The Academic Research Grant (ARC) application deadline is quickly approaching. Faculty seeking funding during the current grant cycle should submit an application by November 1. ARC Grant funds are intended to support scholarly products that contribute to a culture of creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship that positively impacts students and the learning experience.

ARC Grant applications and instructions are available through the FSW Office of Sponsored Programs and Research at https://www.fsw.edu/ospr/arcgrant.

Duty Days
It was recently noticed that the Winter Break/College Closed dates on the 2016-2017 Academic Calendar for Faculty did not match the 2016-2017 Duty Days calendar. All calendars have since been updated to reflect the accurate dates for Winter Break. The college will be closed December 19 - January 2. The college will reopen on January 3, 2017.

The Year Without Summer: A Panel Discussion
The first ArtSPEAK@FSW interdisciplinary forum will take place on Saturday, October 8, at 1 p.m., in the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery. Artist Keith Edmier, archeologist Dr. Karen Holmberg, and FSW English Professor Marty Ambrose will discuss how the eruption of Mount Tambora in Indonesia in 1816 and the changes in global climate that followed influenced sculpture and Mary Shelley’s novel “Frankenstein.”

Black Maria Film Festival
The FSW Thomas Edison Campus will once again host the Black Maria Film Festival on October 22. This year, FSW’s Honors Scholar Program students selected the films that will be screened, and some of the proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to the Santa Julia Women’s Coffee Cooperative in Managua, Nicaragua. The Honors students adopted this community following the Comparative Politics class trip last March to Nicaragua with Dr. Bruno Baltodano. The students also plan to sell the coffee grown and harvested by those in the women’s cooperative as an additional fundraiser for their community.

Dental Hygiene Program Reunion
The Dental Hygiene Program hosted a reunion last month, welcoming 75 alumni and 15 faculty and staff members. Classes represented ranged from one alumna from 1995, one from 1997, and the rest scattered throughout the remaining grad years. Guests came from as far away as North Port, Sarasota, Clewiston, Marco Island and Orlando. The event was a great success, and plans are already underway for another reunion event to honor the program’s 25th anniversary in 2020.

Academic Affairs Accolades
The Respiratory Care Program held its annual Suncoast Pulmonary Symposium earlier this month. The program brings in professionals to speak on a variety of current topics in the Respiratory Care industry, and offers continuing education units to those who work in respiratory care throughout the state. We are always proud when our programs extend their reach beyond the classroom and out into our local communities as well as state-wide. Thanks to Dr. Jeff Elsberry, Dr. Jeff Davis, and Myrtha Collazo for organizing another successful symposium.

Congratulations to Angela Vitale, Nursing Professor, for being awarded a $20,000 doctoral scholarship from the Suncoast Nursing Action Coalition (SNAC).

The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) recently awarded continuing accreditation to our EMS-Paramedics program through 2021. This was possible because of the great work Joseph Washburn, Program Director, Emergency Service Programs, and his entire team in the EMS program.

Congratulations to Dr. Scott Ortolano and the members of FSW Writes for hosting the Florida Literary Arts Coalition (FLAC) event on September 26 featuring Maile Chapman, author of the novel, Your Presence is Requested at Swanton. Dr. Chapman gave a reading from her novel and participated in a Q&A with students, faculty and staff. FSW’s Creative Writing Club, advised by Professor Ihasha Horn participated in the event, and Savannah Gordon, club president, provided an impressive introduction for the author.

Faculty Contract
As you know we have been negotiating the CNA and the contract was ratified on Friday, September 16. I wanted to thank everyone who was involved in the process including Professor Ellie Bunting, Chief Negotiator for the Union and her entire team, Professor Marty Ambrose, Dr. Peggy Romeo, Dr. Joan Van Glabeke, and Dr. Martin Tawil. Susan Bronstein served as the Chief Negotiator for the College along with Dr. Eileen DeLuca, Dr. Martin McClinton, and before his retirement, Dr. Emery Alford. It was truly a team effort on both sides to arrive at what I believe is a very fair and balanced contract.

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