

StateLines

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For and about FSU people

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Early copy deadline next week: noon Tuesday, 228 Hitchins or emedcalf@frostburg.edu

This Week at FSU

Thanksgiving Service: Freedom and Hope

Amid the mood of national uncertainty, terrorist threats and international turmoil, students, faculty and staff will gather on Monday, Nov. 24, to celebrate our freedoms and blessings via the FSU Thanksgiving Service. It will take place in Cook Chapel (Frost Hall) at 7 p.m. All persons are welcome.

The FSU Chamber Choir will perform along with individual student musicians. There will also be special readings and an opportunity for personal sharing. Traditional Thanksgiving songs will be sung. We will also dedicate the money which has been raised by numerous campus organizations for the Heifer International Project, an organization which helps third world families to become more self-sufficient.

The service is sponsored by United Campus Ministry, Catholic Campus Ministry, Baptist Campus Ministry and Hillel.

Music

FSU Hosts Tri-State Honor Band Concert

The Tri-State Honor Band Concert will be Saturday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center's Pealer Recital Hall.

Sponsored by the FSU Department of Music, the Tri-State Honor Band is made up of 160 students representing 25 high schools from Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Students are recommended for honor band by their high school band directors, then band members are selected from that number. Some 230 students applied for this year's honor band.

George Parks, director of band at the University of Massachusetts, will be the guest director.

Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens.

Art



'Different Lights' Senior Exhibit at Roper Gallery

The Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery will host the senior portfolio exhibit "Different Lights" through Nov. 26. Featured artists are Shannon Sweeney, Greg Gincley and Paul Mills. For information, call x4797.

Presentations



Social Work Seniors Present Posters

On Monday, Dec. 1, from 3 to 4 p.m. in Guild Center 112, the Department of

Social Work invites the campus community to attend a poster presentation session hosted by the December 2003 social work graduating class. The session showcases the findings from research projects conducted by students as part of their senior internships. Included in the session are the following presentations:

- **Joshua Copeland:** An Analysis of the Effects of Physical Therapy on the Functional Levels of Nursing Home Residents. Internship Site: Devlin Manor Health Care Center. Field Instructor: Christa Breakall.

- **Crystal Kolb:** An Analysis of the Effects of an Incentive Program on Worker Productivity Levels. Internship Site: Archway Station, Inc. Field Instructor: Jackie Morrissey.

- **Lucas McNally:** An Analysis of the Effects of a Male Presence on the Behaviors of Students. Internship Site: The Jefferson School at the Finan Center. Field Instructor: Robert Godfrey.

- **Lois Swartzentruber:** An Analysis of the Effects of Scheduling on Attendance in a Cancer Educational Support Group. Internship Site: Garrett County Health Department, Adult Evaluation and Review Services. Field Instructor: Donna McClintock Fost.

Social work students utilize a single system design research methodology in evaluating their practice with clients in their internship setting. For information, contact Kathy Powell at x4695.

Volunteers



Take Food Bank Donations to Edgewood

Donations to the food bank may be dropped off at Edgewood Commons. There will be a barrel/box to place the food in and the items will be picked up by the food bank the fourth Tuesday of every month. The next pickup will be on Monday, Nov. 24. This should be nonperishable items. The suggested items would be peanut butter, tuna,

beans, etc. These are some of the much-needed items that can help a family to stretch their food dollars in preparing meals. If you have any questions, please contact Christine O'Neil at (301) 689-1396.

Psychology Club to Sponsor Toy Drive

The FSU Psychology Club will be sponsoring a Toy Drive from Nov. 17 until Dec. 12. Toys will be donated to "Toys for Happiness."

They are requesting new, unwrapped

toys for infants to 16 year olds.

Groups to specifically focus on are 1 to 2-year olds and ages 13 and above. Please do not buy any toys that contain glass. Also, please do not donate any food/candy or toys that depict violence such as guns, swords, etc. Donations can be dropped off in the Psychology Department on the second floor of the Guild Center. Signs will indicate a table where you can place the toys. Any questions, please see Dr. Buckner in GC 221 or contact Melissa Warren at melissa1217stars@hotmail.com. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

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Take Note

A Message from President Catherine Gira

FSU President Catherine Gira has been appointed to a new work group of University System of Maryland presidents charged with creating greater effectiveness and efficiency in USM institutions. This group is looking carefully at virtually everything the universities do, from faculty workload, tenure, student time to degree, distance learning, use of classroom space throughout the week, procurement practices, and so forth.

However, because of an important meeting of the group, Dr. Gira was forced to cancel her traditional fall convocation.

Instead, she forwarded to the campus community a copy of the remarks that she had been preparing to share at the convocation. They are reprinted here:

Postscript to Spring Convocation Remarks

November 2003

Subsequent to our spring Convocation in April, 2003, several developments took place which further illustrate that we are, indeed, experiencing difficult—if not the worst of—times, as well as the best of times: The budget got worse. Two additional reductions totaling nearly \$1.9 million were made to our budget for fiscal year '04, which began July 1, 2003. Consequently, we were forced to eliminate, in addition to 22 positions taken back earlier by the State, another 24 positions. Some of these were vacant at the time; in some instances, individuals transferred to other open positions; and in other cases, individuals retired or were laid off. These actions were necessitated by the fact that the majority of our budget is driven by personnel costs, and only by reducing those costs could we save the dollars needed to balance the budget.

The impact of these personnel reductions has been significant. We were unable to fund approximately 18 vacant full-time faculty positions and have been forced to assign approximately 30 class sections to adjunct faculty, who, because of limited hours, cannot provide the full range of services, including out-of-class time, to support instruction. The library lost five full-time professionals when the State eliminated those positions. As a result, no reference librarians are available to students at night or on weekends, when the library is open. Similarly, hours in the computer labs have been reduced and support staff are unavailable during evenings.

For the first time, we were forced to charge students a user fee for health services in order to secure funding to replace a full-time nursing position with a part-time nurse.

Across the campus, operating budgets have been drastically reduced, and the remaining cohort of faculty and staff are being asked to do more with less. There have been no salary increases for three years.

The prospect for next year is equally grim. We have been advised that our

budgets will be “flat,” but, in fact, unfunded mandates (salary increases, insurance increases, cost of new facilities coming on line, etc.) will further reduce our budget by over \$2.1 million. State appropriations total only 33.2% of our current budget, and that amount will drop to 32.2% next year without additional funding. By contrast, tuition revenues currently account for 34%, and they are projected to rise to over 36% in '05, following a recent increase approved by the Board of Regents.

The worst of times? Presumably, it could be worse, but there can be no doubt that Frostburg State University, like all public institutions of higher education in Maryland, is experiencing some of the most difficult times in recent memory, including the recession of the early 1990s. Now, how can I possibly say that in some sense these are the best of times for the University?

Applications are soaring. We had a waiting list of 300 students for the fall semester, some of whom have been offered delayed admission for the spring, when there will be spaces available following our December graduation. Inquiries for the fall of 2004 are running 1,000 ahead of last year at this time.

The quality of our students continues to rise, as indicated by national test scores and grade point averages. SAT scores of entering freshmen have risen 50 points since 1999 and are above both State and national averages. The high school grade point average for entering freshmen is 3.1.

We continue to attract an excitingly diverse student population. The entering class this year includes 16% minority students, of whom approximately 12% are African-American. New international students came from fourteen countries in South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa, bringing the total to 33 countries and further enriching the culture of our campus community.

The down side of all of this is that, without additional revenue, we may be forced to cap enrollments at a time when high school graduation rates are spiraling. None of us wants to do this, but even the recent substantial increases in tuition do not cover the full cost of educating students, and tuitions are already approaching a level that may be unaffordable for many families.

On the other hand, our faculty continue to do outstanding work. Dr. Barbara Hurd, who received a coveted Elkins professorship for \$80,000 from the University System last year to complete her book on caves (*Entering the Stone*), has had the grant renewed for \$75,000 to assist her with her work in progress on the “wrack line,” a study of natural and man-made elements that wash ashore. Her first book in the series, *Stirring the Mud*, inspired by her experience with Finzel swamp and others, has been nationally acclaimed. (The *Los Angeles Times* declared it one of the best books published in 2001.) Her book on caves received a glowing review in the



New York Times and other papers across the country, and Dr. Hurd has been interviewed on NPR in several major cities, including Washington, Philadelphia, and Seattle. This fall, Professor George Plitnik of our physics department was interviewed by a reporter for the Associated Press for his creative approach to teaching advanced scientific theories through fiction. In October, he appeared as a guest on the CBS “Early Show,” and he has been featured on radio interviews in Scotland and Spain as a result of the AP article. Dr. Tom Serfass, one of our biology professors, has been honored as a most distinguished young alumnus by his alma mater, Penn State University. Dr. Serfass will host on our campus next summer an international conference on otters which will draw scholars and researchers from all over the world. Professor Robert Llewellyn of our art department had two of his works featured in an invitational international art exhibit at the Gorohovaya Gallery in St. Petersburg, Russia from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. These are only a few recent examples of the excellent work being done by our faculty, who remain committed to both teaching and scholarship.

Our staff are also outstanding in ways that we do not always appreciate. For example, the threatened devastation of hurricane Isabel brought home to all of us their incredible dedication and resourcefulness. When we learned that we were predicted to be in the literal eye of the hurricane, we assembled everyone on campus who could help us with preparedness: building managers, groundskeepers, residence hall staff, food service managers, communications supervisors, and so forth. Within hours, an evacuation plan to assemble students in buildings with powerful backup generators was in place in the event that we lost power; food service staff prepared cold foods to last for several days if necessary and rented a refrigerated truck to store the food; maintenance workers dug trenches to divert water and mud from the new science center since rain had delayed the completion of the landscaping around the building; the director of media relations had messages out to the campus community and media throughout the state within hours. We involved the Chief of Police of the City of Frostburg in our planning so that students living off campus would be taken care of. In short, everyone knew what needed to be done and went out of his or her way to do it. The exercise was a demonstration of what “community” is all about. Fortunately, the predictions were wrong. We experienced only minor water seepage in two buildings and no damage to trees or grounds. But we were ready, and that is what is important.

The best of times? Perhaps not, but we can continue to take pride in Frostburg State University as an institution in which exciting, diverse, capable students come to study under the tutelage of some of the finest faculty members in their fields, supported by staff who demonstrate every day that students are our reason for being here. And that is much to be proud of!



Announcements

AIG VALIC Rep on Campus Dec. 3

Bill Spencer, financial advisor from AIG VALIC, will be visiting the University on Wednesday, Dec. 3.

Spencer will be in Lane Center 207-208 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on both days to meet with FSU employees who currently are enrolled in a VALIC retirement plan and those who may be interested in enrolling. No appointment is necessary.

Commencement Announcement

Any students planning to complete their studies during the current semester (December 2003) must file for graduation. Undergraduate students should contact the Registrar's Office (x4349, 144 Pullen Hall), while graduate students should submit all necessary paperwork to Graduate Services (x7053, 141 Pullen Hall). Notices regarding Commencement are sent only to those students who have completed all filings.

Caps and gowns are provided at no charge to all students cleared to participate in Commencement; however, each student is responsible for placing an order in advance. Orders should be submitted to the University Bookstore.

Advance information about Commencement is available on the University's Web site. Go to www.frostburg.edu, click on "current students," then on Commencement Information under the Academics heading. (www.frostburg.edu/events/commenc.htm.) This will connect you to full details on Commencement and related activities. For information, contact Beth Deatelhauser in Special Academic Services, x3130, 127 Performing Arts Center or bdeatelhauser@frostburg.edu.

Graduate Students - Dec. Commencement

Applications for graduation are available from the Office of Graduate Services, 141 Pullen Hall or by calling x7053. Applications are due in the Graduate Services Office. The deadline has passed to guarantee a listing in the Commencement Program, but applications will still be processed, and graduates can still participate in Commencement. The Application for Graduation is available on the display rack outside the Office of Graduate Services, 141 Pullen Hall, or by calling x7053.

Points of Pride



FSU's *Administration and Supervision Master's Degree Program* was recognized at a recent conference of the National Policy Board for Educational Administration. The NPBEA honored FSU

for its attainment of accreditation by the Educational Leadership Constituent Council, whose approval is required by NCATE, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. FSU's program is one of only 70 nationwide to have such approval, out of more than 500 similar programs.

The **FSU baseball team**, 36 players and the coaching staff, recently volunteered three hours with the Clarysville Volunteer Fire Department, assisting with its annual testing of pumps and hoses on its tanker.

Keith Schlegel, English, performed his one-man show, "The Good Gray Poet," at Loyola College in Baltimore, Nov. 10 and 11, and at Garrett College on Nov. 17. In the monologue, researched and written by Schlegel, he provides a historical characterization of America's most well-known poet as he might have appeared to the public during America's Centennial. Following the monologue, "Walt Whitman" responds to questions from the audience.

Tom Serfass was the keynote speaker for the European Otter Conference: The Return of the Otter in Europe - Where and How? The conference was attended by researchers from 20 countries and was hosted at Sabhal Mor Ostaig College on the Isle of Skye in Scotland, June 30 to July 5.

Serfass also recently published the following paper with his former graduate student, **Matt Dzialalk**: "Effects of Flumazenil of Fishers Martes Pennanti Restrained with Tiletamine-zolazepam," in *Wildlife Biology* 9:235-239, 2003.

Matt is a 1999 graduate of the Department of Biology's M.S. program in Wildlife Biology and will finish his Ph.D. program in Wildlife Ecology this semester at the University of Kentucky.

Get Involved



Baptist Student Ministry

The BSM invites the campus to B.A.S.I.C. on Tuesday, Nov. 25, at 7:30 p.m. This is BSM's weekly praise and worship service led by students for students. Everyone is welcome to attend. This week is "Youth Night," in which high school juniors and seniors from the area are invited to attend to experience this student-led time of worship. For more information, contact Matt Robertson at (301) 689-2588 or fsubsm@LWOL.COM. For all of BSM's weekly and monthly activities, check out the web page at <http://goliath.frostburg.edu/BSM>.

On Channel 3



FSU TV 3 Schedule for Nov. 24- 28

Monday:

3 p.m. "News Notes"
3:05 p.m. "Eye On Frostburg" Episode 3

3:35 p.m. Live at the Loft: Osalados
5 p.m. Frostburg City Council Meeting from Thursday, Nov. 20.

Tuesday:

3 & 6 p.m. Cafe Frostburg: Sol Y Canto
4:20 & 7:20 p.m. Author: Bill Irwin

Wednesday:

3:05 & 6:05 p.m. "Eye On Frostburg" Episode 3

3:35 & 6:35 p.m. Live at the Loft:

Bingman & Wilhelm

5 & 8 p.m. Urban Music Report

Thursday and Friday:

No programming. Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving weekend!

International



Apply for Summer Programs Overseas Now

Students who are interested in studying overseas during the summer should submit an application to the CIE as soon as possible. Applications are being accepted for summer programs in Ecuador, Ireland, Ghana and England. For information about summer programs, or to download an application, visit the CIE website at: www.frostburg.edu/admin/cie/cie.htm or phone the CIE at x4714.

Boren Scholarships - Deadline Dec. 12

The Institute of International Education, a NAFSA Global Partner, is accepting applications for the 2004-05 National Security Education Program (NSEP) David L. Boren undergraduate scholarships for study abroad during summer 2004, fall 2004 and spring 2005. These scholarships provide funding for U.S. students to study abroad in Asia, Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, the NIS, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East. Award amounts range from a maximum of \$10,000 a semester to \$20,000 for an academic year.

Application deadline for FSU students is Dec. 12. For details and an application form, access www.iie.org/nsep. Students must apply through the CIE and must be accepted on to a study abroad program by Feb. 12 to qualify.

Study Abroad Programs

The Center for International Education offers a variety of ways for FSU students to see the world. In many cases, students register at FSU during a semester abroad and can take all financial aid with them and transfer credit back to FSU. For information on any of the programs or scholarships that may be available, check with Dr. Amy Simes at the CIE in the Fuller House on Braddock Road, call her at x4714 or e-mail her at asimes@frostburg.edu, or visit the CIE's Web page at www.frostburg.edu/admin/cie/cie.htm or the newsletter at www.frostburg.edu/admin/cie/

newsletter.htm.

Snow and French Winter Term in Quebec

Students interested in studying at the University of Quebec in Chicoutimi can apply through the CIE for this three week program that includes French courses, snow sports, and an introduction to the unique quebecoise culture. Students take a placement exam and are placed in French courses accordingly (including introductory French). Lodging is with homestay families in the city of Chicoutimi. Cost is just \$1,400. For further information, contact the CIE at x4714.

Semester Overseas for Same Price as FSU

The International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) allows FSU students to register at FSU, pay FSU tuition and housing, and then study overseas for a semester, year or summer at one of more than 140 locations. Students may take financial aid with them and apply for scholarships from the CIE and from ISEP. For the price of an airline ticket, this is a great way to earn credit toward your FSU degree while enjoying life in a foreign culture. Apply now for fall 2004.

Study in Non-Traditional Locations

FSU is affiliated with the School for International Training. This enables FSU students to study through SIT in over 50 locations while remaining registered at FSU. All financial aid will transfer. SIT offers programs in Africa, Asia, South America, Europe and Austral-asia. This is a fantastic opportunity for students who would like to spend a semester, year or summer off the beaten track.

Gain Work/Volunteer Experience Overseas

Students interested in working abroad should come by the CIE for information about internships, volunteer organizations and paid work overseas. Many organizations help students obtain jobs and work permits, and some help to arrange housing as well. Students can choose from short experiences (one to two months) to longer experiences (four to 12 months), or even look into a more serious commitment (one to three years). Destinations are available throughout the world.



Safety Message

Prevent Slips and Falls

The Office of Human Resources Safety Office reminds everyone that preventing slips and falls on ice and snow is an individual responsibility. The following tips are just common sense to keep you on your feet.

- Survey the situation. Which is the safest way for you to get to your building?
- Take your time, slow down and take small steps.
- Use sidewalks, stairs, service roads and parking lots that have been cleared or treated.
- Keep hands out of your pockets and free of items to assist with your balance.
- When entering your vehicle, hold

firmly to the door and grab a hold of the steering wheel until you are sitting on the seat.

- When leaving your vehicle, hold firmly to the door, turn and sit on the edge of your seat and look at the ground where your feet will be placed.
- Wear footwear that is practical for the weather conditions. Wear rubber, rough-soled footwear that will help prevent a slip.
- Keep a small bag of sand, gravel, bird seed or table salt to give you traction in an emergency.

Holiday Safety Tips

Here are a few of our every day safety tips that will prevent accidents, sickness and injury to you and your family during the Holiday Season.

- Change the batteries in your smoke detector and test it after the installation.
- Do not place a live tree near a heating source.
- Do not use decorative lights that show wear or frayed wiring.
- Do not overload your electrical circuits.
- Do not place cardboard, decorative paper or gift wrappings close to a heat source.
- Do not block the exit doors at your residence with seasonal decorations, furniture, gifts or boxes.
- Do not leave candles unattended.

- Do not allow young people in a room alone with candles.
- Do not allow young people to be left alone in the kitchen.
- Do not allow young people around the stove or oven when cooking or baking.
- Do not allow chicken or turkey to defrost at room temperature.
- Turkey or chicken is done when the inner thigh reaches 180 degrees and the inside stuffing (if used) is 165 degrees.
- Keep food, utensils, cutting board, preparation surfaces and hands clean when cooking.
- When traveling during winter weather be sure to carry your winter-survival kit in your vehicle. It should include a flashlight, extra batteries, small shovel, boots, gloves, blankets, candles, compass, first-aid kit, flares, energy snacks such as dried fruit and nuts kept in a small metal container and a bag of sand, gravel, cat litter or bird seed for traction on ice.

Correction

In the item titled "Donate Your Old Cell Phones" in previous issues, the office name and phone number for Paula Vroman were incorrect. She is in the Center for Regional Progress and her number is (301) 697-9799.

FSU Events Calendar

Look for the FSU weekly events calendar on the Web at www.frostburg.edu/weekcal.htm



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Intersession Registration (With Payment) through December 12

- * Advising/Registration 9:00 a.m. Lane ARMAH
- * UCM/CCM/BSM/Hillel Thanksgiving Service 7:00 p.m. Cook Chapel
- * Men's JV Basketball: Frederick Community Clg. 7:00 p.m. Away

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

- * Women's Basketball: Mary Washington College 6:00 p.m. Home
- * BURG Stress Relief Program 7:00 p.m. ... Lane Atkinson Room
- * Men's Basketball: Indiana University of PA 7:30 p.m. Away
- * *Christmas from Dublin featuring Three Irish Tenors* 7:30 p.m. PAC Drama Theatre
- * B.A.S.I.C. 7:30 p.m. BSM Center

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

- Residence Halls Close @ 7:00 p.m.
- * *Christmas from Dublin featuring Three Irish Tenors* 7:30 p.m. PAC Drama Theatre

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, and FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28 •Thanksgiving Break

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- * Men's Basketball: Muskingum College 3:00 p.m. Home
- * Women's Basketball: Gallaudet Univ. Tournament 6 p.m./8 p.m. Away

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- Residence Halls Open @ Noon
- * Women's Basketball: Gallaudet Univ. Tournament 1 p.m./3 p.m. Away

* **Open to the public. Questions? – Call 301-687-4411. All information subject to change.**

FSU is committed to making all of its programs, services, and activities accessible to persons with disabilities. You may request accommodations through the ADA Compliance Office, 302 Hitchins, 301-687-4102, TDD 301-687-7955.



Safety is a Shared Responsibility