Happy New Year!

In the world of education, each September brings the new academic year and fresh beginnings. The 2010–11 year is certainly one to be remembered with the inauguration of our sixth president, Dr. Mary Jane Saunders.

During her first weeks on the job, Dr. Saunders has demonstrated a commitment to FAU’s unique distributed structure, traveling to each FAU location. I encourage you to meet and welcome Dr. Saunders when you have the opportunity and to participate in your campus’ inauguration event this fall. (Watch for more information soon about inauguration activities, which will coincide with this year’s Homecoming festivities during the last week of October.)

Dr. Saunders is launching her presidency with a new energy and vision that will unfold in the months ahead. With her academic credentials and track record of solid consensus-based leadership, she is poised to lead FAU into a new era.

Please take the time to read through this edition of Along the Coast and discover some of the exciting accomplishments and initiatives occurring across FAU’s regional campuses. Despite the budget challenges we have faced recently, the University’s momentum has continued thanks to the hard work and commitment of our faculty, staff, students and community. Enjoy this significant year in FAU’s history, and please remember that my doors are always open.

Sincerely,
Joyanne G. Stephens, Ph.D.
Vice President for Regional Campuses
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Judi Bowe, 561.799.8531 or jbowe@fau.edu

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COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS?
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The Broward Leadership Program, a year-long professional development program for the Broward campuses that aims to build future leaders for FAU, concluded in June with a graduation at the SeaTech campus. Ten current employees had the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills and contacts while exploring a variety of leadership areas within the university, including budgeting, community affairs and personnel management.

FAU’s Center for Ocean Energy Technology (COET), located at the Dania Beach SeaTech campus, was recently designated a new national center for ocean energy research and development by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center (SNMREC/COET) at FAU joins centers in the Pacific Northwest and Hawaii that also work to advance the operational readiness of ocean energy technologies. DOE will fund the SNMREC to undertake research and development of technologies capable of generating renewable energy from ocean currents and ocean thermal energy. COET also received the “Academic Pioneer Award” from EnergyOcean International for its recent and significant contributions in the field of ocean energy research and technology at EnergyOcean’s annual conference, the world’s leading event focused on offshore renewable and sustainable power. In addition to the award, the COET showcased its leading-edge work in ocean energy technologies and science.

FAU Police are now providing around-the-clock security services on the Davie Campus. For emergencies, call 911, but for other security needs, call 954.236.1140 (6.1140).

In order to improve traffic flow and accommodate new pedestrian patterns, there will be some parking lot and roadway construction on the East side of College Avenue during the fall semester.
Broward Computing Services upgraded 22 computers in Fort Lauderdale and Davie general purpose classrooms this year, as well as memory upgrades for three instructional computer classrooms. Online printing is now also available at each of the Broward campuses, allowing members of the FAU community to print documents to the open computer labs at the Davie and Fort Lauderdale campuses through any device that connects to the Web including smart phones, laptops and other wireless devices.

In May, the Owl Discount Program (ODP) went live. The program provides discounts to FAU faculty, staff, students and National Alumni Association members at several local businesses and can be accessed at www.fau.com/odp.

Have you always wanted to be an archaeologist, but never had the chance? Join the Florida Public Archaeology Network at FAU-Fort Lauderdale in its monthly “Preservation Days.” The last Thursday of every month the organization gathers volunteers to help the Palm Beach County Archaeologist process artifacts from recent excavations in Jupiter. On the last Friday of every month we assist the Broward County Archaeologist with collections from the Fort Lauderdale area. Interested? Contact Sarah Nohe, outreach coordinator, at snohe@fau.edu for details.

The Max Planck Florida Institute is one step closer to moving into its permanent location on six acres at FAU’s campus in Jupiter. On June 22, Dr. Peter Gruss, president of Germany’s Max Planck Society, presided at the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new 100,000-square-foot biomedical research facility—the first Max Planck Institute in the United States. With a focus on cutting-edge research in the neurosciences and integrative biology, the institute adds a powerful international dimension to the state’s growing bioscience cluster. It will also have a tremendous impact on education around the state and beyond. Construction on the new building is expected to be completed by early 2012.

This newly discovered deepwater coral reef is the first living Lophelia coral reef to be documented on the west Florida shelf. Thickets of living coral 3-4 feet tall provide essential habitat for a myriad of crabs, shrimps and juvenile fish. A commercially important golden crab, Chaceon fenneri, finds food and refuge among the branches.
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The 2010-2011 Environmental Writers Speaker Series, sponsored by the Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment, will be held in the AD auditorium at the Jupiter campus. All lectures are free and open to the public. Visit www.ces.fau.edu/scripps/speakerseries for full details about each lecture.

Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2010, 7 p.m.
Craig Pittman – St. Petersburg Times environmental reporter
“Manatee Insanity: Inside the War over Florida’s Most Famous Endangered Species”

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010, 7 p.m.
Janisse Ray – writer, naturalist and activist
“Human Ecology and Stories of Place”

Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2011, 7 p.m.
Peter Thomson – founding producer of NPR’s Living on Earth
“The Road to Baikal: An Environmental Journalist’s Trek to the World’s Great Lake”

Wednesday, March 2, 2011, 7 p.m.
Anthony Barnosky – UC-Berkeley paleontologist/paleo-ecologist
“New Needs for Nature in the Age of Global Warning”

For more information or to RSVP for the lectures, contact scrippshowardinstitute@fau.edu.

The popular “Coffee with the Professor” series featuring University faculty will kick off its eighth year on Friday, Sept. 17. Each segment presents an interesting topic related to the professor’s research. Continental breakfast is served, and the events are free and open to the public. The series for the fall semester is sponsored by BankAtlantic. For more information contact Katherine Yates at kyates3@fau.edu or 561.799.8105 (6.8105).

FAU TREASURE COAST

Treasure Coast campus classrooms in the CO building experienced a “facelift” this summer with not only fresh paint and new carpet, but also with state-of-the art technological upgrades to match the MP building’s level of sophistication. New “smart podiums,” complete with teaching equipment such as computers, audio-visual equipment and document cameras, were installed in each of the six rooms. Software for all computers on campus was upgraded and new computers were installed in the CO building computer labs. The Geomatics Engineering Program also added a teaching lab in CO 141. The Northern Computing Services department offers technology support in both the classroom and the office. Call the department's cell phone at 772.418.1190 for assistance.

Campus safety was also upgraded this summer with the addition of speed limit signs and speed bumps in the parking and roadway areas. FAU Police continue to maintain a high-level of safety on campus. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to be aware of the many resources available on campus, such as the “blue phone” stations and 24-hour security patrol. Please feel free to contact the campus police at 772.370.6854 if you would like an escort to your car or any other safety-related assistance.

Approximately 80 percent of all students polled in FAU’s recent Student Satisfaction Survey gave the Treasure Coast campus library high marks for availability and quality of services. The library offers wireless access to the Internet and provides over 50 desktop and laptop computers for student and faculty use.

The Treasure Coast campus library is a joint-use facility that serves FAU and Indian River State College faculty, students and staff, as well as St. Lucie County Public Library System patrons. Reference services and library instruction are two of the many information services available to all patrons using the campus library. To schedule orientations or instruction, contact Pamela Alderman at palderm1@fau.edu or 772.873.3422 (6.3422) or Cathy Allore at callore@fau.edu or 772.873.3367 (6.3367).

The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD), located in the MP building, room 116, regularly offers support group meetings and trainings for families, teachers and professionals in the community. CARD serves individuals of any age with autism, Asperger syndrome, pervasive development disability not otherwise specified, Rett Syndrome, childhood disintegrative disorder and deaf-blindness. All services are free of charge.

For more information, contact clinical support specialists Linda Peirce at lpeirce@fau.edu or 772.873.3422 (6.3422) or Cathy Allore at callore@fau.edu or 772.873.3367 (6.3367).