# FRANCIS MARION



MEET OUR ALUMNI:

They Mean the World To Us

### President's Letter\_



President Carter

#### **Dear Friends:**

Over the past forty two years, this University has achieved many seminal objectives, but none has been more important than the graduation of over 18,000 alumni. These men and women have assumed positions of responsibility in education, commerce, science, medicine, the arts, and the humanities in this community, across the region, around the country, and throughout the world.

Wherever these graduates go and whatever they do, our goal is to keep them connected to their alma mater. We do this through a variety of media and an array of publications. Of course, we accomplish this most effectively by profiling their experiences and recounting their achievements. While we do this to some extent in all editions of the *VIEW*, this issue is devoted predominately to those people who represent the ultimate embodiment of an FMU education, our alumni.

We hope you enjoy this issue as we celebrate our graduates by telling selected stories of their successes and accomplishments. Of course, in a very real sense, they're our stories, too.

Sincerely,

Luther F. Carter President

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### **The Cover**



Equipped with knowledge, skills and experience, Francis Marion University graduates are making a global impact. Some alumni advance their education at graduate programs in the United States and abroad. Others move straight into careers in government, business, education, health care, nongovernmental organizations and nonprofits. A common thread that connects all our graduates is their drive to serve all over the world.

The VIEW is published biannually by the Office of Public and Community Affairs at Francis Marion University for alumni, friends and the University community.

Submissions are welcome.

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Francis Marion University offers equal opportunity in its employment, admissions and educational activities.

Francis Marion VIEW 1

# Meet our alumni serving stateside. It means the WOrld

FMU has a long-standing commitment to rural issues and addressing difficult societal problems. Our students receive the education needed to make a difference in the world. And, our graduates really are making a difference. In their practice and their research, they are changing the delivery of human services, influencing policy and addressing the challenges within the nonprofit sector, not to mention the impact they have as they serve as educators across the globe.

Barr

FMU graduates are discovering ways to address challenges in the following areas:

- Leadership and Local Capacity
- Regional Economic Development
- Education
- Infrastructure
- Tax and Finance
- Healthcare and Social Service Disparities

**LEADERSHIP** AND LOCAL CAPACITY Richard B. Barr '96 -

Sumter, S.C. Owner of Barr Development Consortium

He received the bachelor's degree in psychology from Francis Marion University and master's degree in counseling psychology from Webster University. Though the path to leadership was paved with turmoil,

his education at FMU gave him hope for the promising life he now enjoys. After leaving high school, Barr hoped to pursue a promising college basketball career, but some of his scholarship offers fell through. Then, he decided to attend FMU and hoped to play basketball as a walk-on. After 18 months of practicing with the team to no avail, he and a group of students formed an intramural team, which was undefeated for two consecutive years.

After college, Barr worked at a regional finance company and then began counseling at a prison addictions treatment unit. He became director of the Columbia Fatherhood Engagement Initiative, a joint effort between The Sisters of Charity Foundation, Columbia Urban League and the University of South Carolina's Institute for Families and Society.

While completing his master's degree, Barr was recruited by Clente Flemming, president of S.C. Community Bank. Barr managed the Sumter office, which during his tenure grew to more than \$15 million in total assets in six years.

Community/professional involvement: Board member, Caroline Mack Center for the Arts, S.C. Center Fathers & Families, Claflin University Center for Entrepreneurship and Development, Sumter Vision Committee, Sumter Downtown Economic Development Board, Sumter County Community Development Corp., Crime Stoppers and the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club; member, 100 Black Men of Greater Columbia

REGIONAL ECONOMIC **DEVELOPMENT** 

Brian Anderson '87 - Dalton, Ga. President and CEO of the Greater

> Dalton Chamber of Commerce

Brian Anderson is a native South Carolinian but has resided in Georgia since 1998. He and his wife Heather moved to Dalton in 2000 with their two children, Douglas and Sarah Whitney. He is a graduate of Francis Marion University with a B.S. in Economics.

After serving four years in the U.S. Army as a military intelligence officer, Anderson entered the world of business spending

10 years in the Coca-Cola system with assignments with both Coca-Cola Bottlers and the Coca-Cola Company. In 2000, he came to Dalton and joined Dalton Beverage Company as a sales and marketing executive. In 2004, he ran for and was elected chairman of the Whitfield County Board of Commissioners. He served from 2005-2008.

In 2008, Anderson was selected as the president and CEO of the Greater Dalton Chamber of Commerce.

Anderson has maintained an active role in the Dalton community, serving on the Board of Directors for the North



Georgia Northwestern Technical College board members with Brian Anderson standing in the back row, far left

Georgia Regional Development Center, Dalton-Whitfield Solid Waste Authority, Chief Elected Officers/ Workforce Investment Board, and the Northwest Georgia Healthcare

Partnership. Past memberships include the North Georgia Metropolitan Planning Organization, Carpet City Rotary Club, the Education is Essential Foundation and the Southeast High School's "Project Success" program. He is also a graduate of Leadership Dalton-Whitfield, Leadership Georgia, and the Georgia Academy for Economic Development.

Anderson is a member of First United Methodist Church where he teaches Sunday school and serves as a Lay Worship leader. He is a member of the Dalton Rotary Club, serves as the Lt. Governor's appointee to the Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, and serves on the boards of the Georgia Northwestern Technical College and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Whitfield, Murray, and Gordon County.

#### **EDUCATION**

Shirley Gamble '83 - Fayetteville, N.C. Principal of Westover High School, Cumberland County, Principal of the Year

Gamble has been selected as the 2012 Wells Fargo Principal of the Year for the Cumberland County Schools in a program sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and Wells Fargo.

Gamble now moves on to compete with other local award recipients from the Sandhills/South Central Region of the state. After the state selection process is completed, one principal will be chosen as the 2012 Wells Fargo Principal of the Year.

Gamble, who has served as a school administrator for nine years, started her 26-year career in education after receiving a B.S. in mathematics from FMU. In

2001, she obtained her master's degree from Campbell University. Gamble is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in educational leadership from Fayetteville State University (FSU). Throughout her career, she has served on numerous educational teams, boards, and advisory committees and has been an active member of several professional and community organizations.

As a school administrator in

Cumberland County, Gamble is gaining a reputation of 'turning schools around.' As an effective agent of change at LNJMS,



Gamble transitioned as the instructional leader of Westover High School, which was identified as a low-performing school in the monitored Turnaround Schools Program with a performance composite score of 42.6. "With a committed and dedicated leadership team, I facilitated the reform efforts for the school to achieve recognition for School of Progress and met expected academic change," said Gamble.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Col. Steve Bristow '82 – Fort Belvoir, Va. Deputy Program Executive Officer

for Infrastructure, Program Executive Office.

Enterprise

Information Systems

Colonel Bristow was born in Sumter and is a graduate of Francis Marion College. He was commissioned through ROTC as an Army Signal Corps Officer. He earned an MBA from Western International University in Phoenix, Ariz. His military education includes the Signal Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the U.S. Army Command and General

Staff College and the Advanced Program Manager's Course. He is a 2004 graduate of the U.S. Army War College.

Colonel Bristow served in a variety of command and staff positions. He was a Battalion Signal Officer for 3/68 Armor, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo. In Schwabish Gemund, Germany, he was a Company Commander in the 38th Signal Battalion, 56th Field Artillery Brigade (Pershing). At Fort Bragg, N.C., he was an Assistant Operations Officer in the 4th Psychological Operations (PSYOP) Group (Airborne) and Company Commander of the 90th Strategic Dissemination Company, 4th PSYOP Group (Airborne). While at Fort Bragg he served in Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm.



Bristow, third from left

His Acquisition Corps assignments include duties as a Signals Test Officer with the Electronic Proving Grounds (EPG) at Fort Huachuca. Ariz. He served as a Systems Acquisition Manager and Chief of Materiel Branch,

U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) at Fort Bragg, N.C. While assigned to the Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) in Alexandria, Va., he performed duties as Chief of the Command and Control (C2) Division and as a Senior Test and Evaluation Officer for the C3 Evaluations Directorate. Colonel Bristow served as an Armaments Cooperation Country Desk Officer for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army - Defense Exports and Cooperation (DASA-DEC), Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (ASA(AL&T)). He was responsible for

U.S. Army Armaments Cooperation activities with Canada and ten European countries. As a Product Manager, Colonel Bristow served on the Future Combat

> Systems (FCS) program as PM for the FCS Advanced Collaborative Environment (ACE). Prior to his assignment as DPEO, he served as Project Manager for Enterprise Infostructure

(PM EI) and as Project Manager for DOD Biometrics.

#### TAX AND FINANCE

Dr. Katherine Jackson '82 - Kirksville, Mo. Associate Dean and Professor of Finance at Truman State University

Jackson received her B.S. in business from FMU and the Ph.D. in finance and banking from the University of South Carolina.

Prior to her arrival in Kirksville, Jackson was associate dean at the School of Management at Marist College in Poughkeepsie,

N.Y. Before moving to New York, Jackson was the assistant dean at the School of Business at Indiana University - South Bend where she had also served as director of graduate business programs. Prior to her taking on administrative roles, she proudly served for nearly 15 years as a full-time faculty member at Indiana

Bend.





Far left, Dr. Katherine Jackson served as panelist on entrepreneurship and small business risks and rewards discussion.

Jackson is the author of numerous articles as well as a finance textbook that incorporates collaborative learning techniques. She has given numerous presentations about how to use collaborative learning in business education. She has also given workshops on financial analysis to non-financial executives at several major Midwest corporations. She was previously a member of the board of directors of the Economics Club of Michiana and the Financial Executives' Institute. Her research interests include index investing and exchange traded funds. Jackson is a member of the Midwest Finance Association and the Eastern Finance Association.

Jackson and her husband, Keith, opened Blink of an Eye in Kirksville two years ago to put both her creative talents and her business acumen to the test by taking the swan dive into entrepreneurship. The women's store offers such items as purses, scarves and jewelry and is managed by Keith. Their daughter, Sarah, helps out when she is not in class at Truman State University. She enjoys assisting her mom with buying decisions – giving the younger generation's input wherever she can.



#### **HEALTHCARE AND SOCIAL** SERVICE DISPARITIES

Rex Noble '85 - Florida Executive Vice President of Portfolio Management of Cogdell Spencer **ERDMAN** 

Cogdell Spencer ERDMAN is lead by a synergistic team of seven executives with a unified vision - improving the quality of healthcare through innovative healthcare facilities. The company aims to deliver healthcare facilities - faster, better, smarter and greener - with

Noble guaranteed cost. They design,

construct, develop and manage healthcare facilities. With in excess of 5,000 completed projects throughout the country, it has a well-honed national perspective, coupled with a strong grassroots process that is deeply rooted in the local community.

As executive vice president of Portfolio Management of Cogdell Spencer ERDMAN, Noble ensures that the performance and value of the company's real estate portfolio are maximized.

With more than 20 years' portfolio management experience, Noble's responsibilities range from long-range asset management strategy formulation to property management and leasing, lease administration and portfolio risk management.

Noble joined the company in 1996 as a property manager. Three years later, he was promoted to vice president. Prior to being promoted to his current position, Noble served as senior

vice president of asset management.

A graduate of FMU, Noble is a member of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) where he is an active member of ULI's Healthcare and Life Science Council. Noble is a member of the Charlotte Board of Realtors and holds real estate licenses in Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina and South Carolina.



Noble family

### Alumni serving internationally



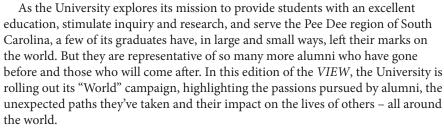








Matthew Bonds leads group.



Read on to learn about two FMU graduates who are not just changing the world - they are saving it.



**MATTHEW BONDS '98** 

Research Associate, Harvard University Kigali, Rwanda



Bonds

Poverty can make you sick. It has been said that one of the world's most ruthless killers and the chief causes of suffering on earth is extreme poverty. This statement emphasizes the importance of poverty as a variable adversely influencing health.

Nowhere is that more apparent than in parts of Africa or elsewhere in the developing world where there are few social safety nets, no disability insurance programs, many more deadly and disabling health threats — and the ability to work is basically a matter of survival.

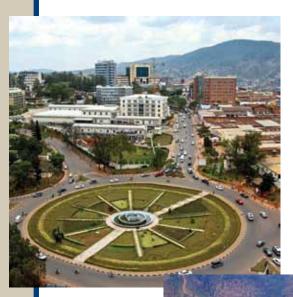
That's why Matthew Bonds, who lives and works in Rwanda with the organization created by health activist Paul Farmer called Partners in Health, is trying to bring clarity and hard numbers to what many know as the "cycle of poverty and disease."

His work as a research associate at Harvard University allows him to explore relationships between ecology, infectious diseases, and economic development, with an applied focus on the role of healthcare in promoting economic growth in areas of extreme poverty.

Matthew Bonds has a Ph.D. in economics and a Ph.D. in ecology from the

University of Georgia. He joined the Harvard School of Public Health and Harvard Medical School faculty after a postdoctoral fellowship in sustainable development under the mentorship of Jeffrey Sachs at the Earth Institute at Columbia University.

While developing formal theoretical frameworks, Bonds works with Partners in Health along with government bodies in Rwanda to measure the socioeconomic and health impacts of their health system. These efforts rely on a broad range of data and methods, including population and business survey data, geographic information systems, and mathematical and statistical modeling.



Two images of the city of Kigali, Rwanda.



Students wear uniforms to school.



Slightly different sleeping arrangements



Robinson and the President of Guyana

**EVERETT ROBBIE ROBINSON '09** 



Robinson with school children



Robinson traveling with Peace Corps group.



Peace Corps

Georgetown, Guyana

Robinson

In each project, Peace Corps volunteers are asked to assist in the development of human capacity. Each is offered the chance to enhance the capabilities and self-reliance of his/her counterparts and host communities while learning how to perceive the world more broadly and to operate with credibility and success in a foreign environment. When Robinson graduated from FMU with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and one in computer science, he knew that exploring the world was the only option he would

entertain.

"I have always taken great pleasure in helping others," Robinson said. "I love people and all the differences we have. The Peace Corps has given me the opportunity to help a great number of people with massive differences," said Robinson.

In Guyana, education is a national priority. There is considerable agreement in society that the road to national development and advancement can be achieved only through effective educational systems implemented from the nursery to

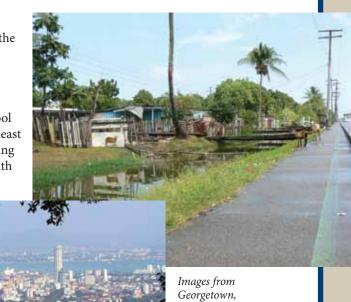
tertiary levels. In order to improve human capital, Guyanese citizens require the opportunity to reach their fullest potential through educational opportunities. As a teacher, Robinson is assigned to a primary school in which he teaches for at least 20 hours each week, focusing on literacy, numeracy, health and family life skills, and information

communication technology.



Amazing flora and fauna

Robinson and coworker building fences.



Guyana



The Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center launched its first season with five different series that include Broadway shows, concerts, dance, family oriented shows and a variety series as well as a wide range of acts in the Black Box Theatre.

From plays to musicals, the Center hosted an impressive lineup of musicians and performers including bluegrass, classical, Celtic and swing, dance styles ranging from tap to modern to classical ballet, family-friendly shows that showcase storytelling, masks and marionettes, and a bit of theatre and comedy thrown in for good measure.

"The opening season of performances

delightfully diverse. It includes nationally renowned artists as well as regional touring companies and student performance groups. We are confident that this program of events will accomplish what good academic theatre should - entertainment and education," said FMU President Fred Carter. "Laura Sims and her staff are providing us with a fine inaugural year."

Some of the season's highlights include:

• In the Broadway series, "The Color Purple" is based on the classic Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Alice Walker and the moving film by Steven Spielberg.

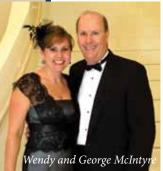
• In the Concert Series, Grammy-winning singer Kathy Mattea performs.













the spirit and energy of the country's best young dance talent with the passion and creative vision of outstanding choreographers.

- In the Family Series, the highly animated Garry Krinsky brings his non-stop energy to the stage.
- In the Variety Series, Second City's "Laugh Out Loud" tour showcases its entirely unique way of creating and performing comedy.
- In the Black Box Theatre, 12 different shows feature several genres of performers.

The FMU Department of Fine Arts will have shows featuring its Concert Band, Jazz and String Ensembles, its Theatre program, and its Concert Choir and Cut Time Show Choir.

In addition to these performances, tickets are available to the Florence Symphony Orchestra's season which will make the Center its permanent home. Also, the Master Works Choir will be a resident company in the facility.

The 68,000 square-foot Center can seat 850 in the Mainstage Auditorium and up to 125 in the Black Box Theatre. As an educational facility, the Center houses classrooms and office space for some members in the FMU Department of Fine Arts. In addition, the building houses offices for the Florence Symphony, the FMU Music Industry faculty and the Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation.

Development and construction of the FMU Performing Arts Center was made possible by the generosity of the Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation, the state of South Carolina, the city of Florence and several private benefactors including BB&T, McLeod Health, Adele Kassab and others throughout the community.

Tickets may be purchased at www.fmupac.org, via telephone at (843) 661-4444, and at the FMU Performing Arts Center Box Office. Telephone and personal ticket sales are available Monday through Friday between 12-5 p.m. Subject to availability, tickets may be available for purchase at the door.











#### 2011-2012 Season at a Glance - By Series

#### **Broadway and More Series**

January 17, 2012 (7:30 pm) – The Color Purple

February 2, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Neil Berg's 100 Years of Broadway

Concert Series – sponsored by Progress Energy March 4, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Celtic Crossroads April 5, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Synergy Brass Quintet

May 17, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Steve Lippia-Simply Sinatra

#### **Dance Series**

March 1, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Ailey II April 9, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Moscow Festival Ballet - Chopiniana/Romeo and Juliet

#### **Family Series**

January 31 (6:30 pm) – Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad March 22 (6:30 pm) – Jason and the Argonauts

#### **Variety Series**

February 10, 2012 (7:30 pm) – The Second City "Laugh Out Loud" Tour May 26, 2012 (7:30 pm) – War Bonds: The Songs & Letters of World War II

#### **Black Box Events**

January 14, 2012 (2 pm/7:30 pm) – Andy Offutt Irwin-Kid Entrapment (afternoon)/ Book Every Saturday for a Funeral (evening)

January 27, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Barry Smith -Every Job I've Ever Had

February 11, 2012 (7:30 pm) – An Evening with Blues Master Scott Ainslie

March 10, 2012 (2 pm/7:30 pm) – The Cashore Marionettes-Simple Gifts (afternoon)/Life in Motion (evening) April 28, 2012 (2 pm) – Robbi K-Osebo's Drum

May 10, 2012 (7:30 pm) - Catie Curtis

#### **Department of Fine Arts Events**

February 7, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Concert Band February 20-24 (7:30 pm) & February 25, 2012 (2 pm) – Theatre Department -"Back Back Back"

April 12, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Jazz Ensemble April 15, 2012 (7:30 pm) – String Ensemble April 17, 2012 (7:30 pm) – Concert Band April 22, 2012 (3 pm) – Concert Choir/Cut Time Show Choir









### **Campus News**



Francis Marion University announced a record fall enrollment of 4,187. The fall 2011 total is an increase of 84 over the record enrollment of 4,103 in 1993. This fall's enrollment has jumped by 155 students from the 4,032 from last fall, or about 3.7 percent.

"This increase in student enrollment reflects very positively on the University's reputation and on the quality and accomplishments of our fine faculty," said FMU President Luther F. Carter. "Of course, it's the admissions staff who communicate all of this so successfully to prospective students. They've done a masterful job recruiting this year's class."

FMU draws students from all regions of the state, with 53 percent coming from the Pee Dee region. Ninety-five percent of its students come from 45 of the 46 counties in South Carolina.

The largest number of out-of-state students comes from North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Ohio, Maryland, Virginia, New York and Texas.

The largest number of international students comes from Canada, Germany, France, India, the United Kingdom, and Ireland.

### **100% pass** rate on **NCLEX-RN** licensure exam

One hundred percent of the spring 2011 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) graduates at Francis Marion University passed the NCLEX-RN licensure examination on their first attempt.

Thirty-three graduates posted perfect pass rates on the first attempt of the NCLEX exam and are licensed professional nurses.

"We are extremely proud of this year's nursing graduates, as well as our outstanding faculty," said Ruth Wittmann-Price, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Nursing. "This 100 percent performance is the result of much hard work and also reflects the success of FMU's nursing curriculum that requires students to demonstrate that they have the knowledge and skills we want for every nursing student and for every graduate."

Visit FMU's BSN nursing program for more information at www.fmarion.edu/ academics/nursing.

### U.S. News & World Report ranks FMU among the best of the South's regional universities

Francis Marion University has been ranked by U.S. News & World Report magazine as one of the South's best regional universities earning it a spot in the 2012 edition of "America's Best Colleges" by U.S. News Media Group.

For more than a decade, U.S. News & World Report has consistently ranked FMU among the South's best universities.

"We are honored to be selected as one of America's Best Colleges in the 2012 edition of the U.S. News & World Report," said FMU President Luther F. Carter. "This ranking endorses our continued commitment to scholarship and teaching and is a reflection of the quality of our distinguished faculty."

Changes in the ranking methodology last year have resulted in new category names for Best Colleges. Schools are designated National Universities, National Liberal Arts Colleges (formerly Liberal Arts Colleges), Regional Universities (formerly Universities-Master's), and Regional Colleges (formerly Baccalaureate Colleges).

As a regional university, FMU is listed among schools that provide a full range of undergraduate majors and master's programs. The 572 universities in this category are ranked

> against members of their peer group in one of four geographic regions - North, South, Midwest, and West - because, in general, they tend to draw students most heavily from surrounding states.

U.S. News categorizes colleges and universities primarily by mission and in some cases, region, using data in 15 indicators of academic excellence. The indicators used to

capture academic quality fall into six categories: academic reputation through peer assessment, retention of students, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving. The ranking formula gives greatest weight to academic reputation.

The exclusive rankings, which include more than 1,400 schools nationwide, are available today at www.usnews.com/ colleges and will also be published in the September issue of the U.S. News & World Report magazine.



**FMU trustees approve** master's degree in nursing

In today's fast-paced and ever-changing healthcare environment, the opportunities for nurses are virtually unparalleled. Students in Francis Marion University's Nursing Program are being educated to meet the demand and to pursue nursing paths that align with their interests and professional goals.

To that end, during its quarterly meeting in November, the FMU Board of Trustees approved a resolution to establish the offering of the Master of Science in Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner Degree Program. The only one of its kind in the region, the program is designed to have an immediate impact on the quality of patient care.

"The new degree program is a response to the serious shortage of primary care providers in the state and region. Nurse practitioners are uniquely qualified to address this issue," said FMU President Luther F. Carter.

The course of study equips students with the necessary skills and knowledge to assume the role of a primary health care provider in a variety of clinical settings. Didactic and clinical course content focuses on assessment and management of health promotion and health maintenance strategies, risk reduction, common acute and chronic alterations in health status for individuals and families across the lifespan, and role development.

FMU's Department of Nursing also offers a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. There are two BSN tracks; one for the pre-licensure student and the other for the Registered Nurse (RN) who would like to complete



### **Campus mourns long-time department chair**

Don Stewart, chair of the Department of Mass Communication at FMU, died on Nov. 18, 2011. Stewart was appointed chair in 2003, when the program became the 12th department in the College of Liberal Arts. At the time, he served as coordinator of the program in the Department of Fine Arts and Mass Communication.

Stewart, 68, had been a member of the FMU faculty since 1984. A native of North Apollo, Pa., he served as a reporter and editor on the staffs of several newspapers, including the Dayton (Ohio) Daily News, the Wilmington (N.C.) Star-News, the Kokomo (Ind.) Tribune, the Valley-Dispatch (Pa.), the Greenville (Ill.) Advocate, the Apollo (Pa.) News Record, and the Vandergrift (Pa.) News.

He was awarded the "Tops in Ohio Award" by the Ohio Newspaper Women's Association in 1982 and received Pulitzer Prize nominations for three of his investigative pieces written for the Dayton Daily News. He has received many other awards for his reporting.

Stewart taught at several colleges and universities, including Sinclair College, the University of Dayton, Roberts Wesleyan College and Michigan State University.

In 1995, Stewart drafted the proposal creating a major in mass communication at FMU. A member of the Society of Professional



Journalists since 1984, he served as a writing coach and consultant for the *Florence Morning News* and served as an expert witness in several libel lawsuits.

He earned a bachelor's degree from Greenville College in Illinois and a master's degree from Michigan State University.

### **Campus News**

### **Program brings** educators to Pee Dee

By: STEFFANI NOLTE

Published: September 18, 2011, in the Morning News

"Thrreee, six, nine, 12, 15, 18, 21," students in Lora Hutelmyer's math class at Rosenwald Elementary/Middle School rapped to learn their multiplication tables.

Hutelmyer is five weeks into her first year of teaching at the school in Society Hill.

She didn't always want to be a teacher; in fact, she realized only recently that the career path to which her major was leading her wasn't for her after all.

During her time at Penn State, Hutelmyer studied abroad in South Africa and realized she loved working with children. Teaching fifth-graders in an outdoor school while she was in college confirmed her feelings.

With a specialized degree in energy, business and finance, Hutelmyer took a huge risk in turning down a job offer in her field and joining Teach For America, through which she teaches sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders math.

"It is sometimes difficult to find math, science and foreign language teachers willing to teach in high-poverty or rural school," Darlington County Education Superintendent Dr. Rainey Knight said.

In South Carolina this year, there are 30 Teach For America teachers employed in Chesterfield, Clarendon, Darlington and Florence counties.

"If you look at it on paper, it's a risk," Dr. Erik Lowry, Florence School District 1 assistant superintendent of personnel, said, "but, one, the applicant pool for math and science teachers is not



Lora Hutelmyer, Rosenwald Elementary/Middle School math teacher, has her students hold up their arms before they can dive in to their timed multiplication table test.

very big, and, two, they already know the content and had good training."

"Miss Hutelmyer is doing an excellent job. She is a highcaliber teacher with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm. We are very pleased with the job she is doing at Rosenwald," Knight

Hutelmyer said she is happy with her placement, as well, because a small town like Society Hill is the perfect setting for a first-year teacher.

"I can easily go just down the street and talk to a parent, and parents are very involved because it's such a small school and that has made it such a huge help . . . . It's awesome because you can see the moment a child is finally getting it and how excited they get over it," she said.

More than 60 percent of Teach For America teachers continue teaching after fulfillment of their initial term and 42 percent of corps members remain in their initial placement schools.

### **FMU hosts symposium** on social media

The social media revolution has completely and forever changed the way the world communicates.

As a result, social media has become of vital importance for the political arena and anyone who has a message to communicate. With this in mind, FMU's Robert E. McNair Center for History and Government and the Department of Mass Communication presented the "Impact of Social Media" symposium on the FMU campus.

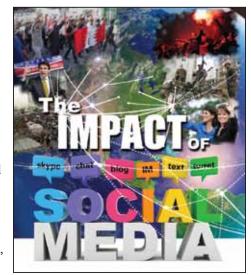
Day One of the symposium began with the showing of the movie "The Social Network" followed by an hour-long roundtable discussion of FMU faculty and students.

Panelists included Christopher Kennedy, Ph.D., associate professor of history; Maria Lundberg, associate professor in the Department of Mass Communication; Matthew Nelson, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Department of English; Cierra Buckman, a junior majoring in English; Brittany Parker, a senior majoring in mass communication; and Staci Poston, a senior

majoring in English and managing editor of the University's newspaper, *The Patriot.* 

Day Two began with a panel discussion on social media and national and international politics.

Academic panelists for this discussion included Jon Acuff, Sid Bedingfield, and Cori Dauber. Also on Day Two, a second panel



discussion on social media and South Carolina politics was held. Blogger panelists for this discussion included Nancy Mace, Laurin Manning, and Brad Warthen.

#### FMU prepares for eighthannual Arts International **Art Show**

Applications from local artists are being sought for the eighth-annual Art Show to be held during Arts International on Saturday, March 31, on the Francis Marion University campus.

The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. This one-day art exhibition and sales event is designed to promote the quality of diverse artisans residing in the region. In addition to booths displaying items for sale, several sites will have artisans demonstrating their skills. The art show will be juried, with artisan awards of \$600, \$300 and \$150 awarded to first, second and third places, respectively.

Held for its third year, Arts International features the best from Art's Alive and the Pee Dee International Festival.

Area artists are invited to participate. Applications must be received by Feb. 15, 2012. For more information about the art show or an application, go to www.fmarion.edu/ news/artsinternational or contact Kathy Johnson at the FMU Office of Public and Community Affairs at 843-661-1225, or kjohnson@fmarion.edu.



The sixth annual Pee Dee Fiction & Poetry Festival at Francis Marion University brought to campus four nationally known and bestselling authors on Nov. 10 and 11. The twoday event was well attended by the community.

The festival celebrated the works of poets Michael Chitwood and Patricia Smith and fiction writers Amy Bloom and Daniel Woodrell.

There were readings, lectures and panel discussions for participants. A number of fiction and poetry topics were covered and there were opportunities for book signings. Two screenings of the film "Winter's Bone" were held with panel discussions conducted afterward. The film is about an unflinching Ozark Mountain girl who hacks through dangerous social terrain as she hunts down her drug-dealing father while trying to keep her family intact.

FMU English Professor Rebecca Flannagan organized the event along with a committee consisting of a number of faculty members from the English Department.

For additional information about next year's festival, visit the Pee Dee Fiction & Poetry Festival website at http://peedeefiction.org/ or contact Flannagan at 843-661-1516, or rflannagan@fmarion.edu.

### Students gain global experience with the International Studies program

While most think of Francis Marion University as a regional college located in the Pee Dee, FMU students have the opportunity to study in several nations around the globe. Through international exchange programs, summer programs, travel programs and short-term research or cultural trips, the options for FMU



Lavon Davis and Rebecca Flannagan in Ireland

students to travel abroad have increased dramatically during the past decade.

With formal exchange programs established with universities in Canada, England, France, Germany, Ireland, and Mexico, students are able to spend a semester abroad while paying tuition at FMU and receiving credit toward their degree. With exchange participants from international universities studying at Francis Marion, students on campus can experience a bit of international culture as well. Spending a semester abroad has a tremendous impact on a student's perspective, especially for those who have limited travel experience.

Not every student is able to spend an entire semester studying in another nation, so there are several short-term international study opportunities as well. Every McNair Scholar spends a week traveling abroad during their freshman year for a short-term study course, and the FMU Honors Ambassadors can participate in an annual trip overseas, usually



Thomas Moye poses with statue.

during spring break. Some academic programs have developed opportunities in their fields of study for students, such as the Transcultural Nursing course, or the chance for students in the natural sciences to spend a summer session at the newly established Wildsumaco Biological Station located in Ecuador.

Regardless of their interests, FMU students have great opportunities to experience another culture while continuing their education.

### **Campus News**



Benjamin



Anderson



### Mayor and attorney, SC representative and nurse leader receive honorary degrees

During the December commencement ceremonies, Francis Marion University conferred honorary degrees to Mayor Steve Benjamin of Columbia, Rep. Carl Anderson of Georgetown, and former chair of FMU's Department of Nursing Dr. Sylvia Lufkin of Florence.

Benjamin was the commencement speaker.

There were 312 candidates for FMU degrees, 259 students for undergraduate degrees and 53 for graduate diplomas.

In a record turnout, Steve Benjamin was elected Mayor of Columbia in April 2010. Benjamin made history as the first African American mayor of South Carolina's capital city.

He has worked very actively in community initiatives with numerous public and private organizations dating back to his years at the University of South Carolina. He also served as Student Bar Association president at the USC School of Law where he graduated in 1994.

Anderson hails from Georgetown and represents it and Williamsburg counties, District 103. Elected to office in 2004, Anderson is completing his fourth term in office. He holds a business administration degree from Horry-Georgetown Technical College and also attended L.R. Nichols Seminary and Christian Bible College.

Lufkin joined the FMU faculty as professor of nursing and chair for the Department of Nursing in 2004. She retired from FMU in 2010 after heading the school's startup nursing program.

As the chair for the FMU Department of Nursing, Lufkin worked to effect the transfer of the Bachelor of Science in nursing program from the Medical University of South Carolina to FMU, participating in planning a new Department of Nursing building on the campus and providing the leadership for the development of the baccalaureate program to meet the needs of the Pee Dee.



### **Celebrating the legacy of Martin Luther King**

Francis Marion University and the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce hosted the 13th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on Jan. 12.



Washington

The event took place in the McNair Science

Building's Chapman Auditorium.

The keynote speaker for this event was Jesse Washington Jr., South Carolina's 4th Commissioner of the South Carolina Human Affairs Commission.

For information concerning FMU's recently revised Honor Code, visit www.fmarion.edu/students/handbook



### FMU, PDRTA and City of Florence



### partnership serves community at large

A partnership between Francis Marion University and a regional transit agency not only helps to serve a growing student population, it also addresses the needs of the community, in general.

FMU and the Pee Dee Regional Transportation Authority began a fixed route service connecting FMU with downtown Florence and the University's new performing arts center last fall. The two began their collaboration more than a year ago as they recognized an untapped market and an increased need for transit access to the campus.

The new service, Route 7, has been added to expand accessibility for FMU's growing student population, faculty and staff. When the college opened in 1970, it served 906 students. Currently, more than 4,000 students attend FMU. Overall, the increased bus access has been a welcomed amenity, providing individuals with disabilities easier access to the campus as well.

Support by Francis Marion University allows FMU students to ride the bus routes in Florence at no charge with the presentation of their FMU student ID card. For more information on service routes go to www.pdrta.org

### **Faculty News**















































### **New faculty members**

Officials at Francis Marion University announced the addition of 23 new faculty members for the 2011-2012 school year.

Jonathan M. Acuff of Manchester, N.H., assistant professor of political science Ph.D. in political science, University of Washington

Amy E. Altman-Shaw of Florence, assistant professor of nursing M.S. degree in nursing administration, Medical University of South Carolina

Robert T. Carr of Effingham, assistant professor of chemistry

Ph.D. in organic chemistry, Pennsylvania State University

**Arthur J. DeGraw** of Florence, assistant professor of mathematics Ph.D. in mathematics, State University of New York at Albany

Jessica M. Doucet of Florence, assistant professor of sociology Ph.D. in sociology, Louisiana State University

William E. Duffy of Greensboro, N.C., assistant professor of English Ph.D. in rhetoric and composition, University of North Carolina Greensboro

Brandon D. Goff of Jackson, Tenn., assistant professor of music industry D.M.A. in music composition and theory, University of Memphis

Crystal L. Graham of Latta, instructor of nursing

M.S. in nursing, Medical University of South Carolina

Jeanne Gunther of Hillsborough, N.C., assistant professor of education M.Ed. in reading, State University of New York at Albany

Tiffany K. Hardy of Columbus, Ohio, assistant professor of psychology Ph.D. in psychology, Ohio State University

Tamara E. Ivins of Carrboro, N.C., reference librarian instructor M.S. in library science, University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)

Vicki A. Martin of Effingham, instructor of nursing M.S.N. in nursing education, Walden University

Jacob A. Moldenhauer of Richardson, Texas, assistant professor of physics Ph.D. in physics, University of Texas at Dallas

Sharon K. O'Kelley of Athens, Ga., assistant professor of mathematics Ph.D. in mathematics education, University of Georgia

Maria Jose Garcia Otero of Lawrence, Kan., assistant professor of Spanish Ph.D. in Spanish literature, University of Kansas

Annette Louise Searfoss of Shippensburg, Pa., assistant professor of education Ph.D. of philosophy in curriculum and instruction, Pennsylvania State University

Allison M. Steadman of Florence, assistant professor of costume design M.F.A. in costume design, University of Tennessee

Lindsay Sturkie of Effingham, instructor of education

M.Ed. in instructional accommodation, Francis Marion University

Stephanie Thomas of Florence, reference librarian M.L.S. from the University of South Carolina

Dawn Todd of Florence, instructor of nursing

M.S.N. in nursing education, Mobile College

Michelle Veenstra of Lansing, Mich., assistant professor of English Ph.D. in English, Michigan State University

Regina C. Yanson of Schenectady, N.Y., assistant professor of management M.B.A., Niagara University

Paul Zwiers of St. Louis, Mo., assistant professor of biology Ph.D. in biology, University of Maryland (College Park)

### Two professors named research scholars



Kostoff



Peterson

Lynn Kostoff, Nellie Cooke Sparrow Writer in Residence and professor of English, and Dr. LeRoy Peterson Jr., professor of chemistry, were named Francis Marion University Board of Trustees' Research Scholars for 2011.

"I am very proud to appoint these two distinguished colleagues as Trustees' Research Scholars. Pete and Lynn are two of our most prolific researchers as well as being two of our most inspiring teachers," said FMU President Fred Carter. "The entire University community joins me in recognizing their accomplishments and applauding their success."

Kostoff is the author of three novels - "A Choice of Nightmares" (1991), "The Long Fall" (2003), and "Late Rain" (2010) - and is working on two new novels, "The Work of Hands," and "The Length of Days."

Kostoff earned the B.F.A. and M.F.A. degrees in creative writing from Bowling Green State University. Before joining the FMU faculty in 1985, the Hartford, Ohio, native taught at Indiana State University and the University of Alabama. He has received numerous awards and honors during his tenure at FMU and has served on a host of committees.

In the community, Kostoff consults with local schoolteachers on creative writing projects on a regular basis and makes visits to the schools to talk to the students. He hosts Advanced Placement high school students, teaching them creative writing. In addition, he assists students entering the Governor's School of the Arts with preparing their portfolios.

A native of Florence, Peterson earned a bachelor's degree at FMU in 1984 and received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of South Carolina where he was an undergraduate laboratory-teaching assistant. He joined the faculty of FMU in 1990.

An active researcher, Peterson has received grants from the National Science Foundation, the South Carolina EPSCoR/Brin Collaborative Research Program, and the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. He is the author or co-author of numerous publications and presentations. He received the FMU Faculty Service Award for 2001-2002.

He is a member of the American Chemical Society, the Pee Dee Math and Science Hub, the ScienceSouth project and the S.C. Academy of Science. He is president of North Vista PTA, serves on the board of Florence Boys and Girls Club and coaches in youth basketball leagues. He is faculty advisor for Omega Psi Phi and Kappa Alpha Psi fraternities and Zeta Phi Beta sorority and is active in the University's African-American Faculty and Staff Coalition. He is also a member of the FMU Institutional Effectiveness Committee.

The Research Scholar appointments are for three-year terms and are renewable. The two new appointees join John Britton, Jeff Camper, Fred David, Bill Fox, Scott Kaufman, Jeff Lee, Larry McCumber, Lorraine de Montluzin, Jeff Pompe, Bill Ramsey, Jon Tuttle and Benjamin Woods.

The Research Scholar designation signifies outstanding scholarly achievements and the promise of continued scholarly activity in the future.

### FMU announces tenure and promotion of faculty

Officials at Francis Marion University have announced tenure and promotion of faculty members for the 2011-12 academic year.

Receiving promotions to professor are: Vernon W. Bauer, biology; D. Allen Clabo Jr., chemistry; V. Scott Kaufman, history; and Elizabeth A. Zahnd, English, modern languages, and philosophy.

Receiving promotions to associate professor are: Larry P. Engelhardt, physics and astronomy; Howard J. Frye, fine arts; Teresa K. Herzog, psychology; Farrah M. Hughes, psychology; Jennifer G. Kelley, chemistry; Christopher M. Kennedy, history; Maria M. Lundberg, mass communication; Latha M. Malaiyandi, biology; Tracy E. Meetze, education; Matthew C.

Nelson, English, modern languages, and philosophy; and Hari K. Rajagopalan, business.

Receiving promotions to assistant professor are: Rhonda M. Brogdon, nursing; and Karen K. Gittings, nursing.

Earning tenure are: Larry P. Engelhardt, physics and astronomy; Teresa K. Herzog, psychology; Farrah M. Hughes, psychology; Jennifer G. Kelley, chemistry; Christopher M. Kennedy, history; Lynn D. Kennedy, nursing; L. Dawn Larsen, fine arts; Latha M. Malaiyandi, biology; Tracy E. Meetze, education; Matthew C. Nelson, English, modern languages, and philosophy; Hari K. Rajagopalan, business; and Karen E. Thompson, nursing.

### Staff News-

# Jacobs and Strickland named FMU's 2011 Outstanding Employees

Sheron Jacobs of Florence and Ben Strickland of Fair Bluff, N.C., have been named outstanding staff employees of the year at Francis Marion University.

The awards were presented during the staff awards luncheon, which also honored FMU employees for length of state service. Jacobs is director of telecommunications and asset management and Strickland is

supervisor of maintenance support and the maintenance pool.

Jacobs has been employed at FMU for 32 years and Strickland nearly 20 years. They both were cited for their dedication to their jobs and for service above and beyond the call of duty. FMU President Luther F. Carter presented Jacobs and Strickland with plaques and \$1,000 checks in recognition of winning this annual award for employees.

As a child of military parents, Jacobs traveled and lived in many places. She attended Winthrop University and eventually made Florence her home where she worked as an office administrator.

A Green Sea native, Strickland worked as a farmer, logger, painter and roofer before beginning his career at FMU. In 2007, he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus on management.

Thomas L. Beaty of Florence, assistant director of purchasing; Brinda A. Jones of Darlington, assistant vice president for financial services; and Joseph A. Sallenger of Florence, manager of Fine Arts, were cited for 30 years of state service.

Joseph A. Sallenger of Florence, manager of Fine Arts, were cited for 30 years of state service.

Employees honored for 20 years of service include: Sammie Chandler ceiving/warehouse assistant; James McLeod of Scranton, master craftsman; Brenda

of Florence, central receiving/warehouse assistant; James McLeod of Scranton, master craftsman; Brenda G. Short of Florence, lead custodian; Steven Sims of Marion, circulation manager; and Perry T. Wilson of Darlington, director of admissions.

Employees recognized for 10 years of service were: Mark D. Bluman of Florence, men and women's cross

Employees recognized for 10 years of service were: Mark D. Bluman of Florence, men and women's cross country coach and Athletics Department bus manager; Robert H. Collins of Mullins, estate groundskeeper; Ronald D. Hall of Florence, materials services assistant; Harriet H. Nolan of Clio, student services counselor for Registrar's Office; and Jane M. Snowden of Mullins, financial assistance counselor.

Eight employees who are retiring from FMU were also recognized – Mary Lynn Batson of Marion, coordinator of class, compensation and employment (15 years); Richard J. Floyd of Florence, craftsman supervisor in plumbing (26 years); Brunson Gibbs of Florence, lead custodian (20 years); Diana L. Gibson of Florence, administrative associate in the School of Education (21); Mary Mabe-Kulesa of Florence, administrative associate in the School of Education (12); Martha Pee of Marion, custodian; and Loretta K. Spears of Pamplico, senior library technical assistant in cataloging.



Jacobs Strickland

### **Davis receives honors**

Francis Marion University Library Acquisitions Coordinator Yvonne Davis received honors at the annual conference of the South Carolina Primary Health Care Association (SCPHCA) held in Myrtle Beach recently.

Davis was awarded the Margaret J. Weston Award in recognition of her persistence in overcoming barriers and obstacles to ensure quality health care services are provided to those most in need.

"The Margaret J. Weston Award is a very prestigious award given for substantial achievement in furthering primary health care in South Carolina," said FMU President Fred Carter. "We're delighted that our own Yvonne Davis was the recipient of this year's award."

As a community health advocate for more than two decades, Davis was instrumental in bringing Health Care Partners Inc. to the rural, underserved county of Marion. A native of the county's Friendship community, Davis said she has been the patient and activist, both of which fuel her desire to advocate for quality health care for all people.

Even in her position at FMU where she has worked for 30 years, Davis serves a community. She assists the pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning by providing the FMU community of students, faculty, staff and regional citizens with access to scholarly information and other resources. Recently



Davis

elected President of the S.C. Library Association, Davis is the first paraprofessional to serve in this capacity.



#### Myers

### Myers named assistant provost

The new assistant provost and director of graduate programs at Francis Marion University is Jeannette Myers.

For the past eight years, Myers was an assistant professor of astronomy, director of the Dooley Planetarium and the FMU Observatory and coordinator of the astronomy program. She has been a member of the FMU faculty since 2003. In that position, she operated and maintained the planetarium and observatory and presented three to five shows to school groups and other community groups each week. She also maintains an active research program in galaxy collisions with colleagues at Clemson University.

In her new position she works closely with FMU Provost Dr. Richard Chapman. According to Myers, her new duties include matters concerning faculty and students. She will also focus on graduate programs, and serve as liaison between the provost's office and the faculty senate.

Myers said she hopes to develop and maintain positive relationships with all FMU stakeholders, characterized by open communication, trust, and an unwavering commitment to preparing FMU students to compete and succeed in the 21st century.

She received B.S. degrees in physics and astronomy from Mankato State University, and the M.S. degree in physics and the Ph.D. degree in astrophysics from Clemson University.

### **Dollie Newhouse named new registrar**



Newhouse

Dollie Newhouse, Francis Marion University's director of career development, has been named as the new University registrar, effective Jan. 1, 2012.

Newhouse replaces H. Elizabeth McLean, who retired December 31 after 17 years as registrar.

"It is with great reluctance that we've accepted Mrs. McLean's decision to retire. She has served this University so well and ably and is held in such high regard by faculty, staff and students alike," said FMU President Fred Carter. "We are quite confident, however, that Ms. Newhouse will continue the tradition of exemplary service that is characteristic of that office."

A native of Keyser, W.Va., Newhouse earned a bachelor's degree in English from West Virginia University in 1997 and a master's in English in 2002 from the University of South Carolina.

She has taught at USC, Coker College, Central Carolina Technical College and FMU. Her specialty is 20th century American literature.

As registrar, Newhouse will serve as the trustee of all student record information including transcripts and enrollment history. The relationship of the registrar's office to the undergraduate and graduate schools is vital to the seamless gathering and transfer of student information throughout campus, all course scheduling and the overall academic calendar for the University.

### **Alumni News**

## Albrecht, Campbell receive alumni awards from FMU Department of Biology



From left, Dr. Julia Krebs, Dr. Treadwell Campbell and Dr. Ann



From left, Dr. Jeffrey Camper, Dr. Randy Albrecht and Dr. Ann Stoeckmann

Randy Allen Albrecht, Ph.D., assistant professor of microbiology and immunology at Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City, and Treadwell Campbell, M.D., owner of the Campbell Family Practice in Mullins, have been honored by the Francis Marion University's Department of Biology with outstanding alumni awards.

Albrecht received the Lawrence Swails Award, while Campbell was presented the John S. Boyce Award. These distinguished alumni awards, named after the Biology Department's first two chairpersons, were presented during a reception recently on the FMU campus. This is the sixth year the Biology Department has held this recognition of outstanding graduates of the biology program.

Albrecht graduated from FMU in 1996 with a B.S. degree in biology. He later earned the Ph.D. from Louisiana State University in microbiology. He completed postdoctoral work in microbiology and virology at both Louisiana State University, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta and Mt. Sinai School of Medicine.

Campbell graduated from FMU in 1981 with a B.S. degree in biology and earned the Ph.D. from Meharry Medical College in Nashville. He completed a one-year internship and twoyear residency in family medicine at the University of North Carolina's School of Medicine. Campbell is board certified in family medicine and is licensed by both the South Carolina and North Carolina Boards of Medicine.

### Denny receives alumni award from **FMU Psychology Department**

Brian Denny, director of Programs for Exceptional Children in Florence School District One, has been honored by the Francis Marion University Department of Psychology with an outstanding alumni award.

Denny received the Professional Psychology Award for 2011-12 at a reception held recently on the FMU campus.

The Lake City native graduated from Lake City High School in 1994 before making his way to FMU. He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from FMU in 1998 and was inducted into the psychology honor society, Psi Chi. He received a master's in school psychology from FMU in 2001 and was the school psychologist in Florence School District One from 2000-06.

In his current position as director of Programs for Exceptional Children, Denny is responsible for more than 2,500 students enrolled in various special education programs throughout the district with approximately 170 special education employees including special education teachers and speech, occupational, and physical therapists.

Denny has served on the FMU Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2008.



Denny and wife, Catherine

### **Development News.**

### **FMU receives gift from Progress Energy for health physics program**

Francis Marion University recently received a gift from Progress Energy as part of the electric utility's support of the University's health physics program.

Progress Energy's \$100,000 donation will help to expand FMU's nationally recognized health physics program to meet the growing need for health professionals in the nuclear industry.

"Building the energy workforce of tomorrow begins today with investments in education in our region," said Melody Birmingham-Byrd, vice president of Progress Energy Carolinas' Southern Region. "Attracting the brightest minds and enabling programs that cultivate that talent is essential to the long-term success of our industry."

The recent donation from Progress Energy continues the utility's tradition of supporting educational programs across the Pee Dee region.

"With this \$100,000 gift, Progress Energy has given us more than half a million dollars in the past decade," said FMU President Luther F. Carter. "These donations have funded needs-based scholarships, a library technology center, support for the performing arts center and now our health physics program. In addition to this philanthropic support, Progress Energy has been a strong partner with the University in any number of projects throughout the community and the region."

The health physics program was the brainchild of physics professors Lynn "Skip" Hendrick and David Peterson. Founded in 1981, FMU's bachelor's program in health physics was formed in response to the large demand in South Carolina and nationally for health physicists in the nuclear energy industry.

The first FMU undergraduate health physicists received their degrees in 1983. Since then, nearly 100 students have graduated from the program. This makes FMU the largest single producer of health physicists in the Southeast. The alumni of the program have gone on to work in a variety of health physics areas including nuclear power, environmental health physics, government regulation, medical health physics, consulting, military health physics, academia, etc. As the leading producer of health physicists in the Southeast, FMU is uniquely positioned to assist in meeting radiation protection workforce demands across the large spectrum of nuclear workplaces.



Hendrick



Peterson

### **Experiential learning center established**

A portion of a family farm in Lamar was recently donated to Francis Marion University.

Betty Jean Windham Greer has given the University 44 acres of the 143-acre family farm to establish an experiential learning

Her parents, Sam and Nell Windham, lived and worked on the farm located in the Windhamtown section of Lamar in the mid-1900s with their three children, Melvin, Sidney and Betty.

Named for her parents, the land associated with the Sam and Nell Windham Environmental Center will be used to support multiple ecosystems and reestablish the native habitat. An education building will house a small classroom, provide a place to store and preserve experiments in progress and create a space where students learn through experience.

Greer and her husband Grady Greer are loyal supporters of FMU, establishing the Betty Jean Windham Greer Chair in Library Science in 2008 and an endowed scholarship for \$25,000 in 2005. The Toledo Carolina scholarship was named for the company owned by Grady Greer.

Greer worked as an assistant librarian and reading teacher in Darlington County School District during her seven-year tenure as a teacher. She also worked as the director of the Title One reading program in **Darlington County** School District for 12 years. She attended Winthrop College where she



Nell and Sam Windham

earned a bachelor's degree in English and French and a master's degree in reading and library science.

### **Development News**



Cheer on the Patriots, join the team or jog around the acreage. Everything's covered in the Athletic Complex situated on more than 100 acres of University property. You can step on the grass of the soccer field, round the bases on the baseball and softball stadiums and take a leisurely stroll about the pedestrian plaza. For the comfort of family, friends and fans, Griffin Athletic Complex provides ample parking, refreshment areas and restrooms. In addition, there is one feature attendees are sure to enjoy – the boot-shaped, 5-acre lake.

The lake is named in honor of William W. Coleman of Florence. Affectionately referred to as "W," Coleman has served as an alumnus, friend, supporter, advocate and trustee since the school's inception. A 1971 graduate of FMU, "W" has served more than two decades as a member of the University's Board of Trustees, including two terms as chair of the board.

"W. Coleman is one of the longest serving trustees in the history of the University. He's also a respected and distinguished member of the Florence business community who has served as a staunch and tireless advocate for our faculty, staff and students. Lake Coleman will be a fitting tribute to this man who cares so deeply for this University and its people."

Lake Coleman will feature a wooden bridge with a platform in the middle and a sidewalk along the lake's circumference. There will also be three floating fountains inside the lake.

### Foundation seats two new board members

Frank Avent and James Schofield both of Florence have been elected to the Francis Marion University Foundation Board.

Avent and Schofield began their initial three-year terms on Jan. 1. Board members may be elected to subsequent terms.

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 earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of North Carolina in 1962.

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 Patriot 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

Ashpy 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.

James T. Schofield is a 1967 graduate of Carlisle Military School and a 1972 graduate of Wofford College where he majored in economics and business administration. He is president of Carolina Supplyhouse Inc. in Florence, a licensed real estate broker, and member of Florence County Council, representing District 8.

He has served as chairman of the City of Florence Planning Commission and as a councilman for the City of Florence from 1983-1991. Schofield is past president of the Florence Lions Club and the Pee Dee Area Big Brothers program. He coordinated the construction of The Manna House and is past chairman of Florence County Progress.

Schofield is married to Martha Armstrong Schofield and they have two children, Elizabeth A. Schofield and C. William Schofield.

### Athletic News



The R. Gerald Griffin Athletic Complex will open in 2012. The 29-acre, \$11.1 million project will include the Clifford S. Cormell Field at Sparrow Stadium for baseball, FMU Softball Field, Murray G. Hartzler Field for soccer, Marion "Spyder" Webb Plaza, Michael G. Hawkins Pressbox, a fieldhouse, and a five-acre lake. All three of the fields will be lighted. A dedication ceremony will be held in early 2012 and Patriot athletic teams will begin playing at the complex during the 2012 spring season. The complex is located across S.C. Highway 327 from the campus and adjacent to the Education Foundation Building.

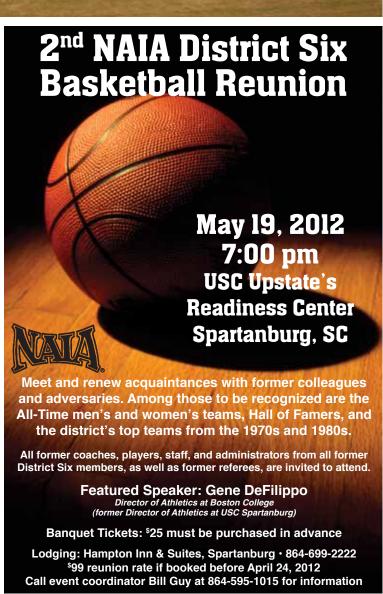
### **Swamp Fox Notes**

Women's Basketball Hall of Fame members Pearl Moore and Sylvia Hatchell both spoke to FMU student-athletes as part of the Champs Life Skills program.

Faculty Athletic Representative Dr. D. Allen Clabo was selected to attend the inaugural Division II Faculty Athletic Representatives Advanced Leadership Institute, Oct. 14-16, in Indianapolis, Ind.

Freshman tennis player Jonathan Hain (Aachen, Germany) won the men's singles B flight at the USTA/ITA Southeast Regional Tennis Tournament, hosted by FMU at the Palmetto Tennis Center in Sumter, S.C.

Six members of the 2011 women's softball team received NFCA All-America Scholar-Athlete recognition: catcher Olivia Ferguson (Roanoke, Va.), infielders Tristan Faile (Lancaster, S.C.) and Carson Summersett (Florence, S.C.), outfielders Chelle Phillips (Waukee, Iowa) and Olivia Zielinski (Greenville, S.C.), and pitcher Cea Knox (Myrtle Beach, S.C.).



### **Sports Shorts**—

#### Golf

The Patriots concluded their fall season with four Top-10 finishes in five events. FMU placed fifth at Western Carolina's Hummingbird Intercollegiate. Junior Sebastian Backlund (Bollebygd, Sweden) fired a final-round 4-under-par 66, including an eagle on the 18th hole, to win medalist honors at the Philadelphia Big 5 Invitational Tournament, Oct. 8-9.

Volleyball

Francis Marion finished its season with a 12-18 record. During the year, the Patriots sponsored their annual Dig Pink Match to raise awareness of breast cancer and to raise funds to fight the deadly disease. Patriot players earned PBC Player of the Week honors three times in 2011, and senior middle blocker Danielle Parker (Lockwood, Mo.) was named to the Capital One NCAA II Academic All-District III Team.

#### Women's Soccer

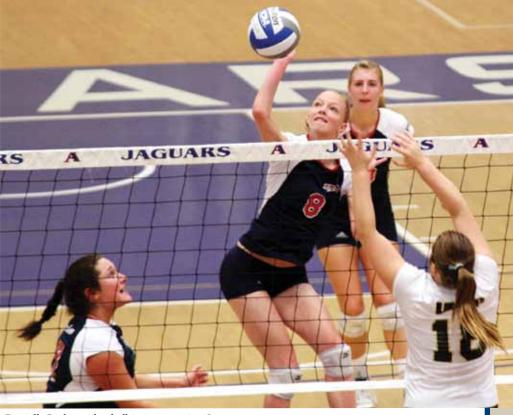
FMU concluded its 2011 season with a 4-13-1 mark that included five one-goal defeats. Sophomore Yasmin Bunter (Fleet, England) led Francis Marion in scoring with four goals and four assists, and eight of the team's top 10 scorers were either freshmen or sophomores.

#### Men's Soccer

The Patriots ended their season with a 4-13-1 record, placed seventh during the PBC regular season, and lost in the quarterfinals of the Peach Belt Tournament. Sophomore forward Alex Blandin (Shreveport, La.) and senior defender Adrian Williams (Ajax, Ontario, Canada) both earned first-team All-Conference honors, while junior midfielder Chuy Cruz (Austin, Tex.) was selected to the PBC All-Academic Team. The Patriots held their sixth-annual Passionately Pink for the Cure Match in October to raise awareness of and funds to fight breast cancer. The FMU line-up regularly listed five freshmen among its starters.

### **Men's Cross**

Francis Marion placed eighth at the Peach Belt Conference Championship Meet and 23rd at the NCAA Division



Danielle Parker spikes ball in game against Jaguars.

II Southeast Regional Championships, held in Charlotte. Junior Ian Wallace (Fort Mill, S.C.) regularly led the Patriot men, including a 42nd-place finish at the PBC Meet.



All-Conference defender Adrian Williams steals the ball during game against Mt. Olive.

#### **Women's Cross Country**

The Patriots placed ninth at the PBC Championship Meet and 24th at the NCAA Southeast Regionals. Sophomore Whitney Wagner (Cullowhee, N.C.) was the women's top runner this fall, including a 32nd-place showing at the PBC Meet. Senior Samantha Smith (Lexington, S.C.) and sophomore London Barnhill (Hemingway, S.C.) both earned honorable mention PBC All-Academic Team honors.

#### Hoops

Coming off an 18-10 season and a fourth consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance, the Francis Marion women's basketball team was picked to finish fifth in the annual PBC coaches' pre-season poll. The Patriot men were tabbed for eighth despite returning three starters from last year's 16-11 team. Senior forward Liki Turner (Richmond, Va.) was selected to the Peach Belt pre-season All-Conference squad, as well as earning preseason honorable mention All-America recognition from The Sporting News.

### **Class Notes**

#### 1970s

Kimberly Jordan '74 has received the Montessori certification from the Montessori Teacher Education Program.

Dr. Steve Quick '76, '80 has been named interim superintendent for Florence School District 4.

Dennis C. Dorman Sr.'s '77 son Dennis C. Dorman Jr. graduated from FMU in May 2011. Richard Harrington '77 opened Palmetto

Peddlers antiques store located on Hoffmeyer Road in Florence on April 8, 2011, and is serving on the Board of Directors for the Pee Dee Area Boys and Girls Clubs.



Harrington

Callicutt

Patti Odom '77, '80

was named the 2011 Law Related Education Middle School Teacher of the Year by the South Carolina Bar Association.

Dr. Keith Callicutt '79 has been named interim superintendent of Florence School District 5.

#### Pearl Moore

'79 was an honorary degree recipient for Francis Marion University's May 2011 commencement.

#### 1980s

#### **Harry Patterson**

'81 was featured in a March 2011 issue of the Morning News for his participation in



Moore

the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Cooper River Bridge Run in Charleston.



Patterson

Billy Heustess '82, '89 is serving as treasurer for the Pee Dee Area Boys and Girls Clubs.

John Garrison '83 has been named vice president of compliance and managing counsel for Colonial Life Insurance.

Robin Griggs '83 has received her certification as a Diplomatic Child Forensic Interviewer.

#### Cecilia Meggs '83

has been named the **Executive Director** of Lighthouse Ministries in Florence and elected President of the Eastern Carolina Homeless Organization.



Meggs

Dr. Harold Rhodes III '83 had

works from his art collection displayed at the City Gallery at Waterfront Park in Charleston in September and October 2011.

Dr. Leroy Patterson '84 is serving on the Board of Directors for the Pee Dee Area Boys and Girls

Bishop Michael Blue '85 released his first book, Building Credibility in Leadership: Principles for Secondary Leaders on June 21, 2011.

Terry Dingle '85 has been appointed as a member of the 2011-12 Board of Directors for the Florence Chamber of Commerce.

Cary & Angela Upchurch's '85 daughter Jessica Upchurch graduated from FMU in May 2011.

Mark Bedenbaugh '86 was inducted into the South Carolina Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame on March 26, 2011, in Columbia.

#### Lesa Hudson

'86 performed with the Rick Strickland Band during the 2011 Arts International Festival at FMU.

Terry Thompson '86, '92 is the 2011 Teacher of the Year for Lake View Elementary



Hudson

School in Dillon County.

Brian Anderson '87 has been appointed to serve on the Board of Directors for Georgia Northwestern Technical College in Dalton, Ga.

Jackie Gaskins '87 received the South Carolina Technical Education Association's Educator of the Year Award.

Patricia Hester '87 has joined the FMU faculty as an instructor of English.

Kenny Barnes '88 is serving on the Board of Directors for the Pee Dee Area Boys and Girls Clubs.

Becky Cooper '88, '97 was the 2010-11 recipient of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) South

Carolina High School Teacher of the Year Award.



Perry Grice '88, '96 was recently hired as financial advisor for Sifel Nicolaus in Florence.

Stephen N. Jones '88 has been appointed by South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley to serve on the FMU Board of Trustees and has been appointed as a member of the 2011- Grice 12 Board of Directors for the Florence Chamber of Commerce.



Tiletha B. Lane '88 is the new Director for Philanthropy, Student Affairs, and Library at Coastal Carolina University in Conway.

Paul Lundy '88 has joined the Atlanta based GH&I certified public accounting and advisory firm as an audit partner.

Debbie Pollock-Berry '88 has been hired as the senior vice president of human resources at XO Communications in Herndon, Va.

Eunice Rabon '88, '10 has begun working with the new FMU Hope Health.



Heath Milligan '89 is a local winner of the South Carolina Technical Education Association's Educator of the Year Award.

#### 1990s

Amy Altman-Shaw '90 has joined the faculty at FMU as an assistant professor of nursing.

Annetta Hammond '90 has been selected to receive the 2011 Palmetto Gold Award recognizing South Carolina's top nurses.

Walt Parker '90 and his business, Florence Carpet & Tile, were featured in the May 15, 2011 "Business" section of the Morning News.

Kim Garvin '91, **'96** is the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for Cades- Hebron Elementary School in



Parker

Williamsburg County. Beth Hinson '91 was named as one of the five finalists for South Carolina's 2011 Teacher of the Year.

Dr. Annie Brown '92, '95 has been appointed a member of the 2011-12 Board of Directors for the Florence Chamber of Commerce.

Candy Carter '92 was a recipient of the Irving Award at the Florence Little Theatre's 48th Annual Awards Night in May 2011.

Michael C. Nantz '92 has been appointed by the Georgia Public Service Commission as the Director of the Commission's Facilities Protection Unit.

Coretta Anne Pinckney '92 earned her specialist in school psychology degree from FMU in May

Mark Butler '93 and his business, Butler's Fine Men's Clothing, was featured in a June 2011 issue of the Morning News.

### **Class Notes**

Jeff Helton '93 has been appointed as a member of the 2011-12 Board of Directors for the Florence Chamber of Commerce.

Robin Young '93 was featured in a June 2011 article on Carolinalive.com for her participation in the PACE program.

Stacy Brayboy '94 has been appointed to serve as chief of staff for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service.

Buffy Eaddy '95 gave birth to, Zoie Pearl Eaddy on May 16, 2011.



Mari Kaye Haney '95 was profiled in the May 2011 issue of the Greater Pee Dee Business

Tim Smoak '95 was featured in a May 2011 issue of McLeod Magazine for his work as director of McLeod Behavioral Health Services in Florence.

Elizabeth Atkinson '96 married Steven Shults on June 25, 2011, in Darlington.

#### Luke Matthews

'96 has been named principal at Dewey L. Carter Elementary School in Florence.

Atty. Gen. Alan Wilson '96 completed courses at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Dix, N.J.



Wilson

Lisa Johnson '98 was the recipient of the 2010 Governor's Distinguished Professor of the Year Award for Northeastern Technical College.



Johnson, middle

Dr. Tracy Meetze '98 was one of 12 FMU professors to earn tenure for the 2011-12 academic year.

Dr. Danny Poston '98 is the new co- owner of The Hartsville Drug Company.

Paula Alvarez '99 has been named the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for Southside Early Childhood Center in Darlington County.

Mary Dittman '99 is the new public relations and publicity representative for ESAB Welding & Cutting Products in Florence.

Julius Ernest Eldridge III '99 married Mary Everett on July 9, 2011, in Florence. Eldridge has also been designated as a member of the Premier Advisors Program at Wells Fargo.

#### 2000s

David W. Gardner '00 was one of six researchers at the Center for North American Herpetology who developed an abstract on fox snakes.

Brent Tiller '00 has been appointed as member of the 2011-12 Board of Directors for the Florence Chamber of Commerce.

Tonya Woodson '00 has been named the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for Lamar Elementary School in Darlington County.

Brian Harris '01 married Cathleen Delaney on July 10, 2011, in

Portsmouth, Va. Mandy Harris '01 has accepted the position of head softball coach at the University of West Georgia.

Kimberly Hayes '01, '05 was named the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for Lamar High School in Darlington County. Matt Lewis '01 and his



wife Susan welcomed their four new born babies, Addison, Brayden, Maylee, and Parker, into the world on June 30,



Lewis family

Rodney C. Ruth '01 has been named principal at Moore Intermediate School in Florence.

#### Jordan Cochran

'02 participated in Cobra Gold 2011, the Pacific region's largest military training exercise.

Troy Cody '02 married Elizabeth English on April 2, 2011, in Columbia.

Jamie DeWeerdt '03 participated in the Florence Police Department's



Citizens Police Academy last spring.

Francena Johnson '03 has been named the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for Washington Street Elementary School in Darlington County.



Lowrimore

Ashley Lowrimore '03 and husband Lee welcomed their first born child, Ethan, into the world in May 2011.

Shantel Luckey '03 has been appointed to the position of student records coordinator in the Registrar's Office at FMU.

Christy Owens '03 has joined the FMU faculty as an instructor of psychology.

Erica Wilson '03 married Chadwick Hutchinson on May 14, 2011, in Florence.

Thomas Glover '04 was featured in The Augusta Chronicle's "Sonic Spotlight" section in June 2011.

Curtis Keefe '04 has joined the FMU faculty as a teaching assistant for nursing.

Monica Reed '04 earned her master of business administration degree from FMU in May 2011.

Elaine Sealey '04 has been appointed as a member of the 2011-12 Board of Directors for the Florence Chamber of Commerce.

Everett Weeks '04 married Kathryn Clark Mangum on March 12, 2011, in Elloree, SC.

Charles Griffin '05 married Lindsey Spires on March 19, 2011, in Columbia.

Courtney Dease '06 was a recipient of the Irving Award at the Florence Little Theatre's 48th Annual Awards Night in May 2011.

Luke Hart '06 played in the NGA Hooters Tour golf tournament in June 2011 at the Country Club of South Carolina.



Abram Sanders '06 and wife Kenyetta proudly announce the birth of their son Austin on March 15, 2011.

Lindsay Sturkie '06 earned her Master of Education degree from FMU in May 2011 and has joined the FMU faculty as an instructor of education.

Matthew Wegmann '06 married Jessica Tomlinson on June 18, 2011, in Florence.



Britt-McFarland

Megan Britt '07 married Jason McFarland '07 on April 30, 2011, in Florence.

Megan Lowder '07 earned her Specialist in School Psychology degree from FMU in May 2011.

Britton Elizabeth Reaves '07 married Charles Yarborough on May 21, 2011, in Florence.

Amy Scott '07 married Clay Lundy '07 on March 5, 2011.

Latasha Scott '07 is the 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for W.M. Anderson Primary School in Williamsburg County.

Travis Sinclair '07 married Julie Matthews on June 11, 2011, in Florence.

**Amv McAllister** Skinner '07 has been named 2011-12 Teacher of the Year for Florence School

District Five. Ben Strickland '07 has been named as one of the "2011 Outstanding Employees" at FMU.



Skinner

Mary Baylor '08 married Ashley Powell on April 23, 2011, in New Zion, SC.



Baylor-Powell

Devin Cribb '08 has been hired as coordinator of nursing student services at FMU.

Cherry Drulis '08 has been selected to receive the 2011 Palmetto Gold Award recognizing South Carolina's top nurses.

William Ellis '08 married Brittany Watts on August 6, 2011, in Mullins.

Franklyn Emmanuel '08 earned a Master of Business Administration degree from FMU in May 2011.

Dananjaya Mayadunne '08 earned a Master of Business Administration degree from FMU in

Amanda Nellis '08 earned a Master of Education degree from FMU in May 2011.

Deidre Odom '08 was the keynote speaker at the Orangeburg- Calhoun Baptist Association Missionary Society's prayer breakfast in June

Kristina Plunkett '08 wrote an article titled "Florence Chamber Woos Web Surfers and Event Goers," that was featured in the May/ June 2011 issue of the Greater Pee Dee Business Journal.



Schofield-Campbell

Jessica Kistler Schofield '08 married William David Campbell Jr. '10 on February 25, 2011, in Florence.

Allyson O'Steen Scott '08 earned an accounting practitioners license for the State of South Carolina.

Krissy Smith '08 has begun working as a laboratory technician at FMU.

Erica Turner '08 married William Hooks on April 16, 2011, in Florence.



Turner-Hooks

Rob Berger '09 is serving on the Board of Directors for the Pee Dee Area Boys and Girls Clubs.

John Davis '09 was sworn in to serve as a Chesterfield County magistrate in May 2011.

Arthenius Jackson '09 has joined FMU as the administrative assistant for Housing.

Matt Maynard '09 received a master's degree in occupational therapy from MUSC in July 2011.



McFadden

Danielle McFadden '09 has been named the 2010 Employee of the Year of the Piggly Wiggly Carolina Company.

Aunquize Le 'Damon Perkins '09 earned a Master of Education degree from FMU in May 2011.

Krissy Smith '09 has joined the FMU faculty as an instructor of biology.

Andrena Rene Washington '09 earned a Master of Education degree from FMU in May 2011.

LeAnn Blais '10 has joined the FMU faculty as an instructor of psychology.

William David Campbell, Jr. '10 married Jessica Kistler Schofield '08 on February 25, 2011, in Florence.

Matthew Coté '10 is teaching third grade math

at Delmae Heights Elementary School in Florence.

Andrew Golden's **'10** story documenting his experience in a Marine Basic Training exercise for journalists,



was featured in the May 29, 2011, issue of the Morning News.

Gary Sanders '10 married Brittany Gulledge '11 on May 28, 2011.

Kimberly Turner '10 began graduate school this fall at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

Brittany Gulledge '11 married Gary Sanders '10 on May 28, 2011.

William Hardaway '11 married Kristen Owen on June 4, 2011, in Florence.

John B. Lee '11 has joined the faculty at Marlboro County High School as an English teacher and JV football coach.

Victoria Williams-Cooper '11 has been named the 2011-12 Darlington County School District Teacher of the Year.

### **Honor Roll of Donors**

Francis Marion University is pleased to recognize the many individuals, businesses, and other groups who generously support the University through financial contributions. The following list reflects total gifts to the University made through any of the following funds: the FMU Fund, Swamp Fox Club, scholarships, the FMU

These donors provide the necessary funding that makes it possible for FMU to provide excellent educational opportunities to deserving students. FMU donors are truly honored friends and we are grateful for their assistance. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in this listing; however, if an error is discovered, please contact the Office of Development (843-661-1295) so that we may correct our records. (Note: This list reflects gifts received from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011.)

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Carolinians	\$20,000+	President's Club	\$500 - \$999
Francis Marion Society	\$10,000 - \$19,999	Leadership Club	\$250 - \$499
Pee Dee Society	\$5,000 - \$9,999	Century Club	\$100 - \$249
Founders Club	\$2,500 - \$4,999	Patrons	\$50 - \$99
Crescent Society	\$1,000 - \$2,499	Contributors	\$1 - \$49

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# Konduros Fishermen Fund partners with FMU to issue holiday grants to the community

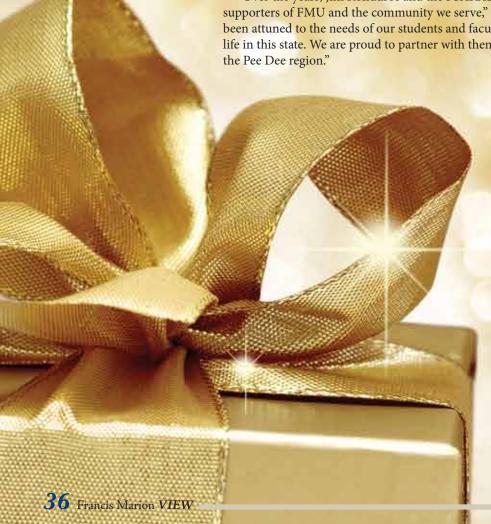
The Francis Marion University Foundation has received an \$82,000 grant from the Konduros Fishermen Fund, which was used for underprivileged men, women and children in the Pee Dee and Columbia areas.

"When the season of Christ comes upon us, it's a time we're most likely to understand how blessed we are and being the most blessed by having the ability to make other's Christmas a little brighter," said Jim Konduros, chairman of the Konduros Fishermen Fund. "We are grateful and privileged to partner with FMU at this hopeful time for others who have little or no hope."

In May 2010, the PSARAS Foundation established a donor advised fund with the FMU Foundation under the name of the Konduros Fishermen Fund. The fund was created to keep the PSARAS story alive by reflecting the ideals of innovation and dedication to the needs of those who may not have received mainstream attention of established entities and organizations.

The purpose of this fund is to reach into local communities and assist in capacity building. It was also the desire of the PSARAS Foundation Board of Directors to honor their long serving chairman, James S. Konduros.

"Over the years, Jim Konduros and the PSARAS Foundation have been loyal and generous supporters of FMU and the community we serve," said FMU President Fred Carter. "Jim has always been attuned to the needs of our students and faculty, and visionary about improving the quality of life in this state. We are proud to partner with them in identifying and serving those in need across the Pee Dee region."











### **FMU Army ROTC cadets commissioned**

Two graduates of Francis Marion University were honored as newly commissioned officers in the U.S. Army during a ceremony recently.

Cadets Trenton M. Gravely of Sumter and Adam Wilson Jr. of Sullivan, N.Y., took the oath at a gathering of former teachers, professors, family, friends and University officials, including FMU President Fred Carter, who is a retired U.S. Marine Corps. colonel. The two graduated with bachelor's degrees from the University in December 2011. Gravely and Wilson, now second lieutenants, majored in management and history, respectively.

FMU began an on-campus Army ROTC program in 1983, which lasted until 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 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 as 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



From left, Cadets Wilson and Gravely during commissioning ceremony

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.