The Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech

Alumnus Establishes Scholarship in Name of Chemistry Faculty Member

Florida Tech alumnus Jonathan B. Zung, Ph.D., has made an initial donation to establish an annual department of chemistry award.

The Dr. J. Clayton Baum Chemistry Award will recognize an outstanding junior chemistry major based on the student’s academic and research achievements. The award was established by alumni in recognition of Baum’s dedication, devotion and service to the department of chemistry and the university.

“Nearly all chemistry graduates since 1979, who have taken courses from Dr. Baum, realize how much he has contributed to the university,” said Zung.

“The education I received at Florida Tech was superb and would never have been possible without the dedication of faculty like Dr. Baum. The award will begin a legacy of giving by chemistry alumni at Florida Tech.”

Baum has taught and conducted research at the university since 1979. He has also served as a mentor and adviser to numerous undergraduate and graduate students. Baum earned his Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Princeton University, New Jersey, and received his undergraduate degree at Williams College, Massachusetts.

Zung, ’86 B.S. chemistry, is vice president of project management for Bristol-Myers Squibb in Princeton, N.J. He has pledged to match alumni contributions until the scholarship is funded at $25,000. Zung’s donation is part of the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech.

For more information on the Golden Anniversary Campaign for Florida Tech, visit http://campaign.fit.edu.

Three at Florida Tech Earn Faculty Excellence Awards for Outstanding Performance

Three faculty members earned the university’s 2007 Faculty Excellence Awards for outstanding performance.

Georgios Anagnostopoulos, electrical and computer engineering, received the Kerry Bruce Clark Award for Excellence in Teaching; Carmo D’Cruz, engineering systems, received the Andrew W. Revay Jr. Award for Excellence in Service; and Jean-Paul Pinelli, civil engineering, received the Award for Excellence in Research.

Anagnostopoulos is credited with bringing in two National Science Foundation research grants that promote undergraduate research in machine learning. The collaborative research grants total more than $260,000 and allow 25 undergraduates to conduct research at Florida Tech and other universities in the state.

D’Cruz earned a Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellowship that allowed him to establish a chapter of Students in Free Enterprise on campus. He continues to serve as the adviser. D’Cruz is also a past chair of the American Society for Engineering Education Entrepreneurship division. He mentors junior high and high school students, encouraging them to pursue science and engineering careers.

Pinelli is the recipient of several grants for hurricane damage research. Most recently, he earned a $300,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to work on a wireless sensor network for monitoring hurricane wind impacts on coastal structures.

This is a continuation of the work he did in 2006 under a Florida Sea Grant Program award that funded a joint project with the University of Florida. In addition, he has led the engineering team that developed the Florida Public Hurricane Model for residential structures, and recently received a new award to extend the model to commercial structures.