

# The Florida State University

College of Arts and Sciences

College of Business

College of Communication

School of Criminology and  
Criminal Justice

College of Education

FAMU—FSU College of  
Engineering

General Bulletin 2003 - 2005

College of Human Sciences

School of Information Studies

College of Law

College of Medicine

School of Motion Picture,  
Television, and Recording Arts

School of Music

School of Nursing

College of Social Sciences

School of Social Work

School of Theatre

School of Visual Arts and Dance

Interdisciplinary Programs



***Graduate Edition***

The Florida State University



# Our Community

The Florida State University is a community of scholars in pursuit of excellence in higher education, both at the undergraduate and graduate level, and dedicated to public service. Superior faculty members interact with students in and out of the classroom and laboratory, stimulating their creative intellects as well as their realistic capabilities, to promote lifelong learning that enhances the well-being of the individual, the state, and the nation. In an atmosphere of responsible freedom, students gain the benefits of a strong liberal arts tradition — deep, rich cultural understanding. The University encourages the learning process, critical thinking, sensitivity to others and to the environment, and the development of ethical principles on which to base a life of intellectual curiosity and satisfaction within a wide range of careers.



The Florida State University's main campus in Tallahassee is well known for its beauty. Jacobean Revival structures are combined with the latest in modern architecture, set in a landscape of rolling hills and live oaks draped with Spanish moss, pines, palms, and dogwoods protected by a strict municipal ordinance. Flowering shrubs, notably azaleas and camellias, provide year-round color. Nearby, a national forest, wildlife refuge, lakes, rivers, and the Gulf of Mexico beaches offer opportunities for numerous outdoor pursuits.

Tallahassee is not only Florida's capital, but is one of its oldest and fastest growing cities. The capital city is located in Leon County, which has a population of 239,452. More than 100 state and federal agencies furnish our students with opportunities for internships, research and work-study programs matching all areas of academic interest. In addition, Tallahassee affords a rich offering of social, cultural, and recreational activities, making it an excellent place in which to live, study and grow.

## Tallahassee, Florida

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to  
The Florida State University!

This University's long history has prepared us well to be a 21st century university-an institution that uses lessons from the past to prepare for a future of continuing excellence.

Our dedication to excellence encompasses many realms. Consider, for example, our academic programs. As a Carnegie Research I university, and with many of our schools and colleges rated among the country's finest, we stand firmly in the ranks of the nation's top public universities.

Among many points of excellence is the creation, in 2000, of the nation's first allopathic medical school in a generation. The FSU College of Medicine is truly a 21st century medical school and, as such, is charting a new course for medical education.

In addition, Florida State University welcomed its sixth Nobel laureate in 2003, and our faculty includes eminent scholars in many

areas of the arts and sciences. Hundreds of National Merit, National Achievement and National Hispanic Scholars have made our University their top choice for higher education.

In the realm of scientific excellence, the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory-which houses the most powerful magnets in the world-is located on our campus. We have the most powerful supercomputer owned by a single university, and the United States Navy has chosen The Florida State University to develop the advanced power systems that will drive its next generation of ships.

The University ranks third in the nation on royalties from patents, thanks in great part to Dr. Robert Holton's development of the cancer-fighting drug, Taxol. Our external research awards have been increasing during a time when declines have been more typical, and our endowment has increased sixfold in less than a decade. That is a real mark of our excellence as an academic institution.

The Florida State University has built one of the country's "most wired" campuses, ensuring that students are well prepared for the technology and demands of this new century. We also are recognized as a pioneer in the area of distance learning.

Our excellence also shines in realms beyond academics, beyond our tri-fold mission of teaching, research and service. Located in countries throughout the world, our international programs are unparalleled. In the realm of athletics, our scholar-athletes continually provide examples of excellence, and their hard work and dedication add to this University's great reputation. In uncountable ways, this University reaches out to our community, our region, our state and our nation. The advances made on our campus contribute to the health and welfare of people throughout the world.

The Florida State University can take pride in our excellence in so many realms, and we recognize that our students and our faculty have created the foundations for this excellence. I hope that, as you become a part of this campus, you will join us in our continuing efforts toward excellence.



T.K. Wetherell

The seal of Florida State University is visible in the bottom left corner, featuring a torch and the text "FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY" and "1851".



# The University Experience

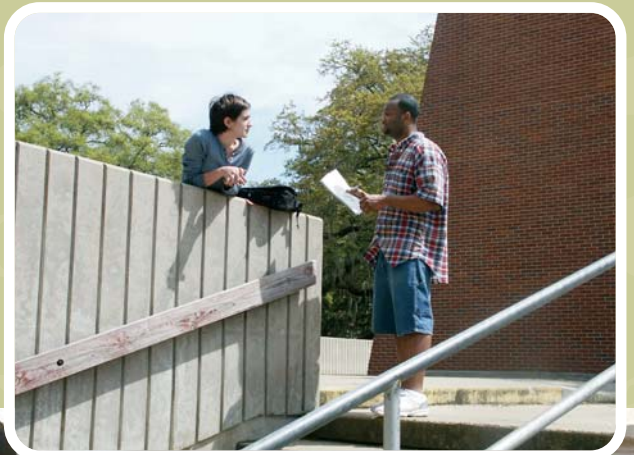


The academic experience at The Florida State University presents a variety of educational opportunities for scholarly excellence on a campus with a rich academic heritage. The multicultural studies component, Living and Learning environments, guest lecturers, ready access to advisors, and a commitment to digital access prepare students for a variety of careers —from art to business to medicine.





A student's learning experience at The Florida State University goes beyond the classroom. This sense of community enables students to come together, enhancing the social and cultural education of tomorrow's leaders.





# Research Facilities

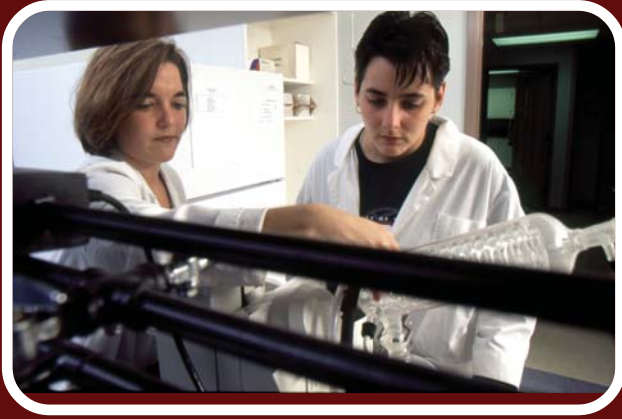




During its distinguished history, The Florida State University has built a reputation as a strong center for research in the sciences, the humanities and the arts.







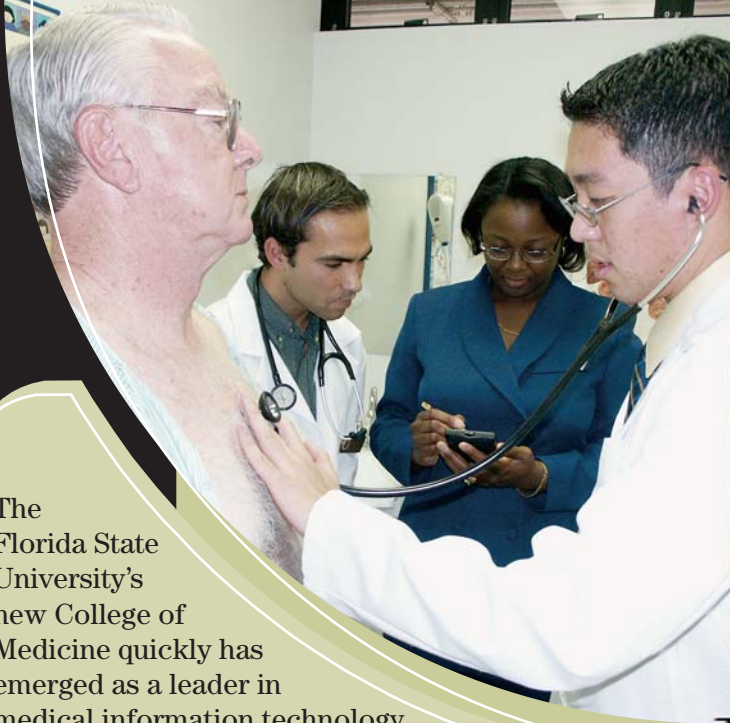
Research







# College of Medicine



The Florida State University's new College of Medicine quickly has emerged as a leader in medical information technology. Students learn in a fully digital environment starting in their first week on campus. When working with patients in the medical school's simulated clinic, students enter and retrieve information from an electronic medical record using handheld, tablet-style computers rather than a traditional paper chart. They also are trained to use Web-based resources to help patients make fully informed medical decisions based on the latest information available. And throughout their education, FSU's medical students use the wireless Internet to access course materials and electronic library resources from anywhere on the medical school campus, at any time.





# Florida State University Marine Laboratory

The graduate programs at The Florida State University in oceanography, marine biology, and increasingly, underwater archaeology, are recognized nationally for frontline research and the preparation of quality graduate students. For over three decades, support for these activities largely has been provided by the FSU Marine Laboratory (FSUML). FSUML is located southwest of Tallahassee at Turkey Point, and it is surrounded by pristine ocean waters and shoreline habitat. The facility serves graduate and undergraduate studies as well as award-winning public outreach programs such as Saturday at the Sea.





# *Distinguished* **FACULTY**



The six faculty members introduced in this section have been named either a Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, a Distinguished Research Professor, a Martin Luther King, Jr. Distinguished Scholar or The President and the Provost's Named Professorship Program Professor. Each has been recognized for his or her research, scholarship and dedication to the teaching profession.





# Meteorology/ Oceanography

For me, there is nothing more important than having direct contact with students. This allows me to help them "morph," or develop, from an "A" student into a critical thinker and a true scientist. My role as mentor is critical to this process, which is tailored for each student according to his or her interests and abilities. Since I came to Florida State in 1968, I have produced 36 Ph.D. students, the next student having more at their disposal than the last student. Funding for research stipends, establishing professional contacts, and the latest in technology and data all play important roles in this process. Whether undergraduate or graduate students, students should be given every opportunity to learn, to succeed and to grow professionally. It is also important that students get their money's worth. Each semester, I make a point of completing the syllabus that the students receive their first day in class by the end of the semester. I also monitor the students' comprehension of the material through weekly quizzes and through regular dialogue and discussion both in the classroom and during my office hours. Students need to know that I am concerned with their growth and development, and that I am available to offer as much or as little guidance as they need or want. When they understand my level of commitment to their success, they reciprocate in kind, and the opportunities and choices bloom exponentially. It is from these relationships that I draw my greatest satisfaction.

James J. O'Brien



JAMES O'BRIEN

# Mathematics

My interest in teaching was one of the main reasons that led me to join the faculty of The Florida State University. But I must confess that I am excited about research. The creativity and the unlimited possibilities in research give me great enjoyment and stimulation. In a research university like FSU, I see working with graduate students in research an essential component of teaching. Teaching should not be just confined to lecturing in a classroom. I consider working in the laboratory with students, discussing frontier research in seminars and initiating students' curiosity in seeking new ideas and new knowledge part and parcel of teaching.

I have been very lucky in that when I was a student, my best teachers also were outstanding research professors. I remember that I took a course on wave propagation from one of these professors. The course materials were part of his research work. The mathematics in the course was just so elegant and fascinating; the lectures were so beautifully presented that they were captivating. There is really no better teacher than one who is inspirational. The most inspirational teachers are also the most memorable and influential.

Christopher Tam



CHRISTOPHER TAM



# Oceanography

In 1987 I was offered an Associate Professorship in the Department of Oceanography at FSU after having spent 11 years at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, a private research-oriented institution. I was eager to return to a university setting, particularly because of the greater opportunity to interact with both undergraduate and graduate students. During the last 15 years I have been able to work with a number of highly motivated and bright graduate students. I truly enjoy acting as a mentor to these students and I find it tremendously rewarding to watch graduate students mature into independent thinkers and researchers. Although the Department of Oceanography only offers graduate degrees, we offer several undergraduate courses including Elementary Oceanography, a basic liberal studies course intended primarily for students not planning to major in science. For several years I have taught a small section of this course for students living in the Bryan Hall Learning Community. My approach to this level of undergraduate teaching has evolved from that of a disseminator of information via lecturing to that of an educator who encourages more active learning on the part of the students. Getting the attention of each student by identifying their varied learning styles so that I can adopt an engaging delivery is one of the major challenges of teaching. I do this in several different ways, such as having the students work in groups during a normal class period or through first-hand knowledge by visiting my campus laboratory, the Antarctic Research Facility, or the FSU Marine Laboratory. When I interact with students, both at the undergraduate or graduate level, I want them to gain new knowledge about the oceans, but above all I want them to learn how to think.

*Nancy A. Marcus*

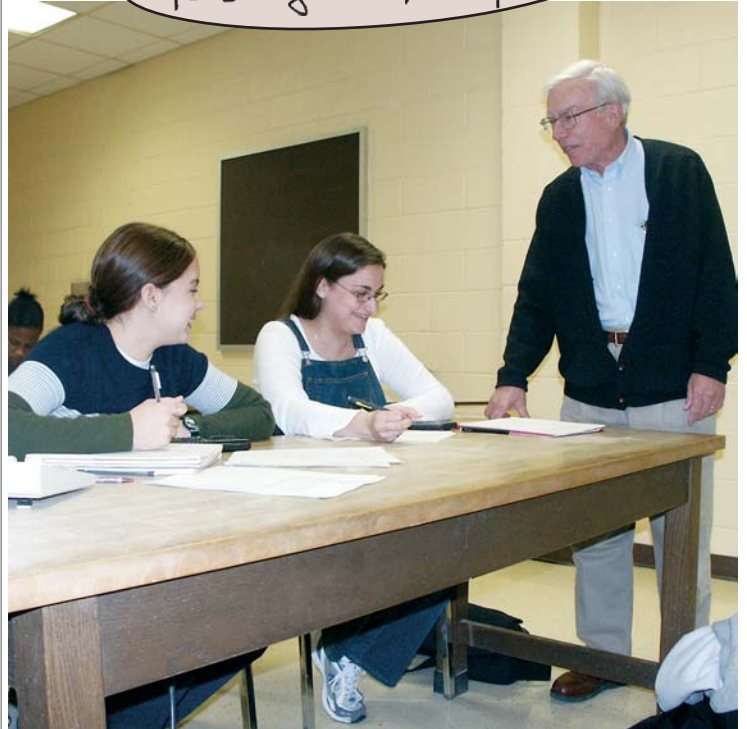


NANCY MARCUS

# Physics

I always wanted to be a scientist or engineer, even when I was a young boy. I don't remember a time when I didn't wonder how things worked. I began my career in science when I was eighteen years old and remain as excited about science and scientific discoveries now as then. What constantly amazes me is how quickly a scientific breakthrough makes its way into everyday use, requiring me to constantly modify the content of the courses I teach. For example, we once discussed how phonograph needles produce the signals that convert records into music. Now we discuss the conversion of a compact disc player's laser signal into music. It is this interplay between research and usage that makes my teaching and research both rewarding and challenging. It is great fun to be able to show students some new physics effect, discuss its technological importance, and speculate about how it will impact their lives. For me, teaching and conducting research at FSU have been a dream come true.

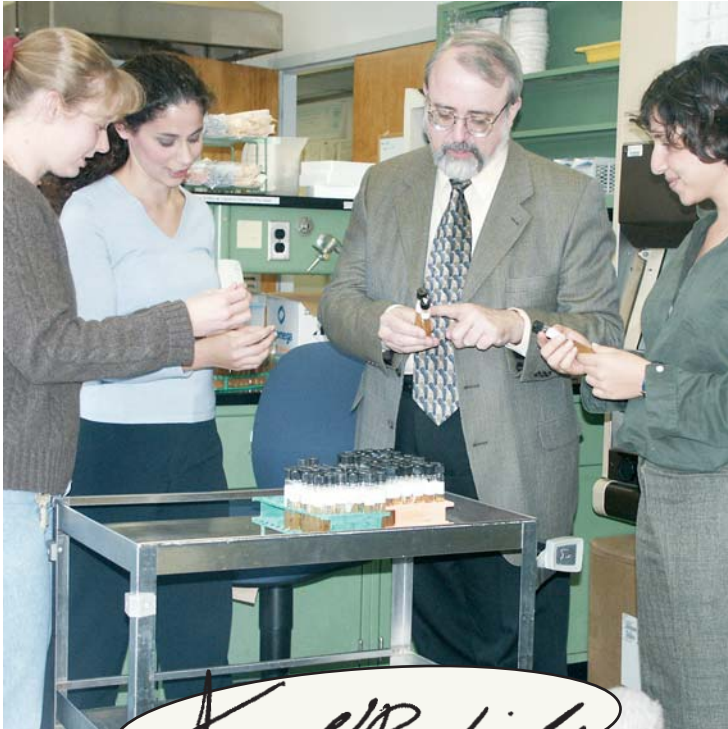
*Kirby W. Kemper*



KIRBY KEMPER



# DAVID BALKWILL



*David Balkwill*

## Medicine

Perhaps one of the greatest advantages of an academic career is that it allows one to be involved in research and teaching simultaneously. Some years ago, I was very fortunate to be among a group of scientists who established the new field of subsurface microbiology—an area that deals with microbes that live deep underground and how they affect our environment. It has been exciting to be involved in the growth of a new field and rewarding to be recognized for that work. Yet the most satisfying aspect of my research career has been the direct interaction with the many undergraduate and graduate students who have worked in my laboratory. To be a part of the process by which these students become interested in research and develop their scientific skills is a genuine privilege and a uniquely satisfying experience. Teaching also has been very rewarding, whether in the lab (on a one-on-one basis) or in front of a large lecture class. I enjoy the challenge associated with finding effective ways to make complex technical information and theoretical concepts understandable to students who are encountering them for the first time. It is always fulfilling to see evidence of success, when faces light up in understanding or when students do well on an exam. Moreover, the interactions that occur in the classroom can be stimulating and instructive and often force me to consider an issue from a new vantage point. New opportunities for student-instructor interaction such as the FSU College of Medicine allow me to utilize innovative teaching methods (like case-based learning) that emphasize discussion and close interaction with highly motivated and inquisitive students. This particular opportunity has opened a new chapter in my teaching career, and I look forward to both the challenges and the rewards that it promises.

# SHEILA ORTIZ-TAYLOR



*Sheila Ortiz-Taylor*

## English

I encourage my writing students to situate themselves within a political and cultural community, to know their ancestors, to identify their values and to notice how these values do and must insinuate themselves into their art. They chart their story's uncertain and faltering trajectory in writers' journals, learning to recognize their own intent and the story's inevitable shape, which they can only coax forth with patience, discipline, and reverence.

I want my students to write just beyond their own certainty, to know and sometimes subvert convention, to courageously mine the subconscious for their heart's truth. The art of accepting and offering criticism can help them learn this craft. Writers who develop a tender but exacting internal critic will never write in complete solitude.

Publication also offers the writer a vital link between solitary dreamer and waiting audience. But here the apprentice must draw on different skills, those of the marketplace. In my classes, students draw up a plan, write cover letters, buy the right envelopes, and, at semester's end, walk together to the post office to mail out manuscripts. I accompany them on their writing path only until they know the way.





Becoming a part  
of the FSU Community  
sets students on the path to  
a successful future.

