



## Construction continues and begins on new campus buildings

### STONE BLDG RENOVATIONS

Copy provided by Connie Harris.

An August 17, 2007, a groundbreaking ceremony kicked off the College of Education's Stone Building expansion/renovation project. The \$10.5 million dollar project — funded by state appropriated monies — will include a 28,000 square-foot expansion and the renovation of 20,000 square feet of the existing building. Architectural firm Elliott Marshall Innes, P.A. and Childers Construction Company were selected for the project.

The addition is scheduled for completion in August 2008, with the existing building's renovations scheduled for completion in December 2008. The architectural sketch shows the façade of the new building, which will face the corner of Call and Murphree streets.

### NEW STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Currently under construction with an expected opening for Fall 2008, the Student Success Center will consist of approximately 47,000 square feet of space on Woodward Avenue, adjacent to the Student Life Building. This new facility will house the Career Center and the Center for Leadership and Civic Education, which are currently in separate locations. The Student Success Center will include classrooms, resource centers, meeting rooms, offices, technology accommodations and interview rooms.

### NEW RESIDENCE HALLS OPEN

Copy provided by Dave Sagaser.

University Housing is excited to announce the Fall 2007 unveiling of two new residence hall complexes. The architecture and design of DeGraff and Wildwood halls continue the University's tradition of original collegiate gothic building designs. The halls feature details which are similar to Landis Hall and other east-side halls. One can see the medallions placed on the exterior walls of DeGraff Hall which proudly joins the historic Cawthon swan and the Landis pensive woman medallions, placed on their respective buildings.

Each hall features a centralized main lounge, television room, recreation room, and laundry facilities. Data outlets are available in all common areas and each bedroom. The student rooms feature individual closets, wood molding, in-room sinks, cable connections, and a small refrigerator/freezer. Gone are the



Rendering of new Stone Building entrance.

days of the community style bathrooms, as adjacent bedrooms now share a bathroom.

Designed with special programming in mind, the halls also feature classroom and office space which will be utilized this fall by three of the eight Living-Learning Communities. DeGraff Hall is also home to the Social Science and Public Affairs Learning Community, while the Social Justice and Nursing Learning Communities call Wildwood Hall home.



Elevation of the Student Success Center opening in the Fall of 2008.

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in Higher Education

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Many higher education professionals throughout the country remember Dr. Hardee for her establishment of the FSU Higher Education "LifeNet," a support system that continues throughout graduates' professional years. It is with this guidance that the Hardee Center quarterly Newsletter promotes the "LifeNet" of students, alumni, faculty, and friends of the Florida State University Higher Education Program, as well as seek support for future endeavors.

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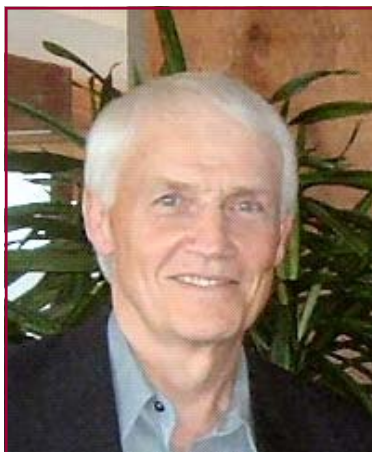
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## Words from the Director



The Higher Education program welcomed its 2007 class of 32 new Master's students and 9 new Doctoral students this fall. New students came from 15 states ranging from California to Michigan, and New York to Florida, reflecting the national visibility and popularity of FSU's Higher Education program. In this issue of the *LifeNet* we introduce several of these new students and also feature some of our outstanding graduates.

Expanding and celebrating the LifeNet of Higher Education students and graduates is one of the most important objectives of the Hardee Center. We hope you enjoy this edition of the *LifeNet* and that you will keep us informed about your activities and interests.

We hope that you will plan to join us for the 4th annual Stryker Lecture and reception prior to Homecoming on Thursday, October 25th, at 5:30pm in the new Medical School Atrium. Dr. Betty Siegel, President-Emeritus of Kennesaw State University and FSU alumna will be our featured Stryker Lecturer this year. She will also present a Doctoral Student Seminar prior to the lecture.

As always, we appreciate your continuing financial support and your many activities on behalf of our students and graduates. We also hope you will take advantage of our new listservs as a way to keep in touch with us, and each other. Information about the new listservs and how to subscribe to them can be found below.

Regards,

Hardee Center for Leadership  
and Ethics in Higher Education

## Keep in touch by joining our Listservs!

To better serve our alumni and friends, we have recently migrated the LifeNet listserv, a valuable tool for communication to and between Hardee Center friends and alumni, from *YahooGroups!* platform to one supported by Florida State.

These new listserv are more accessible to users who do not have a yahoo.com email address. More importantly, this transition will help us protect you against spam. It has become increasingly more difficult to safeguard *YahooGroups!* accounts from spam emails. Our two new accounts include:

**LifeNet@lists.fsu.edu**, a **moderated** list with ALL of our alumni, friends and supporters, as a result, this list will be used with great sensitivity. To subscribe or access your account, visit: <https://lists.fsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/lifenet>

**LifeNetJobs@lists.fsu.edu**, an **unmoderated** list intended for friends who want to send and receive job postings. To subscribe or access your account, visit: <https://lists.fsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/lifenetjobs>

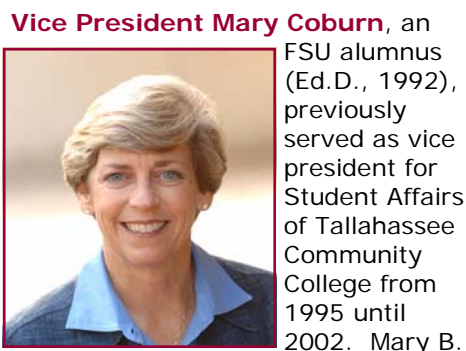
**A note of special thanks to Dorothea Bogert (Ph.D., 2004) who originally set up the listserv and maintained it - THANK YOU!**



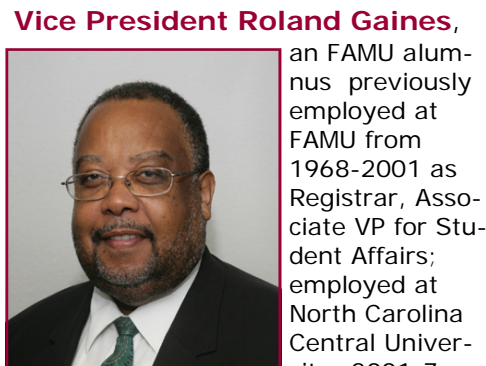
## From our Perspective: Viewpoints from Chief Student Affairs Officers

A new feature of the *LifeNet* entitled "From our Perspective" will pose the same questions to three local Vice Presidents for Student Affairs at Florida A&M University, Florida State University and Tallahassee Community College and will feature their brief replies to each question. It is our hope that the varying responses, based on their background and campus characteristics will help inform our readership how diverse institutional contexts impact campus responses to contemporary issues in student affairs. **We encourage you to submit questions for future issues of the *LifeNet* to [hardeec@coe.fsu.edu](mailto:hardeec@coe.fsu.edu).**

**To help inform our readership, we've asked each Vice President to provide a short profile of their background and experience in higher education.**



**Vice President Mary Coburn**, an FSU alumnus (Ed.D., 1992), previously served as vice president for Student Affairs of Tallahassee Community College from 1995 until 2002. Mary B. Coburn was appointed FSU's Vice President for Student Affairs on January 31, 2003. She leads approximately 400 Division of Student Affairs employees who serve over 40,000 students.



**Vice President Roland Gaines**, an FAMU alumnus previously employed at FAMU from 1968-2001 as Registrar, Associate VP for Student Affairs; employed at North Carolina Central University: 2001-7 as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; returned to FAMU: July, 2007 as Vice President for Student Affairs. He leads approximately 250 Division of Student Affairs employees serving 11,500 students.



**Vice President Sharon Jefferson** has served as Vice President for Student Affairs since 2003. She has a distinguished career with Tallahassee Community College, starting her tenure with the College in 1982, serving in positions including instructor, counselor, and Director of Enrollment Services. Sharon Jefferson leads close to 100 Student Affairs staff members who serve over 13,000 students.

**Q: Identify the program(s) and/or initiative(s) at your institution that best supports the transition and success of new students on your campus?**

**FSU:** For fall semester 2007 the FSU Division of Student Affairs staff created several new programs that will positively impact student life at the University. For the first time, we adopted a common reading book, *A Hope in the Unseen*, that was given to all freshmen at Orientation. A campus-wide committee also implemented the first University-sponsored tailgate party for undergraduates. The purpose was to demonstrate healthy ways to celebrate Seminole athletics.

But perhaps the most far-reaching new initiative was the establishment of a Social Justice Living and Learning Community in Wildwood Hall. Forty freshmen participated in a three-day retreat and are taking two courses together in the hall. This program promises to have long-lasting effects on our climate as these students go on to serve as leaders for justice on our campus and beyond.

**FAMU:** Because I arrived in July, 2007, all of the planning for 2007 had been completed. I was very impressed with move-in activities for our Freshmen and welcome week activities. Our new students got off to a fantastic start. This year will be one of transition for the Division of Student Affairs. We will be discussing *Good To Great* by Jim Collins and ways to improve our customer service skills.

We will also look at our orientation and summer enrichment programming. We are making plans to retake our place as a leader in the enrollment of National Achievement Scholars. We will also look at ways to improve our retention and graduation rates and spend some time evaluating student affairs effectiveness.

**TCC:** This year, TCC began a restructuring of its New Student Orientation Program. Developing goals based on national standards and establishing learning outcomes for the program, our campus-wide committee has worked to determine how we can engage our students from the moment they set foot on our campus. Critical to that initiative will be the support of our campus community as we work to involve the entire campus in our new student activities. Assessment will also be a key component to our current and future orientation activities.

New innovations in student success include required academic plans for incoming students, required advising for our FTIC and at-risk students, and a College Success class requirement for all students enrolled in two or more preparatory classes.

# Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Susan R. Komives (B.S., '68; M.S., '69)



By Aurélio Manuel Valente

As a result of her distinguished career as both a scholar and a practitioner, Dr. Susan Komives stands out among the many notable alumni of Florida State's Higher Education program. In addition to her twenty-year tenure as a faculty member at the University of Maryland's College Student Personnel program, Dr. Komives's scholarly contributions include six books in which she was the co-author and co-editor, 25 book chapters, and numerous refereed articles, monographs and book reviews. Her service to the profession includes scores of regional and national presentations, consultations, and membership in several editorial boards. Her leadership in professional organizations includes serving as president of ACPA, co-founder of the National Clearinghouse on Leadership Programs, and a recent election as president of the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS), a term that will continue until 2012.

When she was looking at colleges to attend, Dr. Komives was told by her father that she "could go anywhere in Florida, as long as it was either UF or FSU." Exhibiting great decision mak-

ing skills at an early age, she headed to FSU in 1964, despite having lived in Vero Beach, she was a bit nervous about how cold Tallahassee would be. As a self-described "*continuer*," her undergraduate career consisted of a full compliment of activities including serving as a freshmen class Senator representing the residence halls, appointment as a Resident Assistant (then called a Junior Counselor), member of Delta Delta Delta Sorority, member of the Motor Board and of the President's Advisory Board. Personally, her college experience was heavily influenced by women's issues at a time when FSU had differing practices for men and women, including a dress policy and curfew for women, but not one for men.

Spurred by initiatives promoting women in science, Dr. Komives earned a Bachelor of Science in Math and Chemistry. However career options for women in science at the time were limited to education or actuarial science. As she examined graduate education options, Dr. Komives reflected on a "group dynamics and leadership" course she took as a senior in the College of Education that "truly expanded [her] mind." As a result, she met with her instructor for advice about graduate degree options and had an "a-ha" moment when she realized she could actually work in college student personnel. When probed if she enjoyed teaching or the process of education, she was referred to FSU's graduate program. In seeking more information, she met with a woman for an informational interview. Later she realized her interviewer was Dr. Hardee and the informational meeting was actually her graduate admissions interview.

After graduating with her undergraduate degree in 1968, Dr. Komives enrolled in what was an intensive one year program at FSU that she described as "exceptionally rigorous." Dr. Komives recalls Dr. Hardee as someone who was "cutting edge and future-oriented" and who would often have her students read drafts of important national reports before they

were widely available. In addition to Dr. Hardee's guidance, Dr. Komives benefited from the mentorship of doctoral students such as Annette Gibbs, Fred Badders, and Emma Schulken, all of whom went on to have accomplished careers in higher education. Dr. Komives places her graduate experience at FSU in the context of an evolving profession, as she noted, "this was a year before Arthur Chickering would publish his seven vectors of student development" in the first edition of *Education and Identity*.

Dr. Komives remembers Dr. Hardee encouraging her students "not to be shy" and take a stand when they believed strongly in something. Dr. Komives recounted experiences when Dr. Hardee boycotted the APGA conference because it was held in Las Vegas and felt that the location would detract from the educational and professional experience. In another example of Dr. Hardee's conviction, she recounted the time that Dr. Hardee voiced her dissatisfaction that the association's President's Address was closed to those who attended a luncheon and felt the address should be open to any of the organization's members. Dr. Komives recalled the many "wonderful classroom experiences" that she now understands were "well constructed learning exercises," practices she emulates in her classroom to this day. Dr. Komives also traces her value for how important it is that student affairs departments collaborate with graduate programs to her own experience at FSU.

Shortly after graduating with her Masters degree from FSU, Dr. Komives was married and served as an area coordinator at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. In an effort to support a colleague, she joined him in registering for a doctoral level course in January of 1970. While he never completed his degree, she earned her Doctorate of Education in three years, all while working full-time and being promoted three times. Ultimately she served as Acting Director of Residence Life before accepting a position as

See **ALUMNI** page 5.



# Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Komives (continued)



Komives Family in Boulder, Colorado

Associate Dean of Students at Denison University. At Denison, she became the first person to serve in the role of Dean by function and not gender; previously individuals served as either Dean of Men or Women. Dr. Komives was also the first individual to supervise functional areas that included Student Activities, Housing and Greek Life. Dr. Komives proudly states that she was the “direct beneficiary” of the women’s movement in the development of her career. At the age of 32, she became Vice President and Dean of Student Life at Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri, an all women’s institution, where coincidentally Dr. Hardee had previously served as chair of faculty advising.

It was during her tenure at Stephens College that Dr. Komives also served as President of the America College Personnel Association from 1982-83, while she was pregnant with her first child. During this busy time, Dr. Komives jokes that her “plants died and house was never clean,” but recalls her achievements in helping establish the Senior Scholars program, supporting the development of a theory and research board and working with ACPA’s then parent organization American Personnel and Guidance Association (APGA).

After leaving Stephens College in 1985, Dr. Komives also served as Vice President for Student Development at the University of Tampa. Her professional experiences at small

private institutions provided her with an appreciation for a student’s development and growth during the college years. At a small college, it was easier to work with students holistically compared to her experiences at larger institutions. Dr. Komives stated, “you could meet with a freshmen for a disciplinary hearing, and have that same student be a leader in student government their senior year.” Dr. Komives continues, “for a young professional, it was easier to build your own reputation and credibility that allowed you to get things done.”

In examining her next step, Dr. Komives explored faculty positions, having “always been drawn to ideas and learning.” She began working at the University of Maryland in 1987, where she continues to teach today. During her time at Maryland she has served as acting Department Chair and the program director for the College Student Personnel Program and supervised the work of 27 Master’s theses committees, 32 Master’s papers and chaired 24 Doctoral dissertation committees. In recognition of her work, Dr. Komives was recently recognized with *The Excellence in Teaching Award* (2006) by the university; *Outstanding Mentor to Graduate Student Award* (2006) by the Committee on Graduate Students and New Professionals, ACPA-College Student Educators International; and *The Robert H. Shaffer Award for Academic Excellence as a Graduate Faculty Member* (2004) by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. In

2006 she became the only person concurrently to receive the Contribution to Knowledge Awards by both ACPA and NASPA.

In her current role as President-Elect of the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS), Dr. Komives is eager to promote the work of the 37 CAS member organizations to advance institutional effectiveness, student learning, outcomes assessment, accountability, and quality assurance. Upcoming plans include a focus on the “application” of using the standards as benchmarks for developing and refining learning outcomes. While there have been conversations about the accreditation of student affairs as a profession, Dr. Komives believes that should not be the purview of CAS. Dr. Komives suggests that “much like Counseling Centers and College Health Centers, if accreditation is advanced, it should be advanced by individual professional associations.”

To ensure a long and rewarding career in higher education, Dr. Komives has three recommendations for her students, and readers of the *LifeNet*. First and foremost, she encourages everyone to be dual-centered and balance professional ambitions with care for family and partners. Secondly, she encourages everyone to recognize the difference between career and professional development. While it is important to develop your career by building new skills and enhancing your areas of expertise, it is just as important to provide leadership in our profession by advancing principles of social justice, access and opportunity. Lastly, Dr. Komives encourages everyone to advance our field at both the local and national level through leadership in professional organizations and advancing policies and programs that promote higher education.

Dr. Komives is married to artist, Ralph Komives. She is the mother to Air Force Lt. Jeffrey Komives and step-mother to Rachel Hanson and proud grandmother of Mary (8) and Molly (6).

# Ripple effect of good mentorship



**Susan Komives, Susan Longerbeam, Felicia Mainella, Laura Osteen, and Julie Owen (L to R).**

**Editor's Note:** As many of the friends and alumni know, Dr. Hardee was often referred to as "The Mentor" and her philosophy around mentorship helped create the culture of support dubbed "The LifeNet" that permeates the Higher Education Program. As you can see from the alumni profile of Dr. Komives, Dr. Hardee's values and philosophy continues today in the practice of her more than 400 students; and in spirit, through the work of the Hardee Center.

However, truly gifted mentors not only help produce talented and caring professionals and scholars, they also produce more mentors that influence the culture of student affairs and help nurture future professionals. Such is the case with Dr. Hardee for Dr. Komives, who in turn has mentored many master's and doctoral students, including FSU's own, Dr. Laura Osteen who serves as the co-director of the Center for Leadership and Civic Education. Dr. Osteen was kind enough to contribute to this issue of the *LifeNet* newsletter by providing a personal account of her time with Dr. Komives.

By Dr. Laura Osteen

Twenty years ago, Susan Komives moved to Maryland; Indiana University won the NCAA Men's Basketball National Championship; and the daughter of Susan's new colleague, Jim Osteen, was applying to college. I, Laura Osteen, unswayed by any university family discount, was off to ballet and basketball in Bloomington, Indiana. Two bad knees, four changed majors, one undergraduate degree, one graduate degree, five years in the field, and one significantly changed family discount policy later - I was singularly focused on returning to Maryland to study with the woman who had moved there at the very time I left.

I returned to Maryland to study with Susan Komives, the woman whose love has shaped me personally and professionally, and whose path and guidance I have been honored to follow. From University of Tennessee roots, Stephens College professional experience, University of Maryland classrooms, to my current position at her beloved alma mater Florida State University, I have treaded lightly in the large footprints Susan has made in our field. Through my journey, I am grounded in the knowledge that I continue to learn from a woman whose strength of love and compas-

sion is only matched by her undaunting search for excellence and knowledge.

Susan's vita reads like a graduate course syllabus. Her research and publications are standard requirements in graduate courses across the nation. From the seminal *Student Services* and *CAS Standards*, to *Learning Reconsidered* and *Exploring Leadership*, and most recently the Leadership Identity Development Model and Multi-Institutional Study of Leadership, Susan and her colleagues have created the new paradigm of student learning and leadership that drives the future of our work. Not only has she defined our guiding constructs, she has redefined and expanded the boundaries of our knowledge and conceptualization of student learning and leadership development.

As a teacher, Susan expands and amplifies her written work through creating a learning environment that reinforces proven theories and creates new knowledge in practice. As a student in her classroom, I was challenged to think, expected to analyze, and supported for my growth. Susan doesn't just write about leadership, she chooses a life of leadership. She combines her scholarly knowledge and practical experience to be a wise

leader and mentor in the field.

Through her professional leadership experiences Susan has grasped the opportunity to bring professional accountability, theoretical integration, and diverse perspectives into the ways and means of our work. As an advisor she brings this integrated knowledge to bear on your work in the classroom, in your assistantship, and in life. She is physically and mentally with you on your personal and professional journey.

Susan's unique contribution to student personnel work is her generative leadership. Susan is developing the next generation of student affairs educators through living the life of Kolb's (1984) learning cycle. She takes all of us through her reflective observation of her concrete experience as a practitioner in the field that guides her abstract conceptualization and active experimentation as a researcher and advisor. As a teacher, researcher, and leader, Susan is a meaning maker in the field of student affairs. Her work influences and creates the social construction of who we are as a profession. As a dissertation advisor Susan expected an understanding and honoring of the power and impact we have to create knowledge. She worked seamlessly with me through the creation process of learning

See **MENTOR** page 9.



# Student Spotlight: Nate Crayton



By Chrystal George

If there was a superlative in the FSU Higher Education program for "Most Positive Attitude," Shanathan "Nate" Crayton would be a shoe-in for the award. Always smiling bright and staying cheerful, he is known by his peers as a good-natured person who is always willing to offer a helping hand or positive encouragement. A graduate of Florida A&M University, Nate came to FSU after years working with college students as a collegiate minister and as a singles' ministry coordinator in Tallahassee. As a leader and mentor, he saw the impact that the college experience had on students' lives. Realizing that he could learn more about student needs and their development by going back to school, Nate decided that starting a graduate program in student affairs would be his next focus. After hearing about FSU's Higher Education Program from a friend, he decided to apply. Now more than a year later, Nate is beginning his second year in the master's program and continuing to help college students learn and grow.

Yet, life for Nate has not been without its own set of challenges and hardships. Born hearing impaired in both ears, he has built strength through the obstacles that he's faced and overcome. At the age of four, Nate was nearly killed while out playing

football in the street with his older brother and friends. As a car approached, everyone else cleared the street; however, Nate did not hear the car, nor was the driver paying attention. Nate turned around just in time to lay flat on the ground so that the car could drive over him. Miraculously, he was unharmed by the incident although it is a moment he will never forget. Still, obstacles such as these have never made Nate feel sorry for himself, or wish that his disability would disappear, as he believes these are the things that have helped shape him into the person he is today.

Although his circumstances have helped him to grow as an individual, Nate is also thankful for the encouragement he receives from others. In fact, it is the community and care among students, faculty and staff that is one of his favorite things about the Higher Education program at FSU. The support he receives from his supervisor and mentor, Bea Awonyi, Director of the Student Disability Resource Center, has been particularly important to him. He cites Bea's ability to provide her staff with confidence in her leadership and her team-oriented philosophy as a style that he would like to emulate.

Nate began working with the SDRC as a graduate assistant, and after only one year, he was offered a full-time position as the Adaptive Lab Coordinator. His work with the SDRC has both challenged and rewarded him as he has assisted students who require various accommodations in order to succeed at FSU. The tasks can range from sharing a word of encouragement to fixing a program on a laptop to setting up equipment in a student's classroom in another area of the campus. "The students are so appreciative of the work I do. My biggest reward is to know that these students, who have gone through many obstacles mentally and academically, will graduate with a college degree." Recently, Nate and the other members of the SDRC staff were overjoyed to hear that one of their students has become the first deaf student to graduate from FSU's College of Com-

munication. In his new position, Nate's major responsibilities include maintaining the operations of the computer technology lab, providing alternate text formats for students, and supervising the staff in the Testing / Exam Lab. He is also responsible for the Student Disability Resource Center in the absence of both the Director and the Assistant Director. This year Nate has accomplished his greatest achievement in the office by providing over 150 alternative text format CDs for students.

However, it hasn't been easy balancing his studies with his new position. This summer Nate enrolled in three courses, participated in an internship with the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities, co-supervised the SDRC staff, and worked with an intern from the College of Social Work. Nevertheless, with all of these responsibilities he was able to pull through with straight A's, no complaints and his usual smile. In fact, the courses he took this summer have sparked a new interest for him in the area of college student debt and student success. He hopes to one day enroll in a doctoral program and do research on college student debt and ways that universities can help students to become successful financially both during and after college. Yet, right now, his goal is to work with college and high school students with disabilities to help improve the quality of their educational experience while at FSU.

Nate strongly encourages other students to work or do an internship at the SDRC. In addition to working with those that are hearing-impaired, visually impaired, or mobility impaired, working in the SDRC will allow students the opportunity to assist one of the increasing special student populations within higher education – individuals with learning disabilities. "We advocate for students, provide services to students and faculty, and resources to faculty and parents on the behalf of students. If you are someone that loves to be challenged and loves to stay occupied, this is a great place to be."

# Program Spotlight: 2007 Service Leadership Seminar



By Mandy Hambleton

The FSU Higher Education program affords its students many wonderful opportunities to gain practical experience to complement our coursework during our two years (or more for some) in the masters program. I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to take advantage of one such opportunity and serve as an intern for the annual Service Leadership Seminar hosted by the Center for Leadership and Civic Education. Not only did I have the great fortune of experiencing the leadership and mentoring of a recent graduate of our program, Carrie Tucker (M.S. '06), I was also able to work with an amazing group of students who share my passions for leadership and service.

While many students were finding their way around Tallahassee, spending outrageous amounts of money at WalMart, and checking out the local entertainment venues, thirty-four freshmen were spending their time

making a positive impact on each other, Florida State, and the Tallahassee community by participating the annual Florida State Service Leadership Seminar.

Based on the concepts of the Social Change model of leadership and positive sustainable change, the 2007 Service Leadership Seminar (SLS) was hosted by the newly formed Center for Leadership and Civic Education (formerly the FSU LEAD Center and Center for Civic Education and Service) from August 21-24. SLS provides students with a three and one-half day experience designed to introduce them to service and leadership opportunities at FSU and within the local community. Stu-

dents participate in a challenge course at the FSU Reservation, attend workshops presented by a variety of FSU faculty and student affairs staff members, participate in pre-planned service projects, and design and execute their own service projects. Dr. Mary Coburn, Vice President

"SLS was definitely the best choice I could have made in those first weeks of my college career. The learning, activities and positive social fellowships are some I will never forget. This program is, without a doubt, changing lives. I know that growing from these experiences has me headed down a path of success."

Kim Powell, Political Science

for Student Affairs kicked off this year's seminar with a message about taking risks with leadership and service. Following this year's baseball theme, she quoted Frederick Wilcox's famous saying, "You can't steal second base with your foot on first," and encouraged students to take a lead in all aspects of their lives both at FSU and beyond.

SLS workshop presenters included David Pittman, Director of the Student Activities Center (Leadership 101); Kim McMahon, Associate Director of the Oglesby Union (CSI: Campus Search Involvement); Adrienne Frame, Associate Director of Residence Life (True Colors); Dr. James Hinterlong, Assistant Professor of Social Work (Leadership in the Field); and Dr. Laura Osteen, Co-Director of the Center for Leadership and Civic Education (Civic Engagement). Students also participated in a community simulation activity to give them a concrete example of the importance of understanding a community before trying to help or change it in any way. Following two full days of filling their service and leadership toolboxes, students were challenged to design and execute their own service projects in small teams. Organizations served by SLS participants include America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend, Tallahassee Little Theatre, Big Bend Homeless Coalition HOPE Community, Salvation Army, and Broadview Assisted Living Center.

See **SERVICE LEADER** page 9.





## Mentor (continued)

methodology, understanding the complexity of data, and writing for clarity and impact upon the profession.

Unlike Susan's "informational interview" with Dr. Hardee (described in Aurelio Valente's article), there was nothing informal about my doctoral admissions interview with Susan. I was scared to death. I remember preparing with my father and him gently laughing and stating with no uncertainty, "You better be ready, Susan will ask you tough questions and expect you to answer." This advice has proven true, in the interview and in every following day, Susan already knows you have excellence to offer and works with you to discover and unleash it. She has no time for your momentary desire to ignore this search, our work is too important and she cherishes us too much to waste a moment. It is this journey, this search, that pulls us to Susan, the knowledge that if you want to seek truth she is already on the journey and would love your companionship on the adventure.

For years, SK22@umd.edu has been so much more than an email address; it is the source of knowledge, support, challenge, and unconditional love. Although University of Maryland recently switched to new email addresses - and Susan's email address is the required komives@umd.edu - she will be known to many of us forever as SK22. Those four alphanumeric numbers are a living legend of a woman who continues to care, think and love deeply for each of us and our work to advocate for students.

## Service Leaders (continued)



As the SLS graduate intern I was able to see firsthand how much of an impact this small group of students has already made on the FSU campus and within the community, as well as the potential they have for future change. I often found myself in awe of their passion and commitment to specific

causes and service in general. Being around this group of students helped me to reaffirm that I have planted my professional tree in the correct field, and that student affairs professionals have the most amazing opportunity to help students realize the potential they have to change the world.

When asked about his experience with SLS, freshman Pre-Med major Gustave Michaud responded by saying, "SLS was a life-changing event that gave me the opportunity and the tools to make a difference in the world."

Fellow participant and Political Science major, Kim Powell, stated, "SLS was definitely the best choice I could have made in those first weeks of my college career. The learning, activities and positive social fellowships are some I will never forget. This program is, without a doubt,

changing lives. I know that growing from these experiences has me headed down a path of success." While the statements made following their participation in SLS reflect personal growth, reflection, and a positive outlook for the future, some of the more profound statements were made during the SLS program itself. During a reflection activity after a service event, the students were asked, "What did you feel when participating in the service?" And, wow, were the SLS staff members and facilitators impressed and surprised by the answers we received: butterflies, babies, and unicorns.

Those responses may seem unconventional, but Dr. Laura Osteen was able to bring closure to our week and the amazing journey we went on together by wishing all of us butterflies (moments in life that make you so excited with anticipation your stomach is in knots), babies—something to love so much you would do anything to make a positive impact on it), and unicorns (something that you chase because you know it's out there, even though you will probably never find it). I share that wish with all of you, and I hope you will share it with your students in some way, shape, or form.

"SLS was a life-changing event that gave me the opportunity and the tools to make a difference in the world."

Gustave Michaud, First-Year, Pre-Med



# Noteworthy Accomplishments

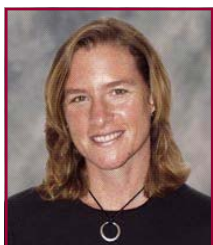
## from our Alumni

**Dr. Karinda Barrett (Ed.D., 2004), Dr. Beverly L. Bower, (Ph.D., 1992) and Nancy C. Donovan (M.S., 2006)** co-authored the article Teaching Styles of Community College Instructors, which was published recently in the *American Journal of Distance Education*, 21 (1).

**John Reid Bennett, Jr., (M. S., 1993)** has been selected to receive a 2007 Distinguished Adviser Award from College Media Advisers. Founded in 1954, CMA is a professional organization for advisers of college media organizations. The CMA award will be presented at the 86th annual National College Media Convention in Washington DC in late October. John also been named to the Student Press Law Center Advisory Council Steering Committee. Since 1974, the SPLC has been the nation's only legal assistance agency devoted exclusively to educating high school and college journalists about the rights and responsibilities embodied in the First Amendment and supporting the student news media in their struggle to cover important issues free from censorship.

**Dr. Kristina M. Cragg (Ph.D., 2007; M.S., 2003)** successfully defended her dissertation in April 2007 and recently accepted a position at Valdosta State University as Assistant to the President for Strategic Research and Analysis.

**Cathy J. Cuevas (M.S., 2007)** now serves as the Student Success Specialist for the Title III Grant at Tallahassee Community College. Her new projects include the re-engineering of student services as the College works to increase both student graduation and retention rates.



**Nancy Donovan (M.S., 2006)**, pictured left, has recently accepted a position at Tallahassee Community College as a Counseling Specialist and has also started coursework towards a doctoral program in Higher Education at Florida State.

**Tracey Elizabeth Dowling (M.S., 2004)** was recently promoted to Assistant Director of the Career Center at the University of Georgia.

**Devi (Singh) Drexler (M.S., 2001)** has accepted a position as Dean of Student Development Services at Georgia Gwinnett College in Lawrenceville, Georgia which recently opened its doors on Aug. 18, 2006 and welcomed its first year students this fall.

**Dr. Leah Ewing Ross (M.S., 2000)** recently accepted a position as a Consultant with MGT of America, Inc., a management research and consulting firm with offices in Tallahassee, FL.



**Dr. Sylvia S. Fleishman (Ph.D., 1991)** was elected to serve a 3-year term as the chairman of the Board of Trustees of Finlandia University. Finlandia, located in Hancock, Michigan and was founded in 1896 as Suomi College by Finnish immigrants. It is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) and offers a full array of undergraduate programs

including bachelor degree programs in partnership with Finland. Sylvia was born and raised in Wakefield and is a graduate of Wakefield High School as well as Suomi College (now Finlandia University) and Northern Michigan University (B.S. and M.S.). She received her doctorate degree in Educational Leadership/Higher Education from Florida State University in 1991 and spent many years as an educational policy director for the Florida Community College System. She and her husband Sidney Fleishman, who is also an FSU alumnus, are retired and have recently moved back to Wakefield, Michigan, after living in Florida for over 25 years.

**Julie B. Gleason (M.S., 2003)** has accepted a new position as the Assistant Director, Greek Life and Leadership Development at Florida Gulf Coast University



**Dr. Juan R. Guardia (M.S., 2001)**, pictured left, recently published an editorial entitled "Latina/o Fraternity-Sorority Identity Development" in the Sept. 10, 2007 issue of the *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education*.

**Derek A. Guffin (M.S., 2007)**, pictured right, has accepted a new position as an Academic Advisor at the

Warrington College of Business at the University of Florida.



**Dr. Sara Hamon (Ph.D., 2002)** has been appointed Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Studies at Florida State University.

**Ivan L. Harrell II. (Ph.D., 2006)** has been selected as one of three winners in the Best Paper Competition conducted by the Southern Association for Community College Research (SACCR) at its 2007 Annual Conference for his 2006 dissertation, "Using Student Characteristics to Predict the Persistence of Community College Students in Online Courses". This paper was also chosen to represent SACCR in the Distinguished Paper Session at the Association for Institutional Research Annual Forum in Seattle, WA, May 24-28, 2008.



# More Noteworthy Accomplishments

## from our Alumni



**Melissia Heatherly Brannen (M.S., 2005)** is the proud mother of Chloe Margaux Brannen (future Nole!). Chloe was born on June 18, 2007, weighing in at 6lbs. 6oz. with a head full of hair. She was a miracle baby that made it thanks to lots of

prayers and a doctor that knew when an emergency c-section was needed.

**Jame'I R. Hodges (M.S., 2002)** has recently accepted a position as the Co-ordinator of Residential Education and Leadership at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and has also started coursework towards a doctoral degree at the University of Southern California.



**Dr. Rich Kincl (Ed.D., 2007)** successfully defended his dissertation entitled, "An Exploratory Study of How Stakeholders Are Affected by Presidential Transition at a Community College." In Rich's other life, he is the Pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church, 2351 Mahan Drive, Tallahassee.

**Sally Kline (M.S., 2005)** has accepted a position as the Assistant Dean of Students at the University of Virginia after two years as the Assistant Director of Greek Affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Dr. Susan R. Komives (M.S., 1969)** Professor in the Counseling and Personnel Services at the University of Maryland, has been elected President of the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education (CAS). CAS has been the pre-eminent force for promoting standards in student affairs, student services, and student development programs since its inception in 1979. A consortium of 37 member associations such as American Counseling Association, American College Health Association, National Academic Advising Association, and the National Women's Studies Association, CAS has standards in 34 functional areas. Komives represents the American College Personnel Association on the CAS Board of Directors. **Editor's note:** Read more about Dr. Komives in this issue's Alumni Profile.

**Dennis Lanham (M.S., 2007)** has accepted a position as the Coordinator for the University Program Council at his alma mater, the University of North Texas. In this position Dennis advises various UPC student committees, the UPC executive board, and will be supervising two Graduate Assistants.

## We want to hear from you!

If you recently began a new job, earned a degree, married, celebrated the birth of a child, or have any news to share with your fellow alumni and friends, please fill out our alumni update form available online at:

[www.fsu.edu/~elps/hardee/update.html](http://www.fsu.edu/~elps/hardee/update.html)

We'll include your news and photos in this section of the next issue of the *LifeNet*.

**Drs. Terrence Leas (Ph.D., 1989) & Dr. K. B. Melear (Ph.D., 2001)** co-authored Community College Governance: A compendium of state organizational structures, College Administration Publications, Inc. (2006).

**Mary L. Meadows (M.S., 2005)** has relocated back to Greenville, South Carolina in August after returning from a year in Germany working in the International Relations Office at the Universität Karlsruhe and teaching in-company Business English. Mary has accepted a position with Academic Studies Abroad (ASA), a study abroad company based out of Boston. She is the Programs Advisor for Higher Education institutions sending students from the Southeast.



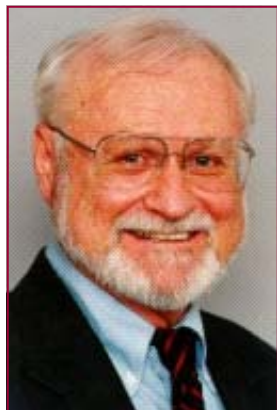
**Dr. KB Melear (Ph.D., 2001)** recently received two awards including the University of Mississippi School of Education's 2007 Researcher of the Year Award. This award was presented during the commencement ceremony in recognition of his scholarship. Dr. Melear also received the 2007 Cornerstone Award for support to the Department of Student Housing and Residence Life at Ole Miss. Dr. Melear's areas of expertise encompass higher education legal and financial issues.

**Dr. Mary Beth Mercatoris (M.S., 1996)** was recently promoted to Assistant Dean of Students at The University of Texas at Austin where she assumed leadership of the Student Activities & Leadership Development area of the Office of the Dean of Students.

# Noteworthy Accomplishments ... continued

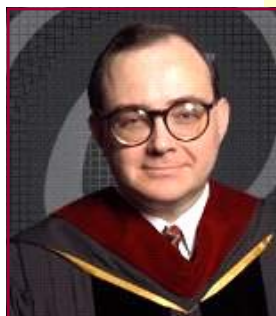
## from our Alumni (continued)

**Dr. Mihaela Metianu (Ed.D., 2007)** successfully defended her dissertation entitled, "The relationship between cultural adjustment and motivation for educational participation: An exploratory study of immigrant community college students." Dr. Metianu currently serves as director of Student Affairs at the Wilkes Honors College of Florida Atlantic University.



**Dr. James L. Morrison (Ph.D., 1969)** received a two-year contract extension from Nova Southeastern University to produce *Innovate: The Journal of Online Education* ([www.innovateonline.info](http://www.innovateonline.info)). Dr. Morrison will also deliver a keynote (Education and Technology), general session presentation (Forces Driving the Future of Global Education), and a workshop (Using a Futures Approach to Organizational and Instructional Development) at the ELME 2008 Conference in Bahrain.

**The Rev. Dr. Clyde B. Parrish (M.S., 1981)** was recently selected as one of 20 pastors nationally to participate in the Summer Collegium program at Virginia Theological Seminary. The program, fully funded by the Eli Lilly Endowment, assists pastors of small congregations in retooling and further developing their skills. In addition to administration and teaching at Cincinnati State College, Rev. Parrish is also Pastor of St. John's Congregational Church in Covington, KY.



**Dr. Donna Pittman McGalliard (Ed.D., 2001)** was promoted to Director of Residence Life and Housing at Wake Forest University. In addition, Dr. Pittman McGalliard and her husband welcomed a little girl, Baylie into the world on June 29, 2006.

**Ms. Beth Anne Pretty (M.S., 1992)** left her position as associate dean of students at the College of William and Mary to be a stay-at-home mom. Her family moved to Chesterfield, VA and welcomed their third child on December 1st, Benjamin Pretty Merkel weighed 8 lbs. 6oz.

**Holly Williams (M.S., 2003)**, pictured right, recently accepted a position at Cy-Fair College as the Program Manager for Student Activities.



## from the faculty

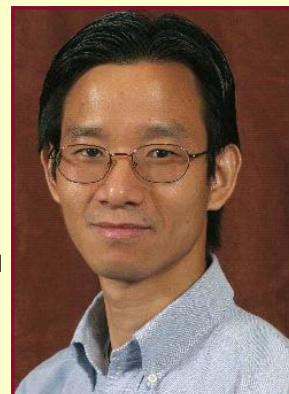


**Dr. Beverly L. Bower (Ph.D., 1992)** presented "Harbingers of Hope: Effective Black Women Leaders in Higher Education and Policy" with Marguerite McClinton (Ed.D., 2005) at the American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting, April 2007, Chicago, IL. Along with Karinda Barrett (Ed.D., 2004) and Nancy C. Donovan (M.S., 2006), Dr. Bower co-authored the article "Teaching Styles of Community College Instructors," which was published recently in the *American Journal of Distance Education*, 21(1).

In addition, Drs. Bower, Dalton, Gayles, and Schwartz presented "Back to the Future: Examining & Improving Higher Education Graduate Preparation Programs for the 21st Century" at the 2007 NASPA Conference in Orlando, FL.

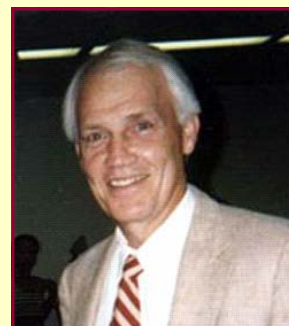
**Dr. Shouping Hu** was appointed as a principal member of the Institute of Education Sciences' Education Systems and Broad Reform Research Scientific Review Panel and will start his three-year term this Fall. In the past Spring, he was a rotary member of this panel that made recommendations to the IES on funding decisions in programs in high school reform and postsecondary education.

Shouping Hu (co-authors George Kuh and Joy Gayles) just published an article on *Innovative Higher Education* titled, "Engaging undergraduate students in research activities: Are research universities doing a better job?" Dr. Shouping Hu will participate in four sessions in the annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) in November in Louisville, Kentucky.



**Dr. Jon Dalton** and Dr. Jeff Garis served as co-editors of Emerging Student ePortfolios: Opportunities for Student Affairs, which will be

published in fall 2007, as part of the Jossey-Bass "New Directions in Student Services Series." Dr. Dalton also wrote a chapter in the monograph. In addition, Dr. Jon Dalton has been invited to be a keynote speaker at the annual conference of the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) to be held in St. Louis, in February, 2008.





# Welcome to this year's new Higher Education students!



Shanna Autry, Ellyn Aidman and Nancy Donovan

## New Doctoral Students:

**Ellyn Aidman** is currently working with the Advising First program after a long tenure with FSU. Ellyn graduated from FSU with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies and then completed her Masters of Science at FSU for Higher Education. In 2007, she had a book review published for the *NACADA Journal* and also presented at the NACADA conference.

**Shanna Autry** serves as an Academic Advisor for Advising First within the College of Social Sciences. She completed her undergraduate career at the University of Georgia earning a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology as well as a Masters of Arts in Sports Studies. She has worked in higher education for a number of years and was nominated in 2007 for the FSU Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising.

**Jennifer Behnke** is employed as a Graduate Assistant for the Center for Leadership and Civic Education. Jennifer is back at FSU after graduating with Bachelor of Science in Political Science and then leaving to go to George Washington University where she earned her Masters of Arts in Education and Human Development. Jennifer has worked in Higher Education for a number of years, serving as Assistant Director of Student Activities at FSU for four years and Director of Student Activities at Johnson & Wales University for three years.

**Nancy Donovan** is currently working at Tallahassee Community College as a Counseling Specialist. Nancy completed her undergraduate degree at FSU receiving a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature. She also received a Masters in Higher Education from FSU and was granted recognition as a Hardee Fellow in 2005. She

was nominated in 2006 for the Academic Advising Award, she has published a book review and has presented at the NACADA Regional Conference.

**Yuhua Guo** works as a Teaching Assistant for the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Yuhua graduated from Zheng Zhou University with a Bachelor of Arts in English and then completed her Masters of Science in TESOL at Mississippi College. Yuhua has worked for three years as a teaching assistant at the Anyang Institute of Technology in China. She has won multiple Merit Scholarships and has experience as a Language Learning Center Assistant.

**Lindsey Katherine** serves as the Senior Assistant Director for the FSU Career Center. Lindsey graduated from James Madison University with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and then proceeded to receive her Masters of Science in Counseling and Educational Development from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She was an Information Manager for the Florida Career Professionals Association and was awarded the Bright Idea Award from the FSU Division of Student Affairs in 2006.

**Andy Mauk** currently holds an assistantship with the Vice President of Student Affairs. Andy graduated from the University of Arkansas with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and then returned to receive his Masters of Education in Higher Education. Andy served as Associate Director of the Multicultural Center at the University of Arkansas and was awarded the RSO Advisor of the Year for advising the Diversity Alliance.

**Kasey Price** is a Graduate Assistant for the Women in Math, Science and Engineering Living-Learning Community. She graduated from Indiana Wesleyan University with a Bachelor of Science in both Business Administration and Intercultural Studies. Kasey completed her Masters of Science in Higher Education at Southern Illinois University Carbondale where she was a Hall Director and a Student Judicial Affairs Intern. She is also the recipient of the Servant Leadership Award.



Frank Cuevas, Dr. Bower and David Eberhardt

**Monoka Venters** is serving as a Graduate Assistant for the Board of Governors. She graduated from Furman University with a Bachelor of Arts in English and then completed her JD degree at Washington and Lee University School of Law. Monoka has been a Resident Assistant, a member of the Western State Legal Aid Society and a Burks Scholar teaching assistant. She was also a recipient of the Omicron Delta Kappa and Phi Beta Kappa awards.

# Welcome ... *continued*



A portion of the entering Masters students.

## New Masters Students:

**Charity Agomuo** serves as a Graduate Assistant in Research and Communication for the Oglesby Union and graduated from California State University, Fresno with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Africana Studies. While at CSU-Fresno, Charity was Union Board chair from 2006-2007 and was also a recipient of a community service award in 2007.

**Nicolette Avner** is a Graduate Assistant for the College of Communication and Advising First. Nicolette graduated from The Ohio State University with Bachelor of Arts degrees in Psychology and Communication. During her time as an undergraduate she was a University Host as well as the Dance Linx Secretary.

**Catherine (Stovall) Badger** currently holds an assistantship with the FSU Career Center and graduated from Western Michigan University with a Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education. Catherine was active in Pi Beta Phi where she held positions as VP of Moral Advancement, VP of Social Advancement, and was also Pi Beta Phi's Panhellenic Representative.

**Jonathan Barton** is working as a Graduate Assistant for University Housing and just recently graduated from Georgia College & State University with a Bachelor of Science in History. He was a Community Assistant and was both an SGA Senator and SGA Attorney General. Jonathan was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society in 2006.

**Rachel Blalock** is presently a Graduate Assistant for the Center for Leadership and Civic Education. She is a

recent graduate of Mercer University earning a Bachelor of Science in Middle School Education. Rachel served as Vice President for Alpha Delta Pi, an SGA Senator, Campus Liaison for the Programming Board and Vice President for the Student Activities Board.

**Heather Bochnia** works for Florida State's Office of Telecommunications as an Accounting Specialist. Heather received her Bachelor of Business Administration from Valdosta State University and also received an Associate of Arts degree from North Florida Community College.

**Dan Burke** holds an assistantship with International Programs and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Millersville University with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Business. Dan also was an Orientation Leader in 2007.

**Annie Carlson** is currently working as a Graduate Assistant for Greek Life and graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts degrees in both History and Anthropology. Annie was also Vice President of Recruitment for the Panhellenic Council as well as Assistant Recruitment Chair for Pi Beta Phi.

**Anthony Conard** is serving in an assistantship in the Office of Orientation having recently graduated from Loyola College in Maryland with a Bachelor of Science in Physics. At Loyola College, Anthony held internships in both Campus Ministries, Leadership, and New Student Programs. He was recognized in Who's Who in America's Colleges in 2007.

**Abbie Day** works as a Graduate Assistant for Dance Marathon. Abbie is also an FSU alumna receiving her Bachelor of Science in Sports Management in 2007.



Mycla Palmer, Nicolette Avner, Annie Carlson, Alex Miller, Cathy Badger and Karen Serrano (L to R).



# Welcome ... *continued*

**Jacquelyn (Jackie) Deptula** is currently employed as a Graduate Assistant in University Housing and graduated from University of Buffalo with a Bachelor of Arts in Biological Sciences. During her undergraduate career, Jackie gained experience as a Resident Assistant, a Community Assistant, and VP of Student Alumni Relations.

**Tom DiCato** serves as a Graduate Assistant for University Housing and graduated from Salisbury University with Bachelor of Arts degrees in both English and Psychology. At Salisbury, Tom worked as a Resident Assistant and also founded the organization "Salisbury University against Violence Everywhere." Tom was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society in 2006.

**Rachel Dorn** holds an assistantship for the Office of the VP for University Relations. Rachel is a Florida State University graduate and received her Bachelor of Science in Studio Art in 2007.

**Jessica Gentine** is employed full-time by Florida State's University Business Administrators. Jessica is also a Florida State University graduate, having received her Bachelor of Science in International Affairs.

**Amilcah Gomes** currently works as a Graduate Assistant in the Oglesby Union's Marketing & Communications Department and graduated from FSU with a Bachelor of Science in Physics and Government. While an undergraduate, Amilcah was President of Campus Ministry International, served as a C.A.R.E. Counselor, and was named Outstanding New Student Employee for the Oglesby Union.

**Jason Leturmy** is working full-time for Florida State's Sports and Information Department. Jason is a FSU graduate, having received a Bachelor of Science in Finance and Sport Management. Jason was also an Orientation Leader and an FYE Peer Leader during his time as an undergraduate.

**Ben Lingeman** currently holds an assistantship with University Housing and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Miami University of Ohio with Bachelor of Arts degrees in French and International Studies. Ben also served as a Resident Assistant and Executive Vice President for his undergraduate Student Government Association.

**Crystal Denise Mayberry** is serving as a Graduate Assistant for University Housing and graduated with High Honors from the Georgia Institute of Technology receiving her Bachelor of Science in Science, Technology and Culture.

Crystal has experience as a Resident Assistant and as a Team Leader for the Freshman Orientation course. She has also worked as a Graduate Assistant in the Georgia Tech Office of Diversity Programs.

**Alexander (Alex) Miller** is employed as a Graduate Assistant for the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Alex is a graduate of the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. While at USC, Alex was a Peer Leader, VP of the Carolina Student Judicial Council and also a Hearing Coordinator. He was voted member of the year for the 2005-2006 school year.

**Angela Myers** is a Graduate Assistant for the Student Activities Center at the Oglesby Union and is a graduate of Ball State University with a Bachelor of Science in Music Education. Angela has held positions as Clarinet Section Leader, Drum Major, Band Secretary, Band President, Principal Clarinetist and Sigma Alpha Iota Secretary.

**Mycla Palmer** currently works as a Graduate Assistant for the College of Law and is a graduate of the University of Georgia with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Management. Mycla was the Zeta Tau Alpha Activities Chair, a recipient of the Tom Cochran Service Award and Greek Woman of the Month.



Tony Conard, Angela Myers, Karen Serrano and Mark Pontious (L to R).



Annie Carlson, Mycla Palmer and Cathy Badger (L to R).

# Welcome ... *continued*



Rachel Blalock, Alex Miller and Mycla Palmer (L to R).

**Mark Pontious** is currently a Graduate Assistant for the First Year Experience program and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Bowling Green State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education. Mark is a member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, and was an Orientation Leader and the Academic Affairs Committee Chair for Bowling Green's SGA. During his undergrad, Mark also worked in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

**Brad Popiolek** serves as a Graduate Assistant for Advising First and graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Arts in Communications. Brad had experience as a Supplemental Instructor, a University Ambassador and a Peer Leader while at USC.

**Chris Rindosh** holds an assistantship with the Hardee Center and graduated from The College of New Jersey with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Chris served as a Community Advisor, Vice President of Student Services for the SGA, and as President/Founder of both the TCNJ Robotics Club and TCNJ Manhunt Club.

**Dustin Rollins** is currently employed as a Graduate Assistant with University Housing and is a graduate of the University of Florida with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. During his undergrad, Dustin gained experience as a Resident Assistant, a Grad Hall Director and a Preview Orientation Leader. He won awards for Advisor of the Month, RA of the Month and Regional Program of the Month.

**Karen Ilianna Serrano** is working as a Graduate Assistant for the Department of Education and is a graduate of California State University, San Bernardino with Bachelor of Arts degrees in both Psychology and Human Development. Karen was Panhellenic President, Vice President of Membership Recruitment and Vice President of Standards for Kappa Delta. She was also given awards for Greek Woman of the Year and Outstanding Greek Leader.

**Dylan Smith** is serving as a graduate assistant for Union Productions and is a graduate from Lehigh University with a Bachelor of Arts in English. While at Lehigh, Dylan served as Comedy Director of University Productions and Initiate Advisor for Phi Sigma Pi.

**Crystal Sutton** is a Graduate Assistant for the Student Activities Center and a graduate from Ohio State University with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. Crystal was Recruitment Chair for Chi Omega and Recruitment Guide for the Panhellenic Association. She was also recognized as Woman of the Year for the Panhellenic Association in 2007.

**Glenn E. Walters Jr.** is currently a Graduate Assistant for Project Kick, a youth drug prevention program, utilizing his background in Secondary Social Science Education. Glenn graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing and is coming to FSU from the Higher Education program at Florida Atlantic.

**Jillian Volpe White** holds an assistantship with the Center for Leadership and Civic Education and is a Florida State graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication. Jillian was an FSU Service scholar, the service chair for Christian Campus Fellowship and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa. She was also awarded the President's Undergraduate Humanitarian of the Year award in 2005.

**Joshua Williams** is employed as a Graduate Assistant for the University Business Administrators. Joshua graduated from the University of West Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology.

**Anitra D. Young** serves as a Graduate Assistant for the Office of Recruitment and Retention. Anitra graduated from Florida A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She was recognized for making Dean's List and being part of the White and Gold Honor Society.



Rachel Nayare and Nicolette Avner (L to R).



# Observations *from new noles!*



**Charity Agomuo**

It was a long drive. On July 20th my parents and I piled into my car with a U-Haul attached and headed to Florida State University. We drove from San Diego to Tallahassee. As we reached Pecos, Texas, I began to contemplate my decision to attend Florida State. I pretty much had all of Texas to weigh my decision. Was this the right program for me? Will I be able to be so far away from home for such a long time? The further I drove away from home, the more I began to understand why I was really leaving.

About 2,800 miles later it was clear. The amount of opportunities the Higher Education program offers is what caught my attention all the way in California. The practical experience, theory studies, opportunities for assistantships, and the location made FSU my top choice. When we arrived in Tallahassee, my decision to attend FSU was reconfirmed and I was ready to embark on a new phase in my life. In the last month, I have transitioned from an undergraduate to a professional and Master's Student. I have been exposed to endless opportunities to participate in several aspects of student affairs and have immersed myself in Seminole Pride. I look forward to the wonderful experiences and opportunities the program has to offer.

**Cathy Badger**



As a first year graduate student, I started classes wide-eyed and very nervous about juggling assistantship responsibilities, class requirements and the occasional few hours of sleep. I expected to work, read, write papers, and attend class, leaving little time for relationships with my cohort or opportunities to get involved. Boy was I wrong!

Not only have I had a great time getting to know my fellow first year students, I have been inundated with opportunities to get involved! From volunteering time for Higher Ed. program activities, going to a group dinner with faculty, tailgating before our first home football game or attending professional conferences, anything is possible. Our program's desire for greatness is demonstrated by our unique ability to support one another inside and outside of the classroom. The word I am trying to describe is community. Everyone here cares about each other and wants to help in any way possible. The friendships help to create a bond that I am sure will last as we all progress in our careers. It is the tight-knit family within the Higher Ed. program that has made this transition smoother than I could possibly have imagined.



**"The Campus is My Oyster" by Jennifer Behnke**

I am one of those students who left a nice, salary-paying job with benefits to return to full-time studies in the doctoral program. While I prefer "seasoned" or "veteran" much better, when I walk around campus among freshmen and even as I attend events and classes with the HE Master's students, I can't help but think "ancient" is the right word! Anyway you call it, I am having a great time getting back into class (can't they improve those desks?) and using parts of my brain that could use a little exercise.

The best thing (so far) about full-time study is that everyone around campus is constantly inviting you to join in their discussion, project, or initiative. There are so many opportunities to explore new interests or jump on the latest hot-button issue! Those of you who work in professional capacities know that sometimes it's not so easy to insert yourself into these initiatives in neighboring departments; you might be politely asked to mind your own business. Not as a graduate student! I have truly felt welcomed and encouraged to learn and participate at every turn. This is a testament to the generous and uplifting spirit that abounds in the administration and faculty at FSU. I'll try to remember all this as I gulp down my ramen noodles and benefits become a distant memory.



**Annie Carlson**

As I drove down the moss-covered, tree-lined streets of Tallahassee at the end of June, I knew my life was about to change forever. Choosing to come to FSU for graduate school was an easy decision for me. I received my first choice for assistantships, was entering a nationally renowned program, and was moving half-way across the country to the beautiful state of Florida. Little did I know that coming to FSU would end up being the best decision I have made.

The term "Southern Hospitality" does not do justice to the kindness and gratitude that I have received in this program. From the first day of my assistantship, I knew that I had found a home where I could be myself and accomplish great things. From my supervisor and colleagues to my professors and friends, there is always someone I can go to when I need help. The most exciting part about the program is the opportunity to engage in topics that are of great interest to me. The chance to present my views, be challenged, learn, and re-evaluate my thoughts and beliefs is incredible.

# Observations from new noles!



**Jackie Deputla**

Here I go! That's what I told myself when I made the move to the great Sunshine State in July, knowing there was no turning back. It was a huge transition. I was moving over one thousand miles from everything I knew, walking into a new city, campus, and job, all at once, but trust me, it's been a great adventure! I was unaware that with moving to Tallahassee I would be entering Seminole country where there is a sign outside every business saying "Welcome Home" and "Go Noles." I quickly learned there is only one place to be on the Friday night before a home game, Downtown Get-Down, and tailgating consists of "redneck" golf, games of UNO, and Sonny's barbeque outside of Stone. My arm is still a little sore from the war chant at Saturday's game, but I am sure with practice my right arm will be stronger than my left.

From my first second on campus, I have felt welcomed as a member of the FSU community. I have been pleasantly surprised by the interactions offered with the faculty and other student affairs professionals at FSU through dinner dialogues with professors, guest lecturers in classes, and opportunities for lunches with the VPs. The more time I spend here, the more I feel like I have joined a huge new family. The cohort, who actually understands why I do what I do and are going through the same transitions as myself, have helped to make this place feel a little more like home.

## **Change is good. Amilcah Gomes**

This statement resonates with me as the theme of my academic, professional, and personal experiences so far while in the Higher Ed. program. I believe that the best part of change is the end result of transition. However, enduring the transition necessary for me to walk in such change has not always been easy, even as someone attending the same institution for both undergraduate and graduate study. Just as migrating across the country, finding new friends, and adjusting to a new environment provide their own set of challenges for most in my cohort, having to take on a new set of roles, rights, and responsibilities in my existing environment can be just as challenging.

Although FSU seems to be a brand new world to me, the generous amount of genuine support from both faculty and colleagues helps to make the transition go much more smoothly. Whether it's been professional development, academic resources, or just a warm smile, our Higher Ed. community consistently works to highlight the rewards of change, specifically during my transition period. When I add my motivation and excitement for student affairs to the care and encouragement that I easily can find anywhere in the program, I have a refreshing reminder that change is indeed good.



**Transition from Teacher to Student by Angela Myers**

The move to Tallahassee was one that I knew would be filled with adventure and new beginnings. As it turns out, I was correct. In June I completed my fifth year of teaching in the Virginia Public Schools and then moved to Florida in August to begin my transition to being a student. I decided the best thing for me to do would be to become active at FSU and in the community. Through my assistantship in the SAC, I worked events during Seminole Sensation Week and assisted with Market Wednesdays. Both of these events have helped me to learn more about FSU and the student body. Music is a passion of mine and I have been fortunate to find the Tallahassee Winds, a professional ensemble providing music to the Tallahassee community.

Coming back to graduate school after being in the real world for five years is quite an adjustment; however, the Union staff, the cohort, and the community in general have made the transition very easy for me. Everyone is very supportive and always willing to lend a helping hand. I have had to learn again how to manage my time between work, activities, studying, and taking care of myself. Some days are harder than others, but it is the people and the energy of FSU that keeps me coming back day after day. The next two years as a student, again, will be an adventure and a new beginning.



**Brad Popiolek**

My transition to the program, location and assistantship has been surprisingly smooth thanks to support from my cohort and supervisor. Establishing clear expectations as a graduate assistant within my office in Advising-First has allowed me to value my important role. At times, it is difficult to remind myself that I am in a new professional position

and no longer an undergraduate. The open, honest relationship I have developed with my supervisor has allowed me feel comfortable as a more mature individual on and off campus. The second-year graduate assistant in my office has also shared incredible insight, since she went through the same experience a year ago. The frequent events and constant communication that my cohort provides has really made me feel welcome after moving to an unfamiliar environment. Simply conversing with each other about the mutual obstacles we experience lets me know I'm not the only one with particular feelings. I have really enjoyed spending time with the cohort thus far and I look forward to having lots of fun in the next two years.



## Observations (continued)



**Dustin Rollins**

My transition to Florida State University and to Tallahassee has been more than a simple drive up the street. With my roots at The University of Florida, it has been quite a change of culture in Seminole country. I have truly appreciated the support from colleagues, mentors, supervisors, and faculty with their countless pieces of advice and time well spent over lunch. It is such a unique practical experience and I am finding it unparalleled to any experience I have had thus far. The philosophy at FSU has left a significant impression on me with our core being service to our students. This program and division has very high ethical expectations and this has been a great compliment to the sense of integrity I continue to maintain in a new environment. The curriculum is balanced with great faculty, intellectual scholarship, and theory to practice opportunities. It continues to provide me with an illustrative view of our profession and the principles upon which this field was founded.

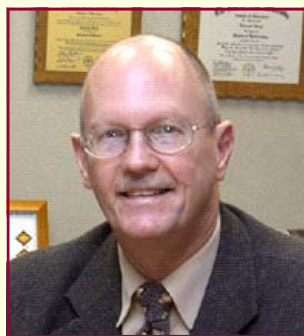
The acceptance of a new campus tradition and culture has been unique because at times I feel a small conflict with my heartfelt connection to UF. However, I am realizing that coming to Tallahassee was not about forgetting or replacing the past; but about adding to that experience and working toward a more fulfilling and well-rounded experience that will give me a new understanding of differing student populations and values as well as unique campus structures. If I have learned nothing else during this transition so far, I have learned the following three things: support from family, friends, colleagues are priceless; personal change and growth is inevitable; and to "Not go where the path may lead, but go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



**A bicoastal experience  
by Karen Serrano**

Moving across the country from California to Florida was not an easy task. It took months of mental and emotional preparation to be ready to leave my family, friends, and home of 23 years to pursue my Master's degree. It has been an exciting and challenging quest that I will be happy to look back on for years to come. The decision to go to Florida State University was easy. I had completed an internship for The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and was looking for an

## Alumni Highlight



**Dr. Terrence Leas, Ph.D., 1982  
President  
Riverland Community College**

Governor Tim Pawlenty appointed Dr. Terrence Leas to a three-year term on the Governor's Workforce Development Council. Leas' term as a representative of education runs from August 14, 2007 to June 30, 2010. The Governor's Workforce Development Council is

Minnesota's State Workforce Investment Board. Guided by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998, and further defined by Minnesota State Statute 116L, 28 of the council's 32 members are governor-appointed. Council members represent business, labor, community-based organizations, education, local elected officials, local workforce councils, state agencies, and the Minnesota Legislature.

The GWDC's charge is to provide vision and strategic direction to the state's workforce development system to ensure that Minnesota's employers have enough workers with the right skills to meet their workforce attraction, development, and retention needs. The GWDC accomplishes this by convening, engaging, and facilitating member and citizen involvement on various arenas of workforce development and serves as a forum to stimulate new partnership and/or approaches in the system. For more information about the GWDC, visit <http://www.gwdc.org/>

### *Karen Serrano (continued)*

institution that would allow me to have experiences in Educational Policy. Not only did they have an assistantship with the Florida Department of Education, but FSU had an excellent, reputable program, dedicated faculty, staff and mentors, and also a fabulous football team!

As the Hardee assistant for the Florida Department of Education, Office of Student Financial Assistance, I receive first hand experience with policy analysis and financial aid programs. My experiences at work are blending with my coursework and I could not be happier about the topics I am learning and discussing in the classroom. Aside from studying, I also make time to enjoy life by attending community and campus events. Adjusting to public transportation, a smaller budget, and living in a new environment are some challenges, but I firmly believe that becoming a Seminole has been and will continue to be a rewarding experience educationally and personally.

# Fall 2007 professional development opportunities

## OCTOBER

### 2007 NACA South Regional Conference

September 27-30, 2007 Charleston, SC

[www.naca.org/NACA/Regions/South/SouthMain.htm](http://www.naca.org/NACA/Regions/South/SouthMain.htm)

### NACAC 63rd National Conference

September 27-29, 2007 Austin, Texas

[www.nacacnet.org/MemberPortal/Events/NatlConference/](http://www.nacacnet.org/MemberPortal/Events/NatlConference/)

### SAPLA 2007 Conference

September 27-29, 2007 Raleigh, NC

[http://www.ncsu.edu/prelaw/sapla\\_conference.html](http://www.ncsu.edu/prelaw/sapla_conference.html)

### Florida NASPA 2007 Conference

October 11-12, 2007 Lakeland, Florida

Theme: *Inventing the Future... from our present*

<http://homes.education.ucf.edu:16080/~rcintron/>

### ACUI Regional Conference

October 12-14, 2007 Atlanta, Georgia

Theme: *"Sharing our Gifts"*

<http://region6.acui.org/Region/06/Regional.htm>

### The 2007 Living Learning Conference

October 15-17, 2007 St. Louis, Missouri

<http://www.acuho-i.org/>

### NACADA 2007 National Conference

October 18-21, 2007 Baltimore, Maryland

Theme: *Advisors to Navigators: From Orientation to Graduation and Beyond*

[www.nacada.ksu.edu/NationalConf/2007/index.htm](http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/NationalConf/2007/index.htm)

### NODA 2007 Annual Conference

October 27-31, 2007 Dallas, Texas

Theme: *Big Dreams and Bright Futures*

<http://nodac2007.tamu.edu>

## SAVE THE DATE ....

### NASPA 2008 Conference

March 8-12, 2008 Boston, MA

Theme: *Chart a Course for Student Success*

[www.naspa.org/conference/index.cfm](http://www.naspa.org/conference/index.cfm)

### ACPA 2008 Conference

March 29 – April 2, 2008 Atlanta, GA

Theme: *Purpose, Inclusion, Expertise*

<http://convention.myacpa.org/>

## Upcoming Programs

...from the Hardee Center

### Supervisors/Mentors Luncheon

Thurs., Sept. 27, 12pm

University Center Club, East Ballroom

### Doctoral Student Seminar

with Dr. Betty L. Siegel

Thursday, Oct. 25, 4pm

College of Medicine, room 131

### 4th Annual Stryker Lecture Series

Speaker: Dr. Betty L. Siegel (Ph.D., 1961)

Thurs., Oct. 25, 5:30pm

College of Medicine Atrium

### Ethics Luncheons

Thurs., Sept. 20, 11:30am-1pm

Thurs., Oct. 18, 11:30am-1pm

Thurs., Nov. 8, 11:30am-1pm

## NOVEMBER

### NAFSA Region VII 2007 Conference

October 27-29, 2007 Atlanta, Georgia

[www.region7.nafsa.org/conference2007.htm](http://www.region7.nafsa.org/conference2007.htm)

### SACSA/NASPA Region III/TACUPSA Joint Student Affairs Conference

November 3-6, 2007 Addison, Texas

Theme: *Civility and Community: Exploring the New Frontier*

<http://www.sacsa.org/>

### FYE 14th National Conference on Students in Transition

November 4-6, 2007 Cincinnati, Ohio

[www.sc.edu/fye/events/sit/index.html](http://www.sc.edu/fye/events/sit/index.html)

### 2007 AFA Annual Meeting

November 28 - Dec. 2, 2007 Cincinnati, Ohio

Theme: *"Our Envisioned Future"*

[www.fraternityadvisors.org/AnnualMeeting.aspx](http://www.fraternityadvisors.org/AnnualMeeting.aspx)



## In the September Issue of the Journal of College & Character ...

VOLUME IX, NO. 1

### JOURNAL MOVES TO NASPA

**NASPA WELCOMES THE JOURNAL OF COLLEGE AND CHARACTER** *Gwendolyn Jordan Dundy, Executive Director, NASPA*  
**REFLECTIONS ON "CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT" AND THE JOURNAL OF COLLEGE AND CHARACTER** *Arthur Schwartz, Executive Vice President, John Templeton Foundation*

### FROM THE EDITORS

**FROM THE EDITORS—BEING AND HAVING: SHOULDN'T EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION (AND PEOPLE) BE A MEASURE OF WHAT ONE DOES RATHER THAN WHAT ONE HAS?** *Jon C. Dalton and Pamela C. Crosby, Co-editors*

### FEATURED ARTICLES

**FOSTERING MORAL REFLECTION AND PERCEPTION IN COLLEGE** *Laurie D. Casteen, Univ. of Virginia; Elizabeth M. Gibson, Virginia Theological Seminary; and Patricia M. Lampkin, Univ. of Virginia*  
**"FEED MY SHEEP": FACULTY SHEPHERDING STUDENT ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT IN COLLEGE** *Dafina Lazarus Stewart, Bowling Green State Univ.*  
**THE CRUCIBLE OF CRISIS: THREE PRESIDENTS CONFRONT THE PERFECT STORM** *Stephen J. Nelson, Bridgewater State College*

### OPINIONS AND PERSPECTIVES

**ON WHAT BASIS DO YOU VOTE? DEVELOPMENTAL PERSPECTIVES FOR A PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY** *Art Chickering, Goddard College*  
**THREE "CENTRAL" QUESTIONS WORTH ASKING** *Larry Braskamp, Loyola University Chicago*  
**THINKING SKILLFULLY AND RESPECTING DIFFERENCE: UNDERSTANDING RELIGIOUS PRIVILEGE ON CAMPUS** *Jane Fried, Central Connecticut State University*  
**AS YOU LEAVE FOR COLLEGE** *Ric Keaster, Western Kentucky University*

### REGULAR FEATURES

**NEW SCHOLARS AND NEW SCHOLARSHIP—ETHICAL IDENTITY AND MORAL-RELATED VARIABLES: SPOTLIGHT ON DARCIA NARVAEZ, TONIA BOCK, AND ANNA GOMBERG** *Column Editor, Debora L. Liddell, University of Iowa*

**WHAT THEY'RE READING—LET YOUR LIFE SPEAK: LISTENING FOR THE VOICE OF VOCATION** *Column Editor, Bill McDonald, Presbyterian College* *Review by Ronald E. Miller, Jr., Presbyterian College*

**WHAT THEY'RE READING—SOUL SEARCHING: THE RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL LIVES OF AMERICAN TEENAGERS** *Column Editor, Bill McDonald, Presbyterian College* *Review by Dave McIntire, Azusa Pacific University*

**ETHICAL ISSUES ON CAMPUS—WHEN INSTITUTIONAL POLICIES CONFLICT WITH PERSONAL VALUES** *Column Editor, David Eberhardt, Florida State University*

# Stryker Lecture Series

Featuring Betty L. Siegel, Ph.D. (1961)



President Emeritus of Kennesaw State University  
and Distinguished Chair in the Siegel Institute  
for Leadership, Ethics, and Character

Thursday, October 25, 2007

5:30 pm

FSU College of Medicine Atrium

For more information about the Hardee Center and this event, visit <http://www.fsu.edu/~elaps/hardee/>. This year's program will be scheduled to coincide with Homecoming Weekend and will serve as the closing event of year-long activities celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Higher Education Program at FSU. In addition, the higher education program will be honoring alumni with awards for Exemplary Careers, Outstanding Leaders and Accomplished Professionals.

As the second president of Kennesaw State University, Dr. Siegel was the University System of Georgia's first woman president and has since become one of the longest-serving woman presidents in the nation. Over a twenty year period, Dr. Betty Siegel led KSU, originally founded as an area junior college, to a regional university with an enrollment of 13,800 students offering 50 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. In a press release announcing her retirement, University System of Georgia Chancellor Thomas C. Meredith stated, "Betty Siegel is an icon among American college presidents," Chancellor Meredith continued, "Her record is truly outstanding. She has led and remained at the helm of Kennesaw State's metamorphosis into a great university."

# **Creating Campus Conversations:**

Finding Common Values Across  
Diverse Campus Cultures

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**January 31 - February 2, 2008**

Florida State University  
Tallahassee, FL

## **Featured Speakers:**

**Robert Nash**, U. of Vermont

*with DeMethra LaSha Bradley*

**James W. Wagner**, Emory University

**Johnetta Cross Brazzell**, U. of Arkansas

**Robert Connor**, The Teagle Foundation



INSTITUTE ON  
COLLEGE  
STUDENT  
VALUES

The 18th annual Institute will feature student affairs professionals, faculty, researchers, and authors who will examine strategies for creating more authentic campus conversations about the many cultural and religious differences that are represented in today's colleges & universities.

**For more information, please visit us on the  
web at [www.studentvalues.fsu.edu](http://www.studentvalues.fsu.edu)**