Welcome: Message from the Dean

Welcome to our very first issue of The Pinnacle. At the College of Engineering & Computer Science, we are pleased to provide highlights of our programs and the opportunities available to our current and prospective students. As you read through the newsletter, you will learn more about our college and the activities in which our students are involved. We have also included additional information to help you navigate your way around FAU, such as how to apply for admission and financial aid.

For the past three years, I have had the pleasure of serving as the dean of the College of Engineering & Computer Science and there has never been such an exciting time! FAU has just celebrated its 40th anniversary and so has our college. Our ocean engineering program was one of the first academic programs offered at this institution—and the very first undergraduate program in ocean engineering ever offered in the United States (see page 3).

We are pleased to announce that we have extensive plans underway for a 250,000-square-foot LEEDS Platinum Level Certified Green facility to house all of our programs. The “green building” will feature lowered consumption of energy and water, use of recycled materials, and a healthy and proactive environment for the occupants. It will also serve as a living laboratory.

As you read through The Pinnacle, you will learn more about the academic support we provide our students to enhance the opportunity for success, both in the classroom and in the professional world. We have so many exciting plans underway for the continued growth and expansion of our programs and we invite you to join in this journey where new ideas help create new opportunities.

Karl K. Stevens, Ph.D., P.E.
Dean

DISCOVER FAU

Have you visited FAU’s Boca Raton campus lately? If not, come check us out! The FAU Boca Raton campus offers tours Mondays through Fridays, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and on Saturdays at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.fau.edu/academic/admissions/tour.htm or call (561) 297-3040. The hour-long walking tour, which is given by an Admissions Office representative, gives you the chance to see our excellent facilities, state-of-the-art labs and classrooms, model residence hall rooms and food services. For students that will be taking courses on the Port St. Lucie or the Jupiter Campuses, you can schedule a personal tour by calling Port St. Lucie at (772) 873-3301 or Jupiter at (561) 799-8697.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

- Civil Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Ocean Engineering

www.eng.fau.edu
WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

Ready to be an FAU engineering or computer science student but not sure where to start? The Division of Engineering Student Services (DESS) is here to help! We are happy to talk to you and answer any questions you may have. Maybe you would also like to schedule an appointment to meet with an advisor to receive further information about our programs. Anything you need, any questions you have, feel free to call (561) 297-2780.

FUTURE NFL STARS!

After last season’s stellar record of 9-3, there is certainly no question that the FAU football team has some very talented players. And now, the NFL is interested. Seven FAU football players received invitations to try out for a position on a professional team. Three of the players made summer camp and will join the squads for pre-season camp. Among the three players are Jared Allen and Kevin Fischer who will join the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Chris Laskowski who will join the Indianapolis Colts. As head coach Howard Schnellenberger stated, “Like any proud father sitting at the football awards banquet hoping his son would be selected as the most valuable player, my staff and I have followed this draft with interest.” And so have we!

FAU LAUNCHES INTO SPACE

The next time you view a spectacular image of aerospace, chances are it could be the work of FAU College of Engineering & Computer Science. Dr. William E. Glenn, Distinguished Research Professor for Electrical Engineering and Director of FAU’s Imaging Technology Center (ITC), has invented the HDMAX, a camera that weighs less than four pounds and has a resolution 24 times that of a regular television. Imagine being able to look through this camera and clearly see a road sign three miles away, or a one-inch object one mile away.

NASA plans to use the HDMAX on the International Space Station in 2006 to capture images of space. The HDMAX has many other uses, such as providing surveillance, security, observation and inspection of aircrafts, as well as for biomedical and marine biotechnology applications.

The movie industry has also jumped on the bandwagon. HDMAX is now licensed to Panavision, the leading camera supplier, for use in filmmaking and surveillance. The ITC laboratories and offices are based on FAU’s Boca Raton and Fort Lauderdale campuses with researchers on staff continuing to develop the HDMAX and its applications. With FAU’s continued focus on digital imaging, the sky’s the limit!

FAU RACING TEAM

Maybe the last time you watched the Daytona 500, your friends were “wowed” by how fast the cars could fly and how the driver handled the road…but not you.

You were assessing the design and frame of the race car, and envisioning how you would modify and improve upon the design. A group of FAU engineering students have some great ideas of their own that they are putting to work. Ten undergraduate students in mechanical engineering have joined forces to design and develop FAU’s Formula SAE (Society of Automotive Engineers) Race Car for the 2006 Formula SAE competition.

This annual competition takes place in Detroit, Michigan with over 140 universities participating. The competition is for SAE student members to conceive, design, develop and compete with small formula-style racing cars. Our students have been hard at work since September 2004 developing, designing and building this race car. They are responsible for every single component of the car, from modifying a Suzuki GSX-R 600 motorcycle engine, to the axles, body frame and more. We are very proud of the FAU Racing Team and wish them lots of luck.

HOOTIE HOO!

Wow! Concrete can float? Leave it to our undergraduate civil engineering students to accomplish this feat. Approximately 30 of our students in the FAU American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) student organization worked together to apply their engineering knowledge, along with their creativity and dedication, to develop, design and build a concrete canoe that can float. The work on this canoe, aptly named HOOTIE HOO in reference to the University’s Owl Mascot, began in September 2004 and took approximately six months to complete. The concrete canoe was entered into the ASCE Southeast Regional Competition held in Alabama this past March. Over 20 universities including Vanderbilt, Auburn, and the University of Florida participated. We are very pleased with all their hard work and effort and extend special congratulations to the FAU ASCE students.
This past June, FAU's ocean engineering program celebrated its 40th anniversary, marking this milestone with a three-day celebration. Over 150 people attended the event. Established in 1965, the ocean engineering undergraduate program was the first and only of its kind in the United States. The undergraduate program began with only 35 students that first year. Today, the program has grown to over 160 students and is one of FAU's most successful academic and research departments. Research projects such as sub-bottom imaging, underwater communication, autonomous underwater vehicles, durability of composite materials and coastline security technology brought in approximately $4.2 million in outside money this year alone. Students have numerous opportunities to participate in research projects and are responsible for securing the Guinness World Record for the fastest human powered submarine-defeating prestigious universities such as MIT as well as the U.S. Navy. Today, as the ocean engineering program continues to chart a new course, we can only imagine what the next 40 years will bring.

OCEAN ENGINEERING CELEBRATES ITS 40th ANNIVERSARY

Division of Engineering Student Services

At the Division of Engineering Student Services (DESS), our primary goal is to provide academic support and guidance for our FAU Engineering & Computer Science students to enhance the opportunity for a successful academic career.

It is absolutely essential that we provide a supportive environment that encourages students to interact and engage with one another, explore opportunities and achieve excellence. In order to facilitate such academic success, we assist our students in many different areas, such as providing counseling to undecided engineering majors, promoting professional development through work opportunities, oversight of student professional societies and more. We also work very closely with our students to provide assistance and tutoring for challenging courses. Check out the box below to see what else we provide. Call (561) 297-2780 to learn more about the academic support and services you would receive as an FAU engineering/computer Science student.

- Free Tutoring
- Scholarship Information
- Resources for Career Placement
- Student Professional Societies
- Academic Petitions
- Note-Taking Skills
- Guidance & Counseling
- Time-Management Skills
- Test-Taking Strategies
- Friendly Faces

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Don’t Let Lack of Funds Stand in Your Way!

There is always help at FAU. FAU has numerous opportunities for students in need of financial aid. If you have specific questions about your options, check out www.fau.edu/finaid. The Website provides detailed instructions on how to apply for financial aid and also includes information on scholarships. You can also call the financial aid office at (561) 297-3530 for further information.

Preparation Now For FAU!

As you may already know, there are a number of pre-requisite courses that need to be completed before the majority of upper division engineering or computer science courses can be taken at FAU. You can take these courses at your community college. To view the list of courses, go to www.sefec.org/matrix.htm. Simply click on your major under the community college you attend and the list of courses will appear. For more information, call (561)297-2780.

To receive future updates and invitations to special events, please e-mail tcarey2@fau.edu. Please include your full name, address and phone number.
LEARN WHILE YOU EARN

At the Division of Engineering Professional Development (DEPD), we work closely with undergraduate and graduate students in the College of Engineering & Computer Science to provide co-op and internship positions in the industry.

Co-op and internship students obtain on-the-job work experience that is directly related to their academic majors in private, public and governmental organizations. Co-op and internship students earn a salary, academic credit and real-world work experiences.

Currently, over 230 companies work with DEPD to provide job opportunities for our students. Many of our students do very well in this program and find themselves being offered full-time positions from their companies upon graduation.

DEPD provides assistance in the following areas: dissemination of resumes to potential employers for local, national & international co-op & internship opportunities, career guidance, resume writing guidance, and interview support. This program is available for juniors and seniors as well as graduate students in the College of Engineering & Computer Science. To register, you must fill out paperwork the semester before you would like to start your co-op or internship. For more information, please call Pat Capozziello at (561) 297-2694 or e-mail her at capozzie@fau.edu.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

In a few short months, Kerry-Ann Nesbeth will don her cap and gown, and walk across the stage with fellow graduates to receive her bachelor's degree in computer engineering.

For many graduates, this is where the hard work begins—finding a job. Not for Nesbeth! Still a couple of months shy of graduation day, Nesbeth is already primed for a very promising and successful career in the field of computer engineering. And it all began with a simple flier.

Nesbeth happened to notice a flier advertising the engineering co-op program and stopped by the Division of Engineering Professional Development (DEPD) to find out more. Nesbeth, a senior in the computer engineering program at FAU, originally started her college career at Broward Community College, where she received her associate's degree. Once she transferred to FAU and took a few courses, she was ready to start gaining some work experience. Nesbeth submitted her resume to the DEPD and attended the required workshop. Within one month, she had received phone calls from several interested companies. After careful deliberation, Nesbeth decided to work for Open Finance Network, a company based in Boca Raton. Open Finance Network is the front runner in providing technology platforms with services such as an accounting engine, analysis engine, trading engine, monitoring engine, reporting engine and relationship management tools for financial advisors who provide wealth design to high-net-worth clients. As a Java developer, she is currently working on the prototype for the analysis engine using applications such as Java, Struts, JSP, HTML, XML and JavaScript. Nesbeth has found this experience to be invaluable, stating, “You find yourself applying your academic knowledge to practical experience and start to notice the relevancy of class work to the real world.”

Nesbeth has just recently been offered a full-time position with Open Finance Network that will begin immediately after graduation. Her recommendation to future students: “Pay attention in class. You will see relevancy to the real world.” Congratulations Kerry-Ann and best of luck!

READY TO TRANSFER TO FAU?

Apply today! We are in the process of reviewing applications for the Spring 2006 semester. The deadline for transfer students to apply for the spring semester is November 15, 2005. To apply to FAU, visit www.fau.edu/academic/admissions/Undadmissn.htm. There are detailed instructions available to guide you through the application process. There are two ways that you can apply: 1) apply online or 2) send in your application by mail. The application form is available online to download, complete and mail. You will need to include your transcripts as well as the $30 application fee. If you have additional questions, please call the Division of Engineering Professional Development Office at (561) 297-3040.