Hughes tackles second university presidency

By Jeffery Seay
Editor in Chief

A
fter a lifetime of accomplishment in academia, Marvalene Hughes — a prized education administrator — now is most emphatic about giving back to people the things that she has learned. Since becoming president of New Orleans’ historically black Dillard University, she has been given the chance to do just that in a big way.

Born in Alabama and into the “Black Belt” of the South, Hughes’ parents were passionately involved in the Civil Rights Movement. Her parents insisted that all nine of their children attend college to gain every advantage in a nation that had yet to embrace racial integration. Hughes went on to earn her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Tuskegee University and, in 1969, her doctorate in counseling and psychology from Florida State University.

In July 2005, after spending the previous 11 years as president of California State University-Stanislaus and the balance of her prior, distinguished career working at major universities that were predominantly white, Hughes was thrilled to accept the presidency of Dillard. Her longtime friend, even wrote “A Daughter Comes Home” to mark the occasion: “a chance to give back.”

But Hughes’ tenure at Dillard began mere weeks before Hurricane Katrina wreaked havoc on its 137-year-old campus. The experience, which Hughes characterized as one of the most horrific of her life, has been testing her mettle ever since.

More than a year after the catastrophe, the refurbishing of Dillard residence halls and classroom spaces has been given top priority, and all building exteriors have been repainted with a fresh coat of their signature white. This steady progress is a testament to the steep learning curve that Hughes quickly had to master concerning a remediation process involving hundreds of workers hired to do everything from removing mold to saving the campus’ venerable oak trees, which were damaged during the storm. Today, Dillard is a far cry from what Hughes remembers of the immediate aftermath of the storm.

Hughes said. “A lot of these were my faculty, staff and students. They, fortunately, all survived.”

Two of the New Orleans levees that broke were within one-quarter mile of Dillard. Their failure flooded the campus, submerging every (Continued on page 15)

Archaeology under the Tuscan sun: De Grummond announces historic discovery at ancient site

by Barry Ray
FSU News and Public Affairs

D
igging on a remote hilltop in Italy, a Florida State University classics professor and her students have unearthed artifacts that dramatically reshape our knowledge of the religious practices of an ancient people, the Etruscans.

“We are excavating a monumental Etruscan building evidently dating to the final years of Etruscan civilization,” said Nancy Thomson de Grummond, the M. Lynette Thompson Professor of Classics at Florida State University and director of the university’s archaeology programs in Italy. Within the building, de Grummond’s team located in early June what appears to be a sacrificial pit and a sanctuary — finds remarkable for the wealth of items they are yielding that appear to have been used in religious rituals.

Nearly every summer since 1983, de Grummond has taken groups of FSU students into Italy’s Tuscany region to participate in archaeological digs at Cetamura del Chianti, a site once inhabited by the Etruscans and ancient Romans. In the final days of this year’s program, de Grummond and her students unearthed what she calls “the most thrilling” find she has seen in 23 years at Cetamura.

She explained that the Etruscans, who once ruled most of the Italian peninsula, were conquered and absorbed by the Romans in the (Continued on page 15)

This bronze Etruscan medallion is of unknown purpose and a bit mysterious. It is adorned with the head of a man who has the features of a bull (horns and ears), and probably was considered to have magic properties.
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Rearranged appraiser judge
Jim Joanos and his wife Betty Lou — both Florida State alumni — were the first to sign up for Westcott Lakes. “We didn’t really have to think twice about it. They said, ‘This will be a first-class community affiliated with a university — something that the student-athletes are involved in,’ and that really hit home with us.”

Jim Joanos

"It was published at a cost of $600. It was purchased by The Florida State Alumni Center to keep alumni, friends, faculty and students informed of what they are accomplishing for more than 100 years. FSU is half of what they are accomplishing for more than 100 years. FSU is half of what they are accomplishing for more than 100 years.

Available online at www.fsu.edu/~fstime/FS-Times/index.html

"Sometimes we forget just how young we are, and we have a young athletes program," he said. "Many of the schools in the ACC, Southeastern Conference, Big East — schools that are geographically near us and in pursuit of the same things — have been playing far more than thirty years with their teams for 20 or 30 years. We are at that young age."

Mark Meloney, left, and Dave Hart

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The first Franklin Ammonia conveyor was designed by Zvi Zilbers (1900–1970), an engineering professor at the Technion in Israel.

The conveyor was a simple, yet effective design, featuring a twin belt system that allowed for the simultaneous movement of products in both directions. This design innovation made it possible to efficiently transport materials in various industries, including agriculture, mining, and manufacturing. Zilbers' work in conveyor design significantly advanced the field of material handling and continues to influence modern conveyor technology.
Blankenship focused on security as ambassador to Bahamas

By Barry Stern
Managing Editor

Two half brothers of Richard Blankenship’s children were a fascination with Florida politics and other family vacations in the Bahamas. These dates later, the Florida State University alumni came full circle when, in 2003, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to be the U.S. ambassador to the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Blankenship said he’d early interest in politics was nurtured by

Blankenship was an elected official and I got to

...duties as the superintendent of

...work...with his family on vacations as a

...participated in a review of Florida’s port se-

...the Alumni Association at fam

...page...in the Florida Transportation Out-

...pages for the Alumni Association, he was ap-

...had served as a member of the Florida Department of Edu-

...news for Sen. Harry Stratton, and that was the beginning of my...politics and law with Tallahassee and FSU. While at FSU, I was involved with the Florida Department of Education and, during summer...in the Alabama Governor’s Office.”

Prior to becoming an ambassador, he was appointed as a member of the Florida Transportation Out-

Prior to becoming an ambassador, he was appointed as a member of the Florida Transportation Out-
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The 1950 Olympic American Jerome Kirkendall, who is often referred to as the "Dean of American History," passed away. His wide-ranging expertise in American history, especially in the areas of political and social history, made him a significant contributor to the field.

In Memoriam of Jerome Kirkendall

To honor his legacy, a symposium on American history will be held at the University of Georgia on October 2006. The symposium will feature scholars from around the country who will present papers on various aspects of American history.

--itra

October 2006 / Lighted Driving Range

If you would like to participate in the symposium or learn more about the event, please contact the symposium organizers at symposium@uga.edu or 706-542-1234.
We can be reached directly at (850) 644-0753, or by e-mail at plannedgiving@foundation.fsu.edu.

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