

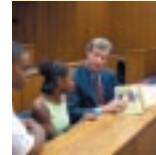
Leading By Example

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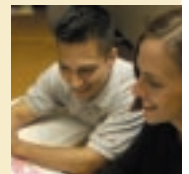


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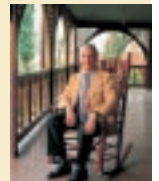
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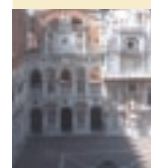
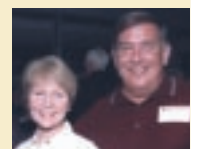


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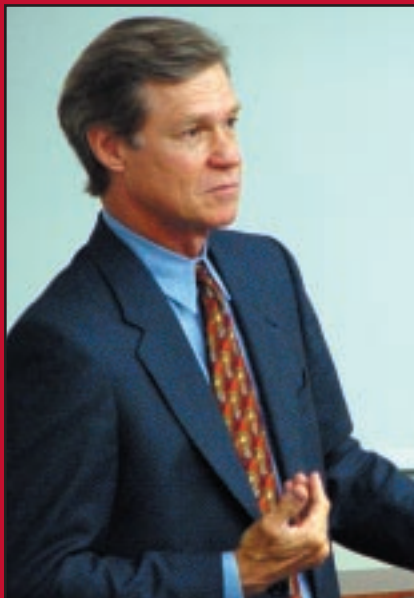
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Jacksonville attorney and FSU alum
Wayne Hogan, B.S. '69, J.D. '72.



Hogan spends time each year with the students in the summer undergraduates program and with the moot court team.

The gift creates 30 more slots in

With its popularity soaring among undergraduates eager to see if they have what it takes to make it in law school, the

College of Law's Summer for Undergraduates Program recently received a gift large enough to double its enrollment. In July of this year, FSU alumnus Wayne Hogan and his wife Pat made a \$1 million gift to the law school to permanently double the size of the 12-year-old program to accommodate 60 students a year. The gift is eligible for \$750,000 in matching funds from the state.

"I am thoroughly impressed with the impact this program is having on the students' lives," Wayne Hogan said. Hogan, a 1972 graduate of the law school, is a partner in the Jacksonville law firm Brown, Terrell, Hogan, Ellis, McClamma & Yegewel.

SECOND GIFT

So impressed were the Hogans with the Summer for Undergraduates Program, that this is their second gift to the program. In 2000, as part of a \$2 million gift to the university (that received another \$2 million in state matching funds), the Hogans designated that half of the gift go to the law school to endow the Summer for Undergraduates Program.

The summer program offers freshmen and sophomores the complete law school

experience. These students come to the law school from two and four-year institutions throughout the country. The four-week program includes room and board, books, materials and a stipend. Moreover, it also pays the salaries of the law school professors who put this diverse group through the rigors of what it will take to succeed as law students.

The immersion experience creates lasting impressions and connections for participants.

"The professors let you know that what you do as undergrad has implications for how you'll perform in law school," said third year FSU law student Shenika Harris, who completed the program in 1998 as a sophomore at Florida A&M. "If you've relied on bad habits to get you through undergraduate classes, they'll see them and help you correct them."

One of the most important lessons to be learned according to Harris is that brevity is the soul of a legal writ. "You learn to write as concisely as possible. No more unnecessary padding," she said.

Harris, vice president of FSU's national champion moot court team, says the month she spent immersed in legal education made her a better undergraduate student and certainly a better law student.

"The program changed the way I approached all my classes," Harris said. "You understood that from the beginning what was expected was different

from all your other classes. We had some of the toughest professors at the law school. You had to be able to discuss the readings beyond a surface interpretation.



The summer program stresses critical thinking, research and writing.

You had to go deeper and get into the philosophy behind it."

The idea behind the program, explains Dean Don Weidner, is "to train undergrad students to use their college years more effectively to prepare for law school – particularly students from groups historically underrepresented in the legal profession."

Statistically speaking, most undergraduates don't begin to think seriously about law school until their senior year, said Dean Weidner. As a result, the law school's program is geared toward freshmen and sophomores.

"We like to bring them in early," Weidner said, "Show them the rigors and joys of pursuing a literary profession that requires critical thinking. We expose them to role models who demonstrate

Hogans Donate \$1 Million for Summer Undergraduates Program

“These students don’t receive college credit for their efforts. They really sacrifice to come to a program that they find valuable.”

Dean Weidner

Summer for Undergraduates ‘graduate’ and 3rd year student Shenika Harris during this year’s moot court preparation.



the popular law school prep course

the highest levels of competence and professionalism.”

SUCCESS SHOWS

The program works, and many of the more than 300 participants have matriculated at law school either at FSU or elsewhere, said Nancy Benavides, assistant dean for student affairs and program director.

One of the program’s great successes, she explained, is the number of participants who return to their campuses as self-appointed recruiters. By coordinating and focusing their enthusiasm and incorporating it into a larger marketing campaign, Benavides and Dean Weidner have been able to increase the number of applicants five-fold over the past two years.

“These students don’t receive college credit for their efforts,” Weidner said. “They really sacrifice to come to a program that they find valuable.”

As for the Hogans’ gift, which allows the program to expand to meet the growing demand, Weidner said, “I am extremely proud of Wayne and Pat. Recognition is not important to them. Making a difference is, and we’re honored that we’ve made enough of a difference that they would permanently double the size of the program.”

Moreover, the gift and the program allow the law school to send a broader message. “We have a vision for a diverse

profession and a just society for people of all complexions and backgrounds,” Weidner said.

For Harris, the Hogans’ generosity meant the opportunity to see that she really did have what it takes to compete at one of the nation’s best law schools.

“You don’t leave the program ready for law school,” she said. “You leave the program knowing how to prepare for law school. You leave knowing you can do it.”

The Hogans’ gift to the law school comes as part of the university’s overall effort to raise \$600 million during the FSU CONNECT capital campaign by

Dec. 31, 2005. To date the campaign has raised more than \$406 million to support scholarships, endow professorships and fund research.

As her third year of law school begins, Harris is anxiously awaiting to practice law so she can continue an important legacy.

“Wayne’s what an alum should be,” she said. “I think about how much he gives back and the profound effect it had on me and many others. I feel I have a personal responsibility now to give back. I owe this program something. I owe this law school something. I owe him something.” ◆



More than 300 of the programs participants have gone on to law school either at FSU or elsewhere.

Scholarship Endowed for Returning Students at Med School

Bequest means many mid-career professionals will now be able to jump tracks and attend medical school.

When James Fling passed away recently he left more than \$440,000 to the FSU College of Medicine to fund scholarships for students wanting to return to med school, specifically those from allied health fields.

These scholarships will help the faculty and staff at FSU's innovative medical school attract students who are



PHOTO: NANCY KINNALLY

Med School Dean Ocie Harris, M.D.

more likely to become primary care physicians willing to work in underserved areas.

"Returning students bring with them a wide range of professional and life experiences, helping to enrich the learning environment for classmates coming straight out of college," said College of Medicine Dean Ocie Harris, M.D. "Research shows that they are more likely to choose primary care, which is in keeping with the medical school's mission."

'PRODUCTIVE DIMENSION'

According to Prof. Helen Livingston, assistant dean for student affairs and admissions at the med school, 28.6

percent of the college's students are over the age of 24 and have entered the college after having pursued another career.

"These students are of particular interest to the admissions committee," Livingston said. "The level of maturity of these students adds a productive dimension to the diversity of the medical school class."

The first new medical school to be built since the dawn of the Information Age, the FSU College of Medicine is different than traditional medical schools built on the teaching-hospital model. The mission of the community-based FSU medical school is to educate and develop exemplary physicians who practice patient-centered health care, discover and advance knowledge and

respond to community needs, especially through service to elder, rural and other medically underserved populations.

"FSU is training physicians in such a way that they will become lifelong learners equipped to teach themselves what they need to know in an era of tremendous innovation in knowledge management and information technology," Dean Harris said.

Dean Harris said the average U.S. medical student will graduate roughly \$100,000 in debt, which means the deck



PHOTO: NANCY KINNALLY

Returning students Jason Rocha and Julie Gladden, class of 2005, came to FSU from careers in healthcare. Rocha was a surgical tech and Gladden is a licensed physical therapist.

is generally stacked against choosing to practice in less lucrative primary care practices in rural Florida. "Scholarships, like the Fling gift, will help reduce the students' debt and make it easier for them to enter primary care," he said. "We are deeply grateful that the late James H. Fling and his family chose to endow this scholarship fund." ◆

Literature Professor Creates Endowment For Graduate Fellowships

The donors, who co-named their gift for an inspirational professor, want to give others the opportunity to pursue the dreams and promise of teaching literature

When a young Herman Melville was casting about for inspiration for his next sea adventure novel, he turned to his mentor and friend Nathaniel Hawthorne for guidance. Hawthorne compelled Melville to dig deeper into his characters' motivations and psyche to form a more complete story. What ensued changed what was sure to be another quick summer read into one of the greatest American novels of all time: *Moby-Dick*.

This kind of give-and-take between author and mentor is the lifeblood of many a great work of literature. It's the same exchange that fuels the strong intellectual bonds between many a graduate student and major professor, too. Maryhelen and Hugh Harmon, both possessing advanced degrees, understand how important it is to nurture intellectual development.

"I knew Maryhelen had the intellectual firepower and teaching ability to earn her doctorate and to move up the professorial ladder into a tenured faculty position," Bickley said. "So, I encouraged her to 'shove off from the lee shore' and come back to graduate school."

Bruce Bickley

So, Hugh, a highly respected Tampa dentist, accomplished boat builder and orchid gardener, and his wife Maryhelen, distinguished literature professor at the University of South Florida and noted authority on Hawthorne and Melville, established at FSU the Harmon-Bickley Endowment

for Doctoral Fellowships in English.

The eponymous Bickley is none other than FSU's own Prof. Bruce Bickley. Bickley, one of the world's foremost authorities on Joel Chandler Harris' writings and on Melville's short fiction, met Maryhelen and Hugh during the mid 1970s when he and Maryhelen were attending the same literature conference. Maryhelen was then a literature instructor at USF.

"I was immediately impressed by Maryhelen's energy, personal warmth, love of literature, and enthusiasm for teaching," Bickley recalled.

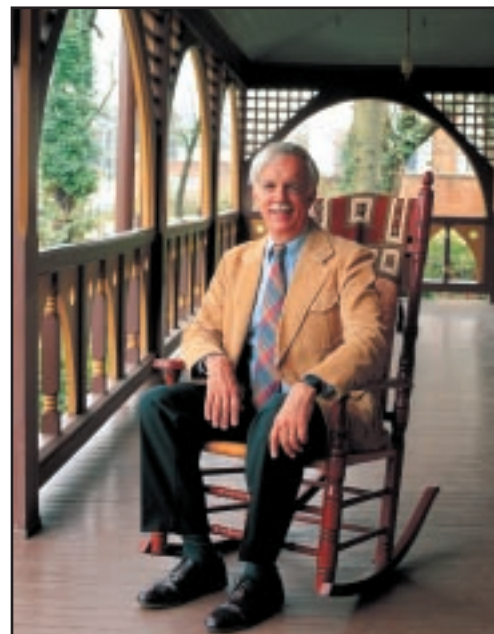
Knowing the Harmons were lifelong learners, Bickley set about to convince Maryhelen to pursue her doctorate at FSU.

"I knew Maryhelen had the intellectual firepower and teaching ability to earn her doctorate and to move up the professorial ladder into a tenured faculty position," Bickley said. "So, I encouraged her to 'shove off from the lee shore' and come back to graduate school," he added alluding to Melville's famed narrator, Ishmael.

Harmon, already a Hawthorne enthusiast, enrolled at FSU and asked Bickley to serve as her major professor.

"I also encouraged her to read widely in Herman Melville's writings," Bickley said. "She was clearly a 'water gazer' and had a lot of Ishmaelian intellectual curiosity in her blood. Thus she was a natural Melvillean."

She defended her dissertation on Hawthorne in 1981 and returned to USF to teach 19th Century American and British Literature. Since then her journey has included publishing book chapters and articles, making presentations and receiving honors for her scholarship on Hawthorne, Melville and the English Romantics. She has won many teaching awards at USF and even



Bruce Bickley, shown here at the Riley house, is a world renowned authority on the writings of Joel Chandler Harris

delivered USF's commencement, an honor reserved for the faculty member receiving the university's highest teaching award, which she also won.

"Maryhelen Harmon and her husband Hugh truly honor Florida State University and our Department of English by sharing the fruits of their professional success and their love of learning by endowing these prestigious graduate fellowships," Bickley said.

Demurring, Maryhelen Harmon said simply, "Both Hugh and I have been most fortunate in our lives and believe that there is no better way for us to express our appreciation than to help others as we were helped." ♦



The Harmons are shown here enjoying an FSU football game

Dean's Vision, Dedication Place Law School on Map

Aggressively raising private dollars has boosted the FSU College of Law's reputation to match its academic successes

Since retaking the helm of the Florida State University College of Law in 1998, Dean Don Weidner's goal has been clear: Make the college's reputation match the college's reality.

"In every major quantitative indicator of performance, FSU's College of Law ranks among the nation's best," Weidner says. "Our faculty produce more scholarly writings in major journals and have more contact hours with students.



Under Dean Weidner's leadership, alumni participation in the law school's annual fund has almost doubled since 1999.

Our students score higher on the LSAT, the Florida Bar Exam and at many of the major law school competitions, such as moot court."

Last year, FSU's law school ranked among the nation's 14 most improved faculties in the country. "Ranked with us in the top 14 were University of California-Berkeley, the University of Pennsylvania and NYU," Weidner said.

"If you take all the law schools in the country, our faculty is the 31st most

productive in terms of scholarly output.

We're 12th if you just look at state universities," Weidner said.

Even the national news magazines have begun to catch word of the law school's success. (*U.S. News & World Report*) recently ranked FSU's environmental law program in the nation's top 20.

A SIMPLE PLAN

Dean Weidner's plan has been simple and direct: Recruit the best professors and best students, give them the tools to succeed and success is sure to follow.

The hardest part of the Dean's plan and where he's had the most success, says Mark Pankey, assistant dean for development at the law school, is in raising the private dollars necessary to recruit and retain the talent.

Since the FSU CONNECT Campaign began in October of 2001, the College of Law has raised \$8.3 million toward its \$17 million goal. Overall, the capital campaign for Florida State University will raise \$600 million to support students, faculty and academic programs.

"This past year has been a great year for the College of Law," states Pankey. The great year, he adds, happened because "people are really beginning to hear and respond to the Dean's message that this is a great law school, but with the help of



Phil and Rita both shown sitting, endowed a scholarship in Rita's parents' names for the descendants of Holocaust survivors.

others, we can make it even better."

For all of the law school's success, Weidner said none of it would have occurred without outside funding.

"Private giving has made all the difference in the world," he said. "Endowing professorships has enabled us to attract top new faculty to the law school and allowed us to reward our most productive existing faculty. The two together have transformed the culture of scholarly production at the law school."

As proud as the Dean is of the faculty's scholarly reputation, he's even more proud of how they have guided the law school's fund raising efforts. "The faculty said that scholarships should be the law school's number one fundraising priority," he said. "I am extremely proud of their commitment to the students."

RESPONDING TO THE CALL

Many law school alumni and friends have responded to the call as well. During the past year, the College of Law, through private donations, has funded scholarships for Holocaust descendants, groups historically underrepresented in the legal profession, and students committed to public service and leadership development. Private donations also provided additional funding for the Richard W. Ervin Eminent Scholar Chair and the creation of professorships in environmental and property law. Here are some samples of

“No matter how smart you are, you got here because someone along the way helped you. Remember that when you make it.” Phil Blank

the many gifts that friends and alumni are donating to make the College of Law better and stronger.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- **The Carlos R. Diez-Arguelles Endowed Scholarship.** When Carlos R. Diez-Arguelles graduated in 1985 he knew he wanted to help less advantaged children and groups historically underrepresented in the legal profession get into law school. Since he was one of those children who needed, and got, a chance, Diez-Arguelles thought the best way he could offer a “hand up” to someone was to endow a \$100,000 scholarship at his alma mater.

- **The David and Cela Miller Scholarship** was created by a \$25,000 donation from Phil and Rita Blank. This funding provides scholarships for current FSU law students who are the descendants of Holocaust survivors. The scholarship is named in honor of Rita’s parents who were Holocaust survivors. “It was very important to my wife and me that her parents be honored and remembered in this way,” Blank said.

The Blanks also have made another \$10,000 donation to the law school’s annual scholarship fund to help students who, as Blank puts it, “need it.” Blank said that whenever he speaks to law students or young lawyers, he likes to remind them, “No matter how smart you are, you got here because someone along the way helped you. Remember that when you make it.”

- **The Attorney General Scholarship Fund** was created by the Office of the Attorney General through a directed settlement of \$320,000. This fund allows qualified applicants, who might not otherwise have the opportunity, to attend law school at Florida State.

The scholarships, Pankey explains, allow the law school to attract and compete for the nation’s top law students.

PROFESSORSHIPS

- **The William J. and Susan P. Cohen Professorship in Environmental Law.** Bill Cohen started his collegiate career as a marine biologist and ended it with a J.D. and LL.M. in tax. Now Cohen finds himself in the software business creating web-based software for financial institutions. He never gave up his love of the ocean or the environment. The \$600,000 testamentary gift he and his wife Suzy have made, Cohen said, allows him to pay back the law school for the “modicum of success it has allowed me in life.”

- **The Matthews & Hawkins Professorship in Property.** Dana C. Matthews, J.D. ’81, and his law partner John Hawkins’ \$300,000 gift, which qualifies for state match, has allowed the law school to retain one of the nation’s leading scholars and professors in land use, environmental and property law, Prof. J. B. Ruhl.

- **The Richard W. Ervin Eminent Scholar Chair.** Under the direction of Charlie Crist, Attorney General for the State of Florida, the law school received a

directed settlement of \$250,000 to supplement the Richard W. Ervin Eminent Scholar Chair. The holder of the Ervin Chair also serves as the Solicitor General of the State of Florida. Law alum Christopher Kise, J.D. ’90, is currently the Ervin Eminent Scholar having been jointly appointed by Attorney General Charlie Crist, who received his undergraduate degree from Florida State, and FSU President T.K. Wetherell. Simultaneously holding the Ervin Chair and serving as Solicitor General allows Kise to imbue his students with unique



Ervin Chair holder and Solicitor General Chris Kise J.D. '91



Florida Attorney General Charlie Crist shown with FSU President T.K. Wetherell

insights into appellate advocacy and procedure. As the chief lawyer for the Attorney General, Kise said, he’s able to get involved in more than just appellate work and that’s great exposure for the law students he teaches. “The students are getting substantive interaction with Supreme Court Justices, appellate judges, leading lawyers in the state and the Attorney General. They’re able to see a lot from this vantage point.”

From Atlanta To S. Florida FSU Faithful Make The Difference in Regional FSU CONNECT Meetings



Hugo de Beaubien and his wife Mary at the Orlando event.

Recently, in an effort to move to the next phase of the campaign, FSU CONNECT launched a series of regional events to bring a new level of excitement to the university's alumni, friends and supporters in key areas around the state and nation.

"By focusing on FSU's key constituencies, we've really been able to rejuvenate their commitment to FSU and the university's continued success," said FSU Foundation President Jeff Robison.

Joining Robison at events in Atlanta, Jacksonville, Orlando, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach, were FSU President T.K. Wetherell and Alumni Affairs President Jim Melton, as well as a variety of deans and department heads.

President Wetherell summed it up best when he told the crowds that their giving to the university is what allows FSU to excel in a variety of academic areas.

"The difference between existence and excellence at FSU," he said, "is private support."

Complementing the president's message at each of the events were FSU volunteers who told stories of why FSU was so important to them as students and why it continues to play a vital role in their lives today.



Joining T.K. Wetherell, middle, at the Jacksonville regional meeting were from left, George Warren and Ed Thomas

BRENDA & FRANK DiCRISTINA

Brenda DiCristina, class of 1971, told a story of coming to Tallahassee to work, not go to school. Having recently graduated from junior college and putting an unstable family life behind her, she was



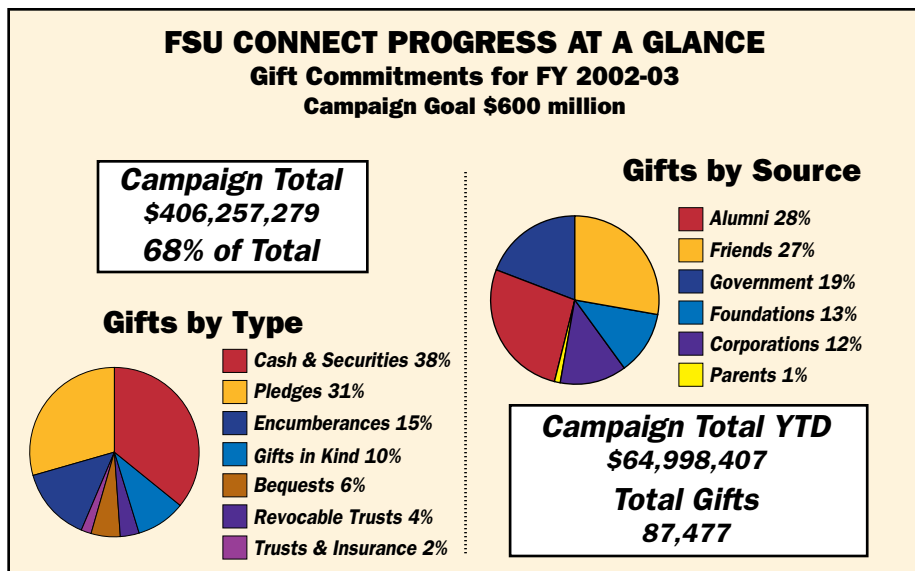
Frank and Brenda DiCristina in the President's Box for an FSU Football game.

happy with what she had accomplished and was eager to start her new job at the university union.

After attending 11 different schools between 7th and 12th grades, DiCristina had now found a home.

It was her new family at FSU that pushed her to finish her undergraduate studies.

"My co-workers asked me whether I'd be registering for classes. I told them that



only rich people went to college,” she said. “I was happy to have graduated from junior college and have a job.”

With help, and no small amount of love, DiCristina said, her FSU family gave her the guidance and support necessary to enter FSU, live in the newly constructed Cash Hall and work two jobs in order to finish her education degree.

“I’m not going to kid you, those were hard times. It was tough. Without the help of my friends, professors and coworkers, I never would have made it.”

But made it she did. Now, she and husband Frank, whom she married



*T.K. and Virginia Wetherrell with Raymond Cottrell, M.D., at the Orlando event
Inset: Stella Cottrell speaking to the Orlando gathering.*

during their senior year at FSU, are able to give back to a place that has meant so much to them.

“When Frank’s company went public, we said our lives wouldn’t change, but we asked each other who can we help?” she said. “If not for FSU and my FSU family, I never would have gone to college,” DiCristina said.

She told the crowd that everybody there had their own FSU story.

“I asked them to look back and remember how FSU helped them, how it bettered their lives,” she said. “And like FSU gave to you, think about how you want to give back.”

Brenda and Frank DiCristina’s story, like those of so many others, typify the

FSU experience and the FSU CONNECT campaign, Robison said.

RAY & STELLA COTTRELL

“It’s all about the connections these people have to FSU,” Jeff Robison said. “The campaign to raise \$600 million for Florida State is really about the people who love this university.”

Always among the first to stand up and be counted in that group are Raymond and Stella Cottrell of Orlando.

For Raymond, a chemistry graduate who became a physician, giving to the university means recognizing what the university has done for you.

“You can never give back enough to match what the university has given you,” he said. “You owe it to yourself and future generations.”

It was through private support and the hard work of faculty, staff and students that has brought FSU to national prominence in such a short time as a research university in such a short time, he said.

“We have come so far so quickly and exceeded all expectations because people who believed in FSU were proud to show it by working hard to make it a better place,” Cottrell said.

Stella was drawn in by what she calls a community of so many diverse people. University life opened her eyes to the world’s many cultures and introduced her to people who would become lifelong friends.

“People like Nancy Turner (former Union director) and Jim Pitts (director of International Programs) helped support me emotionally and lead and mentor me, an aimless college student with no direction,” she said.

The Human Sciences graduate says she learned from music professor Walter Jones that you can pick up more than just a degree at college.

“He taught me how to pursue what I loved,” she said. “College was more than just academics.”

Regional Campaigns

Numbers reflect those regions where events have already taken place. For more information regarding the FSU CONNECT Regional Campaigns, upcoming events and how to participate, please contact Jim Ashton, Director of Advancement Relations, at (850) 644-6000.

Region	Total	Gifts/Pledges
Tallahassee	66 Million	7809
North FL/GA	24 Million	7539
Orlando/Central FL	4 Million	4124
West FL	18 Million	4636
South FL	7 Million	5258

From a fundraising point of view, this past year was difficult, explains Robison. He has hope now that the regional campaigns are re-igniting passions for FSU all over the state and beyond.



President Wetherrell and Jeff Robison honor Ira Koger for his continued support and generosity during the regional event in Jacksonville.

“The people who love this university are showing that they will support it through the good and bad times,” he said. “And that’s encouraging.”

FSU connect

For more information on the progress of the FSU CONNECT campaign and to find out about ways to give, please visit: <http://www.foundation.fsu.edu>

Med School Launches Rural Health Center with Gift from Blue Cross/Blue Shield

The Florida State University College of Medicine announced in March the establishment of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health with a \$750,000 gift from the Jacksonville-based health plan.

The gift, which is eligible for a \$420,000 match from the State of Florida, will fund research projects



Florida has the highest proportion of elder citizens in the nation. Approximately 2.8 million people, or 18.5 percent of the population, are over the age of 65.

designed to assess and improve health services for Floridians living in rural areas.

“Rural health is one of the priority areas identified in the mission of the FSU College of Medicine,” said College of Medicine Dean J. Ocie Harris, M.D. “In addition to graduating a significant number of physicians who will serve in rural areas, we want to generate solutions to many of the health issues that are unique to rural communities. This new center will help guide that collegewide effort.”

HELPING MILLIONS

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health will address the special needs of the more than 1 million Floridians living in the state’s 33 rural counties, 19 of which are federally designated as medically underserved.

Robert Brooks, M.D., associate dean for health affairs at the College of Medicine, said the center will help the medical school achieve its goal of becoming a national leader in rural health policy and research.

“With these funds we will be able to launch our rural health research program immediately, while having a basis on which to operate for years to come,” Brooks said.

The center’s first research project will be an analysis of the information technology capabilities of Florida’s 29 statutory rural hospitals. Over the next year, researchers will examine the hospitals’ use of tools such as electronic medical records, computerized prescribing systems, and computer-based infection tracking, all of which can help reduce medical errors and improve patient safety. Researchers from the College of Medicine’s Center on Patient Safety, the FSU School of Information Studies and the Center for Rural Health will collaborate on the project.

IMPROVING CARE

Wayne NeSmith, President of the Florida Hospital Association, said Florida’s rural hospitals provide critically needed services and face special challenges.



Preparing primary care to Florida’s medically underserved populations.

“Most rural hospitals operate on very limited margins, but still must respond to demands for better technology and continuously improving systems of care,” NeSmith said. “This new center will offer hospitals important tools for meeting this challenge.”



BCBS Chairman Michael Cascone Jr., far left, with BCBS board members, and Dean Harris at news conference announcing rural health center.

Michael Cascone Jr., chairman and CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida, said the company is honored to work with the Florida State University



From left are Jim McKnight, CEO of Doctors Memorial Hospital in Perry, Josef Plum, Shannon Price and Joda Lynn. Upon graduation, each has vowed to return to Doctors’ Memorial Hospital, which has funded their studies.

College of Medicine to create the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida Center for Rural Health.

“Our support is one way we fulfill our mission to advance the health and well-being of Florida’s citizens, especially the uninsured and underserved,” Cascone said. “We believe programs aimed at health-care awareness and training, research and policy initiatives, and workforce preparation can make a positive difference in our communities. We look forward to our partnership with Florida State University, a highly respected institution and an integral part of our state’s educational system.” ♦



Italy Comes Alive

Presidents Club tour learns that FSU is CONNECTed to ancient Rome



Behind these doors designed and built by Lorenzo Ghiberti lies the baptistery where Dante Alighieri was baptized.

From the tombs of the ancient Etruscans to Florence's famous Duomo and along roads less traveled, a group of 15 Presidents Club members toured Italy this summer with a distinct FSU flavor. Led by Classics Professor Nancy De Grummond, a world-renowned authority on Etruscan and Roman archaeology, the tour group spent 10 days in country as intrepid explorers and connoisseurs of high culture and fine dining.



The Duomo in Florence was one of many historical stops.

Serving as the group's personal tour guide Prof. De Grummond, kept the trip lively with keen insights culled from years of excavating an Etruscan village in

Cetamura del Chianti, one of the group's stops.

"It was an extremely well run trip," said retired U.S. Marine General Mike Sheridan, B.A. '56. With an extensive military background and geology education from FSU, Sheridan said it was clear why the Etruscans had picked the hilltops of Cetamura to build

and defend their village and families.

For his wife and travel companion Nancy Sheridan, B.A. '57, an amateur



Preparing for Il Palio, the spectacular and fierce annual horse race in Siena, these men kick off a week of pre-race pageantry.

photographer who snapped some of the shots used for this story, the trip was a perfect opportunity to shoot some of the world's most spectacular

architecture and scenery.

"It was a fantastic learning experience," she said.

"I got to sharpen my photography skills and my appreciation of another culture."

In the end, the trip was an opportunity for FSU Presidents Club members to make new connections with new friends and experience a side of FSU many had never before glimpsed.



A graduate student explains how the village was laid out.



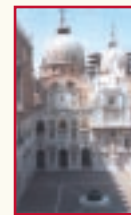
Travelers visit and dine with FSU students in Florence as part of FSU's International Programs.

"The trip is a great way for people outside of Tallahassee to do something related to the university," Mike Sheridan said. "It was great meeting a lot of people from the faculty, Prof. De Grummond's students in Florence, other members of the tour and to see FSU's campus in Florence." ♦



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Next Time

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