This July marks the start of CCI’s eleventh year as a combined college and we have seen a lot of changes since we merged in 2009. One thing that has not changed is our commitment to student success. Whether it’s helping students graduate, find a job, get involved on campus, or get into graduate school, the College has proven to be an FSU leader in advancing student success.

Creating an environment where students learn to excel requires dedicated faculty members who can draw on their own experiences to solve challenging problems and give effective feedback. As evidenced in the College’s “Faculty of the Future” videos, many of our faculty bring real-world problems into the classroom. Our faculty create an environment that enables students to learn by doing and encourages students to pursue internships, clinical experiences, and research.

In addition, CCI students and faculty have helped create, support, and pursue experiential learning in our research labs and centers including the L. L. Schendel Speech and Hearing Clinic, FSU’s Innovation Hub, Seminole Productions, the Debate team, the Arrowhead Advertising team, WVFS, and nineteen student organizations. These activities engage and prepare students with experiences that have resulted in College-major graduation rates of over 96% for all of our College majors. These activities also encourage students to pursue excellence such as the innovative Garnet and Gold Scholar designation, an honor achieved by over 200 CCI students.

I am proud of what our students and faculty have accomplished in our first ten years and grateful for the tradition of excellence established by our founding colleges. As part of our ten-year anniversary, we would love to be able to tell the stories of those who graduated between July 2009 and July 2019. If you are one of those graduates, please contact our team (hello@cci.fsu.edu).

Larry Dennis
Dean and Professor
ALUMNUS WINS SECOND GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD

Chip Vucelich ('80 B.S. Communication) is a five-time Emmy-nominated producer and won his second Golden Globe Award for the FX television show, "The Assassination of Gianni Versace: American Crime Story," in early January. The show also received an Emmy in September 2018. Vucelich serves as co-executive producer on the "American Crime Story" series, and received his first Emmy and first Golden Globe for his producing effort on "The People vs. O.J. Simpson" in 2016.

STUDENTS SELECTED FOR MULTICULTURAL ADVERTISING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The American Association of Advertising Agencies (4As) selected eleven students from FSU’s School of Communication for their Multicultural Advertising Internship Program (MAIP). The Program works with advertising agencies across the country to place selected diverse applicants in open internship positions in cities across the country. Dr. Sindy Chapa, School of Communication associate professor and director of FSU’s Center for Hispanic Marketing Communication, said, "This is a huge distinction for our College. We are excited about the opportunity this unique experience can bring to the future careers of these students."

REMEMBERING ALUMNUS KEVIN NEIDORF: ADVENTUROUS SOUL & GIFTED FILMMAKER

Kevin Neidorf ('13 B.A. Digital Media Production) tragically passed away in mid-January kayaking in Oregon. Kevin’s parents established the Kevin Neidorf Student Award as a tribute to his legacy. Give a gift honoring Kevin: spark.fsu.edu/Project/587.

PH.D. STUDENT SVITLANA JAROSYNZKI WINS PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC MEDIA CONFERENCE

Ph.D. student Svitlana Jarosynzki won first place in the Law and Policy Division of the 2019 Broadcast Education Association Convention. Her work looks at the history of the Foreign Agent Registration Act and its current use in media.
STUDENT ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY PROVIDES HEALTHY HEARING SCREENINGS AT LOCAL EVENTS

FSU’s Student Academy of Audiology (SAA) provided healthy hearing screenings at the Special Olympics Area Games in Tallahassee. SAA is for students pursuing careers in audiology, promoting healthy hearing awareness on campus and in the community.

NSSHLA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

Karina Hernandez, a junior Speech-Language Pathology student, was chosen for one of only ten scholarships given by the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSHLA) in recognition of her involvement in FSU’s chapter.

FACULTY & ALUMNI COLLABORATE TO PUBLISH EARLY CHILDHOOD RESEARCH

Juliann Woods, professor and director of the Early Childhood Research and Practice Center at FSU, partnered with alumna Ciera Lorio (’18 Ph.D., Communication Science and Disorders) to publish research in the December 2018 issue of Early Childhood Research Quarterly. Titled, "Multi-component Professional Development for Educators in an Early Head Start: Explicit Vocabulary Instruction During Interactive Shared Book Reading," the paper offers a literacy coaching professional development approach.

PROFESSOR PUBLISHES RESEARCH ON YOUTH SPEECH SOUND DISORDERS

Kelly Farquharson, associate professor and director of the children’s Literacy and Speech Sound lab at FSU, had two papers accepted for publication. The first paper, titled, "What if it Isn't 'Just Artic': The Case for the Single Sound Error," was published in the journal, Perspectives in Language and Learning. The journal, Seminars in Speech and Language, published her second paper, "Exploring the Factors that Contribute to How School-based SLPs Determine Eligibility for Children with Speech Sound Disorders." Farquharson said, "I’m really excited to be part of this research on eligibility for children with speech sound disorders. This population of children require the expertise of speech-language pathologists (SLPs), especially in public schools."

STUDENTS PRESENT AT RESEARCH ROUNDS MINI-CONFERENCE

The School of Communication Science and Disorders partnered with NSSHLA to host an event for students, faculty, staff, community clinicians, and alumni to present projects, methods, or studies they have participated in that made a difference for people with communication disorders. The goal of the event was to share exciting work, increase visibility for new ideas, and foster communication between peers and colleagues.
Students pursuing bachelor’s degrees in Information Technology or Information, Communication, and Technology visited Tallahassee-area schools throughout the Spring semester to talk about FSU and iSchool programs and assist with school projects. Schools visited include the School of Arts and Sciences, SAIL High School, Buck Lake Elementary School, R. Frank Nims Middle School, Godby High School, and Gulf Breeze High School.

Diego Corzo ('13 B.S. Information Technology), a Forbes-Featured entrepreneur, spoke at TEDxFSU 2019 about his journey to financial freedom. Born in Lima, Peru, his family moved to the U.S. when he was nine years old. He graduated from FSU in the top 1% of his class with two bachelor’s degrees, and after two years at GM made a career shift to real estate. Corzo is now a realtor for Keller Williams and he aspires to help others — especially millennials — gain financial freedom.

Bianca Spurlock ('15 M.S. Library and Information Studies) is one of two participants sponsored by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) in the American Library Association’s (ALA) 2019 Emerging Leaders program. She is a school librarian in Richmond, VA.

Wade Bishop ('10 Ph.D. Library and Information Studies) has been named the 2018-19 Human Dimensions Champion for Belmont Forum e-Infrastructures & Data Management. The Belmont Forum supports global environmental change research.

Assistant Professor Zhe He has been named a principal investigator for a research project with a grant total of $422,382. The research involves studying the generalizability of clinical studies and is titled, "Systematic Analysis of Clinical Study Generalizability Assessment Methods with Informatics." FSU will be the main site of the project with the University of Florida as a sub-awardee. The National Institute on Aging, part of the National Institutes of Health, is sponsoring the project. Upon completion, the project will fill a knowledge gap on the validity and utility of the different generalizability assessment methods and provide an easy-to-use toolbox for the clinical research community.
On April 12-14, we celebrated the 70th year anniversary of FSU’s modern debate program. The reunion weekend activities included a kick-off reception hosted by FSU President John Thrasher on Friday, a celebration dinner on Saturday, and capped off with a reunion breakfast on Sunday hosted by debate alumnus John Rains III and his wife Karan.

Debate is a university-sponsored intercollegiate competitive program open to students from all majors across the academic landscape. Our College is the home of this long-standing tradition of excellence in providing opportunities for students across the university to hone their skills in developing writing, critical thinking, and presentation skills to strengthen their ability to collect evidence and organize constructive arguments.

Debate alumni from across the country returned to campus for the festivities of the 70th anniversary, with representation of debate teams from the ’50s to the present decade. The celebration dinner highlighted remarks from past debaters and coaches who reminisced about their time in the program. Jeannette Meister, from the 1956 debate squad team, shared that one of her happiest memories on the team was when she and her debate team partner went to the All Southern Debate Tournament at Agnes Scott College and won the top prize! She can never forget how they had to carry the almost four-foot-tall trophy on the Greyhound bus ride back home to campus.

Several others shared their memories about how debate shaped their professions and why debate continues to be an important aspect of the student experience. Current sophomore student, Josh Schulster, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to be on the debate squad. He has learned that debate teaches students how to have an understanding of different perspectives and how to have civil conversations across party lines, belief systems, and ideologies in order to achieve real solutions. While he is unsure of what profession he would like to pursue after college, he knows that the skills he learns from debate will help him be the voice for those whose voices are not as powerful.

It is evident that participation in intercollegiate debate is integral to student success and to their career paths. In order to secure the future of the debate program, the Dr. Marilyn J. Young Endowment for Intercollegiate Debate was established. We have currently raised almost $350K through the generosity of former debaters and from a leadership gift made by Dr. Marilyn Young and her husband, Dr. Michael Launer. The endowment’s immediate goal is to raise the first $1M in the next year to provide funding for a permanent faculty coach. A consistent faculty presence is vital to the long-term future of the program by providing a voice for the value of competitive debate in the modern world. To fully endow the program, we need to secure an additional $1.5M to support a graduate assistant, provide scholarships, provide travel expenses for the coach and team members, and to secure resources to host annual events and provide team technology updates.

I hope that you will help us build on this auspicious beginning and show your support by making a gift to the campaign for Debate through the Dr. Marilyn J. Young Endowment for Intercollegiate Debate.

To learn more about the history of FSU Debate, please visit floridastatedebate.com. A special thank you to debate alumna Dr. Ann “Carrie” Crenshaw who created this incredible website. Watch the exceptional video created for the 70th Year Anniversary Reunion here: bit.ly/fsudebate.
Lauren Del Brocco ('14 B.S.) served in the Peace Corps in Namibia teaching STEM subjects and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Melissa Carlton ('08 M.A.) is an assistant professor in computer science at Houston Baptist University College of Engineering.

Joseph Clark ('80 B.S.) is now associate director of the FSU Testing Center.

Abigail Goehring ('15 M.S.) is a librarian at Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, OH.

Tremaine Grant ('13 B.S.) co-founded BULK, a fitness app that is designed to help build muscle.

Juan Guardia ('97 B.A.) is assistant vice president for student affairs and dean of students for the University of Cincinnati.

Patric Holly ('11 B.S.) is the electronic health record coordinator at Aledade, Inc.

Keri Keene ('12 B.S.) is a professional artist in Vero Beach, FL, with work in several galleries.

Kathleen Moeller-Peiffer ('77 M.S.) is a candidate for the ALA Council.

Plato Smith ('14 Ph.D.) received the 2019 GreyNet Award.

Jenn Topper ('07 M.A.) works as the communications director for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Natalie Woods ('14 M.S.) was honored by the Senate of Kentucky for her work with Louisville’s Beecher Terrace Community.

Faculty of the Future is a college-wide initiative to recognize the forward thinking work of our faculty to prepare students for the future.

School of Communication Professor Russell Clayton received an outstanding undergraduate teaching award from CCI. Watch his Faculty of the Future video at bit.ly/fofcci.

Send your update, class year and degree to:
hello@cci.fsu.edu.

Please note not all updates may be printed.
The iSchool hosted the board of the Florida Library Association for their annual meeting.

Communication graduate students presented research at their annual Qualitative Research Poster Symposium.

Members of CCI were celebrated at the annual Honors and Awards Reception.

Alumni recruited CCI students at the Spring CCI Career and Internship Fair.

The iSchool hosted the board of the Florida Library Association for their annual meeting.

Alumni recruited CCI students at the Spring CCI Career and Internship Fair.

Students and faculty hosted the annual South Asian Media and Cultural Studies conference.

CCI Club Day exposed students across campus to groups like the Cybersecurity Club.

Communication students presented research in FSU’s Master’s in 4 competition.

With a donation to FSU’s Great Give, students had the chance to pie their favorite professors.

CCI’s Student Leadership Council hosted a Spring Social featuring free snow cones.

Alumna Kathleen Daly (’82 B.S.) was inducted into FSU’s Circle of Gold.
In the Fall 2018 edition of The Connection, I wrote that I would be sharing with you more of the Leadership Board’s goals for this year and what we are doing to achieve them. At our Fall meeting, we formed workgroups to focus on four areas that we thought were important: Student Leadership Recognition, Online Giving, Donor Preparation, and Young Alumni Engagement. We are developing plans to implement each of these.

The Board is very aware of the fantastic job that our students are doing, not only relative to their academic success, but also to what they are doing for other students and the FSU community. Our students are LEADERS! In recognition of this, the Board plans to present a CCI student or student organization/advisor with an award in the amount of $1,000 to be used to attend a conference or field-related workshop or to further leadership activities. We are developing the application process for this award and hope to present our first one in the Fall of 2019.

Exciting opportunities are ahead for both students and the Leadership Board as we continue to work together for the benefit of CCI!

In ‘Nole spirit,
Diane Ervin

Chair, Leadership Board