



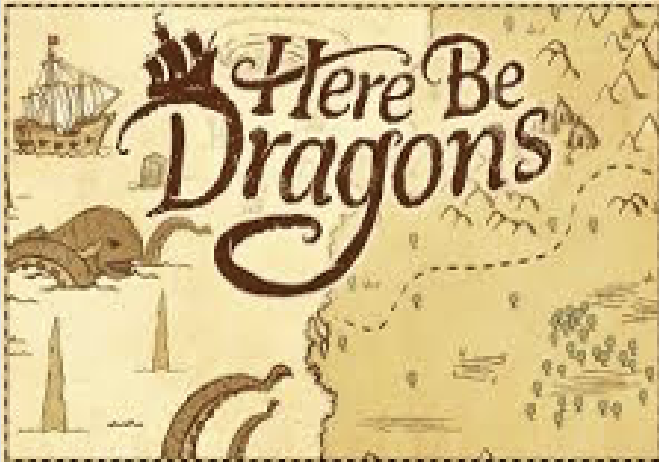
# Connect Collaborate Innovate

A Newsletter From The Provost's Office



Dr. Michele Yovanovich,  
Vice Provost, Student Affairs

## Bring It On, Dragons!



It is believed that in medieval times, when cartographers created their maps, they marked the uncharted edges with this stern warning, "Here be dragons."

The dragons or sea monsters signified unexplored territories and the inevitable danger of the unknown. Frightening demonic figures of swimming or flying dragons and monsters were placed on maps in places that no one had ever been, to warn

others not to go beyond what was already known.

At the time of this writing, we hit the anniversary of the first of COVID-19 diagnosis in the US. As we heartily celebrated the coming of 2020 over a year ago, we would never have believed so much UNKNOWN would be "out there." Perhaps looking back, 2020 calendars should have been marked with a daunting dragon figure warning us with: *Here be dragons.*

Despite the challenges we face today, Inaugural Youth Poet Laureate, Amanda Gorman encourages us to persevere.

In *The Hill We Climb*, she observes,

*“When day comes we ask ourselves,  
where can we find light in this never-ending  
shade?”*

*The loss we carry. A sea we must wade.*

*We braved the belly of the beast...”*

Thank you, amazing Amanda, for reminding us that brilliance is hope and it is also, truth.

So, for the “beasts slain” and for the ones we must continue to fight, we close the door on 2020 knowing that we are much braver than we ever thought we could be. Bring it on, dragons.



# Athletics Are In Play!



Dr. Campbell and FSW student leaders enjoy the first games of the season as they greet students in the Suncoast Arena.

After a highly anticipated wait, the Bucs kicked off their 2021 Athletic seasons this week. The Men's and Women's Basketball teams both opened their seasons in Suncoast Arena Wednesday night with victories over Hillsborough. The Baseball and Volleyball teams kick off their seasons with home tournaments this week at the Arena and at City of Palms Park. The Bucs Softball team, was recently ranked the #1 team in the country, will get their season going next Saturday in Clearwater.



ALL 5 FSW teams are ranked in the top 5 of the FCSAA Coaches poll. Go Bucs!

# Inspired!

*Throughout the move-in process for Spring semester we found more students than usual who felt the economic impact of the pandemic. Professionals in Light House Commons and Financial Aid worked together to support many students who would never have been able to return for Spring semester if it were not for the assistance and support.*

Justin Long, Director, Housing

*A former Charlotte student who had been in SGA and graduated nearly twenty years ago, called me recently. She had reentered the workforce as a special education teacher in Georgia and is applying for graduate school. Even 20 years later, it is good to be reminded that our students are lifelong learners and we are lifelong educators.*

Dr. Tom Rath, Charlotte Campus Director

*"Right the Ship" Mentor Program has been launched! All HG students placed on academic warning/probation/suspension will be paired with a staff or faculty mentor to have weekly interactions and increased support and resource direction.*

Amanda Lehrian, Hendry/Glades Campus Director

## Students Find Their Way Through Orientation



Student Affairs helps students feel welcome and to integrate into the campus community. In the coming months, a new guided experience will be available through Canvas. Created by a talented group of professionals from every aspect of the College, this course describes enrollment processes and support services to new students.

Pictured here is an introductory slide which

provides direction to students through the enrollment and engagement paths at FSW. Students are able to go back and work through the modules as many times as they need.

**Formal launch of the new virtual Orientation will be for incoming Summer and Fall students.**



## Please follow our Instagram social media!

- FSW Student Engagement: ..... **fswstudents**
- FSW Campus Recreation: ..... **fswcampusrec**
- FSW Athletics: ..... **fswbucs**
- BUCS C.A.R.E: ..... **fswbucscore**

Great opportunities for extra credit and activities that enhance student retention:

<https://www.fsw.edu/studentengagement>



*It takes a lot of energy to "slay the dragons" (known and unknown) that we face in today's world. Please take care of yourselves and each other. I don't think it's a sign of weakness to ask for help and believe that most people would agree.*

*FSW has free counseling for staff and faculty through the EAP program. Counseling is available for free to any FSW student.*

*I look forward to our continued partnership for student success.*

Reach out via email: [Michele.Yovanovich@fsw.edu](mailto:Michele.Yovanovich@fsw.edu) Taeni Hall S-207 (239) 489-9099

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