

State

The Faculty-Staff Bulletin of Florida State University

Volume 48 • Number 6

For more Florida State news, visit news.fsu.edu.

October 28 - November 17, 2013

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Barron delivers 'pre-eminence' brief to chairs and deans

By **Jeffery Seay**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

President Eric J. Barron gave a "pre-eminence" update to more than 175 senior level administrators during a universitywide **Department Chairs and Deans Meeting** Oct. 15. The metrics-driven "Path to the Top 25," job creation and student career success comprised his report.

"In terms of the quality of the students we're bringing in, we're really a top 25 university already," Barron said.

Barron reviewed numerous *U.S. News & World Report* metrics indicating where Florida State was already in "top 25" ter-



Eric J. Barron

ritory, such as its nationally ranked No. 4 graduation rate performance. He also discussed where the university is within striking distance and where the university has the most work to accomplish, such as in the strategic hiring of faculty to improve student/teacher ratios.

"The No. 25 institution has a faculty/student ratio of 18:1. To reach that ratio, we would have to add 620 faculty to this

university," Barron said. "We understand where our weaknesses are. It's not the students we attract. It's not what we do with the students. It's really the size of the faculty as it matches up to the size of our student population.

"Literally, the only thing standing between us and a top 25 ranking is money," he said. "Adding faculty will make the metrics move."

Barron also reviewed seven strategies to position Florida State as a state and national leader in job creation and student career-readiness. The seven strategies are:

Please see **BARRON, 12**

Tickets on sale for 2013 Student Veteran Film Festival

Sebastian Junger's "Which Way is the Front Line from Here? The Life and Time of Tim Hetherington" will be screened at 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 11, in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall during the Third Annual Student Veteran Film Festival.

Tickets are \$10 for students; \$30 for the general public. To purchase a ticket, visit:

www.vetfilmfest.fsu.edu/tickets

\$1M grant could help put brakes on cancer

By **Ron Hartung**
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

A Florida State researcher's study of the mechanics of cell division may one day help put the brakes on cancer.

Yanchang Wang, associate professor in the College of Medicine's Department of Biomedical Sciences, received a four-year, \$1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to continue his study.

"This research," he said, "will potentially uncover new targets for cancer diagnosis and treatment."

Please see **WANG, 12**



Yanchang Wang

FSU Photography Services/Bill Lax

Spread THE Word

The **Office of Research's** recent "**A Fortnight of Rembrandt**" exhibition generated record-breaking attendance numbers for the **Museum of Fine Arts**: 12,783 visitors from Sept. 19 to Oct. 6, including 2,975 visitors during the final weekend alone.

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State

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Jeffery Seay

Director of
News and Research Communications
Keith Bromery

Associate Vice President for
University Relations and Director of
Integrated Marketing and
Communications
Jeanette DeDiemar, Ph.D.

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The deadline for the
Nov. 18 - Dec. 8, 2013, issue is
4:30 p.m., WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6.



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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.

NewsMakers

"Unless the daily levels of practice are restricted, such that subsequent rest and nighttime sleep allow the individuals to restore their equilibrium, individuals often encounter overtraining injuries and, eventually, incapacitating 'burnout.'"

— **Anders Ericsson**, a Conradi Eminent Scholar and professor of psychology, as quoted Oct. 15 on the *Huffington Post* in an article originally published in *Scientific American*, "Why Your Brain Needs More Downtime." Ericsson's research shows that most people can engage in deliberate practice for only an hour without rest, and that extremely talented people in disciplines such as music, sports or writing rarely practice more than four hours a day.

Be sure to visit the **FSU Makes News** section of **Florida State 24/7**.
news.fsu.edu



FSU Photography Services/Bill Lax

Job title: Customer Service Manager,
University Health Services

To-do list: Supervises the patient-check-in staff, resolves customer service issues and processes payments and deposits.

Years at FSU: Five and a half.

Quotable: *"It feels great to leave work most days knowing that I helped make at least one person's day better."*

The great outdoors: As a Boy Scout, enjoyed hiking the Cumberland Gap, canoeing the Suwannee and Withlacoochee rivers and rafting the Ocoee.

The great outdoors, part II: Last month, he and his partner traveled to California to

get married, then spent the next few days exploring the northern California coastline, Muir Woods and Armstrong Woods. *"I have never seen anything as breathtaking as the ocean views from the overlooks or the majesty of standing at the base of a 1,200-year-old tree."*

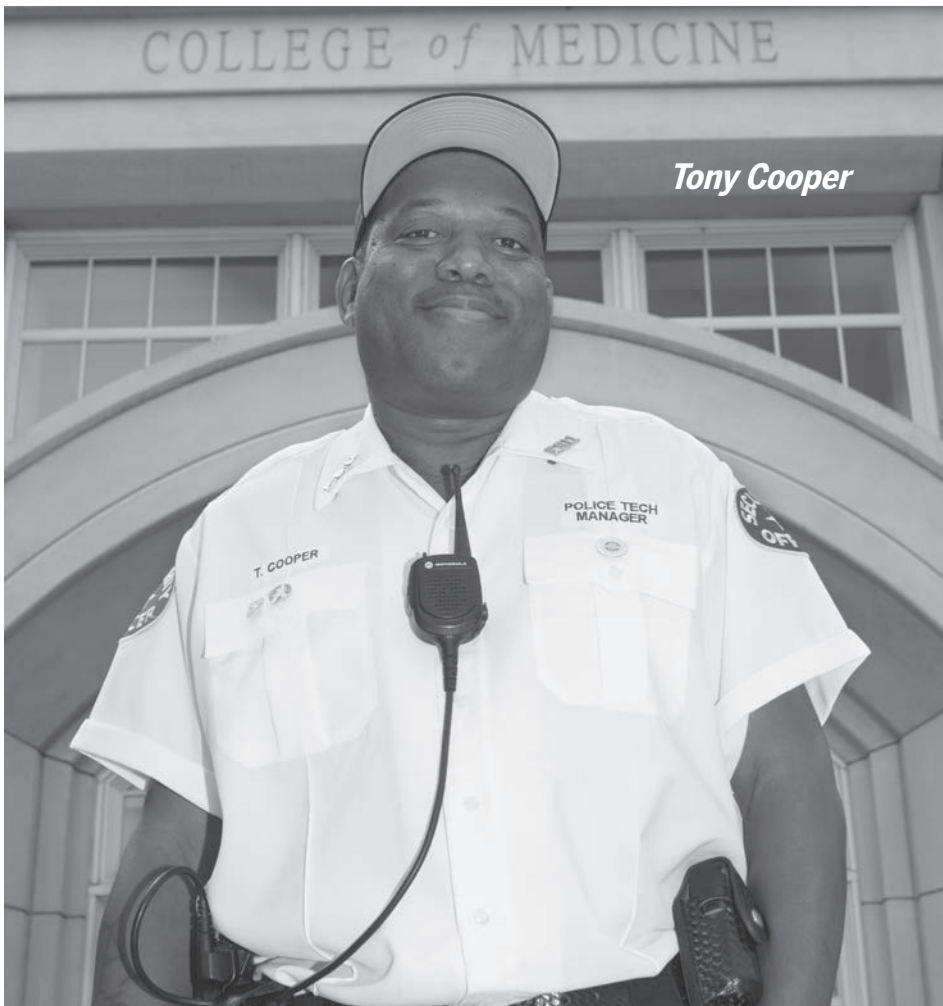
Is totally addicted to ... : His iPhone. *"I fought technology for a long time, but finally caved a few years back."*

The icing on the cake: Loves to bake. *"My staff always get a baked treat of their choice on birthdays and there is usually no shortage of occasions to bake for in a facility with this many employees."*

State is underwritten in part by proceeds from the Florida State University license plate.

www.fsu.edu/tag





Tony Cooper

FSU Photography Services/Bill Lax

Super Cooper

(You'd call him that, too,
if he had helped save your life.)

By Jeffery Seay
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sometimes a superhero really does show up. For two Florida State students, his name is **Tony Cooper**, the **College of Medicine's** police tech manager who rendered life-saving assistance to them on separate occasions in September.

On Saturday, Sept. 21, an Aramark employee came into the College of Medicine lobby saying a male student was choking across the street in the Fresh Food Company. Cooper raced across the street to help.

"When I got over there, the student was blue and his eyes were rolling up

in his head," said Cooper, a 26-year Florida State employee and veteran of the Army's Air Defense Artillery. "The first thing I checked was whether he had something in his airway. He did have food in his throat so I used the Heimlich maneuver to clear it. After that, he began to come to."

In such situations, there is no time to hesitate. What is required is the kind of quick thinking and automatic action that comes from CPR training or proper use of automatic external defibrillators that is mandatory for all employees of the Florida State Police

Department as well as the College of Medicine.

A second, equally serious incident happened the following Monday, when a female student had two seizures in the College of Medicine lobby.

"She came running in here, calling for help. At first I thought someone was after her," Cooper said. "She said, 'I'm about to have an epileptic seizure,' and soon as I got up and came around the desk, she went limp."

As the student began seizing, Cooper laid her on a bench, turned her head to the side so she wouldn't swallow her tongue and, with the help of a passing first-year medical student, held her so that she would not harm herself.

"As it's happening, the first thing I know is that I have to radio FSUPD to get some help on the way, but the training just kind of comes back naturally," he said. "It's like, 'OK, I've got to do this.'"

Soon after the girl's first seizure subsided, a second one began.

Throughout the incident, Cooper continued to stay in touch with FSUPD via radio to keep them apprised of the situation and check the estimated time of arrival of emergency medical technicians.

In both instances, Cooper stayed with the students until EMTs arrived.

John Beidler, director of facilities and operations for the college, praised Cooper for his excellent response.

"The first incident was brought to my attention by some of the staff at the College of Medicine, and the other, I walked in at the tail end of the incident," Beidler said. "Tony's training and quick action proved invaluable in both these instances."

Beidler pointed to the incidents as great examples of the value of the life-saving training provided to the staff of the university's Police Department.

"I thank FSUPD for the training," Cooper said. "Some people come here thinking this is a hospital. Or they might have psychological problems and demand to see a doctor. It is different everyday, but it is a good place to work."

NEW FIRST-YEAR FACULTY FACES



Colleen M. Ganley

Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology

Degree Institution: Boston College, Ph.D.

Research Interests: Mathematical thinking and learning, and gender differences in mathematics

"In my research I focus on the social, cognitive and attitudinal factors that can best help us to understand how students learn math and how we can encourage women to pursue math-related careers. These research interests are inherently interdisciplinary and Florida State has already proven to be a great place for collaborating across disciplines. I have met colleagues in psychology, education, communications and mathematics all interested in addressing these issues. I am looking forward to the interesting things I will be able to learn from collaborators and the new directions in which my work will go at Florida State."

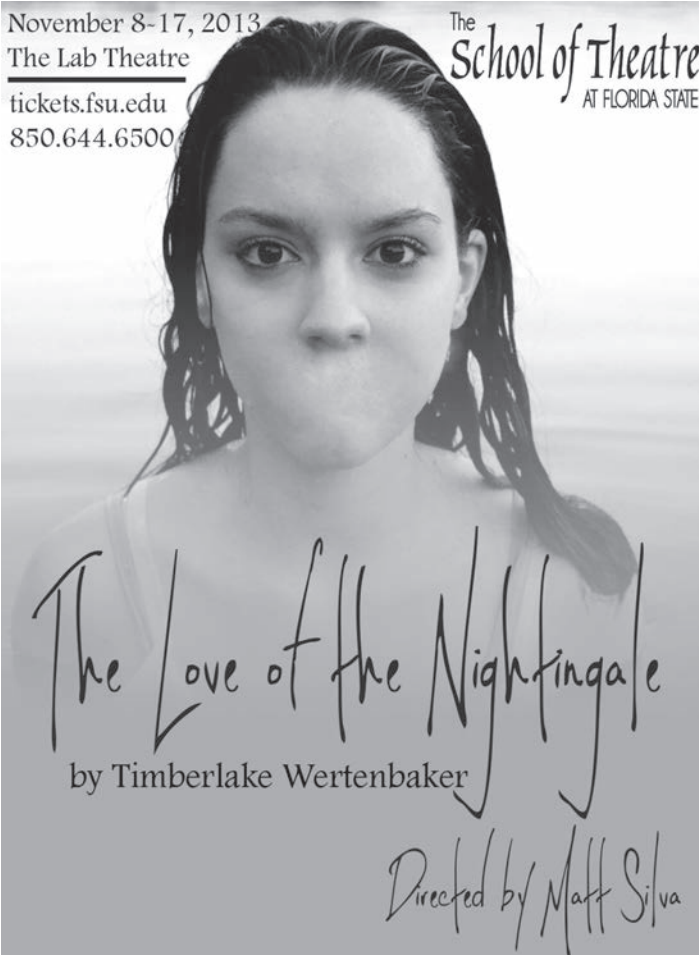
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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Faculty can apply to teach abroad

In order to provide the opportunity for Florida State students to study abroad and become part of a global society, the university's **International Programs** is accepting faculty applications from Nov. 15, 2013, to Jan. 15, 2014, to teach abroad during the 12 months commencing with summer 2015.

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, Turkey, Israel, Russia and South Africa. They return to the United States having reaped personal and professional rewards from their work abroad.

Instructors are encouraged to incorporate local culture and ideas in their course material.

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 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.

"Every year we count on our faculty to provide us with creative proposals that students can get excited about," said **Jim Pitts**, director of International Programs. "That's why we encourage our faculty to submit proposals for study in other parts of the world that can help engage students in their academic content in a vastly more enriching way. Today, more than ever, a relevant international experience is the mark of an outstanding education as well as the institution that provides it."

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



In 2012, Florida State University recycled more than 29 tons of electronics. Keep it up!

Did you know that the average American household owns 24 electronic devices? Disposing of these electronics can be tricky. In fact, electronic waste, or "e-waste," is responsible for 70 percent of the toxic metals in landfills.

You can help by disposing of e-waste properly. Cell phones, ink cartridges and batteries can be disposed of for recycling in the e-waste bin at the Florida State University Bookstore. Larger e-waste, such as computers, televisions and large ink cartridges, can be collected by FSU Solid Waste and Recycling. To learn more, visit facilities.fsu.edu.

Annual United Way Employees Campaign under way

Sally McRorie and **Kyle Clark** are encouraging Florida State employees to exercise compassion and generosity during the university's **2013 Employees Campaign for the United Way of the Big Bend**. The campaign continues through Friday, Nov. 22.

McRorie, vice president for Faculty Development and Advancement, and Clark, vice president for Finance and Administration, are serving as co-captains of this year's campaign, "Stand Tall Stand United."

The United Way of the Big Bend stands tall in the community by partnering with 41 local human service agencies to provide critical services to those in need.



Sally McRorie

With more than 40 agencies serving eight counties in the Big Bend, the financial support provided by the United Way's fundraising efforts is critical in order to meet the vast needs of our area. Last



Kyle Clark

year, Florida State employees and retirees exceeded the university's goal by donating an impressive \$415,000. Based on previous years' successes, this year's goal has been set at \$400,000.

This year's contribution pledge forms have been distributed to departmental campaign coordinators.

As an incentive for employees to turn in their donations quickly, prize drawings will be held throughout the five-week campaign, with a grand prize drawing at the end of the campaign period. The earlier pledge forms are returned, the more drawings employees will be eligible for.

For campaign materials or more information, contact **Sandra Dixon** at (850) 645-6468 or ssdixon@fsu.edu.

For more details about the United Way of the Big Bend, including a list of agencies that receive funding, visit www.uwbb.org.

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Welcome to ITS News, a regular feature from Information Technology Services. Here you will find news about new ITS services, important updates, monthly security tips and more.

Social safety: Security tips for social media

The sheer volume of users and the information that gets posted on social media sites create plenty of opportunity for an attacker to gain access to the accounts of individuals and organizations. The more information you post, the more your security and privacy are at risk. Follow these helpful tips while using social networking sites:

- Type the address of your social networking site directly into your browser or use your personal bookmarks. If you click a link through email or another website, you might be entering your account name and password into a fake site where your personal information could be stolen.

- Configure privacy settings to allow only those people you trust to have access to your profile and the information you post. Also, restrict the ability for others to post information to your page.

- Only install applications that come from trusted, well-known sites. Keep in mind there is sometimes little or no quality control or review of applications, and they may have full access to your account and the data you share. Malicious applications can use this access to interact with your friends on your behalf and to steal and misuse personal data. If you are no longer using an app, remove it.

- When posting pictures, delete the metadata, which includes the date and time of the picture.

- Use discretion before posting information or comments. Once information is posted online, it can potentially be viewed by anyone and may not be able to be retracted afterward.

- If you are going to request that your account be deleted, first remove all of the data. Request that the account be deleted, rather than deactivated.

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News from Human Resources

TRAINING AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Instructor-led and online training opportunities are available to Florida State faculty and staff members. To view a schedule of classes and registration information, visit www.hr.fsu.edu/train. To register for classes, log in to omni.fsu.edu and click in sequence: "Human Resources 9.1," "Self Service," "Learning and Development," "Request Training Enrollment" and "Search by Date, Course Code or Course Name." From there, click on "View Available Sessions" and choose a session number. Follow the prompts to submit a request. To view a course description, click on the icon.

More information: (850) 644-8724.

BENEFITS

>>**OPEN ENROLLMENT:** The state of Florida Benefits Open Enrollment period for the 2014 plan year is currently under way and will conclude **Friday, Nov. 8, 2013, at 6 p.m. EST**. All salaried and eligible OPS employees should log in to the People First website

(<http://peoplefirst.myflorida.com>) to review their current benefits options and make any desired changes for 2014. Employees who do not know their People First IDs can send an email to the Benefits Office at insben@fsu.edu to have it sent to them. All changes made during the Open Enrollment period will take effect **Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014**.

More information: www.hr.fsu.edu or www.myflorida.com/mybenefits/health.

>>PANAMA CITY CAMPUS BENEFITS AND WELLNESS FAIR:

The 10th Annual Panama City Campus Benefits and Wellness Fair will be held **Wednesday, Nov. 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** in the Holley Building, St. Joe Lecture Hall. Insurance, retirement, community and campus organizations will participate and present information. Health screenings will be provided by Gulf Coast Medical Center and Bay Medical Center, and flu shots will be available for \$15. Representatives from the FSU Human Resources Benefits Office will attend to answer questions about Open Enrollment.

More information: insben@fsu.edu.

>>REVISED TIME ENTRY AND PAYROLL PROCESSING

DEADLINE: Because of upcoming holidays, all employees and managers should note the following revised time-entry deadlines.

- Time Entry for pay period 'J' (10/25 – 11/07) will be moved up one day and is due **Wednesday, Nov. 6**.
- Manager time approvals will occur **Thursday, Nov. 7**, because of the Veterans Day Holiday observed on **Monday, Nov. 11**.
- Employees will need to estimate their time worked for **Nov. 7** in advance, making adjustments, if needed, at a later time.

Are you making any of these 7 mistakes?

Learn How to Plan for and Avoid These 7 Mistakes and Prepare for a Secure Retirement.



John Curry
Author of
Preparing for
a Secure Retirement

7 Mistakes Most People Make when Preparing for Their Retirement

1. Under estimating Life Expectancy
2. Paying Too Much in Taxes
3. Not Planning on the Impact of Inflation (The Silent Thief)
4. Relying on Government and Employer Retirement Plans
5. Not Preparing for Health Care Expenses and Long Term Care
6. Not Saving Enough Money on a Personal Basis
7. Focusing on Financial Products Instead of Strategic Planning

Thursday, October 24, 2013

5:30 Refreshments & Registration
6:00-7:30 Presentation
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CAMPUS IN ACTION

RECOGNITIONS

David Tandberg, Ph.D. (Educational Leadership and Policy Studies), has been named an affiliate of the Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education (WISCAPE), University of Wisconsin-Madison. The appointment, which concludes June 30, 2014, will provide Tandberg with the opportunity to exchange ideas with other WISCAPE affiliates and others who are involved in higher and postsecondary education research, policy and practice.

Brian Cutcliff, Jeremy Izquierdo, Michael Pohto and Derrick Rogers (University Police) were honored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving for their efforts in DUI enforcement and underage alcohol-possession enforcement, October. The officers were recognized for their efforts to reduce the number of alcohol-related incidents in the community. Each officer received a Grammy Awards-sized bag full of useful tools and equipment worth almost \$1,000 each.

BYLINES

Michael Blaber, Ph.D., **Liam Longo, Jihun Lee and Connie Tenorio** (Biomedical Sciences) co-wrote an article, "Alternative Folding Nuclei Definitions Facilitate the Evolution of a Symmetric Protein Fold from a Smaller Peptide Motif," published in the journal *Structure*, Vol. 21, No. 11, 2013.

Paul W. Dunk, Ph.D. (Chemistry and Biochemistry; Ion Cyclotron Resonance Program), **Nathan K. Kaiser, John P. Quinn and Gregory T. Blakney** (Ion Cyclotron Resonance Program), **Alan G. Marshall**, Ph.D. (Chemistry and Biochemistry; Ion Cyclotron Resonance Program), and **Harold W. Kroto**, Ph.D. (Chemistry and Biochemistry), co-wrote a paper, "Metallofullerene and Fullerene Formation from Condensing Carbon Gas Under Conditions of Stellar Outflows and Implication to Stardust," with **Jean-Joseph Adjizian and Christopher P. Ewels** of the University of Nantes, France, published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Early Edition*, Oct. 21.

Jake Galles, Ph.D. (Counseling Psychology), and **Janet Lenz**, Ph.D. (Career Center), co-wrote an article, "Relationships Among Career Thoughts, Vocational Identity and Calling: Implications for Practice," published in the journal *Career Development Quarterly*, September 2013.

Myrna P. Hoover and Janet G. Lenz (The Career Center) and **Jeff Garis** co-wrote a monograph, "Employer Relations and Recruitment Services: An Essential Part of Postsecondary Career Service," part of the National Career Development Association Monograph Series. The monograph is intended for any career services provider seeking a guide for developing employer relations and recruitment services at a postsecondary institution.

Hong Li, Ph.D., and **Scott Stagg**, Ph.D. (Chemistry and Biochemistry; Institute of Molecular Biophysics), and **Michael**



Hong Li



Scott Stagg

Spilman, Ph.D., **Alexis Coccozaki, Yaming Shao and Nancy Ramias** (Institute of Molecular Biophysics), co-wrote a paper, "Structure of an RNA Silencing Complex of the CRISPR-Cas Immune System," with **Caryn Hale, Rebeca Terns and Michael Terns** of the University of Georgia, published in the journal *Molecular Cell*, Vol. 52, No. 1, 2013.

Robert A. Reiser, Ph.D. (Education), co-wrote a book, "Instructional Designer Competencies: The Standards" (4th edition), with **Tiffany Koszalka** of Syracuse University and **Darlene Russ-Eft** of Oregon State University, published by Information Age Publishing, 2013.

Valerie Scoon and Ian Weir (Motion Picture Arts) have completed a documentary, "Grenada: Colonialism and Conflict," which chronicles the complicated legacy of colonialism in Grenada. The film, which premiered at the Pan African Film and Arts Festival in Los Angeles, was directed and produced by Scoon and edited and co-produced by Weir. In addition, Scoon won a grant from Florida State's Council on Research and Creativity to premiere the film in Grenada. She also plans to take the film to festivals and classrooms in the U.S., where she hopes to promote dialogue on the subject of colonialism and its long-lasting effects.

Ladanya Ramirez Surmeier (Oglesby Student Union) wrote an article, "Measuring the Competency of Student Leaders," published in *Campus Activities Programming*, the magazine of the National Association of Campus Activities, Vol. 46, No. 4, October 2013.

Please see CIA, 10



Valerie Scoon



Ian Weir

>>**STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS:** President Eric J. Barron will deliver his fourth State of the University address at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall.

The Torch Awards, traditionally awarded during this event, will this year be given to the recipients at a separate ceremony in December.

>>**ALTRESEARCH WORKING GROUP:** As open-data policy initiatives and increasingly popular social media outlets for academics continue to influence the thinking behind how scholarly research could be published, the AltResearch Working Group provides a forum to discuss an emerging culture of open access, social media and alternative metrics for quantifying the effect of research.

The group, which meets Fridays from noon to 1 p.m. in C235C Psychology Building, is facilitated by Sara Hart, assistant professor of psychology, and Yaacov Petscher, director of research at the Florida Center for Reading Research.

The topics for the remainder of the semester are "Social Media for Tracking Research," Nov. 1; "Big Data, Big Teaching," Nov. 15; and "Open/Idea Sharing," Dec. 6.

CIA

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PRESENTATIONS

Antonio C. Cuyler, Ph.D. (Art Education), chaired a panel, "Diversity and Social Responsibility," and presented a paper, "Arts Managers, Diversity and Social Responsibility: Moving Toward Social Justice in the Arts," at the 39th international conference on Social Theory, Politics and the Arts, Seattle, October. In addition, Cuyler and **Anne R. Hodges**, D.M. (Music), along with **Barbara Hauptman** of SUNY-Purchase, co-wrote "From Theory to Practice in the Ivory Tower: How Degree Programs in Arts Management Contribute to Professional Practice," published in the *American Journal of Arts Management*, July 2013. **Correction:** The Sept. 16 issue of *State* incorrectly reported that Cuyler was the only U.S. faculty member to attend the 11th European Sociological Association conference, Turin, Italy, August. Cuyler was the only U.S. faculty member to participate in the conference's panel discussion on "Arts Management: Hype, Narrative and Self-Reflection" with colleagues from France, Iceland and Spain.

Steven I. Pfeiffer, Ph.D. (Education), gave one of the invited keynote speeches at the Global Conference on Gifted and Talented, "The Development of Giftedness and Talent in the 21st Century," Toulouse, France, Oct. 5-6. Pfeiffer spoke on newly emerging changes in talent development among gifted and creative students. The conference was sponsored by the Global Center for Gifted and Talented Children.

ENRICHMENT

Ashley Kerns (University Relations; Seven Days of Opening Nights) has been selected to participate in the Association of Performing Arts Presenters' Emerging Leadership Institute (ELI), New York City, January. Facilitated by professional practitioners in the field, ELI is an opportunity to engage in new professional relationships, exchange ideas in an open environment, and become part of an expanding network of ELI alumni. The Association of Performing Arts Presenters is the national service, advocacy, and professional organization for presenters of the performing arts.



Craig Filar



Sara Hamon

GRANTS AND PATENTS

Don Latham, Ph.D. (School of Library and Information Studies), **Shelbie Witte**, Ph.D. (School of Teacher Education), and **Melissa Gross**, Ph.D. (SLIS), received a 2013 National Leadership Grant for \$47,390 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for the project "Supporting 21st Century Skills in High School Math and Science Students through Librarian and Teacher Collaboration."

David Meckes, Ph.D. (Biomedical Sciences), received a \$396,328 grant from the Florida Department of Health/Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program for the project "Proteomic Analysis of Cancer Exosomes for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Targets," September.

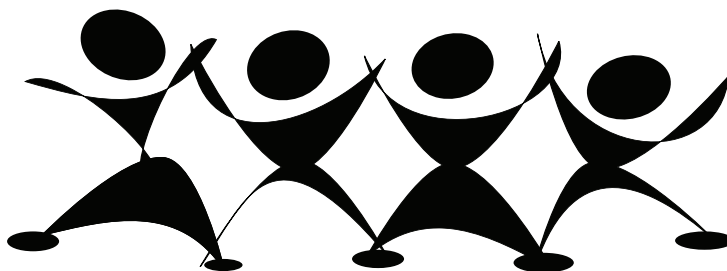
KEY PROMOTIONS AND HIRES

Craig Filar, Ph.D. (Undergraduate Studies), has been appointed assistant dean of Undergraduate Studies. Filar will retain his role as director of the university's Office of National Fellowships.

Sara Hamon, Ph.D. (Undergraduate Studies), has been appointed associate dean of Undergraduate Studies. In this role, Hamon oversees academic support services, including the Academic Center for Excellence, the Strategies for Academic Success (SLS1122) course, and academic coordination for the university's Living-Learning Communities.

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- Creating a culture of entrepreneurship, including making it easier for entrepreneurs to do business on campus.

- Promoting patents, licensing and startups.

- Investing in innovation, including a focus on areas with the greatest potential for long-term demand: materials, energy, successful aging and coastal marine sciences.

- Participating in regional and state-wide economic development, such as helping to transform Tallahassee's economy through Collegetown, a convention hotel near the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center and the so-called Madison Mile between the civic center and Doak Campbell Stadium.

- Strengthening the ties between Florida State, Florida A&M University and Tallahassee Community College to provide an appropriate workforce to local employers.

- Embedding career success into the curriculum by doing things like offering

more experiential learning.

- Advancing career readiness through The Career Center.

"Now you know exactly what I'm telling the governor, the Legislature, the Board of Governors and our trustees," Barron said.

In addition to reports given by Barron and Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs **Garnett S. Stokes**, **Robert Bradley** gave an update on SACS reaccreditation, **Daniel Maier-Katkin** gave an update on the 25 for 25 Campaign, and **Helen Burke** gave an update on the Quality Enhancement Plan. The reports were intended to inform the university's academic chairs and deans about the most high-profile issues at the university.

WANG

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To help nonscientists better understand his work, Wang compared it to the troubleshooting conducted by a car me-

chanic.

"The segregation of DNA into daughter cells during cell division requires the correct attachment of chromosomes by spindle microtubules," Wang said. "A surveillance mechanism, named the checkpoint, monitors the mistakes in this attachment process and delays cell division to allow mistake correction. The checkpoint is similar to the brake of a car, and loss of function of this 'brake' in a cell leads to chromosome missegregation, which directly contributes to cancer development."

The specific question he's asking in this project is: After the mistakes in the attachment process have been corrected, exactly how is the brake released, thereby allowing cell division to continue? Timing is everything, since a premature "brake release" also results in chromosome missegregation.

The completion of this NIH-sponsored project, Wang said, will provide the first detailed view of the process of checkpoint silencing or "brake releasing."

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