As the spring 2018 semester draws to a close, I would like to tell you how much I appreciate the work that you continue to do with our students. As our number one priority, working with students is the very reason that many of us chose higher education and the impact that we continue to make in our region can be seen by so many. So again, thank you!

I know that these past couple of weeks several of our faculty, staff and students have been affected by the wildfires in Collier County. I hope that everyone is taking the steps needed to say safe from fires and that they will be out very soon.

As you will see later in this edition of the 411, we had 10 FSW honor students spend their spring break in Nicaragua exploring how political systems affect their citizenry around the work as part of their “Politics, People, and Power: Living in the Developing World” class. This is yet another example of how our students are getting real world experiences as they continue their educational journey at FSW.

Finally, I wanted to congratulate all of those faculty who will be retiring at the end of the spring or summer terms. Many of those retiring have spent more than 30 years at FSW and we appreciate the many years of service to the College and our students. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at graduation on May 4th, which is just a little over a month away.

Have a wonderful end to the semester.

FSW Dental Hygiene Program Achieves 100% Pass Rate for 23rd Consecutive Year

Congratulations to the Dental Hygiene class of 2018 who had a 100% pass rate on their National Dental Hygiene Board Examination (NBDHE). This is the 23rd consecutive year the Dental Hygiene class has had a 100% passing rate and it is due to the great work of our Dental Hygiene program team Karen Molumby, Dr. Philip LoGrippo, Dr. Magdaline Britto, Dr. Marcia Timson, Brenda Schwing, Carol Chapman, Clori Matro-Atkins, Mary Kazakos, and Nancy Schuette.
FSW Nursing Student Danielle Granderson is Named the Chancellor Scholar of the Month

FSW student Danielle Granderson was named the Chancellor’s Clark Maxwell Scholar Student of the Month for March 2018. In addition to pursuing her Associate in Science in Nursing degree, Danielle is a leader in Phi Theta Kappa, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Student Government Association, and the Book Club. Danielle is featured in The Florida College System monthly newsletter.

FSW Students Recognized for Their Winning Submissions in the “Freedom of the Press” Essay Contest

FSW students were invited to consider the question “Why is freedom of the press important to our democracy?” Students could submit a written or video essay in response to the essay prompt. Serena Tartaglia, Ethan McSheffrey, Alexa Rosier, and Jessica Gonzales (pictured to the left) were recognized for their winning submissions at a prize presentation in downtown Fort Myers, and their winning submissions were featured by The News-Press. Essay contest partners include the Women League of Voters of Lee County, The Foundation for Lee County Public Schools, the School District of Lee County, The News-Press, and Career Source Southwest Florida.

“I Love You Earth” a Billboard Artwork is Featured in Yoko Ono's New Book

The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery at FSW is delighted to have Yoko Ono's “I Love You Earth” (the billboard we commissioned for our recent "FluZUsic/FLUXUS MUSIC" exhibition) featured in the artist's most recent publication “Live in the Light of Hope.”

Students Showcase Creative Work Around the Holocaust Memorial Week Theme of “Never Again.”

Congratulations to Joshann Burdick, Jeremy Rosauer, Danielle Granderson, and Ethan McSheffrey for their creative work reflecting on the theme of FSW’s Holocaust Memorial Week. Joshann Burdick is both the winner of the poster contest and designer of the artwork featured on the cover of this year’s Holocaust Memorial Week Program. Jeremy Rosauer is the winner of the short-film competition, Danielle Granderson is the winner of the poetry contest, and Ethan McSheffrey is the winner of the short story contest.
It’s Easy Being Green
The annual GreenFest event on the Collier Campus featured chemistry students who showcased sustainable, environmentally-friendly, and healthy alternatives to everyday products. Projects included creating a composting worm bin at home, making homemade soaps and lotions, tap water quality and conservation, and how to incorporate more superfoods into your diet. The event was organized by Dr. Lisa McGarity and Dr. Kirk Otto. Dr. McGarity, a.k.a. Dr. McGreen, also performed her “Reduce, Recycle, and Reuse” rap. Professor Emily Porter and Professor Kim Hilton also provided support during the event.

Ten Students, Ten Body Bags, and the Question “Am I Next?”
FSW art students inspire meaningful conversation during the “March For Our Lives” event at Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers. Ten students, ten body bags, and the question “Am I Next?” sparked powerful conversation during the “March For Our Lives” event. The “Am I Next” project is a social sculpture created by students in Professor Dana Roes and Dr. Wendy Chase’s Media Exploration class. Students in the class are asked to make art that will start a meaningful conversation in the community. The social sculpture inspired meaningful conversation and stirred powerful emotions from “March For Our Lives” participants, bringing many to tears. The social sculpture was featured by several local news outlets.

Toga Party in the Garden
The Philosophy Club hosted a Toga Party in the Inspiration Garden. Students engaged in deep conversation around a variety of topics. Humanities faculty Dr. Russell Swanson (Advisor of the Philosophy Club), Dr. Elijah Pritchett and Dr. Wendy Chase joined students in the thought-poking dialogue.

Students Study the Affect of Politics, People, and Power in Nicaragua
Ten FSW honors students spent spring break studying abroad in Nicaragua as part of their "Politics, People, and Power: Living in the Developing World" class. Dr. Bruno Baltodano and Dr. Eileen DeLuca co-teach the class with a focus on both Political Science and Cultural Anthropology. Through the course, students explore how political systems affect their citizenry around the world.
Education for a New Humanity Colloquium Inspires Productive Dialogue Around the Theme of “Borders/Bordered/Borderless”

The Education for a New Humanity Steering Committee led by Dr. Wendy Chase and Dr. Elijah Pritchett hosted the 4th Biennial Education for a New Humanity Colloquium which impacted over 800 participants. The colloquium brings together scholars, artists, and performers in a variety of settings in order to encourage and empower our community not to shrink from difficult socio-political situations but to engage and counter them with critical thought, civil discourse, a rigorous pursuit of the truth, and creative resistance. Thanks to Dr. Wendy Chase, Dr. Elijah Pritchett, Marty Ambrose, Stuart Brown, Steve Chase, Jade Dellinger, Jill Hummel, Dr. Roz Jester, Dr. Scott Ortolano, Brian Page, Emily Porter, Dana Roes, Dr. Tom Smith for organizing an outstanding two weeks of events.

FSW Honors Holocaust Survivors During Holocaust Memorial Week

Dr. Spivak Holocaust Memorial Week at Florida SouthWestern State College strives to educate students and the community about the Holocaust, to honor its victims and survivors, to cultivate tolerance, and to promote awareness of modern-day genocide in support of the world's promise of "Never Again." The theme for 2018 is “Legacy of Survivors.” Thank you to Professor Cindy Campbell and Dr. Rona Axelrod for their continued leadership of the Holocaust Memorial Week. Additionally, we are proud of the faculty presenters Dr. Bruno Baltodano, Sara Gottwalles, Frank Kohn, Dr. Mark Herman, Dr. Sandi Towers, and Rachel Cox. Pictured below are students engaging with Holocaust Survivors Steen Metz, Marcel Fachler, and Renee Beddouk.
Florida SouthWestern State College is an equal access, equal opportunity organization.