

November 2023

GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday is November 28

November 28 is Giving Tuesday! We will once again come together as an FSCJ family to raise funds and collect donations for the FSCJ H.O.P.E. Food Pantry.

Following the Thanksgiving Holiday, the Food Pantry is always in need of additional donations to restock the bare shelves. One way you can help is to bring your nonperishable food and personal items to any of our drop-off locations at each campus and center. You can also give online. Monetary donations of any size are helpful!

By the numbers:

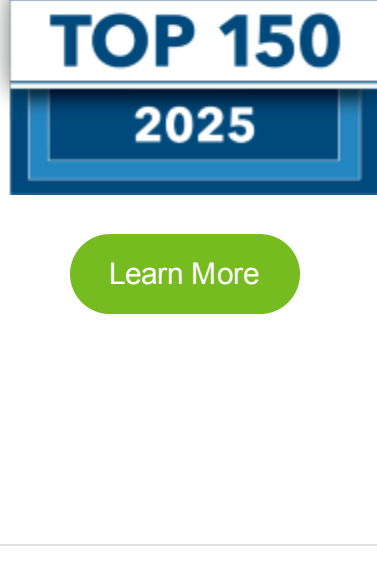
- A \$10 donation equals 120 pounds of food for students in need.
- The Food Pantry can provide each student with five pounds of food each day they are open.
- A \$10 donation (or 120 pounds of food) serves 24 individual students.
- Doubling your impact, all monetary donations up to \$25,000 made on Giving Tuesday will be matched by an anonymous donor, so your \$10 will serve 48 students!

Rounding out our Giving Tuesday efforts, on December 5, we'll come together to volunteer our time during a day of service. There are multiple volunteer opportunities you can choose from.

Click on the green button below to find donation drop-off sites, the giving link and volunteer sign-up information. *Please note: Supervisor pre-approval via email confirmation is required for faculty/staff volunteers. You should also sign in at your volunteer site upon arrival. Volunteer hours will be considered time worked so please choose the opportunity that matches your schedule.*

[Learn More](#)

News and Updates



FSCJ to Compete for Aspen Prize

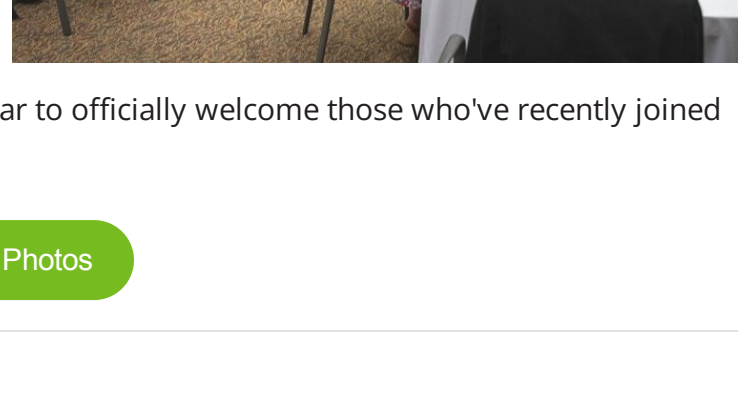
The Aspen Institute has once again named FSCJ as one of the 150 institutions eligible to compete for the \$1 million Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among two-year colleges. The institutions selected for this honor stand out among more than 1,000 community colleges nationwide as having high and improving levels of student success as well as equitable outcomes for Black and Hispanic students and those from lower-income backgrounds.

The 150 eligible colleges have been invited to submit student success data and narratives about strategies to achieve better and more equitable student outcomes as the next step in an intensive review process that culminates in the naming of the Aspen Prize winner in spring 2025.

[Learn More](#)

New Employee Reception

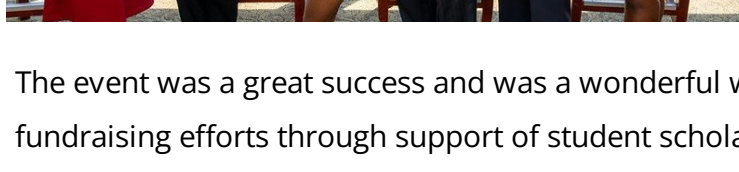
Welcome new employees! On October 19, employees who recently joined FSCJ were invited to the New Employee Reception. During the event, attendees had the opportunity to meet and hear from other colleagues from across the College, including Dr. A and members of the Executive Leadership Team.



These events are held periodically throughout the year to officially welcome those who've recently joined the FSCJ family.

[View Photos](#)

Power of Possible Recap



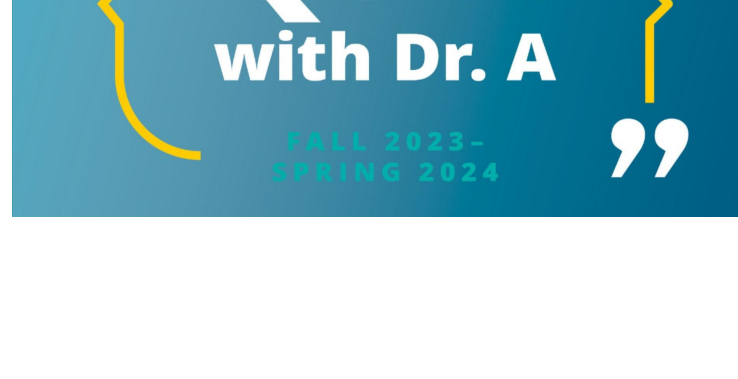
FSCJ Foundation's annual Power of Possible event was held on Thursday, October 19 at the River Club. This year's event featured a panel discussion on the power of philanthropy, moderated by Rachael Tutwiler Fortune. The panel included District Board of Trustees Vice Chair for Duval County Dr. Jennifer Brown, Sherry Magill, Whitney Meyer and Melanie Patz.

The event was a great success and was a wonderful way to kick-start our comprehensive campaign fundraising efforts through support of student scholarships.

[View Photos](#)

Q&A with Dr. A

Make plans to join us for any of the remaining Q&A with Dr. A events taking place during Spring Term. This will be your opportunity to engage in open conversations with Dr. A and ask questions on initiatives and activities that are important to you.



The schedule is below. All events will be 1:30-2:30 p.m. Please note: The previously announced date for South Campus has changed.

Thursday, January 25
Downtown Campus, T-140/141

Tuesday, March 5
South Campus, Lakeside Room

FSCJ.edu Update

To ensure FSCJ.edu continues to promote the College and our offerings effectively, we are seeking feedback to advance our site enhancement efforts. Click on the button below to complete a brief survey on navigation functionality, ease of use, content clarity, overall visual appearance and responsiveness. You will also have the opportunity to provide your own recommendations on improvements or additions you think would be beneficial to prospective and current students. The survey will close on December 1 at 8 a.m.

[Complete Survey](#)



Blocktoberfest

Our annual Blocktoberfest extravaganza was held on October 27 at South Campus. This unique form of printmaking allows students to make one-of-a-kind, large-scale prints with the assistance of a steamroller.

Every fall, printmaking students from FSCJ and other local colleges plan, draw and carve designs onto large-scale woodblocks. The woodblocks are hand-inked and rolled over with the steamroller to press the image onto fabric.

[View Photos](#)

FSCJ Students Compete in Cyber Security Competition

On November 4, the Florida College System (FCS) held the first annual Cyber Security Web-Based Team Competition, hosted by Pensacola State College. Four FSCJ students worked together for three hours in the competition designed to test their knowledge, help them develop problem-solving skills through team coordination, respond to hands-on threat scenarios and build a strong learning portfolio.

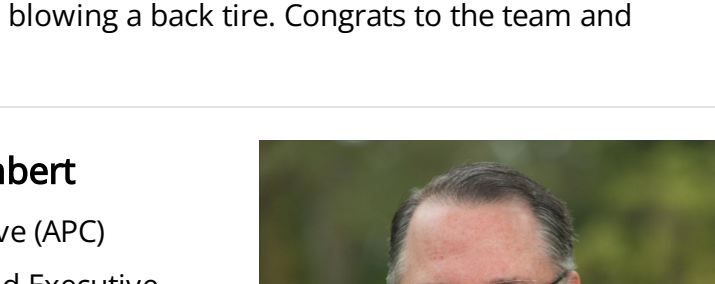


Argel Desir, Jason Soar (Team Captains), Jacob Robinson and Dylan Kallas



Student Electrathon Team Places in Tampa

FSCJ's Student EV Battery and Electrathon Team recently participated in a competition in Tampa. They even placed in the top 3 in the Open Class category, despite blowing a back tire. Congrats to the team and Advisor Professor Robert Wechsler!



Get to Know Your APC Colleagues: Chris Lambert

November's Administrative & Professional Collaborative (APC) spotlight shines on Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of the FSCJ Foundation Chris Lambert.



Chris comes to FSCJ with more than 26 years of experience in higher education fundraising and health management. He also holds his Juris Doctor degree as well as his Certified Fundraising Executive Designation.

[Learn More](#)

Get to Know Your CEC Colleagues: Scott Yaun

November's Career Employees' Council (CEC) spotlight illuminates Project Coordinator Scott Yaun. Scott has been with the College for over eight years. In his role, his main focus areas are textbook adoptions and Canvas content loading for our online adjunct instructors. In addition, he assists with syllabus reviews, the NA drop process, scheduling/encoding of all online courses and faculty observations.



[Learn More](#)

Recruitment Update



The fall FSCJ Connections Community Partner Event was held at Kent Campus on Friday, October 20. This event brings representatives from local organizations to campus for a half-day of listening and sharing centered on the link between postsecondary education and community development.

The event kicked off with a greeting by Azeem Rahaman, Deerwood Center SGA president. Dr. Avendano welcomed the approximately 50 agency representatives, highlighting the College's effective initiatives, student achievement and ongoing support services in the community.

Our next FSCJ Connections Community Partner Event is scheduled for Friday, March 29 at the Nassau Center.

[Read More](#)

Board Highlights

Review the highlights of the November 14, 2023, meeting of the FSCJ District Board of Trustees:

- The District Board of Trustees approved the successor Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the College and the United Faculty of Florida - Florida State College at Jacksonville (Union) effective August 16, 2023 through August 15, 2026, pending ratification by the faculty.
- The District Board of Trustees approved for full-time, non-instructional employees to cash-out up to 40 hours of vacation leave hours to be paid on their December 8, 2023 paycheck.
- The District Board of Trustees approved amendments to the Application Fee effective Spring Term 2024, pursuant to Board Rule 6Hx7-4.19.
- The District Board of Trustees approved the FSCJ ACCESS Program for Spring Term 2024, pursuant to Board Rule 6Hx7-4.19.
- The District Board of Trustees approved the activation of the Barbering (900 clock hours) Career Certificate program, effective in the Fall Term 2024.
- The District Board of Trustees approved the inactivation of the Diesel Systems (1,800 clock hours) and Diesel Systems I (1,050 clock hours) Career Certificate programs, effective at the end of the Fall Term 2023.
- The District Board of Trustees approved the inactivation of the Computer Related Crime Investigations (60 credits) Associate in Science program, effective at the end of Fall Term 2023.

You can find more information on the Board of Trustees meeting on our [website](#).

Comings and Goings

This list includes those individuals who are filling the newly appointed Faculty full-time positions, full-time A&P positions and full-time Career Employee positions.

Faculty Full-Time

- Elizabeth Kinney, Professor of Medical Assisting

A&P Full-Time

- Sarah Ashbrook, Facilities Planner
- Kevin Cotton, Director of Student Recruitment
- Brian Dopson, Interim Dean of Information Technology
- Naita Guine, Director of Development
- Christine Lambert, Vice President for Advancement and Executive Director of the Foundation
- Kathryn Millspaw, Instructional Program Manager

Career Full-Time

- Jacqueline Bruno, Enrollment Coach
- David Cain, Tradesworker Specialist
- Kirk Clark, Senior Plant Service Worker
- Teresa DeVries, Vision Rehabilitation Case Manager/Career Specialist
- Sierra Ejanowski, Administrative Assistant III and Title IX
- Dawn Green, Student Success Advisor I
- Latesha Harris, Student Records Coordinator
- Andrea Hayes, Administrative Assistant III

- Amanda Herazo, Student Success Advisor I
- Cheryl Key, Business Office Coordinator
- Malenie Lee, Military Student Records Transcript Evaluator
- Rebecca Logan, Security Officer
- Ashley Lowe, Administrative Services Support Specialist
- Charles Lucas, Assessment Coordinator
- Julie Miller, Library Manager
- Katherine Miller, Plant Service Worker
- Lakina Murkey, Plant Service Worker
- Fiona Parkinson, Student Success Advisor I
- Sylvia Paschal-Lester, Clinical Liaison
- Marina Peacock, Interim Culinary Program Food Service Manager
- Lynda Schnusenberg, Simulation Lab Coordinator
- Iris Schwimmer, Vision Rehabilitation Case Manager/Career Specialist
- Scott Smith, Enrollment Coach
- Erika Soto, Campus Operations Coordinator
- Kerri Stewart, Academic Department Coordinator
- Kevin Turner, Journeyman Plumber
- Tommy Ben, Administrative Assistant I
- Devon Williams, Laboratory Assistant
- Leila Williams, Box Office Assistant
- Mary Williams, Academic and Career Advisor

Who's Retiring?
The following employees have recently retired, or will soon be retiring, from FSCJ:

- Stanley Brown

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

FSCJ Association of Meeting Colleges (AFC) Chapter representatives recently participated in the 74th Annual AFC Conference and Florida held in Orlando. Congratulations to FSCJ's AFC Chapter for being named among the 2023 Platinum Chapter awardees! Additionally, Associate Director of Dual Enrollment Matt Wetzel was sworn in as the 2024 AFC President. AFC Region II was named Region of the Year with Administrative Support Manager Bryan Stewart as Region Director. [Read the full conference update.](#)

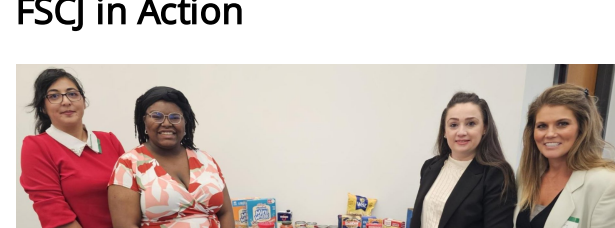
The FSCJ AFC Chapter will host a professional development opportunity on Thursday, December 7 from 10:30 a.m. to noon. President Matt Wetzel will discuss the AFC's goals for 2024 and deliver his impactful message "Keep Moving, Be Active, Transform Your Mind!" Be on the lookout for a meeting invite coming soon.

Congratulations to the FSCJ Facilities Planning and Design Team! The 2023 Florida Planning & Zoning Association (FPZA) First Coast Chapter Awards Committee selected the FSCJ Downtown Master Plan to receive this year's Outstanding Public Participation Award. This award is given to the most innovative and comprehensive involvement of citizens in a planning study, design plan, brick and mortar project, ordinance, educational effort, visioning process, etc.



Dr. Wanda Ford, Shawna Bliss (Prosser), Danielle Ray, Sara King (Prosser), Samantha Lutz

FSCJ in Action



Students in our Legal Studies Association (LSA) met recently to hear from a panel of recent FSCJ graduates. The alumni shared their experiences and talked about their current positions.

Pictured at left is the Fall 2023 LSA Board with donations they collected for the FSCJ H.O.P.E. Food Pantry.

Facilities Updates

The Facilities Team has been hard at work, updating and upgrading spaces across the College. Check out some highlights below:

Recently completed

- Cecil Center Restroom Renovation
- AD Furniture, Conf. Room 407A

In progress

- Scan/Digitize Facilities Plans
- Door Lock Conversion to Access Control System - Downtown, Kent, South & North
- Emergency Responders Radio Communications System (ERCS) Compliance
- Fire Alarm Panel Replacement
- Science Lab Upgrades - Design
- Wayfinding - Monument Signs

Cecil Center:

- BAS Controls Upgrade

Deerwood Center:

- Interior Program Expansion (Phase I & II)
- Interior Directional Signage

Downtown Campus:

- Human Resources Renovation
- Roof Replacement
- Building Envelope - Curtain Wall Replacement, URC
- Student Housing Suite Upgrade
- Admin/Finance Remodel
- Conference Room Furniture
- Chiller Replacement, AO
- Door Access Control Upgrades

Kent Campus:

- Door Access Control Upgrades

Nassau Center:

- CVD Skills Pad
- Nursing Program Expansion
- Outdoor Ed Center Conceptual Design

North Campus:

- Door Access Control Upgrades
- Student Services Renovation
- Roof/Wall Replacement

South Campus:

- Veteran Support Center
- Relocate Testing Center, Student Services Admin, Financial Services
- Door Access Control Upgrades
- Fire Academy Skills Pad Resurface
- Wilson Center Sculpture
- Lab Negative Pressure Correction
- Replace Ductwork
- Roof Replacement
- Boiler Replacement

In planning

Cecil Center:

- Door Access Control Upgrades

Deerwood Center:

- Flooring Upgrade
- IT/NOCC/Studio Renovation

Downtown Campus:

- CIVE Meeting Room Renovation
- AD Elevator Modernization
- Police Dept Remodel

Kent Campus:

- Pavement Repairs
- Auditorium Upgrades
- Art Lab Furniture
- Science Lab Upgrades

Nassau Center:

- Door Access Control Upgrades

North Campus:

- Ceiling Tile Replacement
- Science Lab Upgrades
- Elevator Replacement

South Campus:

- Fire Academy/EMS Public Service Upgrade
- Wilson Center Architect Assessment
- Outdoor Cafe Furniture
- Elevator Replacement
- E-Garning Renovation
- Honors Program Expansion
- Security Renovation
- LLC Furniture

Upcoming Events

Next Call:
December 13, 2 p.m.
Call notes available at [myFSCJ OnPoint Quick Link](#)

stay@FSCJ
Spring classes start Jan. 8.
REGISTER NOW!

The Spring Scholarship Application is Open!
DEADLINE: November 27

CONNECT & CULTIVATE

[View More Events](#)

BlueWave News Quiz

Quiz winners will be selected at random from entries with all questions answered correctly. You have until 6 p.m. on the day the newsletter is distributed to email your answers to bluewavenews@fscj.edu. Three winners will receive a BlueWave prize pack! Please note: Previous quiz winners are not eligible to win for six months.

1. How much is the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence?

- \$150
- \$25,000
- \$1 million
- \$100,000

2. What is the name of our annual printmaking extravaganza?

- Attravangza
- Printmaking Fest
- Steamrollerthon
- Blocktoberfest

3. When is Giving Tuesday?

- November 28
- December 5
- November 24
- November 21

4. Where did FSCJ's Student EV Battery and Electrathon Team recently compete?

- Pensacola
- Tampa
- Daytona
- Orlando

5. Where will the next FSCJ Connections Community Partner Event be held?

- Kent Campus
- Nassau Center
- South Campus
- Deerwood Center