



StateLines

For and about FSU people

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FSU to Celebrate Student Achievement at 147th Commencement



Joseph
Howser

FSU celebrates the achievements of the fall 2014 graduating class with the 147th Commencement ceremony on **Saturday, Dec. 19**. The ceremony for the colleges of Business, Education and Liberal Arts and Sciences will take place at 2 p.m. in the Main Arena of the Cordts PE Center.

FSU Interim President **Dr. Tom Bowling** will address the graduating class and confer degrees. Featured commencement student speakers will be **Joseph Howser**, College of Business; **Jacqueline Kibunja**, College of Education; and **Caitlin Squires**, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Greetings and congratulations will be offered from University System of Maryland Regent **James T. Brady**.

Howser, of Cumberland, will graduate with a major in accounting with a minor in business administration. He is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the international business honor society, and the FSU Accounting Association and was a participant in the Sloop Institute for Excellence in Leadership. He has been a federal procurement intern with IBM in Rocket Center, W.Va., since 2014. His professors have admired his excellence in academics, his professional manner and his willingness to always engage in classroom activities. He has secured a post-graduation internship with RSM, the nation's fifth-largest accounting firm, and plans to pursue his CPA.



Jacqueline
Kibunja

Kibunja, of Silver Spring, will graduate with a major in elementary education with a specialization in English/language arts. She has done internships in elementary and middle schools. She has earned the Black Student Association Academic Achievement award, the Howard P. Rawlings grant and the Frostburg State University grant. She has been involved with the Frostburg Student Education Association, the National Council of Negro Women and the Delta Zeta National Sorority where she served as Risk Management chair. Her professors admire her aptitude for teaching, the quality of her coursework and her position as a leader who has gained the respect and admiration of her peers.



Caitlin
Squires

Squires, of Oldtown, will graduate with a major in mass communication. She was involved in the staging of the annual Halloween Costume Competition in Cumberland, Md., where she worked alongside the City of Cumberland Parks and Recreation Department. She is the co-producer for the FSU-TV3 show "The Frostburg Experience." She has interned at Allegany College of Maryland, did a volunteer internship at Allegany County Circuit Court and had a practicum with Allegany Magazine. She is also active in community service, leading drives to provide gifts to underprivileged children. Her professors and intern supervisor admire her

work ethic, her initiative to go above and beyond the assignment guidelines, her drive for self-improvement and her keen attention to detail.

Interim Provost **Dr. Ahmad Tootoonchi**; **Dr. Clarence Golden**, dean of the College of Education; **Dr. Sudhir Singh**, interim dean of the College of Business; and **Dr. Joseph Hoffman**, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, will present candidates for degrees during commencement.

Tickets are required to attend commencement. For info, visit, www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement.

The ceremony will be streamed live online. Visit www.frostburg.edu on the day of the commencement for the link. To join in the celebration on social media, share your best Commencement photos on Instagram, Twitter and Tumblr by tagging them with #instaFrostburg, and tweet out your congratulations and photos using the hashtag #FrostburgGRAD.

Theatre

Theatre and Dance to Perform Family-Friendly Holiday Show ‘Coney Island Christmas’



“Coney Island Christmas” features an ensemble of FSU students and local children, including, clockwise from top, Marcella Dodge as Lady Liberty; FSU student Willard Brewington as Mr. Hilton; Sophia Brill, ensemble; Charlie Porter, ensemble; and FSU student Maureen Groff as Young Shirley.

Theatre and Dance at FSU will present Donald Margulies’ hilarious and heartwarming “Coney Island Christmas,” a holiday show for all ages and faiths, **Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 10 through 12**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Drama Theatre of the Performing Arts Center. In addition, a matinee performance will take place on **Sunday, Dec. 13**, at 2 p.m. Family-friendly festivities will begin 45 minutes before curtain time in the front lobby, with light refreshments by Chartwells available for purchase.

The show is based on a 1959 Grace Paley short story, “The Loudest Voice,” about a Jewish girl named Shirley from a working-class family living in 1930s Brooklyn. Because of her booming voice, she is enlisted by her well-meaning but culturally oblivious teacher to play the part of Jesus in a Christmas musical at her public school, a prospect that delights the budding young thespian but doesn’t thrill her mother. As the present-day, much older Shirley shares the memory with her great-granddaughter, we are captivated by the merriment, nostalgia and music of the era. Hailed by Backstage as “the biggest hit of the jam-packed holiday season” and “perfect for families,” Coney Island Christmas weaves a beautiful and charming tale of what it means to be an American during the holidays.

Directed by **Mairzy Yost-Rushton**, the show features a large cast of FSU students and community children who play a variety of charming and humorous roles.

FSU student performers include **Alex Hemphill** as Shirley, **Maureen Groff** as the young Shirley, **Austin Hueg** as Mr. Abramowitz, **Willard Brewington** as Mr. Hilton, **Lucy Blumberg** as Miss Glace, **Stephanie Taubert** as Mrs. Abramowitz and **Alexandra West** as Mrs. Kornblum, with ensemble performances by **Carl McManus**, **Madeline Peirce**, **Kenneth Waters Jr.** and **Jasmine Proctor**.

The creative FSU student team includes **James LaDow**, lighting designer; **Erik Braun**, props master; **Matthew Clark**, music coach; **Rachel Boch**, stage manager; **Alejandro Portillo Romero**, assistant stage manager; and **Jennifer Grein**, assistant director.

Local child performers include Milana Armiento, Ethan Kwok, Steven Ness, Molly Twigg, Ellie Ness, Sophia Brill, Donny Ness, Charlie Porter, Avery Samples, Penelope White, Marcella Aliyah Dodge, Emilia Porter, Spencer Samples, Emily Wilson, Guy Witt and Emilee Ritchie.

Tickets are \$6 for children and students and \$12 for the general public. Group discounts are available when booked in advance.

For reservations and info, call the Theatre and Dance box office at 301-687-7462 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 4 p.m. Also, follow Theatre and Dance on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Theatre-and-Dance-at-FSU.

CES at FSU Presents The Barter Players in ‘Frosty’



CES at FSU will present two public performances of the national children’s theatre touring company, The Barter Players, in “Frosty” on **Saturday, Dec. 12**, at 1 and 4 p.m. at the historic Palace Theatre on Main Street in downtown Frostburg.

The 1 p.m. performance is timed to coincide with the arrival of visitors from the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad’s holiday train ride from Cumberland to Frostburg.

“Frosty” is a holiday musical based on the popular children’s holiday song, “Frosty the Snowman.” The hour-long family performance is full of song and dance, thrills and chills, and the discovery that the real magic of the holidays is love.

Based in Virginia, The Barter Players tour throughout the U.S., performing world-class theatre for young audiences. The troupe’s high-energy and original productions capture the imagination of today’s youth while providing the best in classic literature and beloved story adaptations.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth under 17. Corporate and group discount rates are also available.

For info, contact the CES box office at 301-687-3137 or visit CES’ webpage at ces.frostburg.edu.

Need a Good Laugh During Finals?

If you need a good laugh during finals, be sure to make plans to come see the final performances of the Physical Comedy Class on **Tuesday, Dec. 15**, at 2:30 p.m. in room 224 of the Performing Arts Center.

Students will perform five brilliant scenes from Shakespeare’s comedies “The Taming of the Shrew,” “Two Gentlemen of Verona,” “Much Ado About Nothing” and “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

For info, contact Darrell Rushton in the Department of Theatre and Dance at dsrushton@frostburg.edu.

Music

Unless otherwise noted, recitals and concerts will take place in PAC Pealer Recital Hall and are free and open to the public. For info, contact the Department of Music at 301-687-4109.

Bassoon Studio Recital to Be Held on Dec. 7

The FSU Bassoon Studio Recital will take place on **Monday, Dec. 7**, at 7:30 p.m. Bassoon Quartet members include **Joseph Spittler**, **Marcus Steele** and Joe McDaniel, a community member. The instructor is **Dr. Brent Weber**. The quartet will perform "La Petite Coquette" by John Stepan Zamecnik, arranged by A. Burford; "Etude Tableau, Op. 33, No. 1" by Sergei Rachmaninoff, arranged by Burford; "By Heck 'Eccentric Fox-Trot'" by S.R. Henry, arranged by Burford; "Il Sonno" and "Fantasmi" from "Concerto in B-flat Major, Op. 10, No. 2, RV 501" by Antonio Vivaldi, which will feature Spittler on bassoon and DeWire on piano. Following an intermission, the group will perform "Jingle Bells Gallop" by James Lord Pierpont, arranged by Burford; "Pigs" by Alan Ridout; "Mazurka, Op. 7, No. 1" by Frederic Chopin, arranged by Burford; and "Overworld Theme" by Koji Kondo, arranged by Weber.

Percussion Ensemble to Present Fall Concert

The FSU Percussion Ensemble will present its fall concert on **Wednesday, Dec. 9**, at 7:30 p.m. The program, under the direction of **Dr. Ronald Horner**, will begin with "Nightwatch," an original composition in a Caribbean style by noted composer and educator Mark Ford. The music of minimalist composer Steve Rich will be featured in his "Music for Pieces of Wood." This piece – a challenge for performers and audiences alike – will allow those in attendance to examine the nature of musical sound. In a nod to the recently released "Peanuts" movie (as well as the upcoming holiday season), the program will continue with Vince Guaraldi's popular "Linus and Lucy," arranged for percussion ensemble by Chris Crockarell, followed by "Catching Shadows," recently written for the Eastman Percussion Ensemble by composer Ivan Trevino. Next up is a new work by Nathan Daughtrey, "Fidget," which features a rhythmic motive presented in a variety of timbral and harmonic guises. The program will conclude with "Streets of Ankara" by Chris Brooks.

Jazz Orchestra in Winter Concert 'Tijuana Moods'

The FSU Jazz Orchestra will perform its winter concert, titled "Tijuana Moods," on **Friday, Dec. 11**, at 7:30 p.m. The orchestra consists of reeds: **Dakota Fearon** – tenor, **Eric Foreman** – tenor, community member Tanika Henry – alto, **Kori Melton** – baritone, **Zee Mollon** – lead alto and **Ryan Sheally** – flute; trumpets: **Sean Black**, **Allie Blank**, **Jeremy Johnson** – lead, **Alex Kooker** – jazz, **Trace Livengood** and **Jessica Ruskin**; trombones: **Maame Agyekum** – bass, **Aaron Amaker** – bass/tuba, **DeAndre Cook**, **Zach Sparber** and **Geoffrey Westbrook** – lead; and rhythm: **Greg Hayes** – guitar, **Michael Lundien** – piano, **Steven Lowery** – bass, and **Brian Weyant** and **Matt Heverly** – drums/percussion.

The program will include "Tijuana Gift Shop" by Charles Mingus, arranged by Michael Philip Mossman; "Maria" by Leonard Bernstein, arranged by Don Sebesky, which will feature Kooker on the trumpet; "Tiger of San Pedro" by John Labarbera; "Late in the Evening" by Paul Simon, arranged by Eric Burger, which will feature vocals by **Darrell Rushton**; "Manteca" by Dizzy Gillespie, Walter Gil Fuller and Luciano Pozo Gonzales, arranged by Mike Tomaro. After intermission, the orchestra will perform "Senor Mouse" by Chick Corea, arranged by Tomaro; "Tiger of San Pedro" by John Labarbera; "Sway" by Luis Demetrio and Pablo Beltran, arranged by David Foster, which will feature vocals by Livengood; "One Note Samba" by Antonio Carlos Jobim, arranged by Tomaro; and "Moanin'" by Charles Mingus, arranged by Sy Johnson, which will feature Melton on the baritone saxophone.

Tickets will be available for purchase at the door (cash only) and are \$5 for general admission, \$3 for students and free for children 12 and younger.

Presentations

Dr. Gregory Wood to Conduct 'Teach-In' on ISIS

Dr. Gregory Wood, an associate professor in FSU's Department of History and the director of the Honors Program, will conduct a "teach-in" for Honors students on **Wednesday, Dec. 9**, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Dunkle 319. The presentation will include a documentary and a discussion on "The Rise of ISIS."

NCNW Presentation on the True Meaning of Sisterhood



Come join the ladies of the National Council of Negro Women for a presentation titled "Sisterhood" on **Dec. 9** at 7 p.m. in room 237 of the Lewis J. Ort Library. **Robin Wynder**, the director of the Diversity Center, will be the featured speaker. For info, contact Saleah Richardson of FSU's NCNW Collegiate Section at snrichardson0@frostburg.edu.

Appalachian Laboratory – Watershed Moments Community Learning Series

The Appalachian Lab will marry art and science in "A is for Art: An Upper Potomac Report Card and Photography Exhibition" on **Thursday, Dec. 10**, at 6 p.m. at its facility at 301 Braddock Rd.

This informal event will feature the works of local photographer, Jennifer Amendolara, and her dedicated group of elementary and middle school-aged photography assistants on special assignment for the lab. Amendolara and her photographers captured the current state of the Potomac Watershed during several photoshoots in Allegany, Garrett and Mineral counties. Their creative photographs will visually enhance a Report Card presentation at 7 p.m. by grad students Stephanie Siemeck, Jake Hagedorn,

Suzi Spitzer and Vanessa Vargas from the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science, who will present an informal talk on the health of the watershed, including measures of stream quality, and field questions from attendees.

For info, visit www.umces.edu/al. Register for this event by emailing events@al.umces.edu or calling 301-689-7102.

AL Fall Seminar Series

Dr. Feng Chen, UMCES Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology, will present "Picocyanobacteria and Their Viruses in the Chesapeake Bay – From Ecology to Omics" on **Thursday, Dec. 10**, at 3:30 p.m. in AL Room 109. For info, go to www.umces.edu/al/seminar/schedule.

Exhibits

Graphic Design Students' Work on Display in 'On the Grim Obstinacy of Racial Injustice'

With a sense of being thankful for a diversified population – on FSU's campus, in the U.S. and in the world – the students of Graphic Design 207 have joined in solidarity with those who protest racial bias. In a celebration of color, their poster exhibition "On the Grim Obstinacy of Racial Injustice: An Exhibition of Color" is on view **through the end of the semester** at the Lane Center (at the Manicur Hall entrance and above) and in the President's Gallery of the Hitchins Building. Each student combined an image of himself or herself with color schemes that defy racial categories, so these posters, in a sense, are self-portraits. Quotes that pertain to the topic are also part of the compositional and typographic structure, with authors ranging from Malcolm X to President Lyndon Johnson to Malala Yousafzai. This exhibition was made possible by the President's Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

For info, contact Susan E. Dodge at 301-687-4173 or sedodge@frostburg.edu.

Points of Pride

Competing on a Whim Sends FSU Student to World Geography Bowl in San Francisco



From left, FSU Professor of Geography Dr. James Saku and student Andrew Boch of Mount Savage

Some of the greatest opportunities can come on a whim, as FSU senior **Andrew Boch** recently found out.

Boch was set to present undergraduate research on the Canada's Nunavut Land Claim Agreement at the Mid-Atlantic Division of the Association of Geographers Conference in Towson. Just a week before the conference, an FSU professor asked him to join the FSU Geography Bowl team that would be competing there. Knowing it was his last chance to compete, he accepted, excelled and earned a trip to the World Geography Bowl in San Francisco this spring.

The top seven students from the competition, based on correct answers given, are chosen to represent the Mid-Atlantic Division for the association at the World Geography Bowl in March 2016. Boch will be joined on the team by FSU student **Spencer Truszkowski** of Dundalk.

The competition is held at the Association of American Geographers' Annual Meeting, where Boch will now do a poster presentation on his research, exposing him to an international audience of industry professionals.

Boch would not have been able to attend the Towson conference if it weren't for an FSU Foundation Opportunity Scholarship, which paid for his travel to present his research on Nunavut. One of the uses of Opportunity Scholarships is to help allow students to attend industry conferences to further their research and gain exposure before future employers.

His research looks at census data trends and publications to determine how life has changed or hasn't changed in the northeastern arctic Canadian province that was created in 1999. The isolated province was created to give Aboriginal tribes greater control over their ancestral lands and laws, where the Canadian federal government previously set all the policies. Boch examined the fertility and death rate, housing conditions, income, mental health issues and preservation of culture.

The research extends previous studies completed by **Dr. James Saku**, professor and chair of the FSU Department of Geography, who examined the land agreement controlling the Northwest Territory in Canada. Saku said the Northwest Territory agreement focuses more on economic development policies where Nunavut focuses more on territorial government and protecting their traditional way of life.

For info on FSU's Department of Geography, call 301-687-4369. To make a gift to the FSU Foundation's Annual Fund, which supports Opportunity Grants, visit foundation.frostburg.edu and click on Make a Gift, or call 301-687-4161.

Dr. Gregory Wood Facilitator at National Collegiate Honors Council

Dr. Gregory Wood, an associate professor in FSU's Department of History and the director of the Honors Program, recently attended and facilitated discussion at the 50th anniversary conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council in Chicago. The conference's theme was "Make No Little Plans."

Wood served as a facilitator for an interactive, discussion-based session that identified key challenges facing honors advisors and offered possible solutions based on best practices. He collaborated with fellow advisors from the University of Alabama, Oklahoma State University and the City University of New York – Brooklyn College.

Dr. Marcus Hill's Article to Be Published in International Journal of Emergency Management

Dr. Marcus Hill, a lecturer in FSU's Department of Communication, has had his research article, "Hurricane Katrina 10 Years Later: A Qualitative Meta-analysis of Communications and Media Studies of the New Orleans' Black Community," accepted for publication in the International Journal of Emergency Management. The article's coauthor is Dr. Tia Tyree, the assistant chair of the Department of Strategic, Legal and Management Communications at Howard University.

Take Note

MPT Traveling Exhibit on Vietnam Veterans 'Makes a Stop' at FSU

The MPT Salutes Vietnam Veterans Traveling Exhibit will "make a stop" at FSU **Tuesday, Dec. 8, through Sunday, Dec. 20**, on the second floor of the Lane University Center. The center is open for visitors Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., on Saturdays from noon to 11 p.m. and on Sundays from 5 to 11 p.m.

This is just one of many stops the exhibit will make across the state.

The exhibit features current-day and wartime images of 16 men and women along with their recollections of incidents from the war. Also included are artifacts from the war and opportunities for visitors to craft messages to veterans. MPT Salutes Vietnam Veterans is a multiyear project, the largest in the station's history, to recognize and thank those who served in the military during the Vietnam era. The project will unfold in 2016 with the broadcast premiere of a three-hour documentary called "Maryland Vietnam War Stories" and with a two-day public event.

Info on the MPT Vietnam project and the travel exhibit schedule can be found at mpt.org/vietnam. Interested persons can also call 410-581-4182 to be added to the project's mailing list.

Theatre and Dance to Hold Auditions for Spring Production of 'To Kill a Mockingbird'



FSU's Department of Theatre and Dance will hold auditions for Christopher Sergel's stage adaptation of Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird" on **Monday, Dec. 7, and Tuesday, Dec. 8**, from 6 to 10 p.m. in room 224 of the Performing Arts Center. All roles are currently available.

This famous coming-of-age story is about a young girl – Scout – growing up in the 1930s in the small town of Maycomb, Ala. When her father Atticus is tapped to defend an African-American man against charges of attacking a white woman, Scout, her brother Jem and their friend Dill must confront the harsh realities of longstanding prejudice.

Auditionees may prepare a monologue (one to two minutes) from "To Kill a Mockingbird" or from a similar play. Monologues should be performed with a southern accent. If unable to prepare a monologue, there will be sides available at the audition for auditionees to read. Scripts are also available in PAC 302. Those who would like to read the script ahead of time may check out the scripts for 24 hours.

On **Dec. 7**, auditionees can sign in starting at 5:45 p.m. Each person will put his or her name on the list and will be called into the room in that order. Auditioners will stay as long as needed to see everyone once, up until 10 p.m. A callback list will be posted on the callboard and emailed to auditionees by 9 a.m. on **Dec. 8**. Anyone called back will be asked to return to PAC 224 that day and should plan to stay from 6 to 10 p.m. Callbacks will involve reading from the script.

Rehearsals will begin **Monday, Jan. 25, 2016**, and run Mondays through Fridays from 6 to 10 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 p.m. Not all actors will be called for every rehearsal, but all actors must be available for every rehearsal. Actors must be available from noon to midnight on **Saturday, Feb. 20**.

Performances will take place on **Friday, Feb. 26**, and **Saturday, Feb. 27**, and **Thursday, March 3**, **Friday, March 4**, and **Saturday, March 5**, at 7:30, with a matinee on **Feb. 27** at 2 p.m.

For info, contact Jennifer Goff, the director, at jagoff@frostburg.edu or Jennifer Willingham, the stage manager, at jawillingham0@frostburg.edu. For additional info about the Department of Theatre and Dance, visit www.frostburg.edu/dept/theatredance.

Honors Food Fest Event – Pizza, Pizza!



Join the Honors Program on **Tuesday, Dec. 8**, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Osbourne Newman Center for pizza, salad and soft drinks. The entertainment will include the musical stylings of *Dr. Greg Wood*. Relax with fellow honors students before finals start!

For info, email honorsprog@frostburg.edu.

Upcoming Events for BURG Peer Education Network



The following events and tables are scheduled for this week:

- #X It Can Wait Table, **Wednesday, Dec. 9**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lane Center.
Note: “#x it can wait” is the name of a campaign promoting no texting while driving.
- General Body Meeting, **Thursday, Dec. 10**, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Lane 113

For info, contact Kasandra Owen, peer educator and PR chair, at kowen0@frostburg.edu.

Collaborative WRAP Project Delivering Literary Gifts to At-Risk Teens

FSU's Center for Literary Arts will give the gift of reading and writing to at-risk teenagers through the Writing and Reading Advent Project (WRAP), which will deliver packages of books, pens and writing journals during the holiday season.

New-condition books for readers from ages 13 to 17 are being accepted for inclusion in the packages. WRAP will work with Toys for Happiness, the Frostburg Area Interfaith Food Pantry, Allegany County public schools and area churches to deliver the packages to at-risk and hospitalized youth across Western Maryland.

“The Writing and Reading Advent Program is a wonderful opportunity to ensure all of the children in our area have a few good new books to read this holiday season,” said Robert Spahr, chair of the Board of Advisors to the Center for Literary Arts. “The love of literature is a gift that lasts a lifetime, and the winter months are ideal for losing ourselves in literary adventures or creating brand new ones. I hope everyone will consider donating a few good books to one of the WRAP drop-off bins located throughout our region.”

For those sharing copies of their favorite books, the center encourages donors to leave notes in the books to tell the recipient why the story means so much.

Drop-off locations for books can be found at all Allegany County branch libraries: Frostburg Library, Georges Creek Library, LaVale Library, South Cumberland Library, Washington Street Library and Westernport Library. Books can also be dropped off at the Saville Gallery on Centre Street in Cumberland, the FSU Department of English on the third floor of Dunkle Hall, FSU's Ort Library and at Main Street Books in Frostburg. As additional sites are added, they will be listed on the center's website at www.frostburg.edu/cla.

The center is also requesting donations of holiday wrapping paper to wrap the packages in before distribution.

WRAP is sponsored by the FSU Office of the Provost, Allegany County libraries, the FSU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Maryland State Arts Council, AmeriCorps A-STARs and the Allegany Arts Council.

For info, contact the Center for Literary Arts at cla@frostburg.edu or 301-687-4340.

Tri-State Toys for Happiness Toy Drive

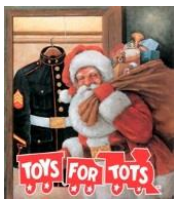


FSU students in the Social Work for Human Behavior class, as part of their group project, are collecting toys for local children. The toys will be given out over the holidays. Collection bins are located in Guild 110 and 111.

Toys for Happiness is a local nonprofit organization that collects toys for children in the immediate Tri-State area.

For info, contact Kelly Robertson at klrobertson0@frostburg.edu.

Veterans Center Accepting Toys for Tots



The FSU Veterans Center is an official donation station for the Toys for Tots Program.

The Veterans Center will collect toys from now **until Thursday, Dec. 10**, for Toys for Tots. New, unwrapped toys can be dropped off at the center Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m. Toys for Tots is a national organization of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve.

For info, contact Danielle Dabrowski, the Veterans Services coordinator, at dldabrowski@frostburg.edu.

FAEYC Meeting Dates for Fall

Frostburg's Association for the Education of Young Children is an early childhood organization that provides opportunities for students to learn, interact and develop key components for teaching young children. The last meeting of the fall semester will be held on **Wednesday, Dec. 9**. For info, contact Shani Williams at sawilliams0@frostburg.edu.

National Student Exchange Info Sessions

FSU is the newest member of the National Student Exchange. FSU students can now pay FSU tuition and study at one of 200 colleges in the United States! They can continue to make progress toward their FSU degree program while studying in a new place, meeting new people and enrolling in specialized courses that might not be available at FSU. Join Amy Shimko, NSE coordinator, in Lane 108 for an information session on **Thursday, Dec. 10**, at 2 p.m. For info, contact Shimko at 301-687-4403.

Planning to Graduate on Dec. 19?

FSU's 147th Commencement ceremony is scheduled for **Saturday, Dec. 19**, in the Cordts PE Center at 2 p.m.

A second commencement mailing was sent to students' home addresses and FSU email addresses in mid-November. Mailings are also posted on the Commencement website at www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement.

Caps and gowns are provided at no cost to all graduates and may be picked up beginning **Friday, Dec. 11**, at the Grad Fair in Lane Manicur Hall from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. To reduce wait times, those graduating with Business and Education degrees are encouraged to attend from 9 a.m. to noon and those graduating with Liberal Arts and Sciences degrees, from noon to 3 p.m.

Full details about Commencement are on the University's website at www.frostburg.edu/events/commencement.

FSU's commencement will be **streamed live**. The link will be provided on the front page of FSU's website at www.frostburg.edu.

For info, contact Brittnei Kaetzel at 301-687-4423 or bkteter@frostburg.edu.

Get Involved

United Campus Ministry

For info, contact the Rev. Dr. Cindy Zirlott in Hitchins 308 or at 301-687-7490 or c.zirlott@frostburg.edu. United Campus Ministry events and programs are open to all members of the FSU community.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Special Christmas Carols and Communion Worship Event, Wednesday, Dec. 9, 9 p.m., Lane 108. UCM will provide a communion service with carol singing. Take a break and get in the Christmas spirit before the last day of classes. An offering will be taken for the Alternative Spring Break Service Trip.

A Birthday Dinner Party for Jesus, Sunday, Dec. 13, 6 p.m., Osborn-Newman Center (house by campus police). UCM and Catholic Campus Ministry will host the event. Dinner tickets are free but everyone should bring a baby gift that a new mom may need for a baby or toddler (do not wrap). These are being collected for new mothers in the area and will be given to a local women and children services organization for distribution.

Alternative Spring Break. Registration is due by **Friday, Dec. 18**. There is a \$50 registration deposit (refundable if one's situation changes by **Tuesday, March 1, 2016**). The focus this year is "The Faces of Rural Poverty." UCM will do four service projects in a week in the Lexington, Ky., area. This experience is open to FSU students, faculty and staff. A brochure and registration application are available by contacting Chaplain Cindy Zirlott.

Weekly UCM Opportunities

Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Mondays, 7:30 to 8:45 p.m., Library 237. This is also a student-led Bible study. It's not just for athletes; all are welcome. The last meeting will be on **Dec. 7**.

Spiritual Study Break – A Contemporary Vesper Worship Experience, Wednesdays, 9 p.m., Lane 108. This is a series on the Holy Spirit, currently "Celebrating Christmas Is More Than a Cup." The last worship event will be on **Dec. 9**.

Believers Love World Bible Study, Thursdays, 7 to 8:15 p.m., Gira Center 155. This is a student-led group. The last meeting will be on **Dec. 10**.

Deadlines

Graduate/Doctoral Grade Changes

The last day for graduate and doctoral grade changes, including the removal of incomplete grades for the spring 2015 and summer 2015 semesters, is **Friday, Dec. 11**.

Study Abroad

Where in the World Would You Like to Study Abroad?



Emily Llewellyn in Amsterdam (fall 2014)

The Center for International Education offers a variety of ways for FSU students to see the world. In some cases, students can pay FSU tuition, room and board and study for a semester or a year in Ireland, England, Spain, France, China, Italy, Australia, Peru, South Africa or in many other countries. FSU also offers summer study abroad programs. Financial aid and student loans and scholarships are available. For info, visit the Fuller House (across the street from the Braddock House), call 301-687-4714 or email Victoria

Gearhart at vmgearhart@frostburg.edu. Also, check out the CIE webpage at www.frostburg.edu/admin/cie/stdyabrd.htm and the Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/FSUStudyAbroad.

Study Abroad in New Zealand, Summer 2016



Led by **Dr. Natalia Buta**, an assistant professor in FSU's Department of Kinesiology and Recreation, this three-and-a-half-week experiential program will examine resource conservation and the natural, and related social, history of New Zealand. The focus is on learning through guided action while traveling throughout the South Island and North Island of New Zealand. Students will spend about 75 percent of their time exploring the stunning national parks, forests, wildlife reserves, coastlines and islands and learning from local experts and practitioners, government officials, iwi (Māori tribes) and scientific research bodies.

Students will earn 3 credits. The dates are **Sunday, May 22, through Thursday, June 16, 2016**. The application deadline is **Tuesday, March 1**. Check out the Facebook Page at [facebook.com/FrostburgNewZealandStudyAbroad](https://www.facebook.com/FrostburgNewZealandStudyAbroad) or www.BobcatsDownUnder.org.

Art in China Trip, Summer 2016



Students and alumni are invited to join the Art in China trip. It will run from **Sunday, June 5, to Thursday, June 16, 2016**. The group will get to visit Shanghai and Beijing.

Students will receive credit for Art 490. For info, contact Dr. Harlowe Hodges in the Department of Visual Arts at hhodges@frostburg.edu or 301-687-4231.

Community

Hear From Garrett Co. Commissioners at State of the County Event

Come to the State of the County event on **Monday, Dec. 14**, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Garrett College Auditorium, 687 Mosser Road in Accident, to hear directly from the Garrett County commissioners – Paul Edwards, Jim Hinebaugh and Larry Tichnell. Learn about what they've accomplished in their first year as commissioners and what their vision is for 2016. This event is free and open to the public.

There will be time set aside for questions and answers. Guests will be asked to write down their thoughts on index cards, which will then be read and answered one by one.

In addition, an After Party will be held immediately following the State of the County at Ace's Run Restaurant and Pub, 20160 Garrett Highway in Oakland. This will be a casual meet-and-greet evening and debriefing.

For info, go to the State of the County Facebook Page at <http://on.fb.me/1Rqa5l4> or visit <http://bit.ly/1Nst3BA>.

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.

Prevention – It's the Gift That Keeps on Giving



Avoid overloading electrical outlets, which can overheat and cause a fire.

Do not place extension cords where they could cause a tripping hazard.

Do not run extension cords under rugs or furniture.

Turn off and unplug all decorations before leaving home or going to sleep.

Use only weatherproof electrical devices for outside activities.

Protect outdoor electrical devices from moisture.

Make sure live Christmas trees are watered daily.

FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Frostburg State University is a student-centered teaching and learning institution featuring experiential opportunities. The University offers students a distinctive and distinguished baccalaureate education along with a select set of applied master's and doctoral programs. Frostburg serves regional and statewide economic and workforce development; promotes cultural enrichment, civic responsibility and sustainability; and prepares future leaders to meet the challenges of a complex and changing global society.

INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES

1. Enhance experiential and applied learning opportunities for students both inside and outside the classroom.
2. Improve facilities so that students live and learn in a modern and technologically sophisticated environment.
3. Increase student quality and improve student persistence to graduation.

Learn more at www.frostburg.edu/admin/opa/splanning.