

# Patriot Digest

*The Francis Marion University Faculty and Staff Newsletter*

Jan. 13, 2006

## FMU receives \$10 million grant for arts center

Francis Marion University received a \$10 million grant today (Jan. 13) from Drs. Bruce & Lee Foundation to build a performing arts center in downtown Florence.

The grant is part of a multi-partnership agreement that will help transform downtown Florence into the cultural and economic center of the entire Pee Dee region.

The public-private collaboration involves a \$20 million investment in downtown Florence by Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation to build, on separate sites, a performing arts center and a new Florence Little Theatre. This is the largest grant in the history of the foundation.

The project includes land exchanges involving the City of Florence, Florence County, McLeod Health, Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation and Francis Marion University.

In a news conference held at the library, Dr. Frank B. Lee Sr., chairman of Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation, announced two \$10 million grant awards to build two separate facilities along the Dargan Street corridor of downtown Florence.

The first \$10 million grant will go to FMU, which will partner with the City of Florence to build the Francis Marion University Center for the Performing Arts. This facility, estimated to cost around \$17 million, will be located on 3.93 acres of land at the corner of Dargan and West Palmetto streets.

The second \$10 million grant will be awarded to the Florence Little Theatre for construction of a new 35,000-square-foot facility on Dargan Street between Pine and Elm streets immediately north of the Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation Library.

"Through a series of complex agreements that reflect a genuine interest in the community on the part of all the involved parties, Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation Board of Trustees has decided to open another chapter in its efforts to revitalize the downtown area by funding these two important cultural facilities," said Dr. Lee.

"We are delighted to be involved in this partnership which we believe will bring more life to downtown Florence and

jumpstart the economic development of the center city and provide a cosmopolitan environment for this area."

Dr. Lee recognized the efforts of the Foundation's grants committee, which is chaired by Haigh Porter, as well as the participation of the entire board in developing the project.

FMU president Fred Carter said, "FMU is proud to partner with Drs. Bruce and Lee Foundation and the City of Florence to expand cultural opportunities for the region. This is a compelling example of the role that cultural enrichment plays in boosting educational excellence within the community."

Carter said the university's fine arts program will use the center for performances, programs and exhibits. He also emphasized that the facility will include instructional space.

The \$6 million balance will still need to be raised to fund construction of the performing arts center. These dollars are expected to come from a variety of sources, including community fund-raising.

Both the land, currently owned by the city, and the performing arts center building will be deeded to FMU, which will act as fiduciary agent for construction and operation of the center and employ the center's director. FMU and the City of Florence will share operational and maintenance costs.

A five-member governing board, three appointed by the university's president and two by the city's mayor, will set policy for operating the facility. The performing arts center is projected to include a 1,200 to 1,300-seat theater and a 300-seat auditorium, office space for arts organizations, instructional classrooms and art exhibit space.

It is anticipated that architects will be selected by late spring 2006 and a contractor chosen by early 2007. The completion date is projected for late summer 2008.

The agreement between the university and the city is subject to approval by the respective bodies.

Carter also added that the \$10 million

donation catapults the university's five-year capital campaign well beyond the \$30-million mark and well past its original \$12 million goal.

Florence Mayor Frank Willis said that today's announcement is a huge boost to the city's plans to revitalize the downtown area and afford the city unmatched cultural venues.

"Performing arts centers serve as anchors to economic development," said Willis. "The performing arts center and the Florence Little Theatre will draw people from the community and beyond into downtown Florence for a range of cultural and entertainment activities. Both these facilities are crucial parts of the infrastructure that a city needs to attract both people and investment."

The mayor said these facilities will impact restaurants, retail spaces, parking and workforce—all of which will generate significant revenue for the local community.

"The performing arts center will serve as a regional facility for all the arts and cultural organizations in the Pee Dee area, thereby expanding the opportunities for all our residents," said State Sen. Hugh Leatherman, who obtained \$1 million in downtown redevelopment funds which will go toward construction costs of the performing arts center.

"McLeod Regional Medical Center is proud to remain committed to the downtown community. The vitality and value of downtown has always been important to us, and we are pleased to continue this tradition through our contribution of the two parcels of land which will help make these two projects possible," stated Rob Colones, president and chief executive officer of McLeod Health.

"Both these new facilities will make Florence the cultural hub of northeast South Carolina," said K.G. (Rusty) Smith, chairman of Florence County Council. "Through theater performances, symphony concerts, ballet and other dance, art exhibits, and various types of musical events, the Florence area will be enriched with an array of cultural opportunities."

## Faculty/Staff News

**Rachel Ray Hamaie** of Effingham has joined the FMU staff as executive assistant to the president.

A native of Atlanta, she earned the B.F.A. degree from the University of Georgia and the M.F.A. degree from Washington University.

**Janis McWayne**, assistant professor of health education, presented a poster on Dec. 12, titled "Students Walk This Way to Better Health."

The poster was authored by McWayne, **Peter King**, associate professor of biology, and **Diane Santiago**, formerly of the MUSC nursing program at FMU. The poster was presented at the 133rd and American Public

Health Association Conference in Philadelphia.

McWayne also presented at the S.C. Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance meeting in Myrtle Beach, Nov. 11. The poster was titled "Healthier U" and it described the community health promotion program sponsored by McLeod Health in 2005. **Ron Faulkenberry**, dean of education, presided at the session.

**Angie Payton**, publications editor, and **Doug Gray**, associate professor of art, have adopted a daughter, Kiran Addison Gray.

They, with their son Bek, are cur-

rently in Nepal, obtaining Kiran's visa to the U.S. Kiran turned 2 on Nov. 27. The family plans to return home in mid-January.

**Sabrina L. Fields** of Darlington has joined the FMU staff as a police officer.

**Argentini Anderson** of Florence has joined the FMU staff as assistant director of the Donald E. Kelley Small Business Institute.

**Brenda M. Hill** of Florence has joined the FMU staff as administrative assistant for the Center of Excellence.

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## FMU awarded \$27,000 from Project CREATE grant

The Francis Marion University School of Education has been awarded nearly \$27,000 in additional funds from the Project CREATE grant.

Project CREATE (Centers for the Re-Education and Advancement of TEachers in Special Education) is a statewide initiative to provide, at no cost to participants, coursework and textbooks for out-of-field permit special-education teachers and other special-education teachers in the state who need to complete full certification by July 1, 2006.

Project CREATE is a Personnel Preparation Project funded by the South Carolina Office of Exceptional Children.

These additional funds will allow FMU to provide 24 course waivers for the spring term, in addition to the contract course (Educational Methods for Mental Disabilities) for up to 25 teachers. This coursework will assist South Carolina's special education teachers in the completion of state certification requirements.

FMU is one of five designated CREATE centers. The others are Clemson University, the University of South Carolina, USC Upstate, and Winthrop University.

Teachers interested in taking courses must apply to FMU's graduate program by contacting Shirley Carr Bausmith, Project CREATE center director, at 843-661-1487 or [Sbausmith@fmarion.edu](mailto:Sbausmith@fmarion.edu).

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## Florence artist Jeanne Barnes to display NASCAR paintings

NASCAR paintings by Florence native Jeanne Barnes will be on display as part of Francis Marion University's Art Gallery Series through March 9.

The exhibit is open to the public, free of charge, and may be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the Smith University Center gallery.

Barnes began painting at the age of 12. Twelve miles from the famed Darlington Raceway, she also grew up hearing the sound of the engines at top speed.

The circus-like atmosphere, the crowds, the excitement – these all

stayed in her subconscious.

For 14 years, twice a year, she was in the thick of racing, working in the Press Credential Office at Darlington Raceway.

Everyone in the racing community passed through the doors of this office, introducing her to her new clients and a new world. Thus began her art career combined with NASCAR racing.

Barnes' love for the human form in portraiture flowed into racing. Portraits of NASCAR drivers and their families, car owners, and corporate heads were a natural progression.

Also, photographs by Toshi

Ueshina will be on display as part of the Art Gallery Series through Feb. 16.

The exhibit is open to the public, free of charge, and may be viewed between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the Hyman Fine Arts Center gallery.

"Enghi is a term in Zen meaning that reality is the result of various causes and conditions gathering together ..." said Ueshina.

"I would like to comprehend Enghi as a way of observing abstract relationships as a complex whole through the process of sequencing images."



## Rogers Library experiences busiest year on record

As of Dec. 1, the Rogers Library's collection of print volumes and microform volume equivalents reached a total of 392,187 items. Currently, the library subscribes to 1,538 print periodicals and more than 10,000 e-journals. During calendar year 2005, the library recorded 177,547 customer visits, the busiest year on record and a 17.4 percent increase over 2004.

### Dove serves as consultant

Library dean Paul Dove recently served as an accreditation consultant to South Texas College in McAllen,

Texas, and its five-campus library system. South Texas College serves more than 17,000 students in Texas's southern tip.

### Library prepares for SACS

Rogers Library has initiated an internal study to address the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools "Principles of Accreditation" in anticipation of the university's upcoming SACS reaffirmation process.

At least three segments of the SACS Principles look at library resources and services, and Rogers

Library staff plan to access each of these areas to better ensure compliance prior to the 2008 SACS site visit. Staff have been asked to serve on five different teams, which will evaluate compliance with SACS principles and philosophy of accreditation, core requirements, comprehensive standards, and federal requirements.

Also, one team will compile findings and compose the outcomes report. The fifth team will edit the report and prepare it for submission to the university. The teams' goal is for a summer 2006 study completion and release.

## Lewis E. Beasley Americanism Scholarship deadline is Jan. 31

The Lewis E. Beasley Americanism Scholarship is awarded to the student who submits the most effective paper arguing for (1) the form of government established by the U.S. Constitution, and (2) the American private enterprise system. Competition for this scholarship is limited to undergraduate students enrolled at Francis Marion University. The winner of the Lewis E. Beasley Americanism Scholarship, valued at \$500, will be announced at Academic Awards Day in the spring semester.

Papers will be judged on strength of argument, presentation, and style. Throughout the paper the principles of

effective writing will be observed. Manuscripts must be typewritten, double-spaced, with standard margins and a commonly accepted font.

Each manuscript must be no less than eight and no more than 12 pages long, exclusive of the title page. Where appropriate, the paper should be documented. The selection committee will read each paper without knowledge of its author.

To be considered for this competition, papers must be received in the Office of the Provost by 5 p.m. on Jan. 31.

The selection committee encourages all interested students to enter this scholarship competition.

## Darius Rucker to perform benefit concert at FMU, Feb. 4

Francis Marion University will play host to a benefit concert by Grammy award-winning musical artist Darius Rucker, Saturday, Feb. 4.

Rucker, lead singer of Hootie and the Blowfish, will perform a Big Band concert featuring the music of Frank Sinatra. Tickets are \$100 for the show, and \$250 for VIP tickets which include gold circle seating, and pre- and post-concert receptions. The presenting sponsors for the event are BB&T and the SIM Group.

For VIP ticket holders, the evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a reception featuring hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at the Wallace House on the FMU campus, followed by the concert at 8 p.m. in the McNair Science Building auditorium. Immediately following the per-

formance, a coffee and dessert reception will be held at the Cottage, with piano music by Ralph Fazio.

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Charles P. Darby Children's Research Institute. The institute opened in February 2005 and is the largest children's research facility in the Carolinas, and one of only 15 children's research centers in the United States. The institute houses 150 state-of-the-art laboratory modules where researchers focus on the causes and cures for ailments that affect children, including: congenital heart disorders, multiple sclerosis, AIDS, mental retardation and learning disabilities, pneumonia, and diabetes.

Born and raised in Charleston, Rucker aspired to be a musician all his

life. While attending the University of South Carolina, he met Mark Bryan, Dean Felber, and Jim Sonefeld, soon to become Hootie and the Blowfish. The band has sold more than 25 million records, and has earned several awards, including two Grammys. Rucker released his critically acclaimed solo album, "Back to Then," in 2002.

Through its Monday After the Masters Celebrity Pro-Am Golf Tournament, the band has donated more than \$2 million to various South Carolina charitable organizations.

VIP tickets are available only by calling Joan Billheimer at BB&T at 843-413-4233, while the \$100 tickets are available exclusively through [www.etix.com](http://www.etix.com).



## Human Resources Update

### Credit union offers members scholarships

Pee Dee Federal Credit Union and the Carolinas Credit Union Foundation are offering a scholarship for credit union members for the 2006-2007 school year.

The scholarships are based on academic and financial needs. Qualifications include a minimum grade-point average of 3.5, writing ability, and school and community activities.

To be eligible for consideration for a scholarship, an applicant must be a member of a North or South Carolina credit union and be enrolled or accept-

ed as a full-time student in an accredited college or university.

Anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in Florence County is eligible for membership at Pee Dee Federal Credit Union. Applications can be obtained from Pee Dee Federal Credit Union at 305 W. Pine St. or 3320 W. Palmetto St., and through the schools' financial assistance office.

The deadline for applications is Feb. 24, and recipients will be announced in May. For details, call 843-669-0461.

### Stop smoking program available for state employees

Quitting smoking is the ultimate New Year's Resolution. For members of the State Health Plan, an unprecedented opportunity to fulfill the vow to stop using tobacco for good began on Jan. 1.

An estimated 66,000 South Carolina public sector employees who use tobacco are able to join the new Quit For Life™ Program by calling toll-free 1-866-QUIT-4-LIFE (1-866-784-8454).

The Free & Clear® Quit For Life™ Program, is a research-based program that has been very successful in helping people to quit tobacco. A Free & Clear Quit Coach works with each participant to create a personalized quit plan. Free nicotine replacement products, such as patches, gum or lozenges, are available through Free & Clear.

More information about Free & Clear can be found at [www.freeclear.com](http://www.freeclear.com).

## Coming Up On Campus

### JAN.

through Feb. 16 Art Gallery Series: "Enghi Journey: Photographs by Toshi Ueshina," HFAC gallery

through March 9 Art Gallery Series: Paintings by Jeanne Barnes, UC gallery

16 University closed for Martin Luther King Jr. holiday

17-April 6 Art Gallery Series: "Skin Deep - A National Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Ceramic Art," HFAC gallery

31 8 pm Concert: Barbara and Gerhardt Suhrstedt, piano duetists, Kassab Hall, HFAC

### FEB.

3 11:30am FMU Board of Trustees meeting, Stokes Board Room

7 8 pm Artist Series Concert: Ciompi Quartet with Benjamin Woods, Burns Memorial Recital, Kassab Hall, HFAC

11 8 pm "Return to the Forbidden Planet," a sci-fi musical based on *The Tempest*, by Shenandoah Shakespeare

## Jobs On-Campus

(as of 1-10-06)

- Assistant Professor of Political Science
- Assistant/Associate Professor of History (Europe, 19th Century)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Accounting
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Management (2)
- Assistant Professor of Physics
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Elementary Education)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Educational Technology and Assessment)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Education (Middle School/Secondary Education)
- Assistant Professor of Psychology in the area of Cognitive Psychology
- Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Psychology (Clinical or Counseling Psychologist)
- Assistant Professor of Psychology in Experimental Psychology (Biological)
- Assistant Professor of Spanish
- Assistant Professor of English (3)
- Assistant Professor of Philosophy
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Nursing (2)
- Assistant Professor of Biology
- Assistant Professor of Mathematics (2)
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Mass Communication
- Assistant Professor of Fine Arts (Graphic Design/Foundation)
- Police Officer
- Assistant Professor of Computer Science
- Assistant/Associate Professor of Economics
- Administrative Assistant – Center of Excellence (Temporary Grant Position)
- Director of Annual Giving and Constituent Relations
- Student Services Counselor – Nursing
- Financial Assistance Counselor
- Women's Volleyball Coach

Visit Human Resources, SAB 105, or call 1140.

## Patriot Digest deadlines

*Patriot Digest* is published twice monthly and distributed on paydays. The printing schedule is:

Copy due	Publication
Jan. 24	Jan. 31

Submit articles via e-mail at [thudak@fmarion.edu](mailto:thudak@fmarion.edu). Questions or comments? Contact Todd J. Hudak at 1227.

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