

State

The Florida State University Faculty-Staff Bulletin

Volume 45 • Number 7

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November 15 - December 5, 2010

University launches Garnet and Gold Scholar Society

The Florida State University has launched the Garnet and Gold Scholar Society, a new program that recognizes students who participate in multiple facets of campus and undergraduate opportunities. The society will encourage students to become well-rounded individuals while helping them become more attractive to potential employers.

"Scholarship comes in many different forms, and not all of it is in the classroom,"

said Florida State President Eric J. Barron. "I still want students to have an excellent GPA, but if you combine that degree from Florida State with meaningful experiences outside the classroom, they will be more likely to get hired. The idea here is, if a student shows a commitment to these endeavors, we will formally recognize their achievements by making them a member of the Garnet and Gold Scholar Society."

With the implementation of this new

program, students participating in leadership opportunities in their communities, interning with prospective employers, serving those in need, taking part in international programs and conducting research projects in conjunction with faculty can be rewarded for their efforts. Students wishing to be considered for this distinction must hold a 2.75 cumulative GPA and complete activities in three of five engagement areas: leadership, internship, service, international experiences and research. The student must then document perception, awareness and knowledge about the three areas and their interconnectedness. The application will be reviewed, and when approved, the student's achievement will be noted on his or her academic transcript, at graduation, and by the awarding of the Garnet and Gold Scholar Society Medal.

Assisting in the launch and success of this incentive, the new Florida State University Student Foundation has agreed to raise \$250,000, which will be matched by The Knight Foundation.

"I think students who value getting the full collegiate experience will be most interested in participating in the Garnet and Gold Scholar Society," said Bobby Seifter III, vice president of the student body and chairman of the Student Foundation.

To learn more, visit <http://garnetandgoldscholar.fsu.edu>.

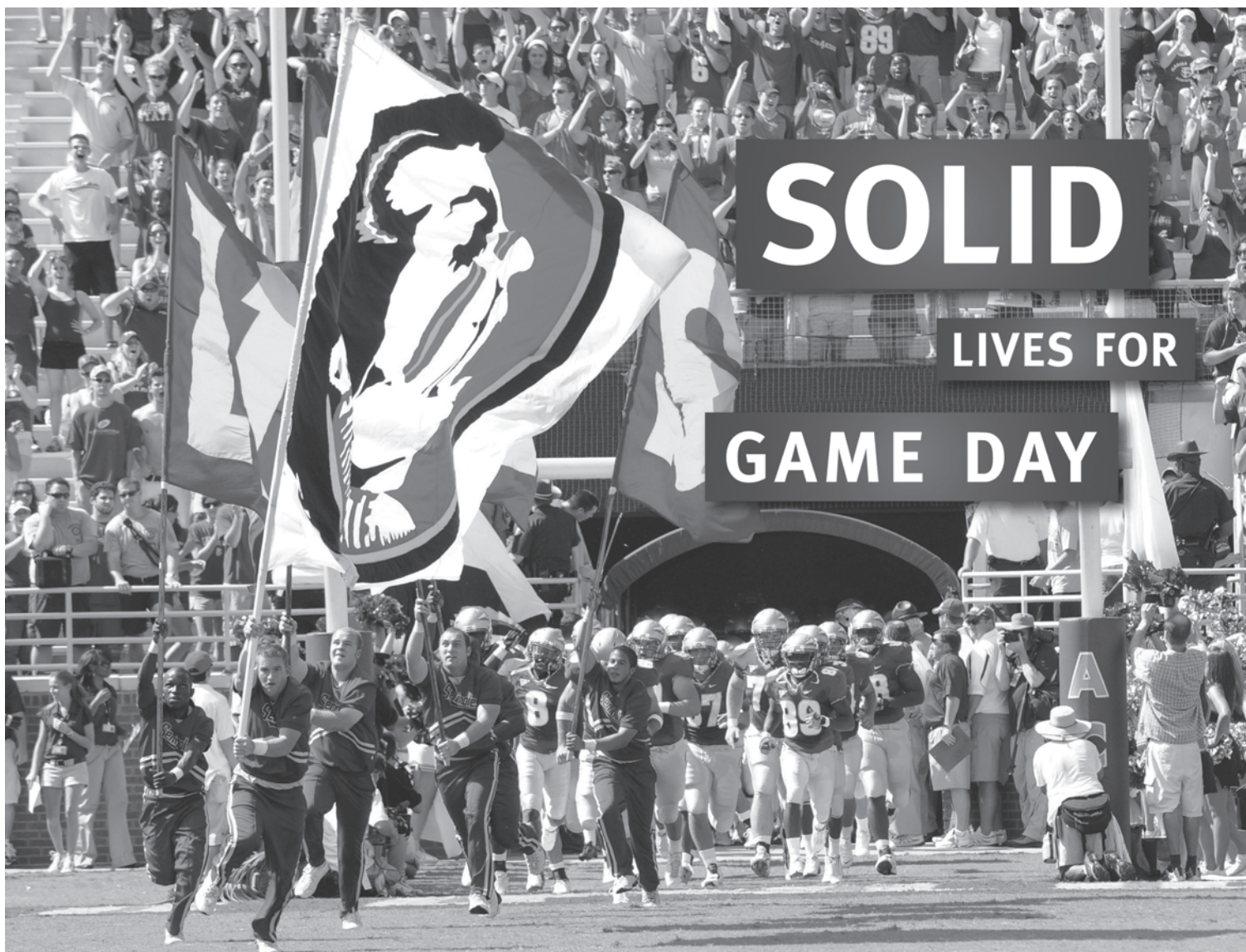


During his first State of the University address during the 2010 Fall Meeting of the General Faculty on Oct. 26, Florida State University President Eric J. Barron said, "At Florida State, we work to be both accessible *and* great, and that is just the type of public university that I want to be a part of." To view Barron's entire speech, visit <http://learningforlife.fsu.edu/fallfaculty>.

FSU Photo Lab/Michele Edmunds

SPREAD the WORD

This year, the Fiske Guide to Colleges has included The Florida State University in its "Budget Ivy League," a list of 10 public institutions that deliver a high-quality education at a relatively low cost. What's more, *The Princeton Review* has ranked Florida State as the fourth best value among public universities in the delivery of a high-quality education.



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State

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The deadline for the
Dec. 6, 2010 - Jan. 2, 2011 issue is
4:30 p.m. on MONDAY, NOV. 22.



STATE is the faculty-staff bulletin of The Florida State University. It is the university's document of record, published 16 times annually by the Florida State University Communications Group — every three weeks during the fall and spring semesters and monthly during the summer.

Submissions should be e-mailed to jseay@fsu.edu.

Underwriting is handled by the Florida State University Communications Group. For rates, call Crystal Cumbo at (850) 487-3170, ext. 352.

People with disabilities who require special accommodation for any event listed in *STATE* should call the unit sponsoring the event, or for the hearing or speech impaired, use the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Requests for accommodations must be received at least five working days before the event. To receive *STATE* in an alternative format, call the FSU Student Disability Resource Center at (850) 644-9566.

Faculty applications sought to teach abroad

In order to provide the opportunity for Florida State University students to study abroad and become part of a global society, Florida State University International Programs is accepting faculty applications from Nov. 15, 2010, to Jan. 15, 2011, to teach abroad during the 2012-2013 academic year.

Every year, International Programs sends Florida State faculty members to its study-abroad locations in London, England; Valencia, Spain; Florence, Italy; and Panama City, Panama. What's more, accepted faculty members have taught and led programs in such diverse places as China, Peru, Russia and South Africa.

While studying abroad provides incalculable benefits for students, the instructors return to the United States having reaped personal and professional rewards from their work abroad as well. Professors enjoy one-on-one interaction with students in small classes, while sharing in their study-abroad experiences. Instructors are encouraged to incorporate local culture and ideas in their course material and, as a result, often return to Tallahassee recharged with new ideas for approaching courses.

Teaching abroad also can be combined with the pursuit of instructors' personal research interests by giving them the ability to spend time in a foreign country before and/or after their teaching duties require.

In addition to professional enrichment, involvement in International Programs is an excellent way to support the university's global initiatives, including the Global Pathways Certificate and the new Garnet and Gold Scholar Society. As integral partners with International Programs, faculty members can promote the value of being global citizens to all of Florida State's students.

"We feel that an international experience is critical to a 21st-century education," said Jim Pitts, director of International Programs. "We look forward to receiving creative ideas from the faculty on new international programs, on ways to improve the curricular offerings on existing programs and ways their academic courses can be enhanced by being offered at an international location."

For more information and to complete the online application, visit www.international.fsu.edu.

Important year-end dates for charitable gift processing

Employees who are responsible for processing or receiving gifts for their college or department should note that the Florida State University Foundation will have abbreviated business hours during the winter break. To ensure donors' year-end gifts reach the Foundation in a timely manner and are processed according to their wishes, employees are asked to adhere to the schedule outlined below.

The FSU Foundation office will close Dec. 23 at 2 p.m., and will remain closed Dec. 24 to 30. The Foundation will be open Dec. 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for delivery of year-end contributions. Regular office hours will resume on Jan. 3, 2011.

Documents and donor instructions can ei-

ther be mailed using campus mail code 2739 or hand-delivered to the Foundation office at 2010 Levy Ave., Building B, Suite 300.

After the holidays, employees are asked to take a few moments to sort through departmental mail, identify charitable items and deliver those items, **along with their respective postmarked envelopes**, to the Foundation office by Jan. 7, 2011. The Foundation also asks for employees' assistance in making faculty and other staff who may receive gifts aware of the urgency of transmitting year-end gifts and donor instructions to the Foundation.

To learn more, contact Alexia Chamberlynn, Gift Processing Services, at achamberlynn@foundation.fsu.edu or (850) 644-9193.

btw *by the way*

>>Fall in Love with Shakespeare: Gary Taylor, Florida State's George Matthew Edgar Professor of English, will be the special guest speaker during "Fall in Love with Shakespeare," Thursday, Nov. 18, 6:30 p.m. at A La Provence, 1415 Timberlane Road (formerly Albert's Provence). The event will be co-hosted by University Libraries Dean Julia Zimmerman and the Ex Libris Special Collections Committee. **Information:** Mafé Brooks, director of development for University Libraries, 645-8312 or mbrooks@foundation.fsu.edu.

Florida State to help military wage war on suicide

Department of Defense awards \$17 million grant to establish research consortium

By Jill Elish

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

American soldiers are taking their own lives in the largest numbers since the military began keeping records, and the Department of Defense has enlisted the help of The Florida State University in waging the war against suicide.

A \$17 million federal grant has been awarded to FSU and the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center to establish the Military Suicide Research Consortium. The consortium is the first of its kind to integrate DOD and civilian efforts in implementing a multidisciplinary research approach to suicide prevention.

Florida State's Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor Thomas Joiner, an internationally known suicide researcher, and Peter Gutierrez, a leading suicide expert and clinical/research psychologist with the VA's Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center at the Denver VA

Medical Center, will lead the consortium. Each institution will receive \$8.5 million in initial funding over the next three years.

The new consortium comes as the military struggles with a surging suicide rate that now exceeds the rate of suicide in the general population. More than 1,100 members of the armed forces died by suicide from 2005 to 2009 — that's more than the total number of servicemen and women killed in Afghanistan since the war began in 2001 — and suicides are rising again this year, according to a new task force report or-

dered by Congress.

"These suicides have deeply affected the military leadership, and they are desperate to do something about it," Joiner said. "For many in the military, they never knew the misery of suicide, and now they do. They are agonizing over this. They say it hurts every bit as much as losing some-

one in combat, maybe more."

Despite the new trend of suicide in the military, very little medical research has actually been done on the subject, said Joiner, who is also the Bright-Burton Professor of Psychology and a Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology at FSU. There's no doubt that the trauma of combat in Afghanistan and Iraq plays a role, but that doesn't explain why some soldiers take their own lives and others who share the same experience don't.

"Soldiers see a lot of violence, they see death, they see the people who are closest to them in the world get killed, and they themselves are often seriously injured," Joiner said. "That's part of it, but that's true of all of them, so why some and not others?"

Joiner and Gutierrez are exploring that question in order to develop better assessment tools to identify those at greatest risk and testing interventions in order to save lives.

Florida State Professor Richard Wagner, Professor Chris Schatschneider and Associate Professor Jon Maner, all of the psychology department, and statistics Professor Daniel McGee also are members of the consortium and will provide data analysis and consulting.



Thomas Joiner

Employee judges sought in Breathe Easy Challenge for students

The Florida State University Breathe Easy Program is seeking administrators and members of the faculty and staff to serve as judges for its inaugural Breathe Easy Challenge, a campuswide competition intended to get students involved, either individually or in groups, with the continuing effort to make the campus smoke-free.

Students can sign up for the competition beginning Thursday, Nov. 18, at the annual Great American Smokeout from 10:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Oglesby Union Green. Judging will occur in late February or early March.

Students will be judged on how well they perform in four separate contests: recruiting buildings to adopt the Breathe Easy policy; writing a speech or creating a video in support of the Breathe Easy policy; creating a campaign plan to transition to a campuswide Breathe Easy policy; or performing a campus clean-up project focusing on cigarette butt litter and creating a plan to keep the campus clean. Participants have the potential to win \$500.

The Great American Smokeout, sponsored on campus by the Breathe Easy Program, will feature interactive games, food and

entertainment. Students and employees are welcome.

To serve as a judge or learn more, send an e-mail to Darwen Hinton, Breathe Easy team coordinator, at dch06d@fsu.edu.

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Symposium will tout multidisciplinary biomedical research

By Bayard Stern
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

It isn't every day that an academic department gets to inaugurate a new symposium, so the Department of Biomedical Sciences in Florida State University's College of Medicine is marking the occasion in a big way.

The multidisciplinary FSU Life Sciences Symposium, "From Molecules to Medicine," will showcase the diversity and excellence of biomedical research being conducted at Florida State on Jan. 7-8, 2011. The symposium is intended to be an annual event.

"While planning this symposium, I realized in looking around at other departments that the boundaries of biomedical research are impossible to define neatly along traditional definitions," said Michael Blaber, professor of biomedical sciences at the College of Medicine and chair of the symposium's organizing committee. "We are including a diverse range of presentations that fall under both traditional



Stephen Dalton



Michael Dustin

specialties, such as chemistry and biophysics, as well as non-traditional areas, such as engineering and mathematics, to name a few. The symposium also will serve as a venue for researchers to come together to share ideas and discuss ways to collaborate within and between disciplines."

In addition, the symposium will feature invited lectures by four notable scientists from across the nation: Val Sheffield of the University of Iowa; Peter Sarnow of Stanford University; Stephen Dalton of the University of Georgia; and Michael Dustin of the New York University School

of Medicine.

Researchers from Florida State who will make presentations include 17 faculty members from biomedical sciences; chemistry and biochemistry; biological science; psychology; the Institute of Molecular Biophysics; and chemical and biomedical engineering.

Students and post-doctoral researchers from these departments will make presentations during a poster session, and there will be professional development seminars.

"This symposium is part of our effort to work hard to maximize our resources and potential in the broad field of biomedical sciences," Blaber said. "Research today is exceptionally competitive, and translational research, which moves basic research into real applications, is an area FSU has been moving toward. This symposium hopefully will prove to be an effective strategy to advance basic and translational research at FSU."

For more information, call Blaber at (850) 644-3361 or visit www.med.fsu.edu.



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UFF protects faculty rights in an era of increasing assaults on academic freedom and reduced educational funding. I am proud to be a member of the Union, proud to belong to an organization dedicated to promoting the interests of the scholars who teach the next generation of American leaders.

- Dr. Diane Roberts, Professor, Department of English



Only the UFF can provide a basis for negotiation of faculty rights with the University. Given the long history and current trend of collective bargaining in the United States, joining the UFF is the smart and quintessentially American thing to do.

- Dr. Scott Hannahs, Director, DC Facilities & Instrumentation Mag Lab, and American Physical Society Fellow



An overwhelming majority of the faculty voted to have the UFF act as faculty's exclusive legal representative to the administration, and the UFF actively negotiates the terms and conditions of your employment. If you care about those, you owe it to yourself to get involved. If you like what the UFF is doing, support it. If you don't, vote for change. Either way, you need to join.

- Dr. Ted Baker, Professor and Mainline Information Systems Chair, Department of Computer Science



Paid parental leave, salary compression, faculty losses: UFF-FSU has been steadfast in working on these critical issues, to the benefit of the University and the faculty working here.

- Dr. John Reynolds, Eagles Professor, Department of Sociology, and Director, Pepper Institute on Aging & Public Policy

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- Two free half-hour legal non-employment-related legal consultations
- Discounts on home & auto insurance, and on publications
- A voice in defining UFF negotiating priorities
- UFF representation should you need to file a grievance

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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

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Today's date
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Revamped Admissions website gives 'true picture'

By Jeffery Seay
EDITOR IN CHIEF

The Office of Admissions has unveiled its new website, which is one of The Florida State University's primary points of contact for its prospective students.

"It is a one-stop shop for our students, parents and guidance counselors," said Janice Finney, director of Admissions. "In addition to Admissions, it covers everything from academics to student life and activities, and all of the different services that are available to our students. We think that if we can just get these audiences to our website, they're going to get a true picture of Florida State University."

Among the additions to the website is a video welcome message from President

Eric J. Barron. What's more, there are nine other video messages that cover a range of topics, such as "Why FSU?," "Exceptional Faculty," "The Undergraduate Experience" and "A Vibrant Campus Life."

Separate links for different kinds of students — "Freshmen," "Transfer," "Graduate," "International," "Professional" and "Other" — provide the information that they need most. The links also provide information specific to student type. For instance, the sections for "Freshmen" and "Transfer" students provides links about financial aid and meal plans, and the section for "International" students provides links to the Center for Global Engagement and the Center for Intensive English Studies.

The Garnet & Gold Galleries display still photos of three aspects of the Florida State experience: "Campus," "Academics" and "Life."

Admissions webmaster Daniel Lanza took his cues for the redesign partly from focus groups conducted with Admissions' telephone counselors and high-school students.

"We've received good feedback from high-school students," Lanza said. "They like the videos, the galleries — how it is visually appealing. Our goal was to make it easier to find the information that people were most likely to be looking for."

To view the Admissions website, visit www.admissions.fsu.edu.

De Grummond receives Phi Beta Kappa teaching award

By Barry Ray
NEWS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Florida State University classics professor whose decades of archaeological work on a remote hilltop in Italy have greatly increased understanding of the ancient Etruscan culture is being recognized by one of her university's premier honor societies.

Nancy Thomson de Grummond, the M. Lynette Thompson Professor of Classics, has been presented with the Excellence in Teaching Award by Alpha of Florida, the Florida State University chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. This is the first year that the honor society has given the award.

"As a student who has taken several courses with Professor de Grummond and worked with her on an undergraduate research project, I can personally say that she is committed to teaching," said Robin Watson, a senior from St. Petersburg who is double-majoring in classical archaeology and philosophy. "Not only does she have an incredible grasp of the material, but she is able to communicate the ideas clearly and in a way that is understandable."

"When I think of Dr. de Grummond, I think of someone who is willing to go the extra mile when it comes to helping her students succeed," said Watson, who

also serves as Alpha of Florida's student secretary. "She is a lovely person and truly a boon to FSU."

De Grummond will receive the award in person at Alpha of Florida's Fall 2010 initiation ceremony, scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 5, at the FSU Alumni Center, 1030 W. Tennessee St. Florida State University President Eric J. Barron will speak at the ceremony; he and his wife, Molly Barron, will host a reception afterward at the President's House next door.

De Grummond is a leading scholar on the religious practices of the Etruscans, a people whose culture profoundly influenced the ancient Romans and Greeks. Her book "Etruscan Myth, Sacred History, and Legend," the first comprehensive account of Etruscan mythology, was published in 2006. She also co-wrote another book, "The Religion of the Etruscans," with fellow Etruscan scholar Erika Simon; that book was published the same year.

Nearly every summer since 1983, de Grummond has taken groups of Florida State 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. She and her students have unearthed numerous



Nancy de Grummond

artifacts that dramatically reshape current knowledge of the religious practices and daily lives of a long-gone people.

"The Etruscans are fascinating to me in part because they left so few clues behind," de Grummond said in a 2006 interview.

Alpha of Florida plans to honor an FSU faculty member with an Excellence in Teaching Award every year. The society's student members plan to purchase a plaque that will hang in Strozzer Library; each year, the name of another FSU faculty recipient will be inscribed.

The Source

News from Human Resources

>>OPEN ENROLLMENT: Deductions will begin with the Dec. 3 paycheck for any changes made during open enrollment. Employees should continue to monitor their paycheck information online in OMNI Employee Self Service and notify the HR Benefits Office if there are any discrepancies. **Information:** 644-4015 or insben@admin.fsu.edu.

>>ELECTIVE RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION LIMITS UNCHANGED FOR 2011: 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 2011 calendar year, the annual contribution limit for 403(b) plans will be set at \$16,500. This limit is unchanged from 2010. The contribution limit for the 457 Deferred Compensation plan also will remain at \$16,500. Employees who are age 50 and older, at any point in the 2011 calendar year, are eligible to contribute an additional \$5,500 to a 403(b) and/or a 457 retirement plan. **Information:** Leasa Howard, Human Resources, 644-4016.

>>FLORIDA PREPAID COLLEGE PROGRAM OPEN ENROLLMENT: This year, the Florida Prepaid College Plans are more comprehensive than ever before. The plans are designed to offer flexible and economical ways to ensure a person's college education. Open enrollment for these plans will be available until Jan. 31, 2011. **Information:** www.floridaprepaidcollege.com.

>>GABOR LIFE INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT: Through Nov. 22, the Gabor Agency is offering a special open enrollment in the university's individual permanent life program. Employees now may apply for up to \$100,000 guaranteed issue with no proof of good health. Universal Extra Life policies may be continued after retirement or termination of employment, with no increase in premiums or reduction in coverage. **Information:** Gabor Agency, (850) 894-9611.

>>SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010 RETIREES: **Karen Bickley**, assistant director, Academic and Professional Program Services; **Cynthia Calcutt**, facilities specialist, Facilities Maintenance; **Diane Harvell**, enrollment management representative, Admissions;

Susanne Houff, academic program specialist, Information Department; **Stephen Leukanech**, publication/graphic artist, Chemistry and Biochemistry; **Patty Lollis**, academic program specialist, International Affairs; **Steven Noakes**, technical/research designer, Biological Science; **Norman Palmer**, academic support assistant, College of Business – Dean; **Mary Pye**, program associate, Campus Recreation; **Jessie Taintor**, technical support analyst, College of Social Sciences.

TRAINING AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

>>INSTRUCTOR-LED AND ONLINE TRAINING: Training opportunities are available at no charge to all FSU employees through instructor-led and online formats. A current schedule of classes for fall 2010 and registration information is available at: www.hr.fsu.edu/train. **Information:** Office of Training and Organizational Development, (850) 644-8724.

>>ADULT BASIC EDUCATION CLASSES: Places are still available for employees to participate in the Adult Basic Education (ABE) program. Available at no cost, the objective of the ABE program is to improve an employee's fundamental educational skills in reading, writing, and/or math and prepare the employee for the General Educational Development (GED) test. All ABE classes are taught by a Florida certified teacher. Volunteer tutors also may be available to provide one-on-one assistance. Participants are required to choose and attend one regularly scheduled, 3-hour class session every Tuesday or Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon through May 2011. Both new and returning participants may register during their first class session. **Information or questions:** (850) 644-8724.

Note: Policy OP-C-7-F1. If an employee attends a training program (to include programs provided by Human Resources) during work hours and wishes to have the training considered as time worked, the employee must obtain the permission of his/her immediate supervisor before attending. Otherwise, employees may attend training during their off hours, or they may use leave time if so desired.

>>ONLINE NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION: Each participant must certify their completion of the online version of 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. The link to online new employee presentations, materials and the certification form can be found at: www.hr.fsu.edu/Content/NEOnline/index.html. **Information:** Office of Training and Organizational Development, (850) 644-8724.

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