In honor of American Education Week last month, FEA sponsored a “Vote for Your Favorite Professor” event. We collected votes for three days in the Sub and were encouraged by the number of Florida Tech students who wanted to show their support for their favorite professor.

Right after Thanksgiving, the winning professors were presented with their award and prizes. FEA would like to thank everyone involved, especially the local restaurants who donated prizes. Make sure that you let Chili’s, El Chico, Smoky Bones, The Mighty Mushroom, and Shells know that we appreciate their support.

If you have class with any of our winners, congratulate them. It is as important to let people know when they are doing a great job as to let them know when things need to improve, but unfortunately, people often only hear about the latter. Make sure you let people know that you appreciate them, and hopefully they will keep on doing what it is that makes them special.

And make sure you don’t miss Mrs. Blenis’s name on the list as an honorable mention! We really appreciate all her hard work!

Drum Roll Please!

This Year’s Favorite Professor Winners are:

1st Place
Dr. Jim Brenner (Chem. Engineering)
2nd Place (3 Way Tie!)
Dr. Polson (Biology)
Dr. Baloga (Chemistry)
Melissa Jones (Math)

Honorable Mentions
Baum, Belyi, Blenis, Cosentino, Davis, Frongillo, Girton, Gordon, Hadjilogioue, Kovats, Lazarus, Morris, Olson, Oyman, Perdigao, Petterson, Ruane, Rusovici, Sawyer, Sohn, Taylor, Utley, Windsor

Not all of this year’s favorites were professors. GSA Melissa Jones was excited to win and we hope she will keep on doing a great job.

FTCE Update:

The next FTCE date is: January 12, 2008
Late Reg. by 12/13

You can now register online at http://www.fl.nesinc.com

Passing scores on the General Knowledge test are required before registration of the Junior Sequence of Education Courses (EDS 3033, 4051 & 3095), and seniors must pass the FTCE Professional Education and Subject Area Test before graduation.
Brevard FEA Conference

Once again, Florida Tech and our department are excited to host the Brevard Future Educator Association’s Annual Conference. This year more than 200 middle and high school students will be participating in the event, which will be held Thursday, December 6 on campus. Over half of the students are in high school, and every south Brevard high school will be represented. This is a significant change over past years when most of the students were from local middle schools, and reflects significant growth of FEA in the area’s schools.

Florida Tech has hosted the event for the past four years and each year has been the “best conference ever”, according to teachers and participants. Hopefully this year’s conference will be no exception. The success of the conference is a significant boon to the reputation of both Florida Tech and our education department.

Our students will be involved in several aspects of the conference. We will be judging essay and spirit contests and making sure everything goes smoothly. Also, we are pleased to announce that our students will be in charge of the presentations to the high school students.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered his or her time and energy. We appreciate the support and look forward to a fantastic event.

Florida FEA Conference

The Florida Future Educators of America Annual State Conference will be held January 25-27, 2008, in Orlando. This conference is for secondary and post-secondary students and we are planning on participating. This year’s theme is “Teachers Make All Other Professions Possible,” and the agenda will include several concurrent sessions, a luncheon, and several contests. In the past, the sessions have been fun and interesting and Florida Tech students have made a good showing in the contests. This year’s contests are a Chapter Display, PowerPoint presentation, Lesson Plan, Speech, and Essay competitions.

FEA received secondary funding and will be able to subsidize some of the $75 fee for those students interested in attending. We should have hotel rooms for us to share and transportation arrangements can be made. The deadline for registering is December 14, so please let Mrs. Blenis know immediately if you are interested in attending this wonderful professional development opportunity.

For anyone who has never been to a conference, they are a great way to network and can be a valuable learning experience. Help Florida Tech make a strong impression this year, and have some fun at the same time!
FEA HOLDING OLD CELL PHONES AND SPENT INK CARTRIDGE DRIVE

Attention all Florida Tech students and faculty! Are you planning on getting a new cell phone for Christmas and don't know what to do with your old one? Do you need a safe way to dispose of all those empty ink jet printer cartridges that you used up printing term papers?

Florida Tech's Future Educators Association (FEA) is conducting a cell phone and ink jet cartridge drive! We hope you will consider donating your old phones, old electronic equipment, and empty cartridges instead of throwing them away. Not only will it help us raise funds for our organization, but also it is a great way to dispose of your potentially hazardous waste in a clean, earth-friendly way.

The FEA will be collecting cell phones, ink jet cartridges, DVDs, laptops, MP3 players, digital cameras, and other electronic devices on December 3rd through 5th between 11 and 2pm outside the bookstore in the SUB. We will also be collecting again after the holiday break, on January 7th through the 9th, from 11 to 2pm, so gather up all that used up or obsolete junk lying around at home. For more information, please contact Michael Greene at mgreen02@fit.edu or call the Science and Math Education Department, X7527.

Florida DOE releases report on FCAT

Last month the Florida Department of Education announced the release of FCAT Reading Lessons Learned: 2001-2005 Data Analyses and Instructional Implications and FCAT Mathematics Lessons Learned: 2001-2005 Data Analyses and Instructional Implication. These reports are intended to provide educators with detailed trend analyses of student reading and mathematics performance in grades three through 10. The publications also include summaries, observations and statistical trends that provide a comprehensive study of student performance by grade.

Education Commissioner Jeanine Blomberg said of the reports: "Educators are able to use the Lessons Learned publications to build a bridge from analysis to action. It is rewarding to provide tools to educators that support and aid in classroom instruction."

The report was generated by a task force of curriculum supervisors and specialists, resource teachers, school administrators and Florida educators that examined and reviewed the DOE's data analyses of student performance. The task force used these insights to draft observations and instructional implications to improve instruction in the classroom.

This is the second time the DOE has published Lessons Learned for reading and mathematics. The first publication was released in May 2002, and contained data results in reading and mathematics from 1998-2000 and writing from 1993-2000. The DOE intends to begin work on editions of Science and Writing+ Lessons Learned in the near future.

Printed copies of the latest Lessons Learned have been shipped to every district across the state for teacher use. To view the publications, visit http://fcat.fldoe.org/lessonslearned.asp, or for more information on the FCAT, please visit http://fcat.fldoe.org/.
December is the month for our Retired Cell-Phone and Used Ink Cartridge Recycling Drive. The drive will be the first week of December, and then again after Winter Break. We need help staffing the table in the Sub during lunch. We will be set up Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, December 3-5. We are hoping to raise some significant funds to help with conference fees and future events.

FEA is also pleased to be hosting the annual Brevard FEA Conference again this year. Mrs. Blenis is very pleased with the number of volunteers who have committed their time to helping out. Emails will be sent out to confirm information, but please meet at Gleason before 8:15. We should be wrapped up before 3:00. Wear Department or FT shirts if you have them. Anyone who isn’t already signed up to help, feel free to join in the fun!

The deadline for registering for the Florida FEA Conference in Orlando (Jan 25-27) is December 14. Those of you who are interested let Mrs. Blenis know ASAP. Hopefully we will be able to defray some of the costs, but we need to know who is interested in attending right away.

FEA would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

**Used Ink Cartridge and Cell Phone Drive**

FEA will be collecting cell phones and used ink cartridges in the Sub. Any help staffing the table would be appreciated.

December 3, 4, & 5
11am – 2 pm
In the Sub

**DEPARTMENT CALENDAR**

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DECEMBER

2007