

Campus Notes

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(Photo: TCC)

TCC's bachelor's level nursing program takes next step

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at Tallahassee Community College has been granted candidate status by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. Candidate status was granted following ACEN's review of the program's potential to achieve accreditation.

Programs must complete the rest of the accreditation process within two years after being granted candidate status.

The BSN program at TCC serves registered nurses who already hold an Associate in Science in Nursing degree and wish to add the BSN credential. It is primarily an online program.

For information, contact TCC's Healthcare Programs Division at 558-4500 or healthedu@tcc.fl.edu.

Local lawyers earn Florida Bar board certification

Four area lawyers are among 255 statewide who recently earned Florida Bar Board Certification, a designation that places them among the only group of Florida lawyers who may use the term "B.C.S." for Board Certified Specialist when referring to their legal credentials. Board-certified lawyers are "evaluated for professionalism and tested for expertise."

The following lawyers from the 2nd Judicial Circuit earned board certification in their respective practice areas: Diane G. DeWolf of DeWolf, Akerman LLP; Stephanie A. Johnson with Legal Services of N. Florida; Michael L. MacNamara of The MacNamara Law Firm; Kristen Coons McRae of the City of Tallahassee.

For more information, The Florida Bar website at Floridabar.org/certification or contact The Florida Bar's Legal Specialization & Education Department at 561-5842.

FSU alumnus named "Best Weatherman Ever"

Florida State University alumnus Alan Sealls was the calm in the storm during Hurricane Irma, and his skilled weather forecasting unexpectedly made him an internet sensation.

As Irma exploded into a Category 5 hurricane with fearsome 185 mph winds, Sealls delivered his weathercasts in his typically cool, informative manner, and a video of his presentation went viral on the social networking site Reddit.

Viewers hailed the veteran meteorologist at WKRG-TV in Mobile, Ala., as the "Best Weatherman Ever."

Reddit users loved it. His measured, educational presentation in the midst of one of the most powerful hurricanes on record stood out in an era of weathercasting sometimes chided as too bombastic. They praised Sealls, who earned a master's in meteorology from FSU in 1987, as brilliant.

Sealls' work has been recognized with eight Emmy awards, a best-in-state award for a documentary on Hurricane Ivan and a national award from the American Meteorological Society. He was named a fellow of the AMS, a rare honor among meteorologists, and he will serve as president of the National Weather Association next year. He gives back at FSU and helps meteorology students prepare for their own broadcasting careers.

FSU scientist to be recognized with international chemistry award

FSU Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Jack Saltiel will receive the Josef Michl ACS Award in Photochemistry in recognition of his groundbreaking work on the mechanisms of photochemical reactions, particularly cis-trans photoisomerization, a key chemical process in vision. The award includes a \$5,000 prize and up to \$2,500 in travel expenses to attend the spring national meeting of the American Chemical Society where the award will be presented.

Saltiel said he was surprised and honored by the recognition.

“Selection by peers for my research in physical organic photochemistry is a wonderful honor and provides excellent visibility and funding prospects that allow us to continue this work,” he said.

\$3 million grant supports FSU College of Medicine effort to help children with toxic stress

The Florida State University College of Medicine has been awarded a \$3 million grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration with a goal of illuminating the path to effective behavioral and physical health treatment for the children of rural and migrant farm workers.

The five-year grant also recognizes the medical school's Immokalee Health Education Site as a Treatment and Service Adaptation Center for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative network.

Research shows children who experience adverse childhood experiences without a buffer or other intervention have increased frequency of mental, physical and social problems now and later in life, including depression, PTSD, anxiety, COPD, diabetes, obesity, cancer and eating disorders. They're also more likely to smoke, become alcoholic, use illegal drugs and attempt suicide.

The situation is more acute for children of migrant farm workers.

“Migratory lifestyles, poverty and overall consistent exposure to trauma — all are contributing factors,” Reyes said. “The parents are facing the same level of stress themselves, including depression, problems related to socioeconomic status, their own history of trauma and barriers to health care. They're not able to provide the protective buffer needed by these young children.”

The College of Medicine's research proposes to demonstrate how services can be provided for a specific traumatized population — young and preschool children from migrant farm-working families. Such children belong to three categories of a medically underserved population: rural, immigrant and poor.

“Our preliminary data are encouraging,” Rosado said. “We are seeing that it is possible to screen for toxic stress during a routine well-child visit and provide effective interventions.”

Gift from RGVI will support TCC classroom renovation

Rogers, Gunter, Vaughn Insurance has made a gift of \$25,000 to Tallahassee Community College to support the renovation of a classroom in TCC's Science and Mathematics building. The gift was presented at the Sept. 18 meeting of TCC's District Board of Trustees.

The company was represented by partners Sam Rogers, Bart Gunter, Jim Duncan and Kevin Vaughn. The latter is vice chair of the District Board of Trustees and also a member of the TCC Foundation's board of directors.

The Foundation has been working with groups and individuals throughout the community to support classroom renovations and has already identified donors for 34 of the 50 classrooms targeted for renovations.

The classroom that RGVI will sponsor is typically used for mathematics classes, which are an important part of the program of study for students majoring in risk management, insurance and related fields.

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