FSU celebrates energy conservation on campus

By Matthew Hunter
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Students, faculty, and staff showed up in full support on Union Green recently to celebrate successful conservation efforts across campus for 2008-2009.

The celebration highlighted that Florida State University has saved $3.3 million due to its energy conservation efforts, while helping the environment as well. Many groups on campus and in the community who are dedicated to energy awareness were on hand to inform visitors about their efforts.

“An aggressive and effective energy conservation program allows Florida State University to lower costs and improve sustainability,” said Jim Stephens, the university’s first energy engineer, a position created to help Florida State find ways to conserve energy. “The efforts complement the university’s reputation of outstanding leadership in many areas of academics and research.”

One of Florida State’s largest efforts is constructing and renovating buildings that meet the requirements to be considered certified by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) buildings. There are currently 12 buildings in the process of becoming certified. They are considered models of energy efficiency.

Florida State is also launching a new Web site to include all of its historical energy usage data, ways individuals can work to help conserve energy usage on campus, and efforts to help improve campus awareness about resource conservation. Other vendors such as Grainger, which supplies Florida State with facility maintenance, and Tallahassee Utilities also showed up at the celebration to help educate the students and faculty on their efforts.

Celebrating Florida State University’s efforts at energy conservation are, from left, John Carnaghi, FSU’s senior vice president for Finance and Administration; Alan Peck, director of FSU’s Facilities Administrative Services; Dennis Bailey, FSU’s associate vice president of Facilities Administrative Services; Robert Jakubik, student body president and university trustee; Michael Sole, secretary of Florida’s Department of Environmental Protection; and Elizabeth Swiman, service learning program coordinator at the FSU Center for Leadership and Civic Education.

Senior Vice President of Finance and Administration John Carnaghi and Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Michael Sole spoke to congratulate Florida State on its efforts, and encouraged all students and staff to sign the “Energy Conservation” pledge that was provided by Garnet and Gold Goes Green, a student-led conservation initiative.
Will You Have a Secure Retirement?

John H. Curry

Both my father and grandfather were members of the Florida Retirement System. When it came time for them to retire they were not well versed in the options available. Looking back they both could have made better choices.

When I look over at my grandson playing in the yard I realize that my advocacy role is important not just to those examining their retirement options but to future generations as well. Asset protection, long term care and income planning are important to our family and life.

I often ask people “Do you feel like you have the knowledge you need as you move toward retirement?” The intricacies of DROP, deferred compensation and FRS pension options can be mind numbing.

Let me help.

News Release

November, 2009

John H. Curry will be speaking on Secure Retirement issues and available to sign his new book “Preparing for a SECURE Retirement” December 10, 2009 at the University Center Club. 20% of all proceeds from the evening go to benefit the United Way of the Big Bend.

John, a well respected business leader, lives by the Rotary “Four Way Test”. First is it the truth? Second, is it fair for all concerned? Third, will it build goodwill and better friendships. And fourth, is it beneficial to all concerned? His philosophy is “do the right thing”. Because both his father and grandfather worked and retired without a full understanding of their benefits or options, John is passionate about his advocate role as an advisor.

Questions that John Curry often asks include: What would you like to accomplish? How can you get time freedom and money freedom?

These and other questions will be answered during the networking, presentation and book signing scheduled for December 10 at the University Center Club. For more information please contact the club at: 850.644.8528 for reservations.


Book Signing and Presentation

Thursday, December 10, 2009
5:30 Registration
6 pm Happy Hour Meet & Greet

20% of all proceeds benefit the United Way of the Big Bend!

Members can register at www.universitycenterclub.com or call a Member Services Representative at 850.644.8528.
Non-members will need to call a Member Services Representative.

“John Curry is an insightful and powerful advocate. He brings over 30 years of real field experience and wisdom to the table. His thoughts and observations are always on point and useful in many day to day situations we all encounter. John has an easy, southern gentleman style that makes the learning even more fun.”

Joseph H. Guyton, Senior Associate
The Bulfinch Group
Lynnfield, MA

Go to:
www.JohnHCurry.com/7mistakes to sign up for your FREE report that contains more expert advice on avoiding the Seven Common Planning Mistakes.
Wetherell receives Ross Oglesby Award

By Jill Elish

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Garnet and Gold Key student leadership honorary presented the 2009 Ross Oglesby Award to The Florida State University President T.K. Wetherell at the FSU Alumni Association’s Homecoming Awards Breakfast on Oct. 31.

Garnet and Gold Key, the university’s oldest honorary, presents the award each year during Homecoming to a nominated member of the faculty or staff who has served students and the university with exemplary commitment and integrity for a decade or more. In keeping with tradition, the honorary keeps the identity of the winner a closely guarded secret until the award presentation.

Wetherell, who earned three degrees from FSU including his doctorate in education administration, was both surprised and honored, said Arielle Haynes, president of Garnet and Gold Key.

“T.K Wetherell is one of the most vocal and high-spirited presidents this university has ever seen,” Haynes said, citing his advocacy of the university during his prior service as Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives and the launch of one of Wetherell’s crowning achievements as president: the innovative and ambitious Pathways of Excellence initiative. It focuses on hiring additional faculty in interdisciplinary clusters, renovating and building new facilities — including $400 million of new construction during his tenure — and investing in graduate programs with an emphasis on creating new interdisciplinary doctoral programs.

William Woodyard, a College of Business research associate in business law and real estate and Garnet and Gold Key’s faculty adviser, said it is appropriate that Wetherell receive the prestigious award.

“Dr. Wetherell’s service is punctuated by his unwavering commitment and leadership to the university and its students during a time of exponential digital and economic change,” he said. “He is a man who has not chosen a life of ease but a life of hard work and toil, service and commitment.”

Wetherell, who became FSU’s 13th president in January 2003, announced in June his intention to resign the presidency. A national search is currently under way for a new president, and Wetherell will be appointed as a tenured professor in the College of Education and president emeritus when his successor takes office.

A career educator, Wetherell will leave the presidency after more than 35 years of experience in higher education. He served as president of Tallahassee Community College from 1995 until 2001. He served in the Florida House of Representatives from 1980 to 1992, the last two years as House Speaker.

Florida State’s Oglesby Award was established in honor of Ross Oglesby, a member of the leadership honorary, who served as dean of students and professor of government before he died in 1973.

FSU Foundation:
Year-end dates for processing charitable gifts

Florida State University employees who are responsible for processing or receiving gifts for their colleges or departments should be aware that the FSU Foundation will have abbreviated business hours during the winter break. To ensure that donors’ year-end gifts reach the Foundation in a timely manner and are processed according to their wishes, the Foundation asks that employees adhere to the revised schedule, as outlined below.

The Foundation office will close Dec. 24 at 2 p.m. and will remain closed Dec. 25-30. The Foundation will be open Dec. 31 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for delivery of year-end contributions. Regular office hours will resume on Jan. 4, 2010.

Documents and donor instructions either can be mailed using Mail Code 2739 or hand-delivered to the Foundation office at 2010 Levy Avenue, Building B, Suite 300.

After employees return from the holidays, they should take a few moments to sort through the mail, identify charitable items and deliver those items, along with their respective postmarked envelopes, to the Foundation office by Jan. 8, 2010. The Foundation also asks for employees’ assistance in making faculty and other staff members who may receive gifts aware of the urgency of transmitting year-end gifts and donor instructions to the Foundation.

For more information, call Brianne Adachi, Gift Processing Services, at (850) 644-0770, or send an e-mail to badachi@foundation.fsu.edu.
Landmark study sheds new light on human chromosomal birth defects

By Libby Fairhurst
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Using yeast genetics and a novel scheme to selectively remove a single protein from the cell division process called meiosis, a cell biologist at The Florida State University found that when a key molecular player known as Pds5 goes missing, chromosomes fail to segregate and pair up properly, and birth defects such as Down syndrome can result.

That discovery is groundbreaking, but so, too, is what principal investigator Hong-Guo Yu calls the “genetics trick” performed by his research team that made the discovery possible. The study shines new light on the protein Pds5, its crucial regulatory role during meiosis, and the impact of its absence on the molecular-level genesis of human chromosomal birth defects that include Down, Edwards, Patau, Turner, Klinefelter’s and XYY syndromes.

The findings, which are described in a paper featured in the Journal of Cell Biology (http://jcb.rupress.org/cgi/content/full/186/5/713), may contribute to the eventual development of targeted, molecular-level interventions.

Yu, an assistant professor in FSU’s Department of Biological Science, explained how the meiotic stage is set and what goes wrong when key elements are rearranged.

“To produce a genetically balanced gamete (sperm and egg), the cell must contend with two sets of chromosome pairs, homologs and sisters,” he said. “Homologs are the nearly identical chromosomes inherited from each parent. Sisters are exactly identical pairs that are produced like photocopies as part of normal cell division.

“During normal meiosis, the process of division that halves the number of chromosomes per cell, my colleagues and I discovered that Pds5 regulates the pairing and synapsis (joining together) of ‘mom and dad’ homologs. We also learned that Pds5 plays a vital role in the synaptonemal complex, a glue-like protein structure that homologs use to literally stick together as they pair up. In addition, we found that, although sister chromatids enter meiosis in very close proximity to one another, Pds5 acts to inhibit synapsis between them, a good thing because, then, meiotic conditions support the necessary pairing of homologs.”

Consequently, removing Pds5 during meiosis triggers a chromosomal catastrophe.

“In order to observe what happened when the Pds5 went missing from the process, we performed a ‘molecular genetics trick’ that had never been applied to this particular protein before, and it worked,” Yu said. “We successfully engineered yeast cells that shut down Pds5 only during meiosis, but not when they were vegetative.”

As a result, Pds5 was no longer present to regulate homolog organization and transmission in the meiotic yeast cells. The synaptonemal complex, which normally would support the synapsis of homologs by creating a sticky bond along their entire length, failed to form. In the meiotic malfunction that followed, the identical sister chromosomes began to synapse instead.

“When Pds5 is removed and sister chromatids become synapsed as a result, the segregation and recombination of homologs essential for genetic diversity fails,” Yu said. “This finding is highly important, because failure to generate a crossover between homologs leads to chromosome missegregation and can cause human chromosomal birth defects such as Down syndrome, which affects about one in 800 newborns in the United States.”

Stone Building renovation named ‘Project of the Year’

During its annual Excellence in Construction Awards Banquet held Oct. 15, the North Florida Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors named the renovation and expansion of Florida State University’s Mode L. Stone Building as its Project of the Year.

Larry Rubin received the award on behalf of the university. The Stone Building is the home of FSU’s College of Education.

Earlier this year, the Stone Building project received a Merit Award from the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. What’s more, it also received a LEED Silver Rating from the U.S. Green Building Council.

“What makes this project so unique was the ability of the design team to transform the appearance of a 1960s-era building to reflect the university’s current architectural guidelines, which are typified by the neighboring College of Medicine, psychology and biology buildings,” Rubin said.
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The United Faculty of Florida.

“...intellectual workers to get together, both to protect their own economic status and, also, generally speaking, to secure their influence in the political field.”

Albert Einstein
Charter member, AFT, Princeton, 1938

UFF dues are 1% of bi-weekly salary. Please fill out the form below and return it to:
Jack Fiorito, President, UFF-FSU Chapter, RBB 244, P.O. Box 3061110, Tallahassee 32306-1110

Membership Form, United Faculty of Florida FSU Chapter
Please print complete information

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Please enroll me immediately as a member of the United Faculty of Florida (FEA, NEA-AFT, AFL-CIO). I hereby authorize my employer to begin bi-weekly payroll deduction of United Faculty of Florida dues (1% of bi-weekly salary). This deduction authorization shall continue until revoked by me at any time upon 30 days written notice to FSU's payroll office and to the United Faculty of Florida.

Signature (for payroll deduction authorization)

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OCTU
No elder left behind:
Researchers say designers can help close tech gap

By Jill Elish
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

While more older adults than ever are using cell phones and computers, a technology gap still exists that threatens to turn senior citizens into second-class citizens, according to Florida State University researchers.

Neil Charness, the William G. Chase Professor of Psychology, and Walter R. Boot, an assistant professor of psychology, found that both the attitudes and abilities of older adults pose barriers to adopting new forms of technology and urged designers to consider those barriers when developing new products. Charness and Boot will publish a review of the research on the topic in Current Directions in Psychological Science.

“The technology gap is a problem because technology, particularly computer and Internet technology, is becoming ubiquitous, and full participation in society becomes more difficult for those without such access,” said Charness, who along with Boot received a $1.5 million, five-year subcontract from a National Institute of Aging grant to support the Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement (CREATE).

Established a decade ago, the center is comprised of researchers at FSU, the University of Miami and the Georgia Institute of Technology, who study ways to increase technology use in order to promote cognition and health in older Americans.

From booking airline tickets to seeking health care information, almost everything is easier, cheaper or faster online. Older adults who may be less mobile in particular stand to benefit from innovations such as online banking. But there is a sharp decline in Internet use after age 65, the researchers said, citing a 2007 Pew Tracking Survey that showed 85 percent of adults in 18-24, 25-34 and 35-44 age groups used the Internet. By contrast, only 39 percent of adults between 65 and 74, and 24 percent of adults between 75 and 84 were Internet users.

Declining cognitive processes, decreased memory capacity and difficulty maintaining attention — all part of the normal aging process — can make it difficult for seniors to learn new skills. In fact, Charness said, it takes older adults roughly twice as long as younger people to learn a new word processor under self-paced learning conditions. That’s true even for older adults who have prior experience with another word processor.

“The extra time and effort required to learn a new skill are among the reasons why older adults are generally less motivated than younger people to learn new skills — particularly if they decide that the potential benefits of the new technology are not worth it. In addition, seniors may make a greater number of errors as they interact with technology that was not designed with their capabilities in mind.

Seniors quite literally perceive new technology differently than younger adults do. Changes in acuity, color perception and susceptibility to glare affect the way they see a computer screen. They also have greater difficulty with fine motor control and coordination. However, knowing these constraints, designers can create better products for older adults, the researchers said. Among their suggestions:

• Create cell phones with simplified menus, large fonts and buttons and external noise reduction.

• Design Web sites with high contrast backgrounds and text, larger fonts and minimal scrolling. The sites should provide navigation aids and instructional support.

Computer games — such as Nintendo’s Brain Age — and software packages that have been developed for and marketed to older adults may also help reverse age-related declines in perceptual and cognitive abilities, the researchers said.

Grant to address integrating solar energy into electric grid

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It’s a problem faced by electric utilities nationwide: As more and more renewable energy enters the power grid, the benefits of offering “clean” electricity come at the price of unpredictability. Now, to help address some of the technical hurdles specifically facing solar photovoltaic (PV) energy resources, the U.S. Department of Energy is providing a major research grant to a consortium of Florida researchers, utilities, manufacturers and engineers.

With a $3.6 million award from the department, The Florida State University, University of Central Florida and University of South Florida are teaming up with Florida utilities and solar industry suppliers to launch the Sunshine State Solar Grid Initiative (SUNGRIN), a five-year project to investigate the effects of integrating high levels of solar PV energy resources into the electric power grid.

Florida electric utilities participating in the SUNGRIN initiative are Florida Power & Light Company (FPL), Tampa Electric, JEA (formerly the Jacksonville Electric Authority), the Orlando Utilities Commission, Gainesville Regional Utilities, Lakeland Electric and the Florida Municipal Power Agency, with coordination and involvement from the Florida Reliability Coordinating Council (FRCC). Also participating are leading solar technology suppliers SunPower Corp. and Satcon Technologies, as well as system integration and engineering firm AMEC.

“Solar energy is the largest non-dispatchable renewable energy resource in Florida,” said Steinar Dale, director of the Center for Advanced Power Systems (CAPS) at Florida State. “This grant will allow us to better understand how high penetration of solar energy, both on the customer side and on the grid, will affect the grid system operation, and how it affects the dispatch of traditional power generation from nuclear, coal and natural gas sources.”
The retirement section of Human Resources would

Information:

point in the 2010 calendar year, are eligible to contribute an

at $16,500. Employees who are age 50 and above, at any

limit for the 457 Deferred Compensation plan also will remain

$16,500. This limit is unchanged from 2009. The contribution

annual contribution limit for 403(b) plans will be set at

compensation (457) plans. For the 2010 calendar year, the

Roth 403(b), and state of Florida-sponsored deferred

sponsored tax sheltered annuity plans [403(b)], post-

contributions to retirement accounts, including FSU

UNCHANGED FOR 2010:

The Internal Revenue Service

available to Florida State faculty and staff members. Classes

are available in the areas of OMNI business transactions,

compliance, organizational development, leadership and supervision, customer service and personal development. To view the entire Fall Schedule of Training Classes, detailed course descriptions and registration information, visit hr.fsu.

train. Information: (850) 644-8724.

>>NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION NOW ONLINE: The link to the required new employee presentations, materials and the certification form can be found at www.hr.fsu.edu/Content/NEOnline/index.html. Participants must certify their completion of the online NEO by faxing a completed copy of the “Certification of Completion and Evaluation of Orientation” form to the Office of Training and Organizational Development as indicated on the form. Information: (850) 644-8724.

>>IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR FLORIDA RETIREMENT SYSTEM PLAN MEMBERS: On Jan. 4, 2010, the Florida Retirement System (FRS) will be replacing ING, the current Investment Plan Administrator, with Hewitt Associates. As a result of this change, current members of the FRS Investment Plan will not be able to initiate certain transactions for a brief time during the transition process. From Dec. 28, 2009, until Jan. 4, 2010, known as the “blackout period,” investment plan members will not be able to direct or diversify investments in their accounts, obtain distributions from the plan or make any plan election changes. Investment plan members are strongly advised to review their current investments prior to this blackout period and plan accordingly. For more information about the blackout period, or the FRS Investment Plan, visit the www.myfrs.com, or contact the MyFRS Financial Guidance Line at (866) 446-9377, option 2.

>>ELECTIVE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION LIMITS UNCHANGED FOR 2010: The Internal Revenue Service has announced cost of living adjustments for elective contributions to retirement accounts, including FSU sponsored tax sheltered annuity plans [403(b)], post-
tax Roth 403(b), and state of Florida-sponsored deferred compensation (457) plans. For the 2010 calendar year, the annual contribution limit for 403(b) plans will be set at $16,500. This limit is unchanged from 2009. The contribution limit for the 457 Deferred Compensation plan also will remain at $16,500. Employees who are age 50 and above, at any point in the 2010 calendar year, are eligible to contribute an additional $5,500 to a 403(b) and/or a 457-retirement plan. Information: Michael Horgan, Human Resources, 644-4017.

>>DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PROGRAM (DROP): The retirement section of Human Resources would like to remind all Florida Retirement System Pension Plan members to carefully review the eligibility and enrollment guidelines concerning participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP). With some exceptions, pension plan members become eligible to join DROP when they reach the age of 62, or having completed 30 years of service, or whichever comes first. Certain pension plan members who accumulate the 30 years of service well before reaching the normal retirement age of 62, may defer participation in DROP until they reach the age of 57. In addition, all members must be fully vested, having a minimum of six years of service to be eligible for DROP. Employees who wish to enroll in this program should apply approximately three to six months prior to their eligibility date. Information: Leasa Howard or Donna Arnold, 644-4016.

>>RETIREMENT INVESTMENT PRESENTATION: TIAA-CREF will be presenting the information session “The New Rules of Investing: Six Principles for Planning a Safe and Secure Retirement,” on Thursday, Nov. 19 from 9:30 to 11 a.m., at the Askew Student Life Center, located at 942 Learning Way. Featured speaker Brett Hammond, managing director and chief investment strategist for TIAA-CREF, will address topics such as saving for retirement, investment choice and risk tolerance. This presentation is available to all university employees. Space is limited, so to reserve a seat visit www.hr.fsu.edu and click the “New Rules of Investing” link for details.

>>LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT: The Gabor Agency is offering a special open enrollment period for Long Term Care Insurance, from Nov. 2 through Feb. 12, 2010. Long Term Care Insurance is designed to help employees and their families manage the cost of long term care services that may be needed when a person can no longer perform necessary activities of daily living on their own. These policies are offered through payroll deduction while employed by FSU, and may be continued after retirement or termination of employment. For information, or to enroll in the Long Term Care Insurance plan, contact the Gabor Agency at (850) 894-9611, option 5.

>>TIAA-CREF ONE-ON-ONE COUNSELING: A representative from TIAA-CREF will be conducting one-on-one financial advising sessions on Nov. 30 at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory and on Dec. 1 and 2 at University Center - A, seventh floor skyboxes. To schedule an appointment, call TIAA-CREF at (877) 267-4510, or use the online scheduling Web site www.tiaa-cref.org/moc.

>>SCHOLARSHIP FOR DEPENDENTS OF FLORIDA STATE EMPLOYEES: Full-time FSU students who are children of current full-time university employees are currently eligible to apply for the FSU Tuition Scholarship. The scholarship carries a maximum award of $1,000 and is based on financial need with scholarship as a secondary consideration. This award is funded by university employee donations.

There will be four awards given of $1,000 each for the Spring 2010 Semester. Applications can be found at www.hr.fsu.edu with instructions. The deadline to apply is Dec. 11 and the awards will be announced by Dec. 23. Information: Linda Lieblong, 644-7932 or Janine Welch, FSU Foundation, 644-1590.
>>Big Band Dance: The Florida State University Alumni Association will conclude its 2009 Centennial Celebration with a “Big Band Dance: The Dance of a Century,” featuring the Thursday Night Music Club. The dance will take place on Friday, Dec. 11, from 7 to 10 p.m. in the FSU Alumni Center Ballroom, 1030 W. Tennessee St. The cost is $10 for members of the Alumni Association and $20 for non-members. Heavy hors d’oeuvres, beer and wine will be served. For ticket information, call Megan Barnes at 645-8133 or send an e-mail to mebarnes@fsu.edu.

>>Dance Marathon: For the first time since its inception in 1996, faculty and staff members are being asked to participate in Florida State University’s largest student-run philanthropy event. The 15th annual Dance Marathon will be composed of two 20-hour shifts, Feb. 12-14, to benefit the FSU College of Medicine’s Pediatric Outreach Program and the Children’s Miracle Network at Shands Children’s Hospital. The event’s organizers are inviting university employees to get involved, whether through fundraising, promoting the event on campus or dancing. To learn more, visit www.dm.fsu.edu, or contact Jourdan Tanner, dance relations chair, at jet06c@fsu.edu.
Business faculty, staff pour hearts into annual walk

Dozens of Florida State University College of Business faculty, staff and students congregated Oct. 17 at Tom Brown Park to take steps towards a cure for heart disease at the 2009 “Big Bend Start!” Heart Walk.

Benefitting the American Heart Association, the Heart Walk brought communities together to raise funds for research, education and treatment aimed at fighting heart disease, the nation’s No. 1 killer.

Whether walking for fun or in memory of a loved one, Florida State’s participating teams led the others by raising nearly $13,000 for the American Heart Association. The College of Business’ team proudly raised more than $6,000.

“Each year brings more and more students, faculty and staff from the College of Business, and the university, together to support the efforts of the American Heart Association,” said Caryn L. Beck-Dudley, dean of the college. “I know we all feel honored to participate in such an important effort to save lives.”
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Employees encouraged to take advantage of the Leach Center

The Leach Center at Florida State University is a resource available not only to students, but also to faculty and staff members.

Leach Center memberships are available to all full-time employees for $80.75 per semester and can be purchased through payroll deduction. To make it even easier, employees who are members of Capital Health Plan may be eligible for a reimbursement of up to $150 per year. That is a year membership to an exclusive, all-encompassing facility for $92.25 per year.

ALL-INCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP

Leach Center memberships include free access to more than 100,000 square feet of workout space. In addition to cardio and strength fitness areas, and fitness and wellness services, the Leach Center offers plenty of amenities at no additional charge.

• Racquet Sports
  Racquet sports enthusiasts can take advantage of six racquetball courts and squash courts for recreational matches.

• Sport Courts
  The Leach Center has three regulation-size basketball courts on the upper level.

• Indoor Track
  A 1/10 mile oval overlooks the Leach pool and atrium areas.

• Front Desk Services
  A quick stop at the Leach front desk in the atrium allows patrons to check out sports equipment, lockers and towels. Sports drinks and water are available for purchase as are a number of sport items in our Pro Shop.

AQUATICS OFFERINGS

• Leach Pool
  The Leach Pool is a 16-lane by 25-yard indoor swimming facility with two 1-meter and two 3-meter diving boards. Lanes are designated for lap swimming at all times.

  The Leach Center also has two whirlpools and a sauna and a steam room.

• Swim Lessons and Certifications
  Leach members have access to adult and children swim lessons for themselves and their families at great rates.

FITNESS SERVICES

• Group Exercise Classes
  The Leach Center offers more than 80 classes throughout the week starting as early as 7 a.m. Certified instructors teach a wide variety of classes, including step, yoga, spinning and body toning.

• Free Trainer Session
  Trainer sessions are designed to meet the fitness needs of any individual. Spend 90 minutes learning fitness training principles and how to use different equipment. Appointments can be made for a free, one-time session at the Leach Center Fitness Desk.

• Personal Training
  Get eight free sessions with a nationally certified personal trainer. Workouts can be geared toward improvements in basic fitness, strength, endurance, hypertrophy, cardiovascular fitness, sport specific training, and more.

WELLNESS SERVICES

• Body Composition Assessment
  The Leach Center offers free body fat analysis using the skinfold method. No appointment is necessary for an assessment in the Wellness Center.

• Fitness Testing
  The Polar TriFIT can assess employees’ current fitness level through a variety of tests and show them how they measure up.

• Small Group Nutrition Education
  Our nutrition educators offer a variety of Small Group Nutrition Sessions in an informal atmosphere. Topics include weight loss, bulking up, supermarket smarts and dining out.

FACULTY AND STAFF PROGRAMS

• Faculty and Staff Group Exercise Sampler
  Employees can workout in a non-intimidating atmosphere during a 10-week program, which consists of a 45-minute exercise class held twice a week.

• Lunch and Learn at the Leach
  Once a month, employees can bring their lunch and join us for a 45-minute seminar. For more information, call Krishna Baker at 644-0547.

• From Start to Fitness
  For employees who need some motivation and direction in their workouts. For more information, call Kristen Grothouse at 644-1613.

For more information about Leach Center memberships, send an e-mail to Steven Powell, snpowell@admin.fsu.edu.