FSU Celebrates Achievements of Spring 2019 Graduates

Commencement speakers, from left, are Nicholas Fuhrmann, Victoria Diggs and Andrea Constant.

FSU will celebrate student achievements of its spring 2019 graduating class with the 154th Commencement on Thursday, May 23, during two ceremonies in the Cordts PE Center Main Arena.

University System of Maryland (USM) Regent Robert Neall will confer degrees and FSU President Ronald Nowaczyk will present diplomas to graduates during the two exercises. USM Chancellor Robert Caret will also bring greetings.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences ceremony will start at 9:30 a.m., and the Colleges of Business and Education will begin at 2 p.m. Featured student speakers for the ceremony include Nicholas Fuhrmann, College of Business; Victoria Diggs, College of Education; and Andrea Constant, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Fuhrmann, of South Riding, Va., is earning his bachelor’s degree in business administration with a concentration in finance. Fuhrmann made the Dean’s List every semester during his FSU career after transferring from Frederick Community College with a associate degree. He successfully managed his academics and his time as a student-athlete in baseball; he was named to the Capital Athletic Conference All-Academic Team in 2018. Fuhrmann has volunteer experience as an assistant baseball coach, summer camp counselor and a Christian youth group leader. He is also a member of Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honors Society and Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. He has worked under the distribution engineer at Fairfax County Water Authority and is a licensed realtor with Keller-Williams Realty.

Diggs, of Columbia, Md., is earning her bachelor’s degree in health and physical education. Diggs made the Dean’s List every semester throughout her FSU career. She demonstrated great promise as a health and physical education teacher during her internship experience at Mountain Ridge High School. Her instructors noted her impressive ability to develop relationships with her students and find unique ways to motivate participation in fitness-related activities. Diggs started for the Women’s Basketball Team at FSU, becoming only the 19th player in the program’s history to achieve 1,000-point status. She was a Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) First-Team Selection in 2018 and 2019 and the CAC and Eastern College Athletic Conference DIII South Region Rookie of the Year in 2017. She also volunteered at the Savage Man Triathlon two years in a row.

Constant, of Frederick, Md., is earning her bachelor’s degree in sociology and social science with concentrations in sociology and political science. Constant was the vice president of the Latin American Student Organization and the Juvenile Justice chair and vice president of the campus NAACP. FSU helped influence Constant’s social engagement, and the campus NAACP nurtured her growth as a social justice advocate and student leader on campus. In addition, she has been a student representative for the Excellence in Academic Advising Project since 2018, where she serves on the Equity, Inclusion and Diversity Committee. She is a Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program scholar, part of a program that assists underrepresented students in pursuing post-graduate study. Constant has been accepted into a fully funded sociology doctoral program at Syracuse University. Constant also acted as an ORIE mentor and has facilitated numerous classes.

Provost Dr. Elizabeth Throop, Dr. Sudhir Singh, dean of the College of Business; Dr. Boyce Williams, interim dean of the College of Education; and Dr. Kim Hixson, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will present candidates for degrees.
Tickets are required to attend Commencement. For info, visit www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement. The ceremony will also be streamed live online. For the livestream link, visit www.frostburg.edu on the day of the commencement.

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**Music**

**Estonian Music Ensemble, Wana Wõromaa Wunkorkestri, to Perform in Western Maryland**

The Estonian music ensemble, Wana Wõromaa Wunkorkestri, will visit Western Maryland in June, performing in Cumberland on **Monday, June 3**, at 7:30 p.m. at Our Lady of the Mountains, St. Mary Catholic Church, 300 E. Oldtown Road, and in Oakland on **Tuesday, June 4**, at 7 p.m. at the Oakland Community Center, 14 N. Eighth St. These events, supported by the Estonian Embassy and the cities of Cumberland, Frostburg and Oakland in partnership with Folklore and Folklife Programming at FSU and FSU’s International Studies Program, are free and open to the public.

The performances highlight the Sister-City Cultural Exchange Program – a special relationship between Estonia and Maryland, which began more than 25 years ago with the end of the Cold War as part of a NATO Partnership of Peace Program. Over the years, the partnership has grown to include civilian-to-civilian relationships focusing on the themes of education, twin cities/counties, cultural activities and economic development. As part of the exchange, Maryland residents have visited Estonia and several Estonian groups have visited Maryland. June’s programs highlight Cumberland’s sister city, Viljandi, and Oakland’s sister city, Valga, through the exploration and performance of Estonia’s rich folk music traditions.

Representing traditions of Vana-Võromaa, a region in the country’s southeast, this group is one of many community ensembles keeping alive Estonia’s rich folk music heritage. These ensembles are intergenerational, including children, adults and senior citizens. The region’s folk music heritage plays a particularly important role in Estonia’s political history, where the performance of its traditional choral music bolstered a cultural reawakening, contributing directly to what scholars refer to as “The Singing Revolution.” Choosing song over violence, Estonians gathered en masse to declare Estonian Independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

While in Western Maryland, the group will tour the newly remodeled Allegany Museum and downtown Cumberland, visit FSU and Frostburg’s Main Street, engage in an informal cultural music exchange with traditional musicians at FSU’s Mountain City Traditional Arts and tour downtown Oakland.

For info, contact Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas at krogerstom@frostburg.edu or 301-687-3124.

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**Presentations**

**Astronaut Ricky Arnold to Speak About His Seven Months in Space**

NASA astronaut Ricky Arnold, a 1985 graduate of FSU, will speak about the seven months he spent last year on the International Space Station on **Wednesday, May 22**, at 7 p.m. in Pealer Recital Hall. The family-friendly event is a presentation of FSU and is free and open to the public.

Arnold became an astronaut after a career of more than a decade as a science and mathematics teacher at schools around the world. He earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting and teacher certification from FSU, and a master of science degree in marine, estuarine and environmental science from the University of Maryland.

Arnold has spent 209 days in space and conducted five spacewalks over two missions. He also completed a mission as an aquanaut in a joint NASA-NOAA mission on NEEMO 13, living and working in and around Aquarius, an undersea laboratory.

Arnold first visited the International Space Station as part of STS-119 via the Space Shuttle Discovery. Then last year, he spent 197 days as a flight engineer in ISS as part of Expeditions 55 and 56, which included numerous educational downlink events to schools.

It was one of these educational downlink events that was the center of NASA Day on campus on April 9, 2018, which happened to be the 120th anniversary of the founding of FSU. More than 1,300 middle school students from the region came to campus to view the
Points of Pride

Congratulations, Civil Citizen Communicators!

Congratulations to Benjamin Forrest on being selected the 2019 Civil Citizen Communicator! Forrest is a repeat winner; he received this honor for other civil citizen communicator initiatives last year. Honorable mentions go to nominees Jon Huizer and Katelyn Paylor for their contributions to civil communication leadership.

This award is given to an FSU student who has within the previous year demonstrated communication leadership or a commitment through word and actions to civility and constructive change within an organization or community. This person should have demonstrated communication competence, leadership competence and an awareness of and responsiveness to matters of civility that impact others. This award aligns with the mission of the Communication Studies and Leadership Studies programs and FSU to support the oral communication competency and leadership development of University students, and it supports regional development through recognition of efforts linking the campus to community partners.

Forrest, a double major in math and political science, serves as the president of FSU’s Student Government Association. In the past year, he has addressed FSU’s Faculty Senate with concerns about unauthorized recordings of faculty by students in classroom contexts and worked to propose an Emergency Absence Policy to the Faculty Concerns Committee on students’ behalf. As a nominator said, “If this policy passes, it stands to significantly improve civility and communications between faculty and students.”

Huizer, a triple major in communication studies, political science, and law and society, serves as the president of the National General Assembly and is a member of the President’s Leadership Circle and Lambda Pi Eta communication honors society chapter at FSU. On campus, he has helped to inspire deliberative exchanges through town hall meetings and a Day of Civility deliberation about the political divide. He has also been active in proposing legislation, including protecting the voting rights of unaffiliated voters in open primaries and requiring six years of federal tax returns for ballot access for presidential and vice presidential candidates, within the Maryland Student Legislature. Additionally, Huizer has been a champion of the University’s digital badge pilot initiative and has helped to infuse student input in the re-envisioning of the General Education Program curriculum.

Paylor, a major in Communication Studies and student athlete, has worked consistently as a Communication Leadership Lab assistant to support Allegany County’s Day of Civility events. She also interacted regularly with partners within the regional food movement, including the Western Maryland Food Council and Wholesome Harvest Co-op. Her efforts helped “Eat, Learn, Shift” transition into “Eat, Learn, Co-op” to sustain a dialogue and deliberation series about campus and community engagement around food.

Judges for award were Dr. Rebecca Chory, an associate professor in FSU’s Department of Management; Dr. Kim Hixson, FSU’s dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and Tara Taylor, Education and Outreach director for the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights.

The winner was recognized last week at the Lambda Pi Eta honor society induction. The award winner’s name and winning years will be etched on the Civility Cup, which will be displayed in the Department of Communication in the Gira Center.

FSU’s Roberta Strosnider and Valerie Sharpe Publish Book, ‘Executive Function Guidelines’

Attention all educators and those interested in how the brain learns! Two instructors in the College of Education’s M.Ed. Special Education Program, Dr. Roberta Strosnider and Valerie Sharpe, have published a book, “Executive Function Guidelines: Strategies to Help All Students Achieve Success,” with Corwin Press.

Strosnider and Sharpe will also offer an online course, EDUC 647.721 Advanced Educational Psychology, this summer during the second summer session Monday, July 8, through Friday, Aug. 16. All are welcome to take it. The topic of this course is understanding the brain, learning and how to teach executive function skills. Strosnider and Sharpe, who retired from Towson University, have been teaching this course and two others in the Special Education Program for FSU since 2015.

For info, contact Dr. Jamey Nystrom at jctoberynystrom@frostburg.edu.

FSU’s Andy Duncan Finalist in Two Sci-Fi/Fantasy Award Categories

Andy Duncan, an associate professor in the Department of English and Foreign Languages, is a 2019 Locus Awards finalist in two categories. His latest book, “An Agent of Utopia: New and Selected Stories” (Small Beer Press, 2018), is a finalist in the Collection category, and its title story is a finalist in the Novella category. Finalists and winners are selected annually by the readers of Locus, the newsmagazine of science fiction and fantasy publishing; this year’s winners will be announced in June at the Locus Awards Weekend in Seattle. For a complete list of finalists, visit https://locusmag.com/2019/05/2019-locus-awards-finalists.

FSU Students Participate in Wildlife Society Conclave

The FSU Chapter of the Wildlife Society sent eight students to the 2019 annual Southeastern Wildlife Society Conclave hosted by Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Ga., March 21 through 23. Conclave is an event that brings schools from throughout the southeastern United States for workshops and competitions related to various aspects of wildlife biology. The event allows students to learn more about the wildlife biology field and gives them the opportunity to network with wildlife professionals. The students that participated were William Brunson, Daniel Healey, Elizabeth Myers, Rebecca Phillips, Sean Reeser, Jason Shaffer, Morgan Stump and Kenny Weaver. Myers received second place in the wildlife photography competition and Weaver earned second place in the lab practical.
Phi Epsilon Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta Welcomes New Members

Here are the members and new inductees of FSU’s Phi Epsilon chapter of Lambda Pi Eta (LPH). Pictured, from left, are Dr. Elesha Ruminiski, chapter co-advisor; Col Lafavore-Little; Tessa Brewer; Sidney Beeman; Jon Huiser; Rosalie Friedman; Joseph McKenzie; Gwendolyn Schemm; Armand Jackson; Matthew Warnick; and Dr. Sheri Whalen, chapter co-advisor.

LPH is the National Communication Association’s official honor society at four-year colleges and universities. LPH has more than 500 active chapters at four-year colleges and universities nationwide. LPH became a part of the National Communication Association in 1988, and the association’s official honor society in July 1995. It is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies. LPH represents what Aristotle described in “Rhetoric” as three ingredients of persuasion: logos (Lambda), meaning logic; pathos (Pi), relating to emotion; and ethos (Eta), defined as character credibility and ethics.

FSU Student Nicole Basom Participates in Dance Team World Competition, Interviewed by CBS

Nicole Basom, a Recreation and Parks Management student, began working with a unified dance team as one of the assistant coaches and continued this work through her time at FSU. The unified program combines people with and without disabilities to work as teams in sports competition as part of the Special Olympic program. In February, Basom was notified that the unified dance team she has been working with for years had been selected to compete in the world competition in Orlando, Fla., in April. This story captured the attention of the media, and Basom was one of two people interviewed by a CBS news team during the competition.

Basom, whose passion is working with people with disabilities and who has completed a therapeutic recreation concentration, served as a partner during the competition performance. She will continue to work with people with disabilities during her internship as an inclusion specialist at Calvert County Parks and Recreation this summer.

FSU’s Katie Wallenstein Is MRPA Student of the Year

The Maryland Recreation and Parks Association provides various awards each year to members within the Maryland recreation community. This year the Student of the Year was Katie Wallenstein, a Recreation and Parks Management student who joined the program in the fall semester. Wallenstein became an officer in the Recreation Society, a key staff member for Frostburg’s Halloween Parade and Party and the manager of the city’s annual Easter Egg Hunt. She also assisted with admitted students’ day and was a key staff member for the annual Be Like Bob Day.

Recreation and Parks Management Student Interns Represent FSU Across the Nation

The Recreation and Parks Management program, like other programs, offers a capstone experience to assist students in further crafting their professional skills. A number of students from the spring semester senior seminar class secured internships across the nation. The students are going as far west as California, one working for the San Francisco Bay Area Museum, running camp programs, and another working for Outdoor Journeys, leading backpacking trips.

Farther north, one student secured a five-month contract with the Bureau of Land Management at Coos Bay, Ore., working as a conservation ranger. Two students also secured internships in Colorado, one working as a camp counselor in the Rocky Mountains and another working for Steamboat Springs. Other students are interning in the Chicago area for a trade show company, and one is working in upstate New York for the city of Plattsburg Parks and Recreation. Some are working at a Delaware seashore state park, Ocean City, and Hampton, Va.

One student accepted an internship with the Baltimore National Aquarium in the Development and Philanthropy Department, while others are working for soccer companies and as inclusion specialists working with people with disabilities. The local community has provided unique opportunities – one student is planning this summer’s festival at Canal Place, while another is planning and running five special events for the city of Frostburg. One student has accepted a position with Elkton, Md., Parks and Recreation as a summer camp director; others with Sandy Point State Park and Springfield State Hospital.

Take Note

Upward Bound Pre-college Program Offered to Local High School Students

For high school students wondering what it takes to prepare for college and a successful future, how to pay for an education or how to navigate the college application process, Upward Bound at FSU can help. Upward Bound is a free program for qualified Allegany County high school students that can help them prepare to enter college, learn what to expect in college and know what classes to take.

Upward Bound’s staff, with more than 35 years of experience, help students successfully transition from high school to college. Upward Bound helps students prepare for the SATs and other college-prep tests, fill out financial aid applications, meet deadlines, visit college campuses and more.

Upward Bound helps students succeed in high school and helps them develop successful strategies to prepare them for college through an academic year program. They also offer an optional, but intensive, three- or five-week summer residential program on FSU’s campus.
Former students report that the Upward Bound program not only helped them get into college and be better prepared but also helped them perform better while still in high school.

Any high school student considering going to college who would like support and assistance getting there is encouraged to contact Upward Bound to see if he or she qualifies. For info, call 301-687-4994 or visit www.frostburg.edu/UpwardBound.

End-of-Semester Extended Library Hours

The Ort Library will extend its hours for the last week of classes and final exam week. The library will be open 42 extra hours, including nine extra late nights until 2 a.m. Extended hours will run through the end of the semester.

- Monday, May 13, through Thursday, May 16 – 7:30 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- Friday, May 17 – 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Saturday, May 18 – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sunday, May 19 – 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- Monday, May 20, and Tuesday, May 21 – 7:30 a.m. to midnight
- Wednesday, May 22, through Friday, May 24 – 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The library will close for the Memorial Day holiday weekend Saturday, May 25, through Monday, May 27. Summer hours will begin on Tuesday, May 28.

Library hours are posted on the Hours page of the Library website at http://libguides.frostburg.edu/libhours.

For info, contact the Circulation Desk during open hours at 301-687-4395 or email circulation@frostburg.edu. You can also contact the Reference Desk at 301-687-4424. Online resources remain accessible via the Library’s website at www.frostburg.edu/library, and online chat reference and research help are available 24/7 through Ask Us Now even when the library is closed.

Also, be careful not to leave belongings unattended during this busy time and observe the study space and noise policies for each of the library’s four public floors:

- Second floor: Group study/individual computer stations
- Third floor (main floor): Quiet study/individual computer stations
- Fourth floor: Individual silent study
- Fifth floor: Group study/group computer stations/group study rooms/individual study rooms

More information about the library’s study spaces, collections and policies can be found at www.frostburg.edu/library, and the full Library Code of Conduct is available at http://libguides.frostburg.edu/circulation/conduct.

University Store – End-of-Semester Buyback and Textbook Rental Return

The University Store’s end-of-semester buyback will take place Tuesday, May 14, through Wednesday, May 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the buyback window behind the store. Bring in any textbooks that you have not rented and see if they have cash value, regardless of where you purchased them.

Textbook rentals are due back to the University Store no later than Thursday, May 23. Be sure to return your rental books as soon as you are finished with them to avoid late or replacement fees. Check your email for a reminder of which books you have rented.

For info, contact Kenneth Emerick at kmemerick@frostburg.edu.

Submit Your Application for the FSU Student Career Summit

The FSU Student Career Summit will be held this fall on Friday, Oct. 25, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. in McLean, Va. The event will include job interview training, expert resume critiques and alumni networking and advice.

Fifty students will be selected for this free program. Be sure to apply before Friday, Sept. 20, at the link to the left to be considered. Transportation will be provided.

For info, contact Dr. Joan Andorfer at jandorfer@frostburg.edu or Dr. Carol Gaumer at cgaumer@frostburg.edu.

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers grants each year for final-year undergraduates and recent graduates. Types of awards include Open Study/Research Awards, English Teaching Assistant Awards and Critical Language Enhancement Awards. Grants, usually nine months long, are available to more than 100 countries. Two important requirements for applicants are that they must be U.S. citizens and they must have earned a bachelor’s degree by the start of their grant.

The application deadline is Tuesday, Oct. 8.
Graduation Will Be Here Before You Know It

Commencement is coming up soon on Thursday, May 23, in the Cordts PE Center. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will present its graduates at 9:30 a.m., and the Colleges of Business and Education will present their graduates at 2 p.m.

Tickets will be required for admission. College of Liberal Arts and Sciences graduates will receive six tickets, and College of Business and College of Education graduates will receive eight tickets.

Check your PAWS account to make sure your home address is correct. If you need to update your address, you can send an email from your FSU account to the Registrar’s Office at reginfo@frostburg.edu to update your home address.

The Grad Fair will be held in Lane Manicur Hall on Wednesday, May 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you have ordered your cap and gown and selected pickup at the FSU Main Campus, it will be available for pickup at the Grad Fair. Those picking up orders at the fair will receive a coupon for 30 percent off one apparel item at the University Store. You will also have the opportunity to pick up your graduation tickets, enter drawings, purchase graduation merchandise and more.

Full details about the ceremony can be found on the Commencement website at www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement. For info about Commencement, contact Christie Bohn at 301-687-4423 or clbohn@frostburg.edu.

Student Life

Edgewood Commons Contracting for Fall 2019

Edgewood Commons is accepting applications for the fall semester. Contact Edgewood directly for contracting questions. All the information about Edgewood Commons is available at www.edgewoodFSU.com.

Apartments come fully furnished and have private bedrooms and semi-private bathrooms. Utilities (gas, electricity, water, internet and cable) are included in the contract fee.

To set up a tour or for info about Edgewood Commons, call 301-689-1370.

Study Abroad

For info, contact Kara Hotchkiss at 301-687-4747 or kjhotchkiss@frostburg.edu.

Where in the World Would You Like to Study Abroad?

Brady Gaumer in Germany – Intersession 2019

FSU students have the opportunity to study abroad all over the world.

Financial aid can be used for overseas experiences during the fall and spring semesters.

Exchange programs are available that allow students to pay FSU tuition prices.

Study Abroad in Spain, France and Italy During Spring Break 2020

Join the Study Abroad trip to Spain, France and Italy during Spring Break 2020 and visit Barcelona, the French Riviera, Nice, Cinque Terre, Pisa and Florence!

The nine-day trip in March 2020 will be led by Dr. Greg Wood and Dr. Heather Cisneros.

The trip is for Honors Program students as well as general education students.

Study abroad scholarships and other sources of funding are available.

For info, visit Wood in the Fuller House or email him at gwood@frostburg.edu.

FSU Events Calendar

For info on FSU events, go to http://events.frostburg.edu/calendar.

Questions? Call 301-687-4411. All information is subject to change.

Note: FSU is committed to making all of its programs, services and activities accessible to persons with disabilities. To request accommodations through the ADA Compliance Office, call 301-687-4102 or use a Voice Relay Operator at 1-800-735-2258.

Summer Vacation Safety Tips
Know your vehicle’s load limits.

Don’t trust your GPS/phone maps.
Paper maps are a good backup.

Steer clear of wildlife.

Make sure you’re protected in case of medical emergencies.

VALUES AND VISION: FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

CORE VALUES

- Frostburg State University is a place where every student can experience a myriad of opportunities both in and out of the classroom, fostered by a sense of inclusion and close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff.

- Frostburg State University is committed to developing cultural competence and cultivating understanding of and respect for a diversity of experiences and world views that encourage each person’s ability to “take the perspective of the other.”

- Frostburg State University is committed to a system of shared governance that allows faculty, staff and students to learn about the issues the University confronts and that provides a structure for meaningful input into University decisions.

OUR VISION FOR FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY IN 2023

Frostburg State University is a regionally acclaimed and nationally recognized academic institution that provides distinctive programs to support state and regional workforce needs. Faculty, staff and students foster collaboration in a welcoming and inclusive campus culture.

Students value the opportunities open for them at FSU and form close mentoring relationships with faculty and staff, who are committed to their success and well-being. Students apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom to internship, civic engagement, study abroad and research experiences to meet the challenges of a complex and changing global society.

The University is integrated into the fabric of the community as a valued and respected regional asset. We are committed to making changes that secure our future while celebrating the values that reflect our history.

STRATEGIC GOALS

- Focus learning on the acquisition and application of knowledge.

- Provide engaging experiences that challenge our students to excel.

- Expand regional outreach and engagement.

- Align University resources – human, fiscal and physical – with strategic priorities.

To view FSU’s Strategic Plan 2018-2023 online, visit www.frostburg.edu/strategicplan.