A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT STEPHENS

2011 marks FAU’s 50th anniversary, and it happens to be unfolding as one of the most “game changing” years in our rich history as Florida’s fifth state university. Under the leadership of our new president, Dr. Mary Jane Saunders, we are currently celebrating many accomplishments, including a newly approved medical school, a 30,000-seat football stadium under construction and record-breaking admissions application numbers. FAU is moving full-steam ahead into its next 50 years of progress and innovation.

FAU claims a unique role among the state’s 11 public universities as an institution that serves citizens living along 100 miles of South Florida’s coastline with seven campuses and sites. Each location brings a unique contribution to the FAU portfolio, as you can see from this newsletter that highlights the University’s latest initiatives in your local community.

I encourage you to learn more about your “hometown university.” Visit FAU’s website (www.fau.edu) and social media pages, click on FAU Today — our latest news and information site — and see more about how Florida Atlantic University is making an impact on our region, state, nation and world. Thank you to our alumni, donors and community supporters who play a big part in the University’s achievements.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joyanne Stephens
Vice President for Regional Campuses

CONVERSATIONS WITH PRESIDENT SAUNDERS
FAU JUPITER, MARCH 28

Ngugi wa Thiong’o, distinguished professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine, will speak at FAU Jupiter on Friday, April 15 at 1 p.m. in the Administration (AD) Auditorium. Born and raised in Kenya, Ngugi is a novelist, essayist, playwright, journalist, editor, academic and social activist.

In 1977 he published Petals of Blood, which portrayed a harsh and unsparing picture of life in neo-colonial Kenya. Due to the controversial and critical nature of these works he was arrested and imprisoned at Kamiti Maciu Security Prison. Amnesty International named him a Prisoner of Conscience and after an international campaign he was released a year later. He provided a detailed account of his experiences in Detained: A Writer’s Prison Diary.

Ngugi has received eight honorary doctorates and numerous prizes in literature. He has published more than 25 books; his name is often at the top of the list to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Ngugi’s presentation is held in conjunction with the Wilkes Honors College’s 9th Annual Symposium for Research and Creative Projects. The symposium will include student presentations from 9 – 11:30 a.m. in the Honors College (HC) and AD buildings. Poster sessions and an art show will also be held in the HC Building from 2 – 4 p.m. The symposium and lecture are free and open to the public.

For reservations, call 561-799-8620 or email honorscollege@fau.edu.

QUESTIONS? Please contact Terry Gearing ’73, ’77, John D. MacArthur Campus University Relations, at 561-799-8026 or gearing@fau.edu
The Palm Beach Symphony presented a concert at FAU Jupiter on March 30 in the Lifelong Learning Center Maltz Auditorium. The full orchestra of 50 musicians, under the direction of Maestro Ramón Tebar, performed works by Darius Milhaud, Alberto Ginastera and Ludwig van Beethoven. A VIP reception for sponsors, underwriters followed the performance. The event honored Mrs. Lois Pope, founder of Leaders in Furthering Education (LIFE), who generously supported the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College in its nascent stage with scholarships for students with financial need seeking an all honors undergraduate program. As a renowned philanthropist, Mrs. Pope has supported the Disabled Veterans’ LIFE Memorial and the Miami Project to cure Paralysis.

Fred and Kit Bigony served as honorary chairs. Proceeds from the event benefitted the Wilkes Honors College.

Florida Atlantic University recently earned Tree Campus USA recognition for 2010 for its dedication to campus forestry management and environmental stewardship. This is the first year FAU has been named a Tree Campus USA.

Tree Campus USA is a national program that honors colleges and universities and their leaders for promoting healthy management of their campus forests and for engaging the community in environmental stewardship. Tree Campus USA is a program of the Arbor Day Foundation and is supported by a grant from Toyota.

“By encouraging its students to plant trees and participate in service that will help the environment, Florida Atlantic University is making a positive impact on its community that will last for decades,” said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. “One goal of the Tree Campus USA program is to help create healthier communities for its citizens through the planting of trees, and the town of Jupiter will certainly benefit from Florida Atlantic University’s commitment to Tree Campus USA.”

Florida Atlantic met the five core standards of tree care and community engagement in order to receive Tree Campus USA status. The standards are: establish a campus tree advisory committee; evidence of a campus tree-care plan; verification of dedicated annual expenditures on the campus tree-care plan; involvement in an Arbor Day observance; and the institution of a service-learning project aimed at engaging the student body.

“This is a wonderful honor for the University,” said Joyanne Stephens, Ph.D., vice president for regional campuses at FAU. “This accomplishment shows FAU’s dedication to environmental stewardship on the Jupiter campus.”

The MacArthur Campus is home to the Robert J. Huckshorn Arboretum, named in honor of FAU’s vice president emeritus and founder of the campus. The arboretum is planted with Florida native plants including typical species found in pine flatwoods, tropical hardwood hammocks, mixed hardwood swamps and oak hammock.

Each year the campus celebrates Arbor Day with a special program in the arboretum.

On April 29, the celebration will be especially exciting as representatives from the Arbor Day Foundation will present FAU with a recognition plaque and a Tree Campus USA flag.

For more information about the Huckshorn Arboretum or the Arbor Day event, contact aedwards@fau.edu.