

# the 411 on Academic Affairs

## First Anniversary of the 411

This marks the one-year anniversary of the 411 on Academic Affairs. Last February, I committed to the Academic Affairs community that we would give you the 411 of what is happening in the division. So much has happened in one year, and I am proud of the many accomplishments by our students and faculty. Given that we have been doing this for a year, I would very much like your feedback and thoughts on the 411. Is this something you find helpful, should we continue it, and what changes would you request? Please send those comments directly to me. As you know, I appreciate any and all feedback, so please don't hesitate to let me know your honest thoughts.

## All-Academic Team Students

Four FSW students were named to the 2017 All-Florida Academic Team. Lindsay Brubaker and Claudie Heriveaux from the Collier Campus and Maria Aguilera and Cierra Homic from the Thomas Edison Campus were each recognized by the Florida College System and the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society for their academic achievement, leadership skills and service to the community. Congratulations to these students on their dedication and achievement!

## Hendry/Glades Center

Progress on our Hendry/Glades Curtis Center Education Hall continues to move quickly. Earlier this month, the landscaping surrounding the building was completed and a patio seating area was added. We are excited for the new opportunities the Education Hall will bring to the Center and our Hendry/Glades students.

## Visiting Writers Series

We always appreciate the great writers and authors that visit our campus to talk with our students and share their experiences and knowledge. This month, thanks to the support of The Literary Society of Fort Myers, author and FGCU professor Lyn Millner spoke of her work on her book "The Allure of Immortality" and the art of creating the setting in a story.

Poet Dan Allbergotti also visited the Thomas Edison Campus to hold a poetry reading and discuss his latest work. Thanks to the Florida Literary Arts Coalition, Dr. Scott Ortolano and FSW Writes for organizing the event.

## Dr. Talbot Spivak Holocaust Memorial Week

The annual Dr. Talbot Spivak Holocaust Memorial Week will take place March 27-31. This year's theme is "Resistance," and the program includes a student poster contest, writing contest and film contest. All entries will be due on March 13. The Holocaust Boxcar on loan from the Holocaust Museum and Education Center of Southwest Florida will also be on the Thomas Edison Campus for tours during the week. Other events include a film screening and many survivor talks. For a full schedule of the week's events, visit <https://www.fsw.edu/holocaust>.

## The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery Exhibition

The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery is currently exhibiting ANN HAMILTON: PHORA, featuring more than 120 unique stills captured by the artist from close-up video taken of the mouths of carved medieval figures at the Museum of National Antiquities in Stockholm. The exhibition will run through March 18.

## Journalism as Activism

We are excited to have Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Leonard Pitts, Jr. on the Thomas Edison Campus as part of a "Journalism as Activism" panel discussion at 2 p.m., on Thursday, March 2, in the Rush Auditorium. The panel will also include local journalists Melanie Payne of *The News-Press* and Chris Cifatte of *WINK News*, who will discuss journalism's impact on society and how it stimulates change. Thanks to Dr. Amy Trogan, English professor, and FSW Writes for organizing this event and to the FSW Foundation for their sponsorship.

## Academic Affairs Accolades

Thanks to Dr. Russell Swanson and the Diversity Alliance for organizing the recent film screening and discussion of *The Anatomy of Hate: A Discussion of Hope*. Two follow-up events are scheduled in April: "Finding Common Ground, The Return to Civil Discourse" will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. on April 5, and "Gender Identity" will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. on April 12.

Thanks to Ihasha Horn, who organized the recent Creative Writing Club event "Poetry, Prose and Rhythm." The event provided a great opportunity for our students to show off their writing and musical talents.

Congratulations to Jade Dellinger, director, Exhibitions and Collections, who was invited to travel the Rauschenberg Gallery's "EMPIRE: An Arturo Vega Retrospective" exhibition to the Howl Happening gallery project in New York City. The project will also produce a book in conjunction with the show that will feature an essay by Jade on Arturo Vega's work.

Congratulations to Dr. Scott Ortolano, English professor, who will serve as the keynote speaker for the FGCU Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta's International English Honor Society conference in March with his presentation "Taking Heart: Longing, Narrativity, and Video Game Modernism."

Congratulations to Elizabeth Whitmer, Health Information Technology professor, who recently created and launched her own phone app, Root Operation App Rescue (ROAR). ROAR allows students and those in the HIT field to look up the thousands of healthcare codes insurers need to properly document medical records more quickly and efficiently than searching through paper books.

I wish you all an enjoyable and relaxing Spring Break!

As always, please feel free to email any questions or comments at [jeff.stewart@fsw.edu](mailto:jeff.stewart@fsw.edu).