

# Patriot Digest

*The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter*

Feb. 28, 2005

## FMU begins exchange program with French university

January marked the beginning of a new student exchange program between Francis Marion University and the University of Lower Normandy in Caen, France.

Rémi Binet and Christophe Collange, both 21, of Caen, France, arrived in Florence Jan. 9 to take classes at FMU. Both students are majoring in business.

Collange had positive things to say about the new exchange program. "I am proud to be one of the two first French students to come to Florence," he said. "I have always wanted to visit the United States because of my passion for music. Now that I'm here, I'm pretty sure that I will enjoy my stay in this nice city."

Binet noted some differences between life in France and his experiences thus far in the United States. "Everything here is bigger: roads, cars, food. Most importantly, Florence is a really pretty place to study. Its quiet, people are nice and the sun is already shining in January! Wonderful!"

The American participants, Courtney Peterson, 18, of Florence, and Alberto Morales, 20, of Columbia, left for France on Feb. 4, and will spend a few days in Paris before traveling to Caen, where they will enroll in French language classes.

Peterson, a freshman visual arts major at FMU, said going to France

was her lifetime dream. "This excursion will not only benefit my French, but will also be a great chance to meet people from all over the world. I'm really excited about the next four months," she said. "I know I will see many new places, try new cuisines, and see lots of cool fashion. My goal for this trip is to learn as much as possible so I can come back and share my knowledge with people who might not ever get to experience such a journey. Also, the trip to France will benefit my future career."

Morales, a junior French and Spanish major at FMU, said he was "ecstatic" about the opportunity to travel to France. "I have been studying French forever and now I finally have my chance to put it to good use. I have always wanted to go to France because their culture is so different. Imagine being in a country that doesn't have a Wal-Mart, where one has to depend on shopping in little specialized shops. I look forward to doing things a little differently than how we do them in Florence."

FMU French professor Elizabeth Zahnd is the acting coordinator for the exchange. "There is no better way to learn a foreign language than to experience it firsthand through immersion in the target culture," said Zahnd.

"I'm excited to send our students to Normandy, a region with a rich his-

tory and beautiful landscape. At the same time, it's been a pleasure to introduce Christophe and Rémi to Southern culture and to students at FMU."

In 2004, FMU president Fred Carter and Caen University president Nicole Le Querler signed a cooperative agreement providing for a student exchange program between the two institutions.

According to the agreement, each year during the spring semester, two students from France will study at FMU, while two Francis Marion students will travel to France to take classes at the University of Lower Normandy.

Participants pay the costs of tuition, housing and a meal plan at their home institution and receive the same services free of charge at the partner school.

"The FMU-France exchange reflects FMU's commitment to providing our students with a broad educational experience," said Carter.

"I applaud the work of Dr. Zahnd and other faculty members who helped to bring about this wonderful opportunity for our students, and I look forward to welcoming the French students to Francis Marion University each year."

For more information about the exchange program, contact Zahnd at 1600.

## Numerous study-abroad opportunities available to students

In addition to the France program, FMU offers students opportunities to study abroad at deMontfort University in Leicester, England; Fachhochschule Schmalkalden in Schmalkalden, Germany; University of Trier in Trier, Germany; Fachhochschule Ludwigshafen (business only) in Ludwigshafen, Germany; University of Basel in Basel, Switzerland; Universidad

Internacional in Cuernavaca, Mexico; University of the Sunshine Coast in Queensland State, Australia; Christchurch College of Education (education only) in Christchurch, New Zealand.

For more information on FMU's international programs, contact Scott Brown at 1611 or [ssbrown@fmarion.edu](mailto:ssbrown@fmarion.edu).

## Paintings, 'Spirit Houses' to be displayed through April 7

"Beginnings," paintings by Anya Belkina, and "Spirit Houses" by Carol Owens will be on display as part of Francis Marion University's Art Gallery Series through April 7.

The exhibits are open to the public, free of charge, and may be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday in the Hyman Fine Arts Center galleries.

"The central motif of 'Beginnings' is the Russian nesting doll, or matreshka," said Belkina. "Leveraging the toy's inherent theme of propagation, parenthood and sacrifice, the pieces explore the dangerous mutations and

ironic reversals of family relationships. In addition to referencing female forms, the images can be interpreted more broadly as visual metaphors for cyclical processes common to all matter; they speak of birth, development, decay, death, and regeneration."

Belkina is an assistant professor of drawing and painting at Duke University.

"My Spirit Houses tell family stories that celebrate the people, places and events important to us," said Owens. "The house image represents shelter, family and memories of home. These Spirit Houses are shrines to such

memories. They make sacred those shards of the past that have made us what we are."

"I construct each house individually with Japanese rice paper, foam core, and my own handmade paper," she added.

"I then paint them and embellish them with photographs and objects chosen to tell the stories that make up the rituals and ceremonies of our lives."

Owens lives and works in Pittsboro, N.C. Her recent publication, "Crafting Personal Shrines," is available through Lark Books.

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## Local high school students to compete in declamation contest, March 7

Area high school students will compete in the seventh-annual Language Declamation Contest hosted by the Francis Marion University Department of English, Modern Languages and Philosophy on Monday, March 7.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the contest will begin at 10 a.m. in Founders Hall on the FMU campus. Students from several area high schools will compete in French, Spanish and Latin.

Contestants are required to recite one selection. The students will be judged on memorization, pronunciation and enunciation, phraseology, natural gestures and appropriate movement, and delivery.

First-, second-, and third-place plaques and ribbons will be presented at an awards ceremony at 1 p.m.

For more information, call Beverly Owens at 1605 or e-mail her at [bowens@fmarion.edu](mailto:bowens@fmarion.edu).

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## Athletic teams recognize professors on Faculty Appreciation Night

In an attempt to continue to have Francis Marion University student-athletes and the athletic department connect with university faculty members, and to keep emphasizing the importance of academics to all Patriot student-athletes, FMU held its first Faculty Appreciation Night, Feb. 23, in conjunction with the final home basketball doubleheader.

All FMU senior student-athletes (in all sports) were asked to choose a faculty member that had contributed greatly to their time at Francis Marion University -- according to certain cri-

teria: mentoring through advising, classroom instruction, and one-on-one instruction; encouraging and assisting students to excel in the classroom through their own dedication, enthusiasm, and love of teaching; acting as a role model through their work ethic and their continuing effort to strive for excellence in their respective fields; taking the extra time and effort to develop a positive relationship with their students by encouraging and showing interest in extracurricular activities within the university and community; and displaying lead-

ership skills and a high standard of ethics.

Twenty-four faculty members were recognized between games of the women's and men's doubleheader: Bill Whitmire, Russell Ward, Gabriele Theuner, David White, Tim Shannon, Seth Smith, Robert Pugh, Lisa Eargle, Will Wattles, Rebecca Lawson, Mary Dittman, David Franck, Lynn Kostoff, Jon Tuttle, Tim Hanson, Bob Barrett, Ken Autrey, LeRoy Peterson, Meredith Love, Peter King, Alissa Warters, Joe Aniello, Kay Lawrimore, and Jacqueline Jones.



### Rogers Library participates in Groundhog Job Shadow Day

National Groundhog Job Shadow Day was Feb. 2.

The James A. Rogers Library staff had the opportunity to work with 11 students from Hannah-Pamplico High School. The students were chaperoned by their library media specialist, Vonnie Smith.

The student shadows were paired with members of the staff from various departments in the library. Each student had hands-on experiences in their assigned areas.

They quickly learned that there is more to a library than what appears out

front. The process of getting the information ready for patrons is a tedious task that involves all departments of the library and its staff.

The students' experiences included how to order books, keep track of periodicals, check out books, search and edit bibliographic records, process books with spine labels and security strips, the duties of the dean's office and his administrative staff, and how archives and special collections materials are stored.

Some of the students are members of their "Raider Live" crew which pro-

duce and broadcast the school news of the day to their student body. Brad Wofford, media center director, gave the group a tour of the media center, including the studio, control room and the Lowrimore Auditorium. This was one of the highlights of their visit.

The students, their media specialist, and several members of the library staff exchanged ideas and had causal conversations over lunch.

The Shadow Day experience was an opportunity to introduce students to the library field as well as a recruiting tool for the university.

### Jones, Boyles chosen 2005 homecoming king and queen

Jason Jones and Britton S. Boyles were selected as Francis Marion University's 2005 homecoming king and queen on Feb. 12.

Jones, of Florence, is a sophomore majoring in mass communications with a minor in graphic design.

He was sponsored by the Residence Life Association and is also a member of the Cut Time Show Choir and the FMU Concert Choir.

He is a writer for "The Patriot" student newspaper and a former chair of the University Programming Board.

Boyles, of Columbia, is a junior majoring in political science with a minor in mass communications.

She was sponsored by the Minority Student Association, of which she is the current vice president.

She is the membership vice president for Gamma Sigma Sigma national service sorority, a third-year senator for the Student Government Association, and a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

Boyles has been on the Dean's List for three straight semesters and she received the Academic Scholar Award in the spring of 2004 and 2005.

During Spirit Week, Feb. 7-11, FMU's Student Government Association held elections to select the 2005 homecoming king and queen.

The king and queen are selected by the student body to represent the student body's school spirit. The crowning ceremony was performed during halftime of the FMU men's basketball game against Augusta State University.

### Alcohol awareness event for students to be held March 1

Francis Marion University will host an alcohol awareness event to make students aware of the dangers of drinking and driving, Tuesday, March 1.

The program will be held from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the FMU Forest Villas Community Center.

Hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, cookies and drinks will be available for students. There will also be a live band and trivia questions about alcohol awareness every 30 minutes, with gift certificate giveaways.

Housing resident assistants will mix and serve "mock-

tail" non-alcoholic drinks. FMU Campus Police will be in front of the community center with "fatal vision" goggles and a golf cart so students can experience a simulation of driving while intoxicated.

The annual event is held before spring break for FMU students, March 7-11. The program is sponsored by the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws task force, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the FMU campus police, Housing Office, Student Affairs Office, and Counseling and Testing Center.

***FMU will be closed Friday, March 11 for spring break.***



## Human Resources Update

### 401(k) seminar to be held March 2

The S.C. Deferred Compensation Plan will hold a seminar for all FMU employees Wednesday, March 2, at 2:30 p.m. at the Cottage.

The topic will be 401(k) and 457 tax-deferred savings accounts. If you are currently a participant in the S.C. Deferred Compensation Plan, or are considering enrolling (minimum \$10/pay), you are encouraged to attend. The program will be presented by Kathy Diehl, a representative with the S.C. Deferred Compensation Plan.

Pre-registration is not required. For more information, contact Becky

Culbertson at 1143.

#### IBS seminar scheduled

Prevention Partners will hold a seminar on campus, Thursday, March 10. The seminar will explore the causes and treatments available for Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS), which affects 10 to 20 percent of the general population.

The program will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in Smith University Center Room 218. For more information or a registration form, call Becky Culbertson at 1143.

### AAUP faculty forum scheduled for March 24

A faculty forum will be held Thursday, March 24 at 3:45 p.m. in The Cottage. President Fred Carter and Provost Richard Chapman will be the featured panelists.

All faculty members are invited to bring comments, questions and ideas. The forum is sponsored by the FMU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors.

## Jobs On-Campus

(as of 2-25-05)

- Assistant Professor of History (East Asia)
- Assistant Professor of History (Europe)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Accounting
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Management Information Systems
- Assistant Professor of Nursing (Pediatric Nursing)
- Assistant Professor of Nursing (Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing)
- Assistant Professor of Nursing (Community Health)
- Assistant Professor of Nursing (Medical Surgical Nursing)
- Assistant Professor of Physics
- Instructor of English
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Mass Communication
- Assistant Professor of Psychology
- Associate Professor and Area Coordinator of Computer Science
- Accountant - Accounts Receivable
- Assistant Professor of Mathematics

Visit Human Resources, SAB 105, or call 1140.

## Coming Up On Campus

### MARCH

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|---------------|---|
| thru March 17 | Art Gallery Series: Paintings by James Meekins, UC gallery                                |
| 1 8 pm        | First Tuesday Arts Event: Sue Orr, soprano, with Benjamin Woods, piano, Kassab Hall, HFAC |
| 3 8 pm        | Concert: University Wind Symphony, McNair auditorium                                      |
| 4 6 pm        | Regional Spelling Bee, McNair auditorium  |
| 5 all day     | 14th annual Pee Dee Regional Challenge Tournament, McNair auditorium and LSF              |
| 7-11          | Spring break for students   |
| 11            | University closed for spring break  |
| 22-April 1    | Art Gallery Series: Student works by FMU drawing classes, UC gallery                      |
| 22 7:30 pm    | Hunter Lecture: Marjory Wentworth, Kassab Hall, HFAC                                      |
| 23 8 pm       | Concert: Sakiko Ohashi, piano, Kassab Hall, HFAC  |
| 24 3:45 pm    | Faculty forum, The Cottage  |

### APRIL

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| 5 8 pm | First Tuesday Arts Event: The Woods Family Plus, Kassab Hall, HFAC |
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## Patriot Digest deadlines

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

<b>Copy due</b>	<b>Publication</b>
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Submit articles via e-mail at [thudak@fmarion.edu](mailto:thudak@fmarion.edu). Questions or comments? Contact Todd J. Hudak at 1227.

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