summersett, West Florence High; Sheng Zheng, South Florence High

Fort Mill: Eddie Szeman, Fort Mill Independent

Hartsville: Josh Tripp, Hartsville High

Hemingway: Brian Owens, Carvers Bay High

Hopkins: Taylor Smith, Hammond Academy

Liberty: Ryan Rahn, Pickens High

Moncks Corner: Frank New, Timberland High

Moore: Jefferson Whisenant, Spartanburg Day School

North Augusta: Nathan Towles, North Augusta High

North Charleston: Morgan Alber, Cathedral Academy

Orangeburg: Bashir Hamidi, Orangeburg-Wilkinson High

Rock Hill: Collin Smith, Palmetto Home School

Simpsonville: Zach Wilson, Palmetto High

Spartanburg: William Weir, Spartanburg High

Williamston: Aaron Leonard, Palmetto High

NORTH CAROLINA

Fayetteville: Jessica Glatz, Terry Sanford High

Parkton: Kevin Barkett, South View High

FMU Observatory to offer view of Lunar Eclipse, Feb. 20

The Francis Marion University observatory will hold a public viewing session Wednesday, Feb. 20, that will offer visitors a chance to see a total lunar eclipse.

The observatory will be open from 7 until 10 p.m., and the session is open to the public free of charge.

The lunar eclipse will begin at 8:43 p.m.

and reach totality at 10 p.m. The eclipse will continue through 12:09 a.m. This is the third total lunar eclipse in less than one year. Several partials are upcoming, but the next total eclipse of the moon won't take place again until Dec. 20-21, 2010.

The loosely structured FMU viewing programs allow visitors to come and go as they please. If weather conditions block viewing, this session will be canceled. The public may call 843-661-1355 for recorded information about the prospect of a clear sky to allow the event to be held.

Visitors to the observatory should dress

appropriately for the weather, as temperatures will be much cooler in the evening hours. Flashlights may be used for walking to the observatory, but visitors will not be allowed to drive out to the observatory unless prior arrangements have been made with the observatory director, Jeannette Myers.

The FMU observatory is located beyond the outfield fence of the FMU Softball Field, south of the Smith University Center. Visitors can park in Lot D at the southern end of the campus and follow the walkway to the observatory.

Persons requiring special assistance to visit the observatory, or seeking more information, may call ext. 1441. The observatory webpage is <http://astro.fmarion.edu/observe/>

Digest Deadline

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

Submit copy to the editor by February 25 for the February 29 edition. Contact the editor, Angela Crosland at acrosland@fmarion.edu or at ext. 1227.