Online programs among nation’s best

By Jill Elish
NEWS AND RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS

Florida State’s online graduate programs in nursing and business are among the best in the nation, according to U.S. News & World Report’s 2014 Best Online Program Rankings.

“Florida State University has made quality its primary focus in the development of its online programs,” said Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Garnett S. Stokes. “We are pleased that providing a quality teaching and learning environment for our distance learning students is paying off in the rankings for our nursing and business online programs.”

The College of Nursing’s graduate program was ranked No. 6 among public universities and tied for No. 10 among both public and private universities.

“We are delighted with the ranking for our online Master of Science in Nursing program,” said Judith McFetridge-Durdle, dean of the College of Nursing. “This ranking speaks to the innovativeness of our faculty and highlights the distance learning expertise here at Florida State. This ranking will

Institute lauds Florida State for commitment to underserved students

The Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP) named Florida State one of four recipients of the inaugural IHEP Champions of Access and Success Award in December.

The university was recognized as an Exemplar Institution for successfully advancing strategies that increase opportunity, persistence and degree completion for low-income, first-generation, minority, adult, veteran, disabled and other underserved students. IHEP honored Florida State as an Exemplar Institution because of its strong programmatic efforts and promising practices that are driving access and success gains for targeted underserved student popu-
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“The arts is about creating dialogue with the community. What surprised me is the extreme passion people have for Seven Days. My job is to keep the dialogue open.”

— Christopher Heacox, executive director of Seven Days of Opening Nights, discussing the public’s 15-year embrace of Florida State’s community-centered arts festival in the January-February 2014 issue of Tallahassee Magazine.

Be sure to visit the FSU Makes News section of Florida State 24/7 at news.fsu.edu.
Florida State University Police officers and Leon County Sheriff’s deputies took part in a radiological detection training exercise Dec. 18 at the DeVoe L. Moore University Center.

“It’s our responsibility to ensure that all of the venues that we supervise are safe for everybody — students, faculty, staff and visitors,” said FSUPD Lt. Hank Jacob. “Radiological threats are just as big as anything else. So this training gets equipment into the hands of regular police officers to detect radiological sources immediately.”

While there is no direct threat to the university, the training provided an opportunity for more than two dozen officers to work with low-level radioactive material. There are four types: naturally occurring, industrial, medical and weapons-grade. The presence of these materials is much more commonplace that most people realize, according to Jacob.

“It’s all around. People transport it. People who pave roads, for instance, have an instrument that measures the density of the ground with it,” Jacob said. “These uses are explainable. When we find somebody with radiological material who isn’t supposed to have it, that’s when a police investigation starts.”

The training, conducted through a Department of Homeland Security grant and administered by the National Preparedness Institute at Indian River State College, involved classroom instruction ranging from the properties of radiation and radiological/nuclear material to initiating organizational protocols to ensure the health and safety of responders and the public. It also allowed officers to employ personal radiation detectors. The lightweight detectors, either handheld or contained in a backpack, allow officers to simply walk around scanning for radiation within a 10-foot radius.

\[Picture of police officer with personal radiation detector\]

\[Picture of Lt. Hank Jacob demonstrating a hand-held detection device\]
NEW FIRST-YEAR FACULTY FACES

Marty Swanbrow Becker
College of Education, Educational Psychology and Learning Systems

Degree Institution: University of Texas at Austin, Ph.D.
Research Interests: College student suicide and distress prevention, and wellness promotion.

“Through my research I seek to understand college students’ experiences with distress and discover ways to improve suicide prevention and wellness promotion programs. Florida State is proving an amazing campus to collaborate across disciplines with colleagues sharing my interest in promoting college student mental health. I am also inspired by the passion our students have for their education and helping others. They motivate me to help them become outstanding professionals. My family and I appreciate our warm welcome and already feel at home as Seminoles. I am excited to continue to learn, collaborate and grow with my colleagues at Florida State.”

OPEN ACCESS

Fund to support publishing costs

University Libraries has launched an Open Access Publishing Fund to help support the costs of publishing in eligible open access journals or books.

“Florida State University strives to preserve, expand and disseminate knowledge, and one manner of achieving this goal is for its researchers to make their findings available to the public,” said Micah Vandegrift, Florida State’s Scholarly Communication Librarian. “Florida State is joining other universities in the United States and Europe in offering its authors access to funding to assist with open access publication fees.”

Florida State faculty, postdocs, researchers and currently enrolled graduate and undergraduate students are eligible to apply for funds for open access fees for articles and books connected with their research activities at the university.

For more information about the Open Access Publishing Fund or to obtain the application form, visit www.lib.fsu.edu. Other questions about the fund should be directed to Vandegrift at mvddegrift@fsu.edu.

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raise the national profile of the College of Nursing and will allow us to continue to attract excellent students.”

The College of Nursing has offered the 35-credit-hour online Master of Science in Nursing program since 2005. To date 163 nurses have graduated. Ten students are currently enrolled and eight students will graduate in May. The program is designed to meet the needs of registered nurses with bachelor's degrees in nursing who live in Florida and want to teach in a community college setting.

“Ninety percent of the students work full time and therefore are enrolled part time,” McFetridge-Durdle said. “By attending classes online, students are able to stay in their communities and gain valuable field experience where they live.”

The online graduate programs in the College of Business were ranked No. 33 among public schools and earned the No. 43 spot among all universities. The business program placed No. 5 among all schools for admissions selectivity, which is based primarily on the qualifications of incoming students. The college also earned the No. 21 place for its student services and technology, a category that scores a school's student debt, technology available for online learning, academic advising and career placement assistance.

“As an early leader in offering master's degrees online, we have continued to refine and improve our programs over the past decade to serve students more effectively and efficiently,” said Caryn L. Beck-Dudley, dean of the College of Business. “We take pride in the fact our courses are taught by full-time faculty who are experts in their respective fields of teaching and research. We work hard to recruit the best students and provide them with the support structure they need to succeed. It's great to see that these new rankings reflect our efforts.”

Florida State offers online master's degree programs in business administration (MBA), management information systems (MS-MIS) and risk management and insurance (MSM-RMI). The college seeks out prospective students with work experience who are ready to tackle a rigorous program and advance or retool their careers, Beck-Dudley said.

The overall rank of business programs secures Florida State's place among the top 10 schools for online graduate business studies in the Southeast, Beck-Dudley said, adding that the rankings reflect improvements in the quality of faculty and students, technology training and student support services, such as academic advising and career placement assistance.

To view the rankings, visit www.usnewsuniversitydirectory.com.
Karen Laughlin, dean of Undergraduate Studies at Florida State, represented the university at the IHEP Champions of Access and Success Awards ceremony, held Dec. 3 during the organization’s National Policy Summit in Washington, D.C.

“Florida State University is committed to ensuring equal opportunity for underrepresented students,” Laughlin said. “Through targeted efforts, primarily through the university’s Center for Academic Retention and Enhancement, Florida State has seen significant enrollment, retention and graduation increases for underrepresented student groups. I’m also very happy to see the tremendous success of our Student Veterans Center.”

Florida State’s graduation rate for underserved minorities stands at 71 percent, which is significantly higher than comparable institutions, and makes the graduation rate gap between these students and the overall student body (76 percent) nearly non-existent.

The university has become a leader in educating and supporting student-veterans. Between 2011 and 2013, Florida State achieved a student-veteran graduation rate of 88 percent — one of the highest in the nation. This is well above the overall student body graduation rate.

To read the entire story, visit news.fsu.edu.
RECOGNITIONS

Branko Stefanovic, Ph.D. (Medicine), had his research described in an article, “From Mechanism to Management,” published in the European journal International Innovation. In the article, Stefanovic gives insight into his studies on potential antifibrotic drugs, proposing some of the applications of his work and identifying his goals for future research.

BYLINES

Shawn J. Bayern, J.D. (Law), wrote a book, “Closely Held Organizations,” published by Carolina Academic Press, 2014. This casebook covers the law of “closely held” businesses — those with few owners. Using cases, statutes and original informational notes and commentary, the book covers agency law, partnership law, the law of limited liability companies, and the law of close corporations.


Daniel Kaplan, Ph.D. (Biomedical Sciences), and Irina Bruck (Biomedical Sciences) co-wrote a paper, “The Replication Initiation Protein Sld2 Regulates Helicase Assembly,” published in the Journal of Biological Chemistry, Dec. 4, 2013.


Kerry Maddox, Ph.D. (Biomedical Sciences), co-wrote a paper, “Biological Role of Prolyl 3-hydroxylation in Type IV Collagen,” with Elena Pokidysheva, Sergei Boudko, Keith Zientek and Hans-Peter Bächinger of Shriners Hospitals for Children; Janice Vranka of the Oregon Health and Science University; Markus Moser and Reinhard Fässler of the Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry; and Jerry Ware of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, published in the online early edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Dec. 23, 2013.

Lindsey A. Schier, Ph.D., Michelle B. Bales, Ginger D. Blonde and Alan C. Spector, Ph.D. (Psychology; Program in Neuroscience), and Koji Hashimoto of Kumamoto University, co-wrote an article, “High-Resolution Lesion-Mapping Strategy Links Hot Spot in Rat Insular with Impaired Expression of Taste Aversion Learning,” published in the online early edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Jan. 6, 2014.

Joseph Travis, Ph.D. (Biological Science), and Felicia C. Coleman, Ph.D. (Biological Science; FSU Coastal & Marine Laboratory), co-wrote a paper, “Integrating the Invisible Fabric of Nature into Fisheries Management,” with Peter J. Auster of the University of Connecticut and Sea Research Foundation-Mystic Aquarium, Philippe M. Cury of the Centre de Recherche Halieutique Mediterrannee et Tropicale, James A. Estes of the University of California, Jose Orensanz of Boulevard Brown s/h, Charles H. Peterson of the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Mary E. Power of the University of California, Robert S. Steneck of the University of Maine and J. Timothy Wootton of the University of Chicago, published in the online early edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Dec. 23, 2013.

Yanchang Wang, Ph.D. (Biomedical Sciences), and Fengzhi Jin (Biomedical Sciences) co-wrote a paper, “The Signaling Network that Silences the Spindle Assembly Checkpoint Upon the Establishment of Chromosome Bipolar Attachment,” published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Dec. 9, 2013.

PRESENTATIONS

Iain Quinn, Ph.D. (Music), recently completed a reconstruction of American composer Samuel Barber’s childhood cantata, “Christmas Eve.” The first performance took place as part of the 104th annual carol services at Harvard University with a subsequent performance at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York. It also was featured on American Public Media’s “Performance Today” and “Pipedreams.” The score will be published by G. Schirmer in the spring. An article on the reconstruction appears in Notes, the journal of the Music Library Association. In other

ENRICHMENT

Bonnie Wright, C.R.A. (Psychology), earned the designation of Certified Research Administrator from the Research Administrators Certification Council. This certification recognizes expertise in the area of research administration through education, experience and passing a national comprehensive test.

KEY PROMOTIONS AND HIRES


Ebe Randeree, M.B.A. (School of Library and Information Studies), has been named associate dean of finance and administration for the College of Communication and Information.

Juliann Woods, Ph.D. (School of Communication Science and Disorders), has been named associate dean of research for the College of Communication and Information.

Computer Repair Center

On-campus repairs for personal computers now available

You won’t find any black and white “Geek Squad” VW Beetles parked out front, but when you step inside Florida State University’s Shaw Building, a team of computer repair technicians will be ready to help you troubleshoot your computer woes.

Information Technology Services (ITS) is pleased to introduce the Computer Repair Center, an on-campus service that provides repairs for all employee- and student-owned computers, tablets and mobile devices.

The Computer Repair Center (CRC) provides both hardware and software support for personal devices. Whether it’s a cracked screen, failed hard drive, water damage or particularly nasty virus, factory-certified technicians at the CRC can help you troubleshoot the issue and work to find a solution. If your device is still covered by a manufacturer’s warranty, you may be eligible for repairs at no cost. Out-of-warranty devices are offered at competitive prices.

Students receive computer support and repairs at a discounted rate. In addition to a free consultation to begin troubleshooting the problem, all repairs for Florida State students are provided at deeply discounted prices thanks to funding from the Student Technology Fee.

The on-campus location makes it convenient to drop off your computer for repairs while you are at work or school. A quick turnaround time means that some issues can be resolved the same day, so you won’t be without your technology lifeline for long.

“We understand the importance of technology in everyone’s daily lives,” said ITS Assistant Director Ken Johnson. “We want to create a service that supports the expanding use of technology and helps people be successful in both work and school.”

Getting an appointment at the CRC is easy. Walk-in support is available by visiting the CRC, located in the Shaw Building at 644 W. Call St. It is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information, call the ITS Service Desk at (850) 644-HELP or visit the ITS Computer Repair Center Web page, its.fsu.edu/crc.
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. Information: (850) 644-8724.

BENEFITS

>>DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP HEALTH INSURANCE STIPEND: The Office of Human Resources has implemented a new employee benefit, the Domestic Partnership Health Insurance Stipend (DPHIS) program. This benefit will assist eligible university employees (Faculty, A&P or USPS only) in a domestic partner relationship by defraying the cost of health insurance for domestic partners. For the purposes of this program, a domestic partner is defined as an individual who shares a committed, mutually dependent relationship with an eligible university employee. This health insurance stipend is available to eligible employees whose domestic partner does not have access to an employer-provided health insurance benefit. Eligible employees may register for coverage immediately.

To learn more about the DPHIS program, eligibility criteria and enrollment process, visit www.hr.fsu.edu, call Kathy Gartley, (850) 644-8732, or email kgartley@fsu.edu.

>>DOUBLE DEDUCTIONS FOR BENEFITS: All nine- and 10-month faculty members and seasonal employees enrolled in state health, life and supplemental benefits will have double deductions taken from their paychecks beginning with the Feb. 7 paycheck. The deductions will end on the May 2 check. These additional deductions are taken out to prepay premiums for June, July, August and September. Regular deductions for these employees will resume with the first paycheck in September. Employees should review their paychecks during the double deduction period to ensure that the deductions are correct.

More information: (850) 644-4015 or insben.fsu.edu.

>>GABOR LIFE INSURANCE OPEN ENROLLMENT: Through March 14, the Gabor Agency is offering a special open enrollment in the university’s permanent life insurance program. Employees (Faculty, A&P or USPS, who are working 0.75 FTE or higher) now may apply for coverage for up to four times their salaries, with a maximum of $250,000. Spouses and domestic partners of employees can apply for up to $50,000 in coverage. During this open enrollment, coverage may be obtained through a streamlined underwriting process with no medical exam required.


>>RETIREMENT PLANNING SEMINAR: Save the date! The Benefits Office will present a Retirement Planning Seminar on Wednesday, April 2, in the College of Medicine Auditorium. This year, employees will be able to attend either a morning or afternoon session. Speakers will provide information specific to the Optional Retirement Program (ORP), FRS Pension Plan and FRS Investment Plan.

More information: (850) 644-4015 or retirement@fsu.edu.

>>NEW-HIRE BENEFITS HELP SESSIONS: The Benefits Office will conduct bi-weekly help sessions for new employees on the following Tuesdays — Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and Feb. 25 — from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Human Resources Training Room, A6244 University Center. All new employees are asked to view the online New Employee Orientation before attending the help sessions.

More information: (850) 644-4015 or insben.fsu.edu.

2014 Sick Leave Pool
Open Enrollment

The open enrollment period for University Sick Leave Pool membership is Friday, Jan. 31-Thursday, Feb. 20. Open enrollment applications must be received in Human Resources no later than Feb. 20. Open enrollment applications received in Human Resources prior to Jan. 31 or after Feb. 20 will not be accepted.

Eligibility requirements include, but are not limited to, full- or part-time salaried employees who have been employed continuously with the university for one year or more, who have a sick leave balance of at least 72 hours after leave accruals process for the pay period ending Feb. 27 and who have an average sick leave usage of less than 9 days for each year of university employment.

Upon acceptance, employees donate eight hours of sick leave to the pool, which is nonrefundable, and remain members until they leave the university or request in writing to be removed from the pool. Members may be asked to make additional donations if the pool balance falls below 240 hours. Members who terminate their employment also may donate up to 40 hours of sick leave to the pool upon their separation from the university.

Complete Sick Leave Pool information, including the application and other related forms, is available on the HR web site, www.hr.fsu.edu. Click in sequence “Benefits for Faculty and Staff,” “Benefits and Perks” and “Sick Leave Pool.”

More information: Lisa Rosenthal, Sick Leave Pool administrator, llrosenthal@admin.fsu.edu or 644-7936.
UFF dues are 1% of regular salary. Please fill out the form below and return it to:
Jack Fiorito, Vice President UFF-FSU Chapter, RBB 244, P.O. Box 3061110, Tallahassee 32306-1110

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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 payroll deduction of United Faculty of Florida dues (1% of regular 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.

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Visit the UFF-FSU Chapter Web site at http://www.uff-fsu.org  FSU Works Because We Do!
Researchers achieve breakthrough in superconducting cable technology

By Tom Butler
UNIVERSITY COMMUNICATIONS

Researchers at the Center for Advanced Power Systems (CAPS) achieved a major breakthrough in their ongoing high temperature superconducting cable project that will lead to increased power generation and reduced weight for future naval vessels and aircraft.

CAPS researchers, under a grant from the Office of Naval Research (ONR), were able to conduct 3,000 amperes of direct current through a 30 meter-long high-temperature superconductor (HTS) test cable that is cooled using pressurized helium gas. The development is significant because the use of gaseous helium allows operation at significantly lower temperatures, thus reducing the size and weight of the power cables. Traditionally, liquid nitrogen is used to cool HTS cables.

“This is the first helium gas-cooled superconducting power cable demonstration in the world,” said Sastry Pamidi, the project’s principal investigator at CAPS.

“Achieving this amount of power conduction using a much more ship-friendly cooling medium such as gaseous helium is a major accomplishment. It offers the Navy unique flexibility for a power delivery cable as it works to design and build a new generation of all-electric naval vessels with 100MW generating capacity and high power loads.”

Most existing naval vessels operate through the use of diesel engines and mechanical drives that power the propulsion system and use auxiliary generators to create electricity for other systems. However, future ships will have large electrical loads equal to the propulsion power of the ship and will require large amounts of generation capacity, equivalent to that of a small city. All-electric ships will dramatically increase the energy efficiency of all onboard systems, increase maneuverability, and be capable of safely delivering the high amounts of energy needed by next-generation naval weapons platforms.

To read the entire story, visit news.fsu.edu.

>>FACULTY LUNCHEON SERIES: The spring 2014 series features the directors of prominent research programs discussing different aspects of “The Relevance of Florida State Research.”

The remaining dates are:
• Tuesday, Feb. 11: Barbara R. Foorman, director of the Florida Center for Reading Research, “Using the Science of Reading to Close the Achievement Gap.”
• Tuesday, March 25: Alan G. Marshall, director of the Ion Cyclotron Resonance Program at the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, “Petroleomics: High-Tech Diagnosis and Cures for Petroleum Crude Oil Production and Spill Problems.”
• Tuesday, April 8: Terry Coonan, director of the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, “Human Trafficking.”

The series, which is open to the public, will take place at the Presbyterian University Center, 548 W. Park Ave. Luncheons begin at 12:15 p.m.; the programs follow at 12:40 p.m. Lunches are provided for $10 per session. Reservations are required. Mail reservation requests to the Presbyterian University Center, 548 W. Park Ave., Tallahassee, FL 32301, with a check made payable to the Presbyterian University Center and clearly marked “Faculty Luncheon Series.” In order to pay at the door, call the center for a reservation at (850) 222-6320 or send an email to floridastatepuc@gmail.com. All reservations must be made by noon of the Thursday before each luncheon.