

Patriot Digest

The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter

April 28, 2006

U.S. senator, businessman, state's former first lady to receive honorary degrees at commencement

A United States senator, a Florence businessman and a former South Carolina first lady will be given honorary degrees during May's commencement exercises at Francis Marion University.

U.S. Sen. Lindsey O. Graham of Seneca, W.O. "Billy" Powers of Florence and former South Carolina first lady Iris Rhodes Campbell of Georgetown County will be honored at the May 6 graduation ceremony in Smith University Center gymnasium. Graham also will be the commencement speaker for the 10 a.m. ceremony at which 355 students are candidates for degrees.

Degree candidates include 292 students for undergraduate degrees and 30 for graduate diplomas. In addition, 33 bachelor's degrees in nursing will be awarded jointly through a cooperative nursing program with the Medical University of South Carolina. Next year, nursing degrees will be awarded by FMU.

Graham was elected to the United States Senate in 2002. A native South

Carolinian, he grew up in Central, graduated from D.W. Daniel High School, and earned his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of South Carolina in Columbia. Graham logged six-and-a-half years of service on active duty as an Air Force lawyer.

From 1984-1988, he was assigned overseas and served at Rhein Mein Air Force Base in Germany. Upon leaving the active duty Air Force in 1989, Graham joined the South Carolina Air National Guard, where he served until his election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1994.

Since 1995, Graham has continued to serve his country in the U.S. Air Force Reserves and is the only U.S. Senator currently serving in the Guard or Reserves. In 1988, Graham went into private law practice and in 1992 was elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives. In 1994, he became the first Republican to represent South Carolina's Third Congressional District in Washington since 1877.

Graham lives in Seneca and is a

member of Corinth Baptist Church. He serves on four committees in the U.S. Senate: Armed Services, Judiciary, Budget, and Veterans Affairs.

Powers has spent more than 40 years building his construction company, Powers Construction, into a recognized name across the Southeastern United States. His career began as an engineer with the S.C. Department of Transportation.

In addition to Powers Construction, his business interests include Mini-Max Ware-houses Inc., Price-Carolina Aqua Pools Inc., Community Health Services Inc., Powers Aviation LLC, Powers-Godbold Construction Co., U.S. Coatings, and The Willows Inc.

Powers is very active in the community, and has been involved with the Florence Rotary Club, the S.C. Chamber of Commerce, the Florence Optimist Club, of which he is a past president, the Florence Economic Development Partnership Board, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Arts Presidential Advisory Board.

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Graham



Powers



Campbell

President Carter to remain at Francis Marion

Statement from Fred Carter, President of Francis Marion University:

This morning (April 27) I asked the chairman of the search committee at the College of Charleston to withdraw my name from consideration for the presidency of that institution. I have decided to remain at Francis Marion University. This decision has come after a week of deliberation and conversations with scores of faculty, staff, students, civic leaders and elected officials.

Throughout this process, I have been reminded of the unique role that FMU plays in the education of this state and the development of this region. Moreover, it's the best job I've ever had.

The College of Charleston truly has a special place in my heart for that is where I spent the early part of my academic career. It's a wonderful university, and I wish them the best. However, Folly, Luke and I love Florence and the Pee Dee. We hope to be here for a long, long time.

Faculty/Staff News

The process for reviewing and revising the South Carolina English Language Arts Curriculum Standards of 2002 has begun with the State Department of Education. **Sharon Moore Askins**, assistant professor of education, has been selected to serve on a 10-person writing panel for revision. The review and revision process, which will include a field review of the writing panel's draft academic standards, will be completed in early 2007.

Askins also presented a session, "Growing Academic Vocabulary with Your Students" at a spring conference celebrating the 50th anniversary of the South Carolina Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (SC-ASCD). Along with other

past SC-ASCD presidents, Askins was recognized at the same conference at Myrtle Beach, on March 24, for her leadership in 2002.

The annual **Community Health Charities** state campaign will be conducted at FMU during April and May.

The Community Health Charities affords all employees an opportunity to support the health agency or agencies of their choice. In return, the health agencies use employees' gifts for research prevention and treatment of diseases, support groups, public education, early detection and screening programs.

All employees received a pamphlet and pledge form through campus mail,

which may be used for payroll deduction or to make a cash donation. Return the form or a check before May 30. For more information, call Libby Cooper at 1221.

Five students – **Joy Brunson, Tanikka Gilmore, Tamika Hudgens, Walter Sanderson, and Opal Sloan** – presented research papers at CUSSS (Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium) at Presbyterian College on April 21.

Joel Thayer, professor of sociology, served as a judge for the paper competition. **Russell Ward**, assistant professor of sociology, participated in the awarding of prizes for best poster and papers.

Woods named Distinguished Professor for 2005-06

Benjamin Woods of Florence has been selected the J. Lorin Mason Distinguished Professor for the 2005-06 year at Francis Marion University.

Announced at a campus banquet April 20, this award has been given since the 1975-76 school year and is based upon a faculty member's contributions to teaching, professional service and scholarly activities.

The award, named in honor of the former chairman of the FMU Board of Trustees, is the highest honor to be bestowed upon a faculty member. It will be presented at FMU's spring commencement Saturday, May 6. The award carries a cash prize.

As a result of his selection, Woods will be the Francis Marion University nominee for the **G o v e r n o r ' s** Professor of the Year Award competition next fall.

"Woods is recognized as a superlative piano teacher and for his outstanding service to the university and community," said Fred Carter, FMU president. He also praised Woods for his creative performance as an artist.

"For more than 30 years, his stu-



Woods

dents have held him in high regard as a caring and compassionate teacher, and the community has enjoyed his musical talents," said Carter.

A native of Port Arthur, Texas, Woods has been a member of the FMU faculty since 1972. A professor of music, he was named an FMU Trustees Research Scholar in 2004. He earned a bachelor's degree in piano performance and music education at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, in 1969, a master's degree in music from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, in 1972, and a doctorate in musical arts from the University of South Carolina in 1991.

DEGREES

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A native of Timmonsville, Powers is a graduate of Timmonsville High School. He attended Clemson University, where he studied civil engineering. Powers is married to the former Ann Williamson. He has two children, Timothy Powers and Penny Leigh Burns.

Iris Rhodes Campbell, the daughter of A.T. and Sue Rhodes, was born in Liberty, S.C. She married Carroll

Ashmore Campbell Jr. in 1959. After serving in the S.C. House of Representatives, the S.C. Senate and the U.S. Congress, Mr. Campbell was elected Governor of South Carolina in 1986.

As South Carolina's first lady for eight years, Mrs. Campbell dedicated her time to many charities including the American Cancer Society, the March of Dimes, the Carolina Children's Home and the Food for Hungry Children campaign. She also served on the Board of the Richland Memorial Children's Hospital.

After Gov. Campbell was diagnosed with Alzheimers, the Campbell family became involved with the Palmetto Chapter of the Alzheimers Association which has an annual golf tournament named after the governor. to raise money to help fight this terrible disease.

Since Gov. Campbell's death in December 2005, Mrs. Campbell continues to work with the Alzheimers Association and she serves on the advisory board of the University of South Carolina library.



Gary Edwards named men's basketball coach

Francis Marion University athletic director Murray Hartzler announced on Wednesday (April 26) the hiring of Gary Edwards of Indiana, Pa., as the university's new head coach for men's basketball. The announcement was made at a news conference at The Cottage on the FMU campus.

Edwards, 48, replaces John Schweitz, whose contract was not renewed following the 2005-06 season.

The Virginia Beach, Va., native comes to Francis Marion after 10 seasons as head coach at NCAA Division II Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He guided the Indians to a 206-88 mark, including five 20-win campaigns, and four trips to the Division II national tournament. Under his guidance, IUP advanced to the Elite Eight twice (2000 and 2002) and participated in the 2002 Final Four. He is the winningest coach in the program's long history.

His career coaching mark stands at

389-256 in 22 seasons on the bench.

Edwards returns to South Carolina, where he still ranks as the winningest coach at Division I Charleston Southern University. In nine seasons, he guided the Buccaneers to 121 wins. His 1995 CSU squad won the Big South Conference title, and he twice earned Big South Conference "Coach of the Year" honors.

He also previously coached at Barton College (then Atlantic Christian College), compiling a 62-35 mark in three seasons and leading the Bulldogs to two NAIA national tournament appearances. Prior to his arrival, the Bulldogs had suffered through 19 consecutive losing seasons.

"We are extremely pleased to have Gary join our staff," Hartzler said.



Edwards

"Given his background at both the Division I and Division II levels, he became the right choice at the right time to lead our program. His career record speaks for itself, and we feel he possesses all the qualities we are looking for to run a complete program, both on and off the court."

FMU president Dr. Fred Carter added, "In hiring a new coach, we focused on three key criteria: the necessity for achieving a winning program, recruiting and graduating student-athletes, and cultivating strong support within the community. We feel that Gary will be successful at all three of these."

Edwards received a B.A. degree in English (magna cum laude) from Virginia Wesleyan College, where he was recognized as an academic All-American on the basketball court in 1979. He later earned a master's degree from Old Dominion University.

Three professors recognized for teaching, research, service

Three Francis Marion University faculty members were honored for outstanding individual work during the past year at a faculty recognition banquet on April 20.

Vernon W. Bauer of Lamar was given the Award for Excellence in Teaching; Jennifer Kunka of Florence was presented the Award for Excellence in Service; and Derek Jokisch of Florence received the Award for Excellence in Research. Each award carries a cash prize.

"Exemplary teaching, public service and scholarship are essential characteristics of a good faculty member, and these awards recognize the importance of each in our mission of educating students," said Fred Carter, president of FMU. "Vernon, Jennifer and Derek are ideal examples of what superlative faculty contribute to a university. I am very proud of them."

An associate professor of biology, Bauer has been a member of the FMU faculty since 2000. He was cited for his classroom teaching skills. A native of Columbia, Bauer earned a bache-

lor's degree in biological science at Clemson University in 1992 and a doctorate in genetics from North Carolina State University in 1999, where he received the outstanding graduate teaching award. He has also taught at North Carolina Wesleyan College.

Kunka, a native of Milwaukee, Wis., has been a member of the FMU faculty since 2001. She is an assistant professor of English, and director of the FMU Writing Center. She was cited for her service to the university, the community and the state. She served as co-chair of the FMU Gender Studies Steering Committee and serves on the board of the Swamp Fox Writing Project in addition to numerous other university committees. She earned a bachelor's degree in English and history at Marquette University in 1992, a master's degree in English and American literature from Marquette in 1995 and a doctorate in English from Purdue University in 2002 where she won the graduate student award for outstanding teaching.

A native of Carlinville, Ill., Jokisch

has been a member of the FMU faculty since 1999. An associate professor of physics and health physics, he was cited for his extensive scholarly work, primarily in the field of research in trabecular bone dosimetry. He has 17 peer-reviewed articles and eight abstracts published and another two in progress.

He is also credited with 25 scholarly presentations at conferences across the United States. Successful in getting several funded research grants, he is project director for a four-year program on improving teacher quality of Pee Dee middle school science teachers. Jokisch earned a bachelor's degree in nuclear engineering (1995) at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign and master's (1997) and doctoral (1999) degrees in health physics at the University of Florida.

Lucy C. Thrower, a professor emeritus of mathematics, also was presented the Shared Governance Award, sponsored by the FMU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors.



Human Resources Update

Credit union to hold annual meeting, May 15

Members of Pee Dee Federal Credit Union are invited to attend the 42nd annual meeting on Monday, May 15 at 6 p.m., in the Poynor Adult Education Center, Room 2A.

Members will vote for their board of directors, have a chance to ask questions, and win door prizes. For more information, call 669-0461.

Meet & Greet

PDFCU is proud to announce Robin Williamson as its new president

and CEO. Williamson has been serving as interim president since December.

Williamson comes to PDFCU with 20 years of credit union experience, having served as a manager, assistant manager, comptroller, VP, and CEO.

PDFCU will host a meet and greet for Williamson on Monday, May 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the main office at 305 W. Pine St., and from 3 to 5 p.m. at the branch, located at 3320 W. Palmetto St.

Eight trustees re-elected to FMU Board

Eight members of the Board of Trustees at Francis Marion University were re-elected to their positions recently by the state legislature.

Re-elected to another four-year term on the FMU board are:

James A. Brown Jr. of Florence, representing Congressional District 6.

H. Randall Dozier of Murrells Inlet, representing Congressional District 1.

William M. Ellen of Columbia, representing Congressional District 2.

L. Franklin Elmore of Greenville,

representing Congressional District 4.

Kenneth W. Jackson of Florence, an at-large representative.

Robert E. Lee of Florence, an at-large representative.

Carolyn B. Shortt of Laurens, representing Congressional District 3.

W.C. Stanton of Cheraw, representing Congressional District 5.

The 17-member board is made up of two representatives from each of the six congressional districts, three at-large members and two gubernatorial appointees.

Jobs On-Campus

(as of 4-26-06)

- Part-time Instructor of Biology
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Accounting
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Management
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Educational Technology and Assessment)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Middle School/Secondary Education)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Nursing (2)
- Assistant Professor of Mathematics (2)
- Assistant Professor of Fine Arts (Graphic Design/Foundation)
- Assistant Professor of Marketing
- Instructor of Chemistry
- Assistant Professor of Art Education
- Assistant Reference Librarian
- Instructor/Assistant Professor of English (Composition)
- Instructor of Biology
- Director of Facilities Engineering and Maintenance
- Director of Facilities Management
- Executive Director of the Francis Marion Trail Commission
- Dean of Students
- Student Services Counselor – Admissions
- Director of Publications and Marketing
- Investor Relations/Marketing Coordinator – North Eastern Strategic Alliance

Visit Human Resources, SAB 105, or call 1140.

Coming Up On Campus

MAY

- | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| through May 6 | Art Gallery Series: Senior shows by graduating FMU visual arts majors, HFAC gallery |
| through May 6 | Art Gallery Series: Student works by FMU photography classes, UC gallery |
| through May 6 | Art Gallery Series: Student works by FMU ceramics and 3D design classes, HFAC gallery |
| 6 | 10 am Commencement, UC gym |
| 10 | Late Spring classes begin |
| 15 | Nominations due for Outstanding Staff Service Award |
| 31 | Late Spring classes end; exams |

JUNE

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| 5 | Summer I classes begin |
| 8-9 | Orientation for new students |
| 23-24 | Orientation for new students |

Patriot Digest deadlines

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

Copy due	Publication
May 8	May 15

Submit articles via e-mail at thudak@fmarion.edu. Questions or comments? Contact Todd J. Hudak at 1227.

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