



Florida State University Campus Update

General News

- Two Florida State research centers that are working to develop new advanced materials and design new energy technologies for the U.S. military will receive \$8.5 million in federal funding. The Center for Advanced Power Systems will receive \$6.1 million and the High-Performance Materials Institute will receive \$2.4 million
- Seven Days of Opening Nights has announced its 2009 season set for February 13 through March 1, with a special performance April 16. The festival features acts that form a celebration of American roots music, plus a tragedy/comedy meld of Shakespeare and The Simpsons, flamenco dance, indie film, Pulitzer-Prize-winning authors, touring arts exhibits from the Ringling Museum and more.
- Florida State University has jumped 10 points among all universities and ranks as one of the top 50 public universities in the United States as listed by U.S. News and World Report's "America's Best Colleges 2009"
- The incoming Class of 2012 is the best ever, with a high school GPA of 4.0, an SAT score of 1261 or an ACT of 28
- The Pathways of Excellence initiative--the University's plan to become one of the nation's top research and graduate education universities--is well under way. Under its innovative interdisciplinary faculty cluster approach, as of fall 2008, a total of 23 new faculty members have arrived on campus and additional hiring is ongoing
- With the purchase of a massive, 25,000-volume collection of books and other materials related to religion and culture in Asia, Florida State University has vaulted into the front ranks of universities that offer Asian studies in the southeastern U.S
- Scott Atwell has been named President of the Alumni Association
- FSU has been ranked #1 in the nation among top research universities in graduation rates for African-Americans. A recent report says no other large public universities have been able to match FSU's success
- FSU and the Mayo Clinic have signed a historic agreement to work as research partners in the question to improve health care for Floridians and all Americans
- FSU has been ranked #58 of the top 4000 universities worldwide in the 2008 Webometrics Ranking of World Universities
- FSU's colleges of law and medicine are among the best in the nation for Hispanics, according to Hispanic Business magazine, another indication that FSU is becoming known as a national beacon for Hispanic students. Not only is the population of Hispanic students climbing, but FSU is also developing innovative ways to educate all students about the emerging Spanish culture

Students

- Elizabeth Barre, a doctoral candidate in religion, has received the renowned \$23,000 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship

- Offering a four-point energy plan, political science major Amanda Woods is one of three winners of a national essay contest sponsored by the Presidential Forum on Renewable Energy
- FSU student Rebecca Stone has been selected for the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, the nation's premier award for math, science and engineering majors. Her sister, FSU student Amanda Stone, is attending Oxford University in 2008 as the recipient of a \$23,000 Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarship
- FSU is generating unprecedented numbers of applicants for prestigious awards, thanks to the Office of National Fellowships

Faculty

- College of Engineering Dean Ching-Jen "Marty" Chen has won the prestigious Fluids Engineering Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers
- Geochemical oceanographer Laura Lapham has won a 2008 L'Oreal USA Fellowship for Women in Science
- Francis Eppes Professor Max Gunzburger is the recipient of the W.T. and Idalia Reid Prize in Mathematics in recognition of his work in computational mathematics and developing mathematical models of science and engineering problems
- FSU Professor of English Stanley E. Gontarski, an acclaimed scholar and critic, editor, dramatist and teacher has been named the 2008-09 Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, the highest honor bestowed by the FSU faculty on one of its own
- Business Professor William Christiansen has received FSU's Distinguished Teacher Award
- Chemistry Professor Alan G. Marshall is the winner of the prestigious 2008 Ralph and Helen Oesper Award from the Cincinnati Division of the American Chemical Society
- Veteran Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry Jack Saltiel has been elected a Fellow of the Inter-American Photochemical Society
- Penny Gilmer, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, has been named a Fellow of the Association of Women in Science
- FSU doctoral faculty in five academic areas have been ranked among the tops in the nation according to the Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index: social work--#4 in the nation; Spanish--#4 in the nation; marketing--#5; oceanography--8; atmospheric sciences--10

Colleges and Schools

College of Arts & Sciences

- With the support of a \$2 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to fund a state-of-the-art microscope, Florida State University has become one of the world's top imaging centers
- The Atlantic magazine has listed FSU's graduate-level Creative Writing program among the nation's top 10 and the Ph.D. program in the nation's top 5
- U.S. News & World Report ranks FSU's graduate program in nuclear physics as 13th in the nation and the graduate program in analytical chemistry as 14th in the nation

College of Business

- The College of Business undergraduate program is ranked 29th among public universities by U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges 2009"

- The Risk Management/Insurance program is ranked fourth in the country among public universities and the Real Estate program eighth nationally in the same publication
- A \$1.8 million gift to the Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship will bolster the College of Business' services, especially to entrepreneurs in economically disadvantaged communities in South Florida
- The undergraduate program has gained 12 points, ranking #30 in the nation in the latest BusinessWeek rankings
- The Bank of America has provided a \$2 million grant to establish the Gene Taylor/Bank of America Center for Banking and Financial Studies
- The College of Business undergraduate accounting program is ranked 20th among public schools by Public Accounting Report

College of Communication

- U.S. News & World Report's 2009 listing of "America's Best Graduate Schools" ranks the master's program in speech-language pathology as 18th in the nation

College of Education

- The College of Education's higher-education program is ranked 18th among all higher-education administration programs nationally in U.S. News & World Report's 2009 listing of "America's Best Graduate Schools"
- In the same publication, education policy was 19th; student counseling and personnel services was 19th; education administration and supervision was 19th; and education psychology was 24th
- The Program in Higher Education has been rated exemplary in a survey of faculty in the field at more than 100 universities

College of Engineering

- Florida State University has been selected as the lead university for the new Florida Center for Advanced Aero-Propulsion, a collaboration of the state's premier researchers in aerospace and aviation

College of Information

- The college ranks in the nation's top 10 graduate programs, according to U.S. News & World Report

College of Law

- Nine months after graduation, 99.6 per cent of the Class of 2007 was employed, pursuing a graduate degree or not seeking work
- The College of Law continues to rise in U.S. News & World Report rankings. The environmental law program is ranked 10th in the nation in the 2009 rankings. For the first time ever, in the 2008 U.S. News rankings, the tax law program has been specially ranked, at 21st. FSU's academic reputation is in the top tier of American law schools, and the overall law school ranking has risen 14 slots in the past three years
- FSU College of Law graduates have once again earned the state's top passing rate on the Florida Bar Exam
- The College of Law has again been named one of the Top 10 law schools in the nation for Hispanics

College of Medicine

- In an important milestone in its development, the College of Medicine has graduated its first Ph.D. student, Dillon Fritz, who received a doctorate in biomedical sciences

- Dr. John P. Fogarty, formerly senior associate dean for operations and associate dean for primary care at the University of Vermont, joined the university as dean of the College of Medicine
- The College of Medicine has been recognized as one of the top medical schools in the nation for the percentage of its graduating doctors who choose to specialize in family medicine, according to the American Academy of Family Physicians

College of Motion Picture, Television and Recording Arts

- Film School Dean Frank Patterson has been named a top mentor to Hollywood filmmakers
- Film School graduate Z. Eric Yang has won a Student Academy Award for his film, "The State of Sunshine." The award marked the fifth time in four years that a Student Academy Award has gone to a Film School student
- Film School students Sou Yun Sim and Michael Lloyd Green have won first prize for their film, "The Wall," in the 29th annual College Television Awards. Atiya Wheelings and Iman Zawahry took third place for "Tough Crowd." These prizes bring the total number of Film School wins to 24 in 17 years
- Film School alumnus Z. Eric Yang and undergraduate Catherine Rehwinkel have won Directors' Guild awards for top minority and women filmmakers

College of Music

- A recent study from the Journal of Research in Music Education calls FSU's College of Music the single most influential institution since 1990

College of Social Sciences

- The master's program in public affairs has been ranked 27th in the nation in the 2008 U.S. News & World Report rankings
- The political science department has been ranked 22nd among all U.S. universities and eighth among public universities based on the success of its Ph.D. graduates in the academic job market according to a study published in PS, an official journal of the American Political Science Association

College of Visual Arts, Theatre and Dance

- **The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art has partnered with New York's Baryshnikov Arts Center to launch the Ringling International Arts Festival, a new biennial performing and visual arts festival set for Oct. 7-11, 2009, on the Florida State University cultural campus in Sarasota**

Environment

- **The Psychology Building, James E. 'Jim' King Life Sciences Building and the Morcom Aquatic Center have opened**
- The Dunlap Student Success Center is open, housing the Career Center and the Center for Leadership and Civic Education
- FSU's new Chemical Sciences Laboratory has opened, heralding the dawn of a new era for the university's science community
- The FSU Rec Sportsplex is open. The new facility represents a four-fold increase in outdoor recreational space on campus and, at 108 acres, is one of the country's largest outdoor collegiate recreational facilities
- A new facility could vault the university to the top of the list of American universities specializing in research into new materials. The \$17 million building, scheduled to be ready by fall 2008, will be a two-story, 44,000-square-foot facility that houses 13 laboratories for the design, process and characterization of

advanced materials and systems. It will house FSU's Center of Excellence in Advanced Materials

- The university is currently developing, designing, breaking ground or has under construction about \$500 million worth of facilities

Athletics

- Track star Walter Dix won two bronze medals at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. With 13 participants, the 2008 Games had the largest contingent of Seminoles ever
- Seminole football players Myron Rolle and Christian Ponder both completed their undergraduate degrees magna cum laude in less than three years
- Catcher Buster Posey became the most highly decorated player in college baseball history
- A school record 27 student-athletes were named to all-All Academic teams in 2007-08, while 170 Seminoles achieved ACC Academic Honor Roll status
- In spring semester 2008 197 student athletes achieved a 3.0 GPA or better, and eight athletic teams had a 3.0 or higher GPA.
- Eleven student-athletes made the spring 2008 President's List with a perfect 4.0 GPA, while 60 student-athletes earned Dean's List status
- Based on their community service, FSU's student-athletes are at the top of the Outreach Honor Roll from the National Consortium for Academics & Sports

Funding

- Philanthropist and circus enthusiast Howard Tibbals has donated \$4 million to expand the Tibbals Learning Center at the John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota

Seminole Tribe of Florida

- The university and the Seminole Tribe of Florida continue to work in partnership to strengthen our ties and to recognize and help preserve the tribe's heritage and unconquered spirit.

10/9/08

This document is updated regularly. Go to www.unirel.fsu.edu and click on Campus Update.