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WEEKLY COLUMNS

Visit the online version of the Blue & White <http://www.spcollege.edu/central/news/blueandwhite.htm> for links to these weekly columns

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MEET THE CANDIDATES

When the four presidential finalists made their visits to the college, the Blue & White asked them to tell us something about themselves that can't be found on their resume or application.

What you might not know about presidential candidates Keegan and Walter



Thomas Keegan

Family is No. 1 for Tom Keegan. "We are a very, very closely knit family," he said.

He and wife Suzanne have been married 29 years and have two sons, Sean (19) and Kevin (16).

"We love being together as a family," he said. "We love the outdoors and the saltwater. We have a boat, so we go out a lot for some reflective time."

The family spent a lot of time traveling around Washington when the boys were involved in youth sports. Dad also coached at various levels for the boys' teams.

If he wants some time for himself, he retreats to the garage where he enjoys working with wood. "Sometimes the boys will join me out there, but if I'm alone, I just put in the earphones and go to work." He just completed a bedroom set for the house.



B. Kaye Walter

Guiding community college students to success is her passion.

"Every student that walks through our doors is special and has a gift. Everything we do changes the world one student at a time," she said.

When she is not changing the world, she relaxes by making and designing jewelry.

"I guess you could say I'm a closet artist," she said.

She also is a gardener who enjoys growing orchids.

"When the college (Valencia) had to close its greenhouse, I took one of the orchids," she said. "It started a love of tending my orchids."

[Videos of the Board of Trustees interviews](#) for each candidate are posted online. The final decision on who will be SPC's next president will be made at a Board of Trustees public meeting at 4 p.m., Tuesday, April 13 in EpiCenter Room 1-453.

Astronaut Nicole Stott to be honored at commencement



Astronaut Nicole Stott, who spent four months on the International Space Station last year, has accepted the college's invitation to deliver the commencement address at graduation ceremonies at Tropicana Field on May 8.

"We are absolutely thrilled that Nicole Stott has agreed to speak at our spring commencement exercises, and we are looking forward to her visit with great anticipation," President Tom Furlong said. "We will be presenting her with a much-deserved honorary degree."

Stott's employer, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), also

had to approve her appearance, which they did last week. Since Stott is already in training for another Space Shuttle mission, that approval was anything but a sure thing.

A former SPC student, Stott was enthusiastic about visiting the college and made her desires known to NASA.

"I would be honored to do it," Stott said in an e-mail to the college in January after the invitation was offered by Furlong.

Stott also will receive the college's Outstanding Alumnus Award.

She grew up in Clearwater and graduated from Clearwater High School. She attended SPC (then SPJC) in the early 1980s because she wanted to learn how to fly and the college offered an aviation program that interested her.

"When I got out of high school I knew I wanted to do something connected to flying, but I really didn't know exactly what," she said in an interview for last summer's issue of SPC Today, the magazine of SPC's Alumni Association. "At Clearwater High they had an introduction to aviation course, and through that I learned about the degree program at SPJC."

Although Stott went on to earn an engineering degree at Embry-Riddle, she has remained enthusiastic about the college and remembers her time here with fondness. She carried an SPC banner on her space mission. She photographed the banner over a Space Station porthole and e-mailed the photo to SPC after her return.

She is expected to present the banner to SPC during her visit.

Details of her daylong visit are now in the works.

Thank You Concert

The SPC Foundation sponsors a Thank You! Concert each year for their donors and supporters. This year's event, on March 26 at the Palladium, featured Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel, The Power and Passion of Beethoven. Take a few minutes to enjoy the event [photo gallery](#).

Two new Research Briefs available online

The dissemination of relevant information is a critical component of the performance improvement process. Research Briefs are one mechanism used by the college for this purpose. Research Briefs are short publications prepared by the Department of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (IRE) that are intended to provide relevant and important information regarding a variety of college-related topics. These topics include, but are not limited to, student achievement, state accountability measures, institutional survey results, student enrollment and faculty/adjunct compensation.

Two new Research Briefs have been developed:

[Fall 2000-Fall 2009 Classroom Performance Evaluation](#)

The purpose of this brief is to evaluate the performance of students in developmental and lower-division college credit courses. Performance was defined as the percent of students passing (earning a grade of A, B, C, D or P). For developmental courses, an additional category was recognized for students not completing (receiving a grade of N—showing progress). For the purpose of this brief, developmental refers to all college preparatory courses (below college level), such as English as a Second Language, Topics in Student Success, English, Mathematics and Reading.

[2007 Summary of Community College Survey of Student Engagement](#)

The purpose of this brief is to evaluate the results of the 2007 Community College Survey of Student Engagement. The survey was designed to measure how engaged students are in learning. SPC administered the 2007 CCSSE to randomly selected classes during the spring 2007 term.

Students named college's first Coca-Cola scholarship recipients

Financial concerns about how to transition from the two-year college to a four-year institution have been somewhat eased for two Clearwater Campus Honors College students, thanks to two prestigious scholarships.

Tara Brown-Ogilvie, 21, a sophomore at the campus, was named a 2010 Coca-Cola Silver Scholar, earning her \$1,250 from the [Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation](#).

According to Phi Theta Kappa's Scholarship Program headquarters, she is one of the 41 award recipients in Florida since the program began in 2009.

"I was jumping up and down," Brown-Ogilvie said. "I'm going to the UNF (University of North Florida) and I'm definitely having difficulties finding scholarships. It's a lot harder when you're not an incoming freshman, so I was definitely really excited to know that I can have at least one check that could help with my dorms for at least the first semester."

The Foundation also awarded a scholarship to her friend and fellow Phi Theta Kappa member Samantha Mitchell.

Mitchell, 19, a nuclear engineering major at the campus, was named a 2010 Coca-Cola Gold Scholarship recipient, garnering a scholarship worth \$1,500. The president of the college's chapter of the Florida Engineering Society said the scholarship came as a surprise.

"I actually didn't believe it at first," said Mitchell, who had called Brown-



From left, Coca-Cola scholarship winners: Samantha Mitchell and Tara Brown-Ogilvie.

Ogilvie to see whether she had won. "I was very excited to be notified that I had received a scholarship, so I called all my family and friends to let them know."

To be selected for the scholarships, both students had to make it on the All-Florida Academic Team. The team consists of 103 students representing Florida's state, community and junior colleges, one independent college and one independent university. This distinction is given to honor their academic achievement, leadership and service to the community.

"It's basically a summary of all your involvement at the college," Mitchell said. "You talk about what you've done at the college, how you've been involved with Phi Theta Kappa, what your greatest achievements are, and different extracurricular activities you do."

This is the first time the college has had anyone receive this scholarship, Jeff Schering, Student Affairs Generalist and advisor for the PTK Chapter on the Clearwater Campus said.

Shutting down to save on energy costs

Based on current usage, it is estimated that between \$35,000 and \$100,000 in energy costs can be saved each year by making minimal changes to everyday computer usage habits and implementing a desktop power procedure.

"Last year, we had a big discussion at Cabinet about it," said Doug Duncan, Vice President of Administrative and Business Services. "We had agreed that shutting down the computers saved energy."

These changes are not designed to interrupt everyday office workflow. Office computers would not need to be shut down during lunch breaks or during department meeting times so long as the computers' inactivity periods do not exceed two hours.

- Office, library and computer lab computers should be shut down when not in use.
- Faculty need to remind students to shut down classroom computers at the end of the day.
- Utilizing energy conservation tools, such as Microsoft's Energy Star settings, for additional savings: set computer monitors to turn off after 10 minutes of non-use, and computers to switch into hibernation mode after 30 minutes of inactivity.

Although there is officially no rule in place, Duncan encourages employees to shut down their computers when they are not in use.

The new computers being installed will be pre-set to utilize the power saving settings.

"We have asked all the TRS's to do that," Duncan said. "We've asked that they set the computers up all the same way."

Thank you

I want to thank all my friends and family at the college for the outpouring of support, well wishes and sympathy they have expressed through my husband, Paul's, recent illness and passing. Words do not seem like enough to express my sincere gratitude to all who have been and continue to be there for me during this most difficult time.

Karen Nadeau, Tarpon Springs Campus

Ethics Team takes part in healthy debate; earns third place

The college Ethics Team took third place in the 2010 National Undergraduate Bioethics Bowl at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Wash., last month. It was one of nine teams to compete in the weekend event, placing behind the University of Denver and the University of Miami.

"I think that they did a fabulous job," said Maureen Mahoney, lead coach of the team and an ethics faculty member at the Tarpon Springs Campus. "Coming in third against the teams that we went up against, I think, is amazing. For most competitions, like what we are used to, we usually have between six and eight weeks to prepare 12-15 cases. This competition, for whatever reason, only sent the cases out three weeks prior."

The annual competition provides an opportunity for students from around the country to argue some of the most pressing bioethical issues in a competitive context. Teams are given case studies to discuss and debate. The debates are judged for soundness of reasoning, focus on and sensitivity to ethically relevant factors, and thoughtfulness.

"A lot of the ethics competitions are sort of general questions, whether it be pollution, health insurance, highway transportation issues; ethical questions involving many different disciplines," said Eric Carver, a Health Information Management faculty member at the Health Education Center, about the SPC Ethics Team. "This one was specifically focused on health care issues that were highly

debated, highly controversial and required a lot of preparation."

"There were no other two-year schools in this competition. We always manage to squeeze ourselves in because we think we can... and we can! So we do."

The team

- **Michele Zaffuto**, 40, Health Services Administration major (4-yr.), Health Education Center
- **Jake Holehouse**, 18, Business major, Collegiate High School
- **Sarah Pemberton**, 22, Economics major, Clearwater Campus
- **Tara Meinsen**, 21, Biology major, Tarpon Springs Campus
- **Stephanie Clabeaux**, 23, Biology/Anthropology major, Tarpon Springs Campus

Faculty/A&P staff expected at graduation

Spring graduation is at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 8, at Tropicana Field. All full-time faculty and Administrative and Professional staff who did not participate in the fall 2009 ceremony are expected to participate. Commencement is an opportunity to exhibit to students and their families our respect for the work they have done and the sacrifices they have made to earn their degrees.

According to college policy, May graduation day is considered an official duty day with pay for faculty, and participation in the ceremony satisfies the duty requirements for that day (for more information, contact your program director or campus provost.) If you have a circumstance that might require your absence, a written or e-mailed request with the purpose specifically stated should be submitted to the President (via Kim Corry and cc to your supervisor) no later than April 23. You will be notified of the status of your request by April 28.

Faculty excused from participating will be expected to complete the

appropriate leave form or arrange for an alternate duty day as directed by their supervisor.

Those who need to order a cap and gown should do so immediately at any on-campus Follett's Bookstore.

Adjuncts and percent-of-load faculty

Adjunct instructors and percent-of-load faculty are invited, but not required, to participate in the May 8 graduation ceremony. Participation includes marching in the faculty procession, along with full-time faculty and A&P staff, in full academic regalia. Program directors can provide further instructions as necessary for participation.

Those adjuncts and percent-of-load faculty who wish to take part are asked to inform their program directors immediately, and make any necessary arrangements for regalia.

For questions about graduation participation, please call Kim Corry at ext. 3260 in the President's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

"It was really interesting to see how their views can change once they begin to research and dig up facts," Carver said. "We had one student that supported one side of the health bill, and after researching and looking at some things on his own and talking about some of these issues, he changed his stance."

Clearwater Campus student selected for NASA College Scholars Program

Walter Manger, 33, a Clearwater Campus student, has been selected to travel to [NASA's](#) Johnson Space Center in Houston to participate in a three-day on-site event starting May 20.

On March 16, Manger was officially selected as one of 60 community and junior college students from across the nation to be part of the pilot [National Community College Aerospace Scholars](#) program. To qualify, students had to complete four Web-based assignments during the school year and maintain a 96 average. They will apply what they have learned during the year to work with NASA engineers.

The program offers students from across the nation the opportunity to interact with each other as they learn more about careers in science and engineering. Students form teams and establish fictional companies interested in Mars exploration. Each company is responsible for developing a prototype rover, designing a line drawing of the rover, and forming the company infrastructure including budget, communications and presentations.



National Community College Aerospace Scholars is a pilot program based on Texas Aerospace Scholars, originally created by the state of Texas in partnership with NASA and the Texas educational community. Both programs are designed to encourage community and junior college students to enter careers in science and engineering and ultimately join the nation's highly technical workforce.

The on-site experience at Johnson Space Center includes a tour of facilities and briefings by noted NASA employees—including astronauts.

Alumni Association scholarship finalists announced

Four sophomores are finalists for the Apollo Award, the highest honor an SPC associate degree recipient can achieve. One will be named the recipient at the college's commencement ceremony on May 8. The award, given each year since 1966, is presented by the St. Petersburg College Alumni Association.

In addition, two students are finalists for the first Alumni Achievement Award, the highest honor a 4-year graduate can receive. One will be named the recipient at the college's commencement ceremony on May 8. The SPC Alumni Association, Inc. Board of Directors created this award in recognition of the talented students now graduating SPC at the baccalaureate level.

Winners of both awards are chosen for their leadership abilities, scholastic standing, community service, honors and awards. The winners also will be announced at commencement. [Read the finalists' biographies on the Alumni Web site.](#)

Meeting notices

The Development Committee for the Board of Directors for the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art will meet on Wednesday, April 21, 3 p.m. in the Interactive Gallery of the museum to discuss general business.

The St. Petersburg College Board of Trustees will meet on the following dates at the EpiCenter, 13805 58th Street North, Largo, Florida:

April 13, 4 p.m.

Final decision on selection of next president for SPC
Room 1-453

[View legal notice](#)

April 21, 8:30 a.m.

Routine business
Room 1-453

[View legal notice](#)

[View Rules Development notice](#)

The Collections Committee for the Board of Directors for the Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art will meet on Wednesday, April 28, 2:30 p.m. in the Associate Curator & Registrar's office in the museum to discuss general business.

MARCH 16, 2010

TRIBUTE TO FORMER TRUSTEE CECIL B. KEENE, SR.

The Board unveiled a tribute to former SPC trustee Cecil B. Keene, Sr. in the Midtown lobby. In response to a Dec. 2008 request by Mr. Keene's Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity brothers, Mr. Gibbons, in the presence of the other trustees, President Furlong, and Mrs. Bernice Keene, honored Mr. Keene's legacy of longtime service to education.

PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT RESOLUTIONS

The Board adopted retirement resolutions for Eileen Foley, Communications, St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus, and Marilyn F. Scott, Criminal Justice In-Service, Allstate Center. Both were in attendance and, joined by colleagues, received their resolutions as presented by Chairman Brett and President Furlong.

CAPITAL OUTLAY

The Board approved the following: (1) Disposition of Surplus or Obsolete Property; (2) Partial Phase III Construction Documents (Structural and Building Envelope), Remodel/Renovate for Classrooms/Labs (College of Education), Olympia Building, TS; (3) Amendment to Lease Agreement between SPC and National University of Health Sciences for lease of space at HEC; (4) Agreement between SPC and BayCare Health System to lease space at DO; (5) Amendment #3 to the Educational Plant Survey dated June 19, 2007 (Spot Survey #3), Veterinary Technology Special Purpose Center, Site 18; (6) Revised CIP-2 Summary Form and CIP-3 Project Explanation Forms from the Capital Improvement Program for FY 2010-2011 through 2014-2015; and (7) Revised Amendment #2 to the Educational Plant Survey dated June 19, 2007 (Spot Survey #2), Social Science Building, CL.

CHANGES TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' RULES

The Board approved the following changes to the Rules and Procedures Manual: (1) Rule 6Hx23-4.32 General Education Requirements for Associate Degree Programs. This adds AML 1600 (African-American Literature) to the list of courses that may be taken as part of the communication requirements.

CREDIT CURRICULUM CHANGES

EFFECTIVE TERM II, 2009-2010: The Board approved **addition** of the following courses: EGS 1001 Introduction to Engineering. The Board approved **changes** in the following courses: MAN 3930 Seminars in Business and Management (including Topics).

EFFECTIVE TERM III, 2009-2010: The Board approved **addition** of the following courses: ACG 2940 Accounting Internship; BRC 2940 Financial Services Internship; CET 2940 Networking Engineering Internship; CGS 2940 Web Design/Management Internship; COP 2940 Computer/Web Programming Internship; CTS 2940 Networking Administrator Internship; GEB 2940 Business Internship; MAN 2940 Management Internship; MKA 2940 Marketing Internship; RMI 2940 Insurance Services Internship. The Board approved **changes** in the following courses: NUR

3066C Health Assessment and Physical Appraisal; NUR 4636 Community Health Nursing Theory; NUR 4636L Community Health Nursing Practicum; NUR 4835 Leadership Theory; NUR 4835L Leadership Practicum. The Board approved **deletion** of the following courses: ACG 2949 Co-op Work Experience Accounting; BRC 2949 Co-op Work Experience Financial Services; COP 2949 Co-op Work Experience Computer Programming; GEB 2949 Co-op Work Experience Business; MAN 2949 Co-op Work Experience Management; MKA 2949 Co-op Work Experience Marketing. The Board approved **changes** in the following programs: **AS** Degrees: Business Administration (BUS); Computer Networking (COMPNET); Computer/Web Programming and Analysis (CWPA); Financial Services/Banking (FINSV); Insurance Services (INSVS); Web Site Design and Management (WEBSDM); **AAS** Degrees: Business Administration and Management-Management Option (MGMT)/Marketing Option (MKT); **CT** Programs: Business Administration (BUSADM); Computer Web Planning Specialist (CWPS).

EFFECTIVE TERM I, 2010-2011: The Board approved **changes** in the following programs: **AS** Degree: Human Services-Social Services (HSDIS)/Alcohol/Substance Abuse (HSM).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

President Furlong provided a legislative update to the Board. He noted that he and Mr. Ed Woodruff, SPC's legislative liaison, are getting feedback from the staff on a number of substantive, yet slow-moving, issues (i.e., 911 bill, retirement bill, nursing accreditation bill, etc.) that may impact the College. Mr. Burke asked that the effects of the retirement bill be communicated to College staff should the bill affect all FRS employees. The president reported on the recent naming of three new State Board of Education members, who have all now been contacted and have expressed interest in SPC. He provided a revenue update, noting that Mr. John Andrew Smith, who is contracted to monitor SPC's budget in the Legislature, is this Monday briefing the presidents and staff from SPC, the University of South Florida, and the State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, to determine what can realistically be done in the budget. He further noted that SPC's share of PECO funds this year will all be renovation and remodeling money. In addition, the president reported on highlights regarding House and Senate budget proposals, stating he would anticipate no new money except for revenue from tuition increases. He said the College is positioned well with reserves going into the budget process, and the big drop off next year will be the federal funds going away. He shared lower-division and upper-division scenarios and noted that arguments continue for SPC to be exempt from a moratorium on new baccalaureate programs unless universities are subject to the same. Dr. Furlong noted the need for SPC to be a strong voice with the Council of 100, as SPC's bachelor degree issues are very different from those at the other 27 col-

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leges because of the scope of our many majors. Trustee Gibbons shared feedback from legislators who want to look out for SPC since it has been a national model in the baccalaureate effort. He said he feels the College should be rewarded for these efforts and should be pressing for some of the Governor's budget to come to SPC. President Furlong noted a forthcoming St. Petersburg Times article on the Baccalaureate Master Plan resulting from an interview regarding the SPC model.

PRESENTATION ON STUDENT SERVICES

Dr. Tonjua Williams, Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs, was joined by Mr. Pat Rinard, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management, in presenting an overview of SPC's Student Affairs Model, which addressed many aspects of the student services process, including enrollment, recruitment, access, delivery of student services, etc. The Board discussed efforts made to address problem developmental areas, such as math, and adequate staffing to handle the many student needs on campus.

CONSULAR CORPS COLLEGE

President Furlong provided a status report on the Consular Corps College (CCC). He shared the staff's conclusion that, subject to Board agreement, the College

would be better served to not continue the contract with CCC, which has been a tough model for success from its inception. He said membership goals are not being met, and an Executive Director has not yet been hired due to the uncertainty of this initiative going forward and the difficulty of SPC being a state-funded entity with a formal diversity-oriented hiring process and CCC being a private sector entity. He said it is overall a difficult time for the College's budget to support CCC becoming a unit of SPC. In consideration of the budget and other factors, the Board expressed their support of the president's recommendation to terminate the agreement, in cooperation with the General Counsel's office, and to instead consider a partnership with the Department of State, who has sought to possibly offer training courses at the Allstate Center for the consuls through SPC's Corporate Training program. He said this would prove to be a more cost effective, long-term model. He noted the new SPC bachelors program and the UPC graduate options with USF are also moving forward.

CONFIRMATION OF NEXT BOARD MEETING

The Board confirmed its next regular monthly meeting as Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 8:30 a.m. at the EpiCenter. The meeting was originally scheduled for Tuesday, April 20, and was changed due to schedule conflict.