

Patriot Digest

The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter

April 29, 2005

Ramey named Distinguished Professor for 2004-05

J. Tompkins (Tommy) Ramey Jr. of Florence has been selected the J. Lorin Mason Distinguished Professor for the 2004-05 year at Francis Marion University.

Announced at a campus banquet April 21, 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.



Ramey

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 7. The award carries a cash prize.

As a result of his selection, Ramey will be the Francis Marion University nominee for the Governor's Professor

of the Year Award competition next fall.

"Tommy Ramey is recognized for his superlative teaching and scholarship in mathematics," said Fred Carter, FMU president. He also praised Ramey for his strong commitment to research and his service to the university and community.

"For more than 30 years, his students have held him in high regard as a caring and compassionate teacher, and his colleagues have respected his scholarship and leadership," said Carter.

A native of Honea Path, Ramey earned his bachelor's (1969) and doctoral (1974) degrees from Clemson University, where he was a research and teaching assistant.

He joined the FMU faculty in 1974 and has been promoted through the years to the rank of professor of mathematics. He designed and directed the computer science program from 1985

to 1996, and served as coordinator of mathematics from 1997 to 1998. He was the first FMU professor to teach many of the courses in the computer science and mathematics curricula.

He has numerous publications to his credit, including co-authoring a textbook on the self-paced math lab. He belongs to the Mathematical Association of America, the Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges, the S.C. Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Ramey was awarded the 2001 FMU Award for Excellence in Teaching. He has served on many university committees, including the Faculty Senate and the Honors Program.

He helps annually with the mathematics tournament for high school students and has served as a judge for many public school competitions in mathematics and science.

Four professors recognized for teaching, research, service

Four Francis Marion University faculty members were honored for outstanding individual work during the past year at a faculty recognition banquet on April 21.

Lisa A. Pike was given the Award for Excellence in Teaching; Elizabeth A. Zahnd was presented the Award for Excellence in Service; Jeffrey D. Camper received the Award for Excellence in Research; and D. Keith Best was given the Shared Governance Award. All four live in Florence.

"Lisa, Liz, Jeff and Keith are great examples of what outstanding faculty contribute to a university. I am very proud that their work is being recognized with these awards," said Fred Carter, president of FMU. "Exemplary teaching, public service and scholarship are essential characteristics of a

superb faculty, and these four colleagues epitomize the very finest faculty."

An assistant professor of biology, Pike has been a member of the FMU faculty since 1993. She was cited for her classroom teaching skills and her personal interest in students. A native of Henrietta, N.Y., she earned a bachelor's degree in biology at Binghamton University in 1989 and a master's in marine biology at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1991, where she was also a biology instructor. She did post-graduate work in tropical marine ecology at James Cook University of North Queensland, Australia. At FMU, she chairs the Recycling Committee and is faculty adviser of the Ecology Club. She also served as president of the Pee Dee

Natural History Society. Her research interests are in the areas of marine biology and marine ichthyology, and she has written several articles and made numerous scholarly presentations on those topics.

Zahnd, a native of Maryville, Mo., has been a member of the FMU faculty since 1999. She is an assistant professor of French and coordinator of the French program. She was cited for her service to the university and the community. She has been co-editor of the S.C. Modern Language Review since 2002. She established exchange agreements between FMU and two universities in France. She was the 2004 winner of the Estudio Internacional Sampere-Ulloa Scholarship award which covered four weeks of summer

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Faculty/Staff News

Vicki Williams of Florence has joined the FMU staff as coordinator of orientation and provisional programs.

She is a 2002 graduate of FMU with a bachelor's degree in political science. She also earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of South Carolina in 2004.

This year, **Erika Barnes**, a graduating senior in the English, Modern Language and Philosophy Department, has participated in research projects which have awarded her the opportunity to attend national and regional conferences.

Last fall, Barnes attended the Popular Culture in the South regional conference held in New Orleans. Her paper, "Destabilizing Masculinity: Homosocial and the Homoerotic in Cuaron's *Y Tu Mama Tambien*" won second place in the annual undergraduate and graduate essay contest sponsored by the organization.

This spring, she traveled to the National Popular Culture/American Culture Conference held in San Diego to present her paper, "A Faulknerian Theme in Donna Tartt's *The Little Friend*: The Effect of the Past on the Present."

Fred David, professor of business administration, presented a paper titled "Analyzing a Strategic Management Case" at the Society for the Advancement of Management (SAM) meeting in Las Vegas, April 2-6.

Jane Madden, assistant professor of education, and **Michael Madden**, professor of education, were recent presenters at the National Science Teachers Association Conference in Dallas.

They presented four sessions covering a range of topics: teaching techniques for at-risk learners, including the use of science probeware, maximizing the use of digital cameras and camcorders in the science classroom, creating multimedia science glossaries, and sources for locating free high-quality resources for the science classroom.

Shortly before the Dallas conference, Jane Madden presented an invited weekend session for integrating technology in the classroom, especially audio, video, and graphics, for teachers in Kansas.

At the beginning of March, the Maddens presented two sessions to the South Carolina Association of School Librarians Conference in Florence. They provided attendees with a large number of resources from federal agencies that are available for classroom use.

They also presented two sessions at the Florida Educational Technology Conference in Orlando. One session focused on the integration of science probeware into the elementary classroom and the other dealt with issues associated with the use of various media in classroom instruction.

The **Faculty Senate** held its last meeting of the year on April 19. New

senators met with the 2004-05 Senate to elect the vice chair and secretary of the Senate and General Faculty.

New at-large senators attending were Bill Whitmire (Math), Leslie Barnes-Young (Psychology), and Tim Shannon (Biology). New members elected by departments included Duane Myers (History), Tommy Ramey (Math), Allen Clabo (Chemistry), Mary Dittman (Business), Sam Broughton (Psychology), and Henry Slone (Biology). Keith Best was elected vice chair and Beckie Flannagan was elected secretary.

Sharon Moore Askins, assistant professor of education, attended the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Pre-conference Institute, "Assessment Strategies for Self-Directed Learners" in Orlando, Fla., March 30-April 1.

The training was conducted by Drs. Art Costas and Bena Kallick, authors of "Habits of Mind." Askins was able to attend the institute through an FMU professional development grant.

Coker College in Hartsville awarded **Donna Goodman** ('73), professor of art education, the "Coker College Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award for 2005" at Alumni Day on April 9.

Goodman was also recently selected as a new member of the Board of Trustees of the Florence Museum of Arts and Sciences.

Outstanding Staff Service Award nominations sought

Nominations are being sought for the Outstanding Staff Service Award.

The award, established in 1999, honors two permanent, full-time, non-academic employees of Francis Marion University for sustained exceptional service in their jobs.

These awards, which carry a \$1,000 cash prize and a plaque, will be presented at the annual staff luncheon, scheduled in July at a date to be announced. The awards recognize the outstanding contributions of employees to the university and community at large.

One award is designated for the university's service areas, including physical plant staff, custodians, groundskeepers and dining services. The second award is designated for academic and administrative support staff.

Nominations are encouraged to honor those employees who are truly making a difference for FMU. Nominations should be submitted no later than May 16, 2005, to the Communications Services Office, 116 Stokes Administration Building. Additional nomination forms can be obtained in the Communications Services Office.



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study in Spain. An adviser to the French Club, she has led student study trips to France and Mexico. She earned a bachelor's degree in French and foreign service with honors at Baylor University in 1992, a master's in French at Middlebury College School in Paris, France, in 1993, and a doctorate in French at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1999. Her primary area of interest is Francophone literature of Quebec and the Caribbean, post-Colonial studies.

A native of Aurora, Ill., Camper

has been a member of the FMU faculty since 1994. A professor of biology, Camper was cited for his extensive scholarly work, primarily in the study of amphibians and reptiles in the southeastern coastal plain. He has published numerous articles and received several grants to conduct research. Camper received his bachelor's degree in zoology from Southern Illinois University in 1982, a master's degree in biology from Drake University in 1985 and a doctorate in wildlife and fisheries from Texas A&M University in 1990, where he also did post-doctoral work. He has taught at Drake, Texas A&M and at Austin College, prior to coming to FMU.

An associate professor of theatre arts, Best received the Shared Governance Award, sponsored by the FMU Chapter of the American Association of University Professors. This award is given to a faculty member who demonstrates commitment to the principles of shared governance between the faculty, administration and the board of trustees. He is currently president of FMU's AAUP chapter. Also a resident of Florence, Best has been a member of the FMU faculty since 1993. A native of Valdosta, Ga., he earned a bachelor's degree in fine arts at Valdosta State University in 1986 and a master's in fine arts at the University of Louisville in 1993.

FMU hosts Undergraduate Mathematics Conference

Francis Marion University hosted students from the eastern Carolinas at its Spring 2005 Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, April 15.

Fifty-five students and 20 faculty from six schools (FMU, Benedict College, Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, the University of South Carolina, and the S.C. Governor's School for Science and Mathematics) attended the conference.

Fourteen students from FMU, Benedict, Coastal Carolina, and the Governor's School gave presentations.

The keynote speaker was Joel Brawley, alumni distinguished professor of mathematical sciences at Clemson University, who spoke on "The Gambler's Ruin and Other Surprises in Probability."

The program also included a graduate school panel discussion, an awards ceremony, and a "Math Jeopardy" competition, which was won by Coastal Carolina. The conference was funded by the Department of Mathematics, the Department of Physics and Astronomy, and the Provost's Office at FMU, and the National Science Foundation.

FMU begins annual campaign for Community Health Charities

The annual Community Health Charities State Campaign will be conducted at FMU during the month of May.

Community Health Charities affords all employees an opportunity to support the health agency or agencies of their choice. In return, the health agencies use your gift in the following ways:

- Research
- Prevention and treatment of disabling and life-threatening diseases
- Support groups for those afflicted and their families
- Public education
- Early detection
- Screening programs

All FMU employees received a pamphlet and pledge form, which you

may use for payroll deduction or to make a cash donation.

Checks should be made payable to Community Health Charities. Please return your pledge form or check by May 30. Contributions are tax-deductible.

The goal is to raise \$2,000 from the FMU family. For more information, contact Libby Cooper at 1221.

The Cottage to offer special menu for Mother's Day, May 7

The Cottage will offer a special meal for Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8. There are two reservation times: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The menu will include an omelet station, apple-smoked bacon, stone-ground grits, croissant French toast with soft caramel apples, maple-whipped sweet potatoes, orange and

almond salad, fruit salad, pork tenderloin, pecan chicken Dijon, and assorted desserts. Drinks will include sweetened tea, unsweetened tea, and coffee, as well as a cash bar.

The price is \$15 for adults, and \$7 for children under 12 years old. Reservations are required. RSVP by May 6 to Cortnie at 1262.



FMU note cards available for sale

The Francis Marion University Art Guild and the School of Business are offering note cards for sale to alumni and friends of the university.

The front of each note card features an image of one of FMU's landmarks. The photographs were taken by FMU art students. The cards are blank on the inside. The FMU seal and the name of the student who took the photograph appear on the back of each card.

Art professor Greg Fry designed the note cards. Each package costs \$8 and includes eight cards and eight

envelopes. All profits will benefit the students in both the Fine Arts Department and School of Business. The profits will provide art students with needed supplies, and business students will use benefits to fund various student activities.

To purchase note cards, call the School of Business at 843-661-1419.

Orders can also be made by mail to: Small Business Institute, c/o Prof. Joe Aniello, Francis Marion University, P.O. Box 100547, Florence, SC 29501-0547.

FMU hosts social science symposium

On Friday, April 22, 70 students and faculty from colleges and universities across South Carolina visited Francis Marion University to participate in the Carolina Undergraduate Social Science Symposium. FMU sociology faculty organized and hosted the event, which is sponsored annually by the South Carolina Sociological Association.

Lisa Eargle chaired the program committee. Richard Brunk served as a judge for the paper and poster competitions. Russell Ward chaired the local arrangements committee. Joel Thayer served as coordinator.

Mark Scarbecz, a former FMU faculty member, delivered the keynote address in which he reported his research on "Women in Dentistry." He also spoke after lunch about opportunities for careers as applied researchers in health care settings.

Looking for a back issue of Patriot Digest? It is available in PDF format on the FMU website. Just click on NEWS on the homepage, and then on PATRIOT DIGEST under PUBLICATIONS on the left side of the page.

Coming Up On Campus

MAY

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| through May 7 | Art Gallery Series: Senior Shows by graduating FMU visual arts majors, HFAC gallery |
| through May 7 | Art Gallery Series: Student works by FMU ceramics and 3-D design classes, HFAC gallery |
| through May 7 | Art Gallery Series: Student works by FMU photography classes, UC gallery |
| 7 10 am | Commencement exercises, UC gymnasium |
| 8 | Mother's Day meal at Cottage |
| 24-July 28 | Art Gallery Series: Recent works by Lynda English, HFAC gallery |
| 24-July 28 | Art Gallery Series: Recent works by Jackie Wukela, UC gallery |

Jobs On-Campus

(as of 4-26-05)

- Two Part-Time Instructors of Speech Communication
- Instructor of English
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Mass Communication
- Assistant Professor of Psychology
- Assistant Professor of Mathematics
- Assistant Professor of Speech Communication
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Elementary Education
- Director of Annual Giving and Constituent Relations
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Coordinator of Clinical and Field Experience)
- Assistant Professor of Physics
- Administrative Assistant – School of Business

Visit Human Resources, SAB 105, or call 1140.

Patriot Digest deadlines

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

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May 6	May 13

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

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