Spring has sprung, although it can often be hard to tell when spring arrives in southwest Florida. This is also such a busy time for everyone as we begin closing out the current academic year and dive deep into planning for the upcoming academic year.

I would like to offer Dr. John Meyer our sincere thanks for all he has done as the Dean of the School of Business and Technology. Dr. Meyer has announced that Friday, April 7, will be his final day at FSW. Please join me in wishing him much success has he begins his new chapter in his professional career. Also, we have many things in the works right now including the evaluation process, summer and fall registration, and the budget process for the next year. I know it is a busy time for everyone, and I appreciate all that you continue to do for our students and for FSW.

360-Degree Evaluations for Deans

I appreciate the time and feedback from faculty contributing to a 360-degree evaluation of the academic deans and associate deans. From these evaluations I have completed individual sessions with the deans and I continue to work with the finance office to review the school and departmental budgets and to begin a comprehensive budget planning process for the upcoming institutional process. This summer, the deans, AVPMA, and I will participate in a two-day leadership retreat focused on their professional development both holistically and operationally at FSW. When faculty arrives in the fall, the deans will share the outcomes of this retreat and their areas of focus for the upcoming year.

Continued feedback guides the professional development for our administrators, and I want to again thank you for taking time and providing thoughtful insight for the needs of the faculty, programs, departments and the schools.

Dr. Talbot Spivak Holocaust Memorial Week

The annual Dr. Talbot Spivak Holocaust Memorial Week is underway this week, March 27-31. This year’s theme is “Resistance,” as a variety of programs and events are taking place throughout the week, including presentations by many local Holocaust survivors and FSW faculty members. Special thanks to Cindy Campbell, Dr. Rona Axelrod, and the Holocaust Memorial Week Committee for once again putting together this week-long program and helping all of us keep alive our part of this human history in our memories.

Pi Day

On 3/14, the Collier Campus hosted Pi Day with various activities focusing on Pi (3.14) related themes, including the Amazing Pi Race, where students searched the Charlotte Campus for clues in the quickest amount of time. Thanks to our Math faculty Cristhy Smith, Tesa Churchill, John Salem, and Marjorie Moller for organizing.

Green Fest

On March 22 and 23, the Collier Campus hosted its annual Green Fest event. Science students displayed their environmentally-friendly/healthy living projects on the Collier Campus breezeway. This year, projects included solar energy, gardening, and organic foods and beauty products. It is always great to see the student research and create. Thanks to Dr. Lisa McGarvey and Kirk Oto for once again organizing this educational event.

Cultural Arts Festival

The Charlotte Campus will host a Cultural Arts Festival on Thursday, April 6, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., featuring student artists, poets, and musicians. Be sure to stop by and support our talented students. Thanks to Natalia Orofello for putting this event together for its second year.

Glo-Bus

Congratulations to Supervision and Management students Carrie Baeir, Ryan Deviney, Keri Hardy, and Kanaeisha Hudson with their Glo-Bus team, Go Picture, finished number 1 worldwide for the week of March 14 on the following performance criteria:

- Earnings Per Share - Their Earnings Per Share of $18.03 was the best Earnings Per Share performance of the week, worldwide
- Stock Price - Their Stock Price of $578.20 was the best Stock Price performance of the week, worldwide
- Overall Game-To-Date Score - Their Overall Game-To-Date Score of 108.5 tied for the 6th best Overall Game-To-Date Score performance of the week, worldwide
- Return on Average Equity - Their Return on Average Equity of 67.6% was the 32nd best Return on Average Equity performance of the week, worldwide

Thanks to business faculty member David Hoffman for guiding students throughout this project.

Golden Apple

Congratulations to two of our FSW School of Education alumnas Maria LaRocco and Lori Whited who were 2017 Golden Apple winners. This type of alumni recognition only goes to prove the strength of our programs, faculty, and staff. Thanks to everyone in the FSW School of Education for continuing to prepare strong teachers for our local schools.

FSW Writings

FSW Writings has been quite busy lately. Earlier this month, FSW Writings held the Journalism as Activism panel with Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Leonard Pitts, Jr. and local journalists Melanie Payne of The News-Press and Chris Citron of WINK News. It was a great turnout, with standing room only in the Rush Auditorium. Thanks to Dr. Amy Trogan, Professor Jill Hummel and FSW Writings for organizing this event and to the FSW Foundation for their sponsorship.

Poet Lola Haskins also gave readings at both the Thomas Edison and Charlotte campuses, and Dr. Caroline Blinder from Goldsmiths at The University of London presented Smokecreens to Smokestacks: “True Detective” and the American Sublime. Thanks to Dr. Ishara Horn, John Pelot and Dr. Scott Ortolano for organizing these events.

The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery Exhibition

The Bob Rauschenberg Gallery will host a public reception for the exhibition FRANCO & Ailup (UNY). Collaborations from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, April 7. The exhibition will feature their collaborative and individual photography, painting, multi-media and related works.

Spring Concert Series

Students in our music program under the direction of Tom Smith will hold a spring concert series in the Barbara B Mann Performing Arts Hall in April. The concerts are free to attend.

Monday, April 3, at 7:30 p.m. – Concert Band, Trumpet Ensemble, and Percussion Ensemble

Monday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m. – Symphony Orchestra, FSW Choirs, and Guitar Ensemble

Monday, April 17, at 7:30 p.m. – Jazz Big Band, Jazz Combo, and Jazz Vocalists

Diversity and Social Change

The Diversity Alliance will hold two events in April: “Finding Common Ground, The Return to Civil Discourse,” from 3:30 p.m. on April 12.

FSW Women’s Leadership

Congratulations to PTK President Veronica Aguilar who was named to the All-USA Community College Academic Team, and qualified as a 2017 Coca-Cola New Century Scholar. She is one of 15 students in the nation to receive PTK’s 2017 Guisthite Scholarship.

Academic Affairs

Congratulations to Jose Delgadillo, director, Exhibitions and Collections, who was invited to present on Rauschenberg, Experiments in Art & Technology (E.A.T.) and recent projects at the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery at FSW at the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston next month.

As always, please feel free to email any questions or comments to jeff.stewart@fsw.edu.