



THE CONNECTOR

FSU COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION
SPRING 2020



TABLE OF CONTENTS

FSU COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS SPRING 2020

- 2 COLLEGE HAPPENINGS
Photo Gallery
- 3 CCI EVENTS
Women in Leadership
- 5 COLLEGE CONNECTION
Staying Connected During COVID-19
- 7 SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION
Alumni News
- 10 SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION
Student and School News
- 12 SCHOOL OF INFORMATION
Alumni News
- 14 SCHOOL OF INFORMATION
Student and School News
- 16 SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND
DISORDERS
Alumni News
- 17 SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND
DISORDERS
Student and School News

COLLEGE HAPPENINGS



Students enjoyed free headshots at CCI's Spring Headshot event.



Daniel Engler, Julia Stern, and Jonathan Garcia received the CCI Student Leadership Council's Leadership Award for outstanding initiative outside the classroom.



Students in STARS volunteered at the Technology Student Association.

SOS
FSU'S GREAT GIVE
 Support Our Students | April 7

This year's Great Give supported students financially impacted by COVID-19.



12 alumni were chosen for Seminole 100, a program recognizing alumni-owned businesses.



33 CCI students were inducted into the Garnet and Gold Scholar Society.



The 6th annual SAMCS conference fostered global connections.



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



FSU's Speech and Debate team displayed excellence at a competition hosted by Valdosta State University.

Exceptional Student Employees Recognized

CCI's student employees were recognized for their excellent work and nominated for awards at the University level.

CCI EVENTS

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP 2020

By Kelly Newbrough

On March 3, 2020 at the Turnbull Conference Center, the Women in Leadership conference hosted workshops for women to learn strategies and techniques for personal and professional growth, inspired women with a strong and diverse closing panel, and engaged with organizations on and off campus that are in Tallahassee. Over 250 members of the community, alumni, students, and faculty attended the conference that was sponsored by FSU College of Communication and Information, College of Business, College of Social Work, Jim Moran College of Entrepreneurship, and Social Catering.

INSPIRE

The conference kicked off with a truly inspirational opening speaker, Sharon Delaney McCloud. The FSU alumna and TEDx Speaker spoke about having a voice and shared strategies that help amplify your voice. A few techniques included removing the filler words from your vocabulary and even having a pre-meeting with other women to strengthen your voice.



After some refreshments and workshops, our main panel wrapped everything up with emphasis on community and government involvement, mentorships, and great advice for women starting on in their careers. The panel included:

- Moderator: Sharon Delaney McCloud, Partner & VP of Professional Development, Walk West
- Helen Levin, Regional Vice Chancellor for External Affairs, University of South Florida St. Petersburg
- Laurie Massaglia, Owner, Foundations for the Future Inc. & GoHorse.com LLC
- Melode Smelko, Vice President, President & CEO, Altrua Global Solutions
- Michelle Winokur, President, MW Consulting & Evaluation

LEARN

The 40-minute workshops this year included the following topics:

- Investing in YOU and Leading others: Leadership in Communication Fields
- Getting to the table and finding your voice
- The X Factor – Women in Business (global influencers)
- Finding and Working With Partners in Entrepreneurship
- Work-Life Balance: Creating Personal Resilience
- Generational Leadership
- Social Entrepreneurship
- It's All Relative – Business and Family
- Getting Involved Locally: Your community of mentors



ENGAGE

To help women engage with their community, there were plenty of organizations that tabled and were there to help promote involvement and networking. The community groups and student groups that tabled during the event include:

Community Groups:

- Girls on the Run
- Oasis Center for Women & Girls
- Women in Transportation
- Junior League of Tallahassee
- Voices for Florida
- Ladies Learning to Lead
- Career Source Capital Region
- Dare to Dream Young Girls Network
- Women 4FSU
- League of Women Voters of Tallahassee

Student Groups:

- League of Women Voters FSU Chapter
- Empowering Women Globally
- FSU Women Student Union
- Women in ICT/IT Sharing Experiences (WISE)
- Women Wednesdays
- HerCampus
- H.I.C.S
- Women in Business
- Women in Pre-Law Society

CCI ALUMNAE GUEST SPEAKERS AT WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



SHARON DELANEY MCLOUD

Sharon ('89, B.S. Communication) was the keynote speaker. An Emmy Award-winning broadcaster, TEDx Speaker, Olympic Torch Bearer, author, and agency owner, Sharon is a communications expert who

helps leaders and companies improve communication and executive presence to drive business results. As VP of Professional Development at Walk West, she leads media training, presentation coaching, and workplace communications programs for clients.



ELIZABETH (ELY) ROSARIO

Ely ('00, B.A. Communication) is the Vice President of Jackson Properties, where she transformed the company's operations to create a more efficient workplace, created a new image for the

company, supervised remodeling and construction projects, and developed new procedures to increase tenant retention. "It is important for me to be able to support and empower other women and encourage them to do the same for others," she says.



JESSICA CLARK

Jessica Clark ('10, B.S. Communication), PMP® is the CEO and Chief Creative Strategist of Skye Creative Marketing, a company that provides branding and public outreach services to

clients. "Leadership is important because it means there is something valuable and desirable about you and it's a leader's responsibility to share it and help someone else. It's the ultimate gift-giving role," she says.



NANETTE SCHIMPF

Nanette ('89, B.S. Communications) serves as the Vice President of the Moore Agency. As vice president, Nanette manages a large number of projects and has a diverse skill set

that includes advocacy, legislative affairs, and media relations. During her nearly 17 years with Moore, she has managed award-winning campaigns for clients ranging from law enforcement to the medical industry.



ASHLEY AUGUSTINE

Ashley ('13, B.S. Information, Communication and Technology) is a PMO/Compliance Manager at Brandt Information Systems. She works with Parks, Fish & Wildlife agencies to increase outdoor

participation and revenue streams through creative technology and marketing strategies. "Leadership helps us work together to achieve a common goal. It empowers us to make bold decisions and motivates us to do more." she says.



MINDY WATERS

Mindy is a Software Development Leader with DXC's Digital and Cloud Engineering team with over 30 years of experience developing software and leading teams. Outside of work, Mindy

has been married for over 35 years and has two grown children both in STEM fields. Mindy is passionate about encouraging and educating women and girls to pursue STEM careers. Mindy hopes to make a positive impact on our future workforce.



WENDI CANNON

Wendi ('00, B.S. Information) is the IT Director at the FSU Credit Union. She supports the 24,000 members of the credit union which spans across three counties in north Florida. She is involved with

the TalTech Alliance, Girls on the Run and SheLeads Tech which allows her to focus on her passion for women in technology. "Leadership is important because it sets out a vision for the organization and inspires you to achieve your goals," she says.



AMANDA WIGGINS

Amanda ('15, B.S. Public Relations) is the Program Director of Leadership Tallahassee, an organization devoted to cultivating a diverse network of emerging and experienced leaders that are

committed to improving the community. "Leadership, specifically effective and authentic leadership, is important for growth, success and innovation," she explains. "This principle is applicable to an individual, organization, business, community and beyond."

COLLEGE CONNECTION

STAYING CONNECTED DURING COVID-19



Dean Larry Dennis

As they say, "Necessity is the mother of invention." Operating high-quality, experience-focused, education programs in an environment that enables everyone to stay safe and healthy has required a great deal of flexibility and innovation. CCI faculty and staff have done that exceedingly well. They continue to innovate and are preparing to offer safe, face-to-face classes in the Fall that also serve remote instruction and self-isolated, individual, remote learners. Everyone is experiencing significant difficulties and the University is better prepared than most organizations to identify and overcome challenges.

With over two decades of experience teaching online, CCI was able to convert our classes to remote instruction. However, courses such as internships, clinical experiences, media production, and our emerging technology courses require additional effort to make sure students can work in clinics, produce live broadcasts, and build and use many forms of technology.

One way alumni can help over the next year is to help us identify internships that can be done remotely or on site. Given our economic situation, students are struggling to find internship opportunities. In our programs where internships and clinical experiences are required, unpaid internships are allowed by federal labor laws.

You can help by telling us the story of how you are managing challenges in the COVID-19 world. What are your challenges and how are you coping with them? These stories help everyone create new ways of doing things and let students know they are not the only ones having a hard time. The 25,000+ CCI alumni network creates a huge creative resource that can help everyone get through this. For its part, the College will continue to summarize and distribute these stories through social media and newsletters (hello@cci.fsu.edu). Be well and stay safe.

Lawrence C Dennis

MENTAL HEALTH TIPS

With FSU Friends

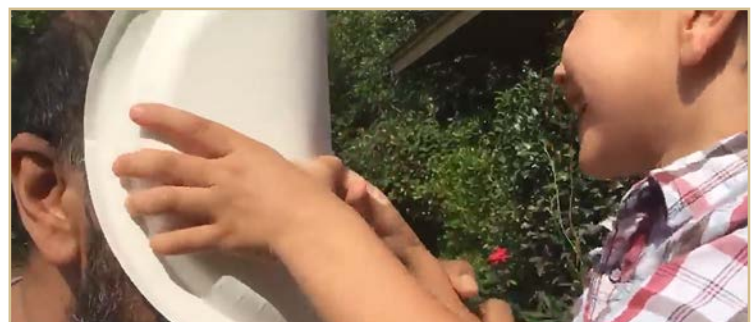
CCI worked with FSU CHAW to share helpful mental health tips and quarantine coping mechanisms.

“THE iSCHOOL HAS BEEN DELIVERING GRADUATE COURSES ONLINE FOR 24 YEARS SO WE WERE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-PREPARED TO MAKE THE TRANSITION TO 100% REMOTE. WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CHAT WITH AND ADVISE OUR STUDENTS ONLINE TO HELP THEM THROUGH THE INITIAL TRANSITION.”

— iSCHOOL DIRECTOR KATHY BURNETT



Graduating students got quite the surprise when they logged onto class one day. These llamas wanted to say "Congrats!"



Although the annual Pie a Professor event was canceled, Associate Dean Ebe Randeree couldn't escape his fate.

CCI VIRTUAL SPIRIT WEEK!



Communication student Jackie Pfeil dressed up for Pajama Day.



PR student Jessie Colegrove on Wack Sock Wednesday.



ICT Major Alexa Lowry shared her Seminole gear on Spirit Day.

“IT IS THE SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION’S GOAL TO MAINTAIN THE RELATIONSHIPS WE HAVE DEVELOPED WITH OUR STUDENTS, TO MAINTAIN A SUPPORTIVE ATMOSPHERE, AND TO CONTINUE OUR COMMITMENT TO LEARNING DURING THIS TIME.”

– SCOM DIRECTOR JENNIFER PROFFITT



For Twin Day, members of the CCI Comm Team dressed up like their favorite co-worker.



CCI is now on TikTok! Follow us for some fun summer content.



CCI shared photos of campus after most students moved home.



As classes moved online, students recorded their new daily routines.

“WHILE THE PANDEMIC HAS DISRUPTED MUCH OF OUR OPERATIONS, IT HAS BROUGHT OUT THE BEST IN OUR FACULTY AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS TO ASSURE THAT WE ARE MEETING OUR EDUCATIONAL MISSION.”

– SCSD DIRECTOR HUGH CATTS

ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNUS NAMED FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF DIGITAL MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION AT USJ



CCI is proud to report that **Dr. Pablo Correa** ('18, Ph.D. Communication) accepted a new position as the founding Director of Digital Media and Communication at the University of Saint Joseph

(USJ) in West Hartford, Connecticut. For the past two years, Correa has been a visiting professor at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. Now, he is on the move to USJ where he will direct, implement, and teach courses such as Social Media in Contemporary Society, Introduction to Mass Media, Graphic Arts, and Digital Design, Video Production, and Video Editing. CCI wishes Dr. Correa the best in the next step of his journey and looks forward to sharing his success.

MEET OWNER AND EXECUTIVE PRODUCER OF ARGLE BARGLE FILMS



Shannon Biggs ('04, B.S. Communication) is the Owner and Executive Producer of Argle Bargle Films. During her time at CCI, Shannon interned with the Tallahassee CBS affiliate and fell in love with the process of putting a story together. Now, Shannon

and her business partner are the creators and producers of *The Vet Life* on Animal Planet. The show recently concluded its 6th season and Argle Bargle Films also released its first feature film, *Shedim*, on Amazon Prime and Vimeo. Despite recent concerns about how COVID-19 will impact the film industry, Shannon is excited to continue creating and producing content for viewers. "I am always thinking about what content could I bring to light that people are not aware of," she says. For now, Argle Bargle films will continue searching for the next big hit and Shannon only has one thing to say... "Go Noles!"

NANETTE SCHIMPF VISITS PR CLASSES TO GIVE REAL-WORLD INSIGHT

We're so grateful for alumni like **Nanette Schimpf** ('89, B.S. Communications) who are willing to engage with current students. Nanette is the vice president of the Moore Agency and spoke in Patrick Merle's public relations class in January. Schimpf and Merle work together on a project called The Incubation Lab, which is a class that gives students hands-on experience by creating a campaign for real clients in the community.



TERRIE ARD WINS SILVER MEDAL AWARD, FEATURED ON WFSU'S "PERSPECTIVES"

Terrie Ard ('87, B.S. Communication) is President of the Moore Agency and was named the 2019 winner of American Advertising Federation Tallahassee's Silver Medal Award. She was also featured on WFSU's "Perspectives" in March. She discussed organizational leadership, working in teams remotely, strategic planning, and managing internal and external communication during crises.



ALUMNA RECOGNIZED AS A FEMALE LEADER IN CONSERVATION

Carson Mitchell ('15, B.A. Media Communication Studies) has a passion for environmental advocacy, and she's let this guide her career up until now. Loving the outdoors, she's spent her life exploring and learning about Florida's unique landscape.

Now, Carson is recognized as a leader in conservation in the state. Working as the Communications Manager for Florida Conservation Voters, she devotes her life to environmental advocacy and conservation. Carson also serves as a board member of the Tallahassee Area Association of Environmental Professionals, connecting Florida State University and Florida A&M University students to professionals as the organization's Student Outreach Liaison.



SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

RELATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND PAKISTAN

Mariam Shaikh ('16, Ph.D. Communication) currently serves as the head of digital and social media for the Press Information Department (PID) in Islamabad, Pakistan. Shaikh controls the digital media strategy for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. She trained existing staff as a pilot project to show the immediate outcomes that can be achieved by engaging with the internet and social media platforms.

CINDY McGOVERN DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

Dr. Cindy McGovern ('02, Ph.D. Communication Theory, '99, M.S. Speech Communication, '88, B.S. Communication) was chosen as the Distinguished Alumna for the School of Communication. The CEO of Orange Leaf Consulting, Dr. McGovern helps companies and individuals achieve professional success with her expertise in sales, interpersonal communication, leadership, and management.

PR ALUMNUS PART OF AWARD-WINNING COMPANY CULTURE ACCEPTS NEW POSITION WITH HINGE



Jarryd Boyd ('14, B.S. Public Relations) accepted a new position as the Public Relations Manager at Hinge, a popular dating app. Working at Hinge almost feels nostalgic for him since he used to blog about his dating life during his college and post-grad years. "At the end of the day, I simply want to help people around the globe find love...or at least feel like they're a little closer than they were yesterday." Previous to this, Boyd worked for Praytell, which was named one of PRWeek's Best Places to Work for the past 6 years. "Praytell is special in a way that you can't understand until you've been a part of the magic," he explains.

COMMUNICATION ALUMNAE SHINE IN LOCAL YOUNG PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Once a year, the Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals (NYP) celebrates and recognizes Tallahassee's Top 20 Under 40 at their Golden A.C.E. Awards and Gala. Among the 20 chosen for this honor in February 2020 were alumnae **Lucille Spann Asbury** ('14, M.S. Integrated Marketing Communication) and **Erica Eckland** ('15, B.S. Advertising). **Kelli Gemmer** ('18, M.S. Integrated Marketing Communication, '14, B.S. Communication) is President of the organization. NYP's mission is to attract and retain Florida's young professional talent. The A.C.E. Awards contributes to this effort by recognizing outstanding young professionals.



RECENT GRADUATE PRODUCES DOCUMENTARY AIRED ON WFSU

Aleksandar Iricanin, ('19, M.S. Media/Communication Studies, '17, B.S. Digital Media Production), produced a documentary that explores how resegregation came about, how it has impacted Leon County, and what is being done about it now. It's called "Majority Minority: The Resegregation of Public Schools" and was recently aired on WFSU.



ALUMNA WORKING AT NICKELODEON NOMINATED FOR EMMY

Brianna Biancardi ('18, B.A. Media/Communication Studies) is the Production Coordinator at Nickelodeon for Bubble Guppies and Butterbean's Café. As Production Coordinator, her role includes working with the talent of Bubble Guppies and the composers who create the catchy songs in the show. Recently, Bubble Guppies was nominated for an Emmy for "Outstanding Preschool Children's Animated Series."



SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

MATT FERGUSON SHARES INSIGHT AS VIRTUAL GUEST SPEAKER

Matt Ferguson ('91, B.S. Advertising) is the Vice President and Managing Partner for the marketing, advertising, and PR agency, Mower Agency. In the webinar, Matt shared his journey from working in corporate marketing at Disney to the agency world where he is today.



ERIN VOGT SHARES HOW MOTHERHOOD ENHANCES PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Erin Vogt ('08, B.S. Communication) published an article titled "How Motherhood Made Me a Better PR Pro." It focuses on how her 18-month-old son Emmett tests her communication skills, patience, and time management, and how she brings those lessons into work with her.



MEET CHELSI MCDONALD: SCOM ALUMNA AND BOSTON SPORTS REPORTER

Just four years after graduating, **Chelsi McDonald** ('12, B.S. Media/Communication Studies) landed her dream role as a Sports Reporter in a top 10 market. She covers the New England Patriots, Boston Red Sox, Boston Celtics, and Boston Bruins for WHDH 7News. "What I love the most about this job is that each day, there is something new to cover," she says. "Although sometimes, it is stressful working under a hard deadline, it is never boring and I'm always having fun. I wouldn't trade this profession for anything!" Chelsi is hoping the NBA and NHL seasons will resume as soon as it is safe.



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HONORS TWO COMMUNICATION ALUMNI DURING CEREMONY

In October 2019, the FSU Alumni Association honored outstanding alumni that have made an impact in their field during the Alumni Awards Gala. Of the six alumni honored, two graduated from the College of Communication and Information.



J.D. Doughney ('03, M.S. Integrated Marketing Communication, '02, B.S. Communication) received the Circle of Gold Award. Doughney leads global partnerships for Facebook. Since his graduation, he has continued to volunteer his time with the FSU Alumni Association and recently made class-visits within the College of

Communication and Information. "From my incredible experience as a student to meeting my wife and some of my closest friends, to the way that FSU prepared me for a successful career, the CCI community and broader FSU family continue to play a major role in my life," Doughney says.



Myrna Hoover ('84, M.S. Communication, '83, B.S. Communication) received the Grads Made Good Award. This award is presented to alumni who made outstanding contributions to their chosen field. A former professor, Hoover has served FSU for 34 years and is currently the director of the FSU Career Center. "Being recognized for work I love to do and by a

university that has given me so much has been one of the greatest moments of my life," she says. "When looking back, it was truly the way people at this institution made me feel that will forever be what I remember." During her career, Hoover has undoubtedly left faculty, staff, students, and alumni with the same positive feelings.

COMMUNICATION STUDENT ATTENDS HSF MEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT SUMMIT



Every year, the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF) holds its annual Media and Entertainment Summit to bring together attendees and distinguished media and entertainment professionals for four days full of learning and professional development.

Christopher Frentzel, a current student pursuing a bachelor's degree in Digital Media Production, was selected to attend the conference and said it was a phenomenal experience. "I learned so many things about the entertainment industry in general, as well as hearing how these professionals overcame obstacles as the only Latinx/Hispanic person or the only woman in certain spaces," Christopher says. "Not only were we able to hear them talk, but we were able to network with them as well." Months later, Christopher is still connected with other attendees through LinkedIn and social media.

STUDENT & SCHOOL NEWS

MICHELLE PRESLEY PRESENTS ON THE WEST COAST



Michelle Presley, a student pursuing a master's in Public Interest Media and Communication, presented at the 2020 Western States Communication Association convention in Denver, Colorado. Her presentation was based on a paper she wrote with her co-author, Susan Macak, titled "The Downstream Effects of Wyoming's Data Trespass Laws."

"The paper is a legal analysis of the recent data trespass laws that were passed, challenged, and partially repealed in the state of Wyoming," Michelle explains. Although the conference focused on the West, she was excited to bring a new perspective home to the East coast.

MEET COMMUNICATION SCHOOL PH.D. CANDIDATE NICHOLAS SELLERS

CCI continued its series of highlighting doctoral students with **Nicholas Sellers**. His research focuses on "pretty much anything at the intersection of communication and technology," he explains. "I've been working a lot more with video games recently, specifically as they relate to mental health, and have found that really interesting and rewarding. My dissertation focuses on personal virtual assistants."



STUDENT WINS TRIO OF FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF BROADCAST JOURNALISTS COLLEGE AWARDS

Alexandra Wendling, a graduate student, won first place in three categories of the Florida Association of Broadcast Journalists' 2019 Excellence in Broadcast News College Contest. "I feel so honored to have won in three different categories," she says. Alex hopes to take what she has learned at Florida State and write stories that recognize the adversity and hard work of athletes.



COMMUNICATION STUDENTS WIN TOP PAPER AWARDS AT BEA

The Broadcast Education Association is the premiere international academic media organization for educators, students, and professionals. Three CCI students had papers accepted to this year's conference. **Daniella Horvath** is pursuing her master's degree in Public Interest Media Communication and won the award in the International Division for her paper titled "The way native speakers perceive the work of non-native journalists: Examining the effect of accent on media personnel's credibility." This paper is a qualitative study of how accents affect the credibility judgments of non-native journalists. Doctoral students **Svitlana Jaroszynski** and **Laura-Kate Huse** also won a top paper award in the Law & Policy Division for their paper titled "A Relic of the Past: How the FCC left localism in the past with the elimination of the Main Studio Rule." This paper addresses a policy that the Federal Communications Committee repealed in 2017 called the Main Studio Rule.

SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

DOC STUDENTS INVESTIGATE THE FUTURE OF STREAMING SITES

Vaibhav Diwanji and **Abigail Reed**, doctoral candidates, were published in the *Computers in Human Behavior Journal*, a publication that addresses human interactions with technologies. Their article, "Don't just watch, join in: Exploring information behavior and copresence on Twitch," provides theoretical insights into understanding human information on social live streaming sites. Their interests were sparked by the ever-changing digital landscape of current social streaming sites. "Topic specific live streaming sites (TLSS's) such as Twitch.tv are evolving constantly into important sources of information that complement the traditional information systems such as libraries and online search engine sites like Google," said Diwanji and Reed.



STUDENTS NAMED 'MOST PROMISING MULTICULTURAL STUDENTS' BY AAF

On February 10, the American Advertising Federation (AAF) hosted fifty undergraduate students in New York City as part of the Most Promising Multicultural Student (MPMS) program. Among the fifty undergraduate seniors chosen for this honor, advertising students **Nicole Méndez** and **Maria Vasquez** were selected. This program has connected the advertising industry with the nation's top multicultural students for over 20 years now. AAF provides opportunities for companies to recruit new talent and further diversify the industry to better reflect today's society.

ARROWHEAD ADVANCES TO FINAL ROUND OF AAF NATIONAL STUDENT ADVERTISING COMPETITION

FSU's **Arrowhead Advertising** team was selected as one of the top 8 teams advancing to the finals of National Student Advertising Competition (NSAC) sponsored by the American Advertising Federation (AAF). Arrowhead is a team of 19 undergraduate students from various majors who aspire to enter the advertising industry upon graduation. Arrowhead operates like a communication or an advertising agency, giving students the opportunity to create an integrated campaign for a real-life client. "Working on the very first B2B campaign in NSAC's history since 1973 was challenging but a great experience," says Arrowhead's faculty advisor Dr. Jaejin Lee.



HMC CELEBRATES 15TH ANNIVERSARY



FSU's **Center for Hispanic Marketing Communication** celebrated its 15th anniversary with a gala and fundraiser at Miami's Rusty Pelican restaurant on February 27. Funds raised went

to the Betty Ann and Felipe Korzenny Endowment for Hispanic Marketing, which supports program activities and scholarships, as well as student recruitment and retention. The dinner also highlighted the center's trailblazing work over the last 15 years with a special tribute to founders and long-time program benefactors Betty Ann and Felipe Korzenny.

CCI CELEBRATES 5 YEARS OF COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL COMMUNICATION FIRM

For the past five years, Public Relations students have had the chance to take a special class called "The Incubation Lab." This joint effort between CCI and the Moore Agency allows students to work with real clients in the Tallahassee community while practicing their research, problem-solving, and presentation skills. Groups spend the first semester focusing on research, then pitch their comprehensive communication campaigns to the client in the spring. **Rachel Corry**, who completed the class last year, states her favorite part of the class was knowing that her work mattered outside of the context of school. "Knowing the project results would be going directly to the client motivated me to complete high-quality research and develop effective campaign strategies," she explains.



ALUMNA NAMED DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Gordon State College recently named iSchool alumna, **Angiah Davis** ('08, M.S. Library and Information Studies), as Director of Library Services. In this position, she will oversee the library budget, manage electronic databases, promote the library, and participate in state and national professional organizations while developing a strategic plan. "I'm very excited to be a member of the Highlander Nation Family," she says. In addition to her new position, Davis is also being published in a book about financial literacy titled *Rainy Day Ready: Financial Literacy Programs and Tools*.



DIRECTOR OF SATILLA REGIONAL LIBRARY SYSTEM

A two-time iSchool alumnus, **Rodney McElveen** ('07, M.S. Library and Information Studies, '04, B.S. Information Studies) is now the Library Director of Satilla Regional Library System in Douglas, Georgia. "This year, I have lined up assistance from the Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS) to help with a strategic plan, logo and implementing a staff day," he explains. "My goal for the system is to build it up with the help and support of my staff into a great library system. My system maybe one of the smallest library systems in Georgia, with one of the smaller budgets, but I am working on building up the staff so that we can be one of the most creative, innovative and forward thinking library systems."



CREATES STARTUP TO GIVE INSIGHT TO COMPANY CULTURE

Stephanie Mears ('12, B.S. Information Technology) created EthosQ, an online platform that helps job seekers and employers find their perfect match. This system is designed to provide "transparent insights into culture and employee experiences to ultimately match job seekers with employers based on cultural fit," Mears explains. "By having employers expose their existing culture, it creates a level of transparency internally and externally." Mears hopes this platform is especially beneficial to recent college graduates. Mears recently launched the first iteration of EthosQ. She is focused on growing traction and continuing fundraising for additional investments.

ALUMNI NEWS



DISCOVERING CIVIL WAR HISTORY IN VIRGINIA

Before moving to Winchester, Virginia, **Trish Ridgeway** ('70, M.S. Library Science) was a reference librarian and bibliographic instruction specialist in academic libraries. After retirement, Trish became a docent in the Old Court House Civil War Museum located in Winchester's historic Frederick County Courthouse. She became particularly interested in Judge Richard Parker and spends her days transcribing documents about him.



FEATURED IN AMERICAN LIBRARIES MAGAZINE

Ana Ndumu ('18, Ph.D. Information) is featured in the latest issue of American Libraries Magazine. In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, Dr. Ndumu answers the question, "What does it mean to be Black Diasporic?" Breaking down what she calls the U.S. "homogenization of blackness" is a passion for Ndumu, who researches the obstacles black immigrants to the U.S. face when accessing information. "There's a specific template of an immigrant—non-English speaker, forcefully displaced," she says. CCI is proud of Dr. Ndumu's research surrounding the obstacles black immigrants face when accessing information.



SECOND GENERATION SEMINOLE AND I.T. STAR

For **Kenneth Thomas** ('08, B.S. Information Technology), studying IT at FSU ran in the family. "While my father was a student at FSU (College of Information Studies at the time), he would often show me samples of his coursework and allow me to shadow him and other classmates as they were working on projects in the Shores building," says Kenneth. In January, he began working at the Black News Channel as their OTT/IT Operations director. In this job, Kenneth and his team ensure that all technology is working properly for their employees and provide technical support as needed. Kenneth hopes to continue working in technology and use his skills to better his community.

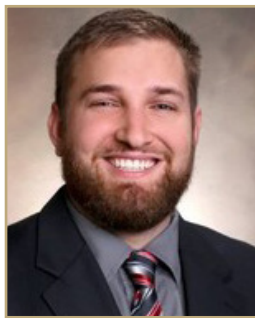
SCHOOL OF INFORMATION



HOW ONE iSCHOOL ALUMNA IS CHANGING SKINCARE

Jolanda Jakeyra ('15, B.S. Information, Communication, Technology), a graduate of the iSchool, recently left her full-time position as an Area Manager for Amazon to run her own vegan skincare line, Sanai's Skin. For

Jolanda, running an online e-commerce store means constantly checking business emails, tracking customer orders, and handcrafting each individual item. Sanai's Skin came about after Jolanda did a deep dive into what really made her happy. For now, Jolanda is excited to continue developing her business and building her empire. "My goal is to be able to provide others with employment at a physical location," she says.



I.T. DEVELOPER TURNED AXE THROWER

Common careers in the technology industry include software development, IT management, web development, and... axe throwing? According to IT alumnus **William Tetsworth III** ('12, B.S. Information Technology),

that's correct! While working as a Public Sector Senior Security Consulting Engineer at Cisco during the day, William started his own axe throwing business, Tomahawks 51. Tomahawks 51 is Tallahassee's first axe throwing venue and you can often see their mobile unit throughout the city and at FSU football games. Creating Tomahawks 51 allowed William to combine his entrepreneurial spirit with his IT skills.

ALUMNA COMMANDS FLIGHT COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE US AIR FORCE

"I never would have guessed five years ago that I would be living on a Portuguese island, and that I'd be getting ready to move to the other side of the world a year later," says recent iSchool alumna **April Bradley** ('18, B.S. Information Technology). She currently works as the Communications Flight Commander at Lajes Field for the United States Air Force. Right now, she lives in Cabo Da Praia, Terceira, Azores, Portugal but is expecting to move to Ford Island, Hawaii next year. As a Communications Flight Commander, April manages all information flowing through telephones, computers, etc. to transfer inside of base from one node to another, or off base to places around the world. Pending COVID-19, April is expecting to move to Hawaii later this year.



THREE iSCHOOL ALUMNI ELECTED FOR FLA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Three iSchool alumni were chosen for the 2020 Florida Library Association (FLA) Board of Directors.

The new members are:

- Region 5 Director: **Michael Sullivan** ('94, M.S. Library Science)
- Region 6 Director: **Kelia Zayas-Ruiz** ('13, M.S. Library and Information Studies)
- ALA Councilor: **Heather Sostrom** ('01, M.S. Library and Information Studies).

Members of the Board serve as advocates for libraries and promote excellence in Florida libraries. FLA provides professional and leadership development for staff, volunteers, and supporters of libraries. **Renaine Julian** ('14, M.S. Library and Information Studies) served on the nomination committee for this year's board.



ALUMNA WORKS WITH THE GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS

Ariana M. Davis ('18, B.S. Information Technology) is a Full-Stack Engineer for the Golden State Warriors. "My day can fluctuate between working on the newest features for the Chase Center website or maintaining

updates to the Warriors website," she explains. Her position gives her the creative freedom to create and build whatever comes to mind. "Having the creative reign to build something that can leave a lasting impression on my department is the best feeling to attain," Ariana says. She is also developing her own startup, Female Waves, a collaborative/creative community for women in music.

PROFESSOR AND DOC STUDENT PUBLISHED IN PRESTIGIOUS BIOMEDICAL JOURNAL



Neelufar Payrovnaziri, a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Information, and **Dr. Zhe He** recently published their first paper in the Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA). The two worked together to explore the adoption of electronic health records in their paper titled, "Explainable Artificial Intelligence Models

Using Real-World Electronic Health Records Data: a Systematic Scoping Review." "The wide adoption of electronic health records (EHR) systems by healthcare organizations have made the application of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine (AIM) feasible," Neelufar explains. The two hope that this publication will benefit both the biomedical researchers as well as practitioners and have an impact on artificial intelligence in medicine.

STUDENT & SCHOOL NEWS

iSCHOOL STUDENT AWARDED FSU FLA AWARD

Adrian Legaspi was awarded the FSU MSLIS graduate program scholarship by the Florida Library Association. This association is a statewide organization that promotes excellence in Florida libraries. This is given to FLA members enrolled in accredited library programs within Florida. "I believe I was awarded the FSU FLA Scholarship because I demonstrated my commitment to continue to work to improve Florida Libraries," says Adrian. Adrian is excited to continue his education with the aid of this scholarship. "Receiving this scholarship has helped me to feel recognized that my hard work and passion in my career has not gone unnoticed and unappreciated. Additionally, the financial assistance has made a huge difference in my budget during these difficult economic times and is such a great relief. My appreciation to the FLA is truly profound and fills me with gratitude to see those already established in our career working to help those just starting out," he says.

FACULTY AND STAFF HONORED GRADUATES IN VIRTUAL CEREMONY

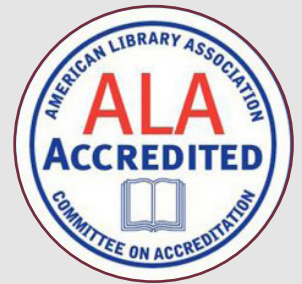
The Florida State School of Information faculty and staff honored graduates of their master's programs with a virtual ceremony on May 8. Congratulations, graduates, on this incredible accomplishment! Although this is not how CCI typically celebrates its graduates, the iSchool was able to overcome the limitations COVID-19 has placed on school and did something unique to celebrate students.



iSCHOOL RECEIVES CONTINUED ALA ACCREDITATION

The iSchool is pleased to announce that its Master of Science in Information has been granted Continued Accreditation status by the American Library Association. This process occurs every seven years.

"The School of Information is delighted with the Committee on Accreditation's decision to continue the accreditation of our MSI and MAI programs for the next seven years," said iSchool Director Kathleen Burnett, Ph.D.



ONLINE MSIT PROGRAM #5 IN THE COUNTRY

According to the latest U.S. News and World Report 2020 Best Online Programs rankings, FSU's online MSIT program is ranked No. 5 among public universities. After being ranked No. 7 in 2018 and 2019, this rise is an exciting milestone. "It is great to see the planning and hard work of the faculty, staff and students in this program get recognized," said Larry Dennis, dean of the College of Communication and Information. "Our faculty and staff's focus on student success continues to pay off for our students and alumni."

AISHA JOHNSON-JONES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

Dr. Aisha Johnson-Jones ('15, Ph.D. Information Studies, '09, M.S. Information Studies, '08, B.S. Political Science) was selected as the iSchool's Distinguished Alumna for 2020. She is an Assistant Professor at North Carolina Central University, School of Library and Information Sciences, where she also serves as the Program Director for Archives and Records Management. Her advocacy for libraries and archives is not only conveyed in her research, but also her professional career.

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION

STUDENT CHRONICLES QUARANTINE IN PERU

Leah Abounader, a sophomore majoring in Information, Communication, and Technology, was quarantined in Peru for 15 days in March. She detailed the experience in an article published by Her Campus, a global publication written for college women by college women. "I'd like to take a moment to thank all of my friends, family and FSU faculty who supported me during this time. It's stressful times like these that show you who really cares about you, and I am fortunate enough to have received so much generosity from those in my life," she says in the article.



VISITING SPEAKER BRIDGES THE GAP BETWEEN ARTS AND SCIENCES



In February, **Dr. Youngmoo Kim**, a professor from Drexel University visited students in the iSchool to talk about the importance of integrating the arts, humanities, and sciences in higher education. Dr. Kim has devoted his entire career to trans-disciplinary education, and serves as Director of Drexel's Expressive and Creative Interaction Technologies (ExCITe) Center and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Focusing on how to break down the silos that divide academia, Dr. Kim used the idea of "Branches from the Same Tree" to demonstrate the importance of integrating the arts, humanities, and sciences within higher education.

FSU STARS ALLIANCE CONNECTS WITH ALUMNI IN ATLANTA

In February, 11 FSU STARS Alliance students toured six companies in Atlanta, Georgia. They visited the offices of Chick-fil-A, E*Trade, Home Depot, GM, IBM, and State Farm. "Experiences like these are essential to build your professional network," said Kelly Newbrough. "I'm grateful for the opportunity I've received from STARS to network and receive some insight into the work environment of some amazing companies." As a junior, she acquired knowledge that will help her post-graduation, saying, "I am appreciative of the companies and people that gave up their time to allow us to ask questions to learn more from their own experiences." STARS is open to students of all majors.



TALLY JOB HOP CONNECTS STUDENTS TO LOCAL I.T. INTERNSHIPS



An idea created and brought to life in the Spring of 2016 by Lester Hutt (Diverse Computing) and Ebe Randeree (FSU College of Communication & Information), the Tally Job Hop has become an initiative of The Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce and its young professional program, Access Tallahassee. The one-day tour for students to visit some of the top IT companies in Tallahassee is open to students from Florida State University, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee Community College, and Flagler College. The event allows students to learn about a company's culture, the types of projects they work on, and hear about open internship and job opportunities. This semester's Job Hop took place on February 19, 2020. Students on the Job Hop visited the offices of Kikoda, Paul

Consulting Group, and Marquis Software, and heard presentations from Diverse Computing and VR Systems at Sittig Hall in Kleman Plaza. "The Job Hop was definitely horizon-expanding," said FSU I.T. major **Christopher Sotolongo**. "Simply put, there was no way I would've heard of any of those companies without the Job Hop."

ALUMNA/FACULTY MEMBER DR. SHANNON HALL-MILLS PUBLISHED



Dr. Shannon Hall-Mills, ('10, Ph.D. Communication Science and Disorders, '01, M.S. Communication Disorders, '99, B.S. Audiology and Speech Pathology) an assistant professor in the School of Communication Science and Disorders, recently published an article in *Language, Speech, and Hearing Services in Schools*. Her article, "A

Comparison of the Prevalence Rates of Language Impairment Before and After Response-to-Intervention Implementation" presents secondary data analysis of language impairment (LI) prevalence rates of children in public schools before and after a statewide mandate for response-to-intervention (RTI) implementation.

To do this, Dr. Hall-Mills compared statewide and district-level LI prevalence rates across 10 school years. She found that a majority of the 67 Florida school districts experienced an increase in LI prevalence within 1 year following RTI implementation. However, the degree and direction of change in prevalence rates varied across some of the school districts. Importantly, the data revealed that while there were initial changes in LI prevalence at the same time as the onset of RTI implementation, the numbers of students identified with LI did not continue to grow significantly in the years following the first year of RTI implementation. This finding suggests the initial change could have been associated with the timing of RTI implementation.

Dr. Hall-Mills's research focuses on written language development and disorders in school-age children. She aims to improve the accuracy of assessment and the effectiveness of intervention practices for language and literacy in schools. She teaches graduate courses that prepare future speech-language pathologists to work with children with language disorders.

DOREEN OYADOMARI NAMED DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA



Dr. Doreen Oyadomari ('68, M.S. Audiology and Speech Pathology) was selected as the Distinguished Alumna for the School of Communication Science and Disorders. A retired speech-language pathologist, she received her B.S. and M.S. degrees from FSU, and then completed her Ph.D. at the University of South Florida. After briefly working in the public schools and in an Easter Seals clinic, she found her niche serving veterans in the Tampa, Florida and Birmingham, Alabama VA Medical Centers where she specialized in the diagnosis and treatment of voice disorders. With several decades of service to professional organizations such as American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), she is also

a member of FSU CCI's Leadership Board. She currently resides in Birmingham, Alabama and serves as a board member on the National Council of State Boards.

ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNA TURNED FACULTY RECEIVES SUBCONTRACT FROM FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Dr. Mollie Romano ('12, Ph.D. Communication Science and Disorders, '09, M.S. Communication Science and Disorders, '05, B.A. English) is partnering with Drs. Patricia Snyder, Brian Reichow and Crystal Bishop at the University of Florida's Anita Zucker Center for Excellence in Early Childhood Studies on a three-year-long endeavor to

support early interventionists (EIs). The project, "Florida Embedded Intervention and Practice with Caregivers: Early Steps Professional Development Project" was awarded a \$296,723 subcontract by the Florida Department of Health's Early Steps program.

Early Steps serves infants and toddlers who have developmental delays within the state of Florida. The UF and FSU teams are working with the Early Steps State Office to provide professional development to EIs in the field. Specifically, the project helps EIs coach families in their everyday routines and activities to support their child's social and emotional development. To achieve this goal, the EIs themselves receive coaching in how to use evidence-based practices that are known to build families' capacity to support their children.

The next steps for the project include taking the project statewide to ensure that all early interventionists are coaching and supporting families in Florida. The project will also gather data on the effectiveness of the professional development approach for use with early interventionists in the field, and how it impacts family and child outcomes.

STUDENT & SCHOOL NEWS

DOCTORAL STUDENT PRESENTS RESEARCH AT FAMU

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY GRADUATE PROGRAM SOARS TO NO. 15 IN RANKINGS

According to U.S. News & World Report's 2021 edition of "Best Graduate Schools," Florida State University's speech-language pathology graduate program ranked No. 20 in the nation and No. 15 among public universities. "We have been working hard to advance our teaching and research missions and are pleased to receive the national recognition," said **Hugh Catts**, director of the School of Communication Science and



Disorders. "It's exciting to see the hard work of the faculty, staff, and students pay off and get recognized," said Dean **Larry Dennis**.



First-year graduate student in the School of Communication Science and Disorders, **Ashley Archer**, got the chance to present her research to doctoral students at FAMU. Ashley's research and master thesis use an innovative technology called the GaitRite

to study the effect of cognitive-linguistic demands on gait for patients with Aphasia. "In other words," Ashley explains, "how does talking while walking affect a person's walking stability and safety." Her research suggests that persons with aphasia, a language disorder associated with strokes or head injuries, may experience disruptions in walking while engaged in language activities. Her presentation of this research to physical therapy doctoral students at FAMU was part of a larger initiative to foster inter-professional practice among a wide spectrum of health science disciplines.

FSU NSSLHA HOSTS ANNUAL NIGHT TO SHINE EVENT

Night to Shine is an unforgettable prom night experience for people with special needs. Students in FSU's **National Student Speech Language Hearing Association** helped out at the Night to Shine event in Tallahassee this past February. The event is a great way for students to make connections with members of the community that they aim to serve with their areas of study. It is truly a special night!



EVENTS RAISE FUNDS FOR SPEECH AND HEARING PRESCHOOL

On March 7, the School of Communication Science and Disorders hosted the annual Walk2Talk 1 mile Walk and the Sprint for Speech 5k Run. These events take place at Heritage Trail to Lafayette Park and help benefit FSU's L.L. Schendel Speech and Hearing Preschool.



The day was full of fun and physical activity for a great cause. If you start training now, you could be ready for next year's event before you know it!

FSU NSSLHA AWARDED GOLD CHAPTER HONORS

FSU's chapter of the **National Student Speech Language Hearing Association** (NSSLHA) was once again awarded the Gold Chapter Honors! "National NSSLHA Chapter Honors are awarded to affiliated NSSLHA chapters that demonstrate an outstanding effort to support National NSSLHA's mission to inspire, empower, and support students in communication sciences and disorders programs," says faculty advisor Kim Crass. NSSLHA is the only national student organization for pre-professionals studying communication sciences and disorders recognized by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. FSU NSSLHA was founded in 1972 to help provide members with preparation in the fields of speech-language pathology, speech, and hearing science and audiology.

