FSU will celebrate and recognize the achievements of its 2009 graduating class during the University’s 135th commencement ceremonies on Saturday, Dec. 19, in the Harold J. Cordts Physical Education Center’s Main Arena on the FSU campus.

Dr. Jonathan C. Gibralter, FSU president, will confer degrees on graduates. The College of Business and the College of Education ceremonies will start at 10 a.m., and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will present degrees at 2 p.m.

In addition, FSU will grant Distinguished Alumnus Achievement Awards to Barbara B. Graves and Kenneth A. Oldham Jr.

Emily Morrison, College of Business; Kelly Elliton, College of Education; and Deannah Taylor, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, are the featured student speakers for the winter commencement exercises.

Emily Morrison

Emily Morrison is called “a rare gem” of a student and uniquely well-rounded by her professors, who praise her stellar academics and interest in the arts and service. Morrison, from Martinsburg, W.Va., is graduating with a major in accounting, with concentrations in business administration and dance. She has received numerous awards, including the Accounting Department Scholarship and the Sarfino and Rhoades Scholarship, and was inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma Business Honorary Fraternity. As a Summer Youth Employment Program coordinator for WorkForce WV last summer, she placed and monitored 50 youths in 18 job sites. She has also successfully completed an internship with a CPA firm in Hagerstown, Md. In addition to her exceptional academic and internship performance, Morrison has been active on campus, dancing with the FSU Dance Company, volunteering for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and tutoring in financial and managerial accounting.

Kelly Elliton

Kelly Elliton, of Huntingtown, Md., impressed her professors because she is “so willing to give of herself for the sake of the children she teaches.” An elementary education major with a specialization in elementary and middle school math, she was a co-chair for Read Across America at FSU, where she organized and assigned volunteers, and was a race marshal and time-keeper for the Special Olympics in two locations. She was honored with the Senatorial Scholarship at FSU and the Academic Excellence Award and the Future Teacher’s Club Leadership Award at the College of Southern Maryland. She is active in the Maryland State Education Association and the FSU chapter of the Maryland Student Education Association. Rated by her professors as “flexible, as well as organized and enthusiastic in the classroom,” Elliton will serve her future students well.

Deannah Taylor

Deannah Taylor, of Glen Burnie, Md., will graduate with a double major in Spanish and psychology while demonstrating a rigorous academic excellence, an active role in extracurricular activities, and, most importantly, a devotion to the care of her 5-year-old daughter. Taylor won the Best Presentation Award at the departmental research symposium, discussing internship research on the redesigned General Psychology course. She was the unanimous choice for undergraduate learning assistant for that course and was teaching assistant for the Summer Online Freshmen Initiative. She studied in Spain in 2007, one of only four FSU students chosen, and has been a camp counselor and taught Spanish in an elementary after-school program. Her motivation is to help others, particularly children; she will continue her education to become a clinical child psychologist.

At the morning ceremony, FSU will honor alumna Barbara B. Graves, class of 1966, of La Plata, Md. For over 40 years, Graves’ willingness to find new ways to engage her students and colleagues in the learning process has led to respect from her peers and success from her students. She started her career teaching high school English and social studies, then moved into supervision and curriculum development. She also worked in the professional development of educators, within school systems, for national organizations and businesses and in McDaniel College’s graduate program. Graves “challenged her students academically in the classroom, as she opened her heart in the most gracious way to share their joys and sorrows,” says a fellow alum, with a vision of education clearly focused on how to best meet students’ needs. Even in retirement, she continues to work for her profession, creating and leading a new-teacher mentoring program in Charles County.

Alumnus Kenneth A. Oldham Jr., of Frederick, Md., will be honored at the afternoon ceremony. In less than five years as president of the National Philharmonic, Oldham, class of 1998, has transformed it from a small $350,000 community orchestra and chorale into a $2 million regional powerhouse performing at the world-class Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda. The National Philharmonic will perform for more than 50,000 people in the 2009-2010 Strathmore season, including 20,000 second- and fifth-graders. Oldham is a member of the FSU Foundation’s Board of Directors, sits on the Steering Committee of Stark & Our Claim The Campaign for Frostburg and is a member of FSU’s Old Main Society. He chairs the Community Arts Grants Committee at the Frederick Arts Council and is a 2008 graduate and current member of Leadership Montgomery.

Tickets are not required for admission to the winter commencement. For info, visit www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement.
FSU to Host Three-Day Grant-Writing Workshop

FSU will host a three-day workshop on grant-writing led by the Grant Training Center of Arlington, Va. The sessions will be Tuesday, Jan. 19, to Friday, Jan. 22, running from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Sessions will be in Compton 224. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

The workshop is designed to help participants develop, prepare and write successful grant proposals, research and identify appropriate funding sources and understand the diversity of the grant-funding community. Participants will learn the key elements of proposals, and the session will also cover approaches for various donors and other issues common to groups seeking funding. Practice in crafting the components of a proposal will be a key part of each day. Every participant should leave with a full content proposal outline.

For info on the sessions and fees, contact the FSU Office for Research and Sponsored Programs at x7097.

Where's Everybody Going?

Reservations are no longer being taken in the Lane University Center because of preparations for the move to the Hall. However, the Lane Center will remain open through Thursday, Dec. 17, when it will close at 4:30 p.m. The following offices have relocated to Tawes:

- **Jamie Winters**, assistant director, Student Activities/Greek Life – Tawes 130
- **Missy Kortz**, SCI Graphic Design – Tawes 132
- **Jennifer Scarborough**, Catering Office – Tawes 103A
- **Mary Jane Plummer**, director, Cultural Event Series 128A
- **Donna Briner**, box office manager, CES, and **Susan Hanger**, CES grant writer – Tawes 128A
- **Melanie Moore**, CES Educational Outreach coordinator – Tawes 133
- **Retail Office** – Tawes 145
- **Lisa Rogers** – Tawes 143

The Student and Community Involvement Department offices have closed but will begin operating in Tawes on Monday, Dec. 14. Below is a list of locations for the remaining offices relocating to Tawes:

- **Bill Mandicott**, assistant VP, Student & Community Involvement – Tawes 128-2
- **Robert Webber**, director, Lane Center – Tawes 129A
- **Robert Cooper**, director, Student Activities – Tawes 129
- **Karen Reider**, administrative assistant – Tawes 128
- **Autumn Brode**, administrative assistant – Tawes 128
- **Austin Hout**, assistant director, Production Services – Tawes 133
- **SGA, Kathy Perkins/Bottom Line** – Tawes 137
- **Mark Miller**, LUC setup manager – Tawes 139A
- **UPC Office** – Tawes 142
- **BSA Office** – Tawes 141
- **Greek Life Extension Office** – Tawes 140

Food service and the Lane Information Desk will remain open and operational until Thursday, Dec. 17. There will be no evening food service this day.

For info, contact Robert Webber at x7084 or rwebber@frostburg.edu.

Put Yourself and Your Friends in the Yearbook!

Log onto http://images.ostens.com, enter the user ID 400007745 and the password bobcats.

It’s easy and free! The yearbook staff reserves the right to review all pictures and disregard any that are inappropriate. Not all pictures will used because of space constraints. For info, contact Ashley Daniels at andaniel@frostburg.edu.

Results of 2009 NSSE Available

As part of its ongoing program of assessing student learning, FSU is an active participant in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), an annual survey of over one million first-time and senior students at over 600 institutions. The NSSE obtains information about student participation in institutional programs and activities that support learning and personal development. The results provide an estimate of how undergraduates spend their time and what they gain from attending college. Survey items on the NSSE represent empirically confirmed “good practices” in undergraduate education.

A summary of FSU’s 2009 NSSE results is now posted on the Office of Planning and Assessment Web page at www.frostburg.edu/academic/classassessment/NSSE.htm. These results are based on the responses of 415 randomly selected FSU students.

FSU Student Winners Who Completed the NSSE

To encourage participation in the NSSE, the Office of Planning and Assessment awarded ten $50 FSU Bookstore gift cards to randomly selected students. Congratulations to the winners:

- **Kenneth Dotter**
- **Sidiki Tarawali**
- **Sarah Sine**
- **Sara Matthews**
FSU Seniors to Participate in CLA Initiative

Measuring student learning outcomes is an essential component of FSU’s institutional assessment plan, designed to help understand and improve the student experience. As part of this strategy, 100 graduating seniors are invited to participate in Phase II of the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) in spring 2010. The Office of Planning and Assessment successfully completed Phase I in fall 2009 by administering the CLA instrument to 100 first-time freshmen.

The CLA instrument measures students’ critical thinking, analytic reasoning, problem solving and written communication skills. It compares freshmen and senior academic achievement and examines whether improvement in average student performance between entry and graduation is in line with that of comparable students at other institutions.

For info about the Collegiate Learning Assessment, visit www.collegiatelearningassessment.org.

Allen Hall to Undergo Renovations

Beginning Monday, Dec. 21, Allen Hall will undergo renovations of all bathrooms, student rooms and common areas. Similar to last year’s renovations in Diehl Hall, this project will run through the summer and spring semester, with the hall scheduled to reopen in summer 2010.

Allen Hall students will be displaced from their rooms for the spring semester, but will have the opportunity to select another space on campus. Every effort will be made to assign students to a hall and with a roommate of their choice: this includes the effort to place students with their current roommate(s) in an empty room. Residents of other halls who do not have roommates will be required to share rooms with other such residents. Room changes will be completed before students leave for the holiday break.

Students with concerns can speak with their hall staff or contact the Residence Life Office at x4212.

Graduating Dec. 19?

The 135th commencement ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 19, in the Cordts PE Center. The College of Business and College of Education will hold their service at 10 a.m., while the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will present its graduates at the 2 p.m. ceremony.

Two mailings with commencement information have been sent to your home and local addresses. The most recent mailing was sent during the third week of November. These mailings are also posted on the Commencement Web site at www.frostburg.edu/events/ commencement under “Information and Resources for Graduates.”

Caps and gowns are provided at no cost to graduates and may be picked up in the bookstore. They will also be available immediately before and after graduation rehearsal in the Cordts Main Arena lobby Friday, Dec. 18 at 4 p.m.

Full details about Commencement are on the University’s Web site at www.frostburg.edu/events/ commencement.

For info, contact Brittni Teter at x4423 or bteter@frostburg.edu.

Points of Pride

FSU Students Present to Appalachian Regional Commission

Eleven students in Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas’s Folklore in Appalachia class at FSU made presentations to the Appalachian Teaching Project Student Research Presentations program in Washington, D.C., recently. Hosted by the Appalachian Regional Commission and Consortium of Appalachian Colleges, the students spoke about Mountain City Traditional Arts on Main Street in Frostburg, a storefront center dedicated to the education, sales, documentation and perpetuation of arts in the Appalachian region. Over the past year, students have been instrumental in documenting potential artists, and preparing and designing the shop space, which officially opened its doors on May 30. Students also planned workshops and oversaw a series of events, including a small roots music performance at the venue. The student projects were sponsored by a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission. From left in the front row are students Beth Campbell, Christina Williams, Mitra Karimian, Jenna Tenney, Amy Chesa and their professor, Dr. Kara Rogers Thomas. In the back row are Dr. Cindy Herzog, FSU associate dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Al Feldstein of the Maryland Department of Planning; and students Mark Collins, Austin Persons, Nathan Beeman, Andrew Miller, Carl Burkhart and Christopher Massimino.

MD Charity Campaign a Success

The Maryland Charity Campaign 2009 ended on Nov. 30. The total donation received was $5,783, more than $197 over last year’s contribution. Thank you to all donors for their contributions! Thanks also to the site coordinators!

Get Involved

Upcoming Greek Events

A national sorority recruitment information night will be held Tuesday, Feb. 2, in Dunkle 21B. The time has not yet been set.

Applications are on the FSU Web site under Student and Community Involvement under Greek Life.

To be eligible for FSU Greek Life: For sororities you must have completed 12 credit hours. Cumulative grade point averages vary by organizations, but ours require a 2.4 or
2.5. Check the national Web pages for more specific information. You must have a minimum 2.3 cumulative grade point average and 12 completed academic credit hours for all fraternities, professional and music organizations.

For NPHC organizations, cumulative grade point averages vary by organizations, but must require a 2.4 or above. Check the perspective NPHC organizations’ Web pages for more information. Look for Alpha Phi Alpha, Omega Psi Phi and Kappa Alpha Psi to possibly be colonizing in spring 2010.

The Greek organizations at FSU are:
- NPHC sororities: Alpha Sigma Tau
  - Alpha Sigma Alpha
  - Delta Zeta
- National interest sorority: Kappa Beta Gamma
- IFC fraternities: Sigma Tau Gamma
  - Sigma Alpha Epsilon
  - Tau Kappa Epsilon
  - Pi Lambda Phi
  - Phi Mu Delta
  - Delta Chi
- Professional: Delta Sigma Pi – business co-ed
  - Alpha Phi Omega – community service co-ed
- Music: Sigma Alpha Iota
  - Phi Mu Alpha
  - Delta Omicron
- NPHC:
  - Iota Phi Theta
  - Sigma Gamma Rho
  - Phi Beta Sigma

Congratulations to Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority for being cleared by its national headquarters to charter on Saturday, Feb. 27! Congratulations to the Black Team for leading the Greek Week competitions for fall 2009! Teams will be adjusted as new NPHC groups join the Greek community. The competition is fierce, but it isn’t over until the last day of competition at Relay for Life. Congratulations to the Red Team for taking home the Turkey Bowl Trophy from the second annual event! Look for more Greek Life events in “Statelines” in spring 2010.

‘Vagina Monologues’ to Be Performed

“Vagina Monologues” will be performed Friday, Feb. 12, and Saturday, Feb. 13. For info, e-mail Director Lucy Opal Ragland at loraigland@frostburg.edu.

“Vagina Monologues” is presented as part of the V-DAY College Campaign. V-DAY is an organization working to end violence against women and girls worldwide, and has been a major movement on campus since 2002, raising over $40,000 for two local beneficiaries: the Family Crisis Resource Center and the Dove Center. For info, visit www.vday.org or contact V-DAY FSU’s coordinator, Dawn Lucas, at dluca@frostburg.edu.

Santa Train Raffle

Dr. Joan DeVee Dixon has donated a Santa Train to be raffled off to benefit MCTA program offerings. Look for the train in the front window. Tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5.

Message Board

FSU-TV3 cablecasts an automated educational and community message channel when not showing video programming. The channel provides info about FSU events, non-profit organizations and community events. If you have an activity announcement to advertise, log on to www.frostburg.edu/dept/mcom/channel3/admin-pic/ef_upload.cfm, enter the information and click submit. A graphic or pre-made message can be loaded as well. Submit requests at least one week in advance.

For info, contact Melanie Lombardi at x3011 or mlombardi@frostburg.edu.

Taping Request Form

FSU-TV3 has a Taping Request Form for groups or departments interested in having a speaker or musician taped to air on FSU-TV3. Log on to www.frostburg.edu/dept/mcom/channel3/tapingrequestform.htm. Fill in all required information and hit submit. Be sure to give FSU-TV3 at least four weeks’ notice.

Dec. 14-18 Schedule

For more: http://fsutv3.frostburg.edu/ Cablecast/Public/Schedule.aspx?channelID=1

Monday:
3 p.m. NASA Connect: Venus Transit
3:30 p.m. NASA Connect: Rocket to the Stars
4 p.m. NASA 360, Welcome to NASA 360!
4:30 p.m. Learning Math: Patterns, Functions & Algebra: Linear Functions & Slope
5 p.m. Bridging World History: Global Popular Culture
5:30 p.m. The Habitable Planet: Energy Challenges
6 p.m. Essential Science for Teachers: Physical Science: What Is Matter?
7 p.m. Frostburg Roadtrip: Miami & Puerto Rico
8:15 p.m. 2009 Live at the Depot Featuring Hannah Livingston
8:30 p.m. NASA 360, Welcome to NASA 360!
9 p.m. ThinkTalk Presents Director’s Cut Featuring R.W. Goodwin & Spotlight: Lance Gross
9:30 p.m. ThinkTalk Presents Director’s Cut With Ryan Fleck and Anna Boden and Director’s Cut With Garth Jennings and Nick Goldsmith
10 p.m. FSU Men’s Basketball vs. Penn State-Behrend, Dec. 6, 2008
11:30 p.m. Frostburg Tonight

International Study Abroad

The Center for International Education offers ways for FSU students to see the world. In some cases, students can pay FSU tuition, room and board and study for a semester in Ireland, England, Spain, France or many other countries. For info, visit the Fuller House (across the street from Braddock House) or call x4714.

Grad Students

Grad Student News

Attention Seniors

You can take up to 7 credit hours of graduate coursework your senior year. Tuition for graduate coursework is free for full-time undergraduate seniors.

Community

MCTA December Offerings

The following is a list of Mountain City Traditional Arts' offerings. Classes are held at MCTA, 25 E. Main St., Frostburg. For info, call x8040 or e-mail mountaincitytradarts@gmail.com.

Ornament-Making Hands On

Children from toddlers to teens can stop by and create hand-crafted ornaments on Wednesday, Dec. 16, from 3 to 5 p.m. Projects will be available for all ages. Artist Jeanne Gibbons will host the gatherings.

Spinning Fiber

A few people meet at MCTA on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. (weather permitting!) to spin fiber for an hour or two. This is a gathering and sharing, not a formal class or workshop. Everyone is welcome to come join in or just watch random fiber being transformed into yarn. Those who want to spin fiber will need to bring their own wheel or spindle as well as fiber and tools. For info, contact Melissa Mertz at info@rocking-m.com.

Holiday Cards

Kids can stop by MCTA through December to craft a holiday card.

Letters to Santa

Children can stop by MCTA through Wednesday, Dec. 23, to draft and mail their letters to Santa. The event is supported by FrostburgFirst.
Tuesday:
3 p.m. Down to Earth: Season II, Episode 3
3:30 p.m. LEAD TV: Season III, Episode 3
4 p.m. FSU Women's Basketball vs. Penn State-Behrend
6 p.m. Fall 2009 Dance Concert
7 p.m. LEAD-TV Episode 6 Featuring "The Road to Obama: Celebrating African American Leadership" Panel Discussion
9:15 p.m. 2009 Live at the Depot Featuring Bear Hill Bluegrass
9:30 p.m. 2009 Live at the Depot Featuring Amy Fabbrini & Amanda Barger
9:45 p.m. 2009 Live at the Depot Featuring Greg Latta
10:00 p.m. Down to Earth: Season II, Episode 3
10:30 p.m. LEAD TV: Season III, Episode 3
11 p.m. FSU Women's Basketball vs. Penn State-Behrend

Wednesday:
3 p.m. NASA: Destination Tomorrow, Program 25
3:30 p.m. NASA: Destination Tomorrow, Program 4
4 p.m. Democracy in America: Political Parties, Mobilizing Agents
4:30 p.m. Learning Math: Numbers & Operations: Fractions, Percents & Ratios
5 p.m. Earth Revealed: Living With the Earth, Part 2
5:30 p.m. Social Studies in Action: Economic Dilemmas & Solutions
6 p.m. Voices in the Wind: Episode 6
6:30 p.m. NASA 360, Green Technologies and NASA
7 p.m. American Passages, A Literary Survey: Exploring Borderlands
7:30 p.m. FSU Women's Lacrosse Game vs. Susquehanna
9:15 p.m. Motivational Speaker: Sandy Queen
10 p.m. Voices in the Wind: Episode 6
10 p.m. FSU Percussion Ensemble Concert, Spring 2006
11 p.m. Second Annual Frostburg Idol

Thursday:
3 p.m. Down to Earth: Season II, Episode 3
3:30 p.m. LEAD TV: Season III, Episode 3
4 p.m. FSU Football vs. Moravian College Nov. 12, 2005

Friday:
3 p.m. SciFiles: The Case of the Ocean Odyssey
4 p.m. Connecting With the Arts: Teaching Practices Library 68: Two Dance Collaborations
4:30 p.m. Exploring the World of Music: The Transformative Power of Music
5 p.m. American Cinema: The Star
6 p.m. Human Geography: People, Places & Change: Water is for Fighting Over
6:30 p.m. NASA 360, Archaeology/Paleontology
7 p.m. Frostburg Roadtrip: New York
8 p.m. Fifth Annual African Student Association Fashion Showcase: "See Africa Through Our Eyes"
10 p.m. FSU Women's Basketball vs. Villa Julie, Dec. 3, 2006
11:30 p.m. Ghosts of Frostburg

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**McNair Scholars: Ph.D.s for Students**

The deadline for applications for the McNair Scholars Program for summer 2010 is Friday, Jan. 15. Interested students are encouraged to review the application and request supporting materials (e.g., letters of recommendation, transcripts) before the holiday break.

To be eligible, a student must be a low-income, first-generation college student or from a group that is traditionally underrepresented in graduate education programs (such as Hispanic, African-American or Native American students or women in science and technology.) The ideal candidate will have completed the sophomore year by May 2010 and have a GPA of 2.8 or higher. Juniors also are eligible. Participants receive unparalleled support, including paid summer research experiences, coursework and assistance in preparing for graduate school.

For info, contact Dr. Mary Mumper, faculty coordinator, at x4359; Dr. Mary Gartner, associate provost, at x4212; or Harriet Douglas, director of Student Support Services, at x4263. Additional info and the application form can be accessed at [http://www.aap.umd.edu/mcnairprogram.html](http://www.aap.umd.edu/mcnairprogram.html).

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**FSU Events Calendar**

**MONDAY, DEC. 14**
Final Exams
Bookstore Buyback ............................................ 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ........... Tawes Hall Annex

**TUESDAY, DEC. 15**
Final Exams
Bookstore Buyback ............................................ 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ........... Tawes Hall Annex

**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 16**
Final Exams
Interim Course Cancellations
Bookstore Buyback ............................................ 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ........... Tawes Hall Annex

**THURSDAY, DEC. 17**
Final Exams
Bookstore Buyback ............................................ 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ........... Tawes Hall Annex

**FRIDAY, DEC. 18**
Final Exams
Residence Halls Close – 7 p.m.
Bookstore Buyback ............................................ 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ........... Tawes Hall Annex
Women's Basketball: Juniata, Huntingdon, Pa. ...... 6 p.m. ......................... Away

**SATURDAY, DEC. 19 – Graduation Day!**
Commencement Ceremony:
College of Business and College of Education... 10 a.m. .................. Cordts Main Arena
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences............... 2 p.m. .................. Cordts Main Arena

**SUNDAY, DEC. 20**
Men's Basketball: Christopher Newport .......... 2 p.m. .................. Home
Planetarium: "Christmas and Seasonal Feasts"... 4 & 7 p.m. ................. Tawes Hall Annex

**MONDAY, DEC. 21**
Women's Basketball: La Roche ...................... 1 p.m. .................. Home
Men's Basketball: La Roche .......................... 3 p.m. .................. Home

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.

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**Don’t Let Safety Take a Holiday!**