

10TH ANNUAL

FSCJ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

10 Years of Growth  
and Moving Forward

Friday, January 9, 2026

Joining fscj.edu

Make Plans to Attend Professional Development Day

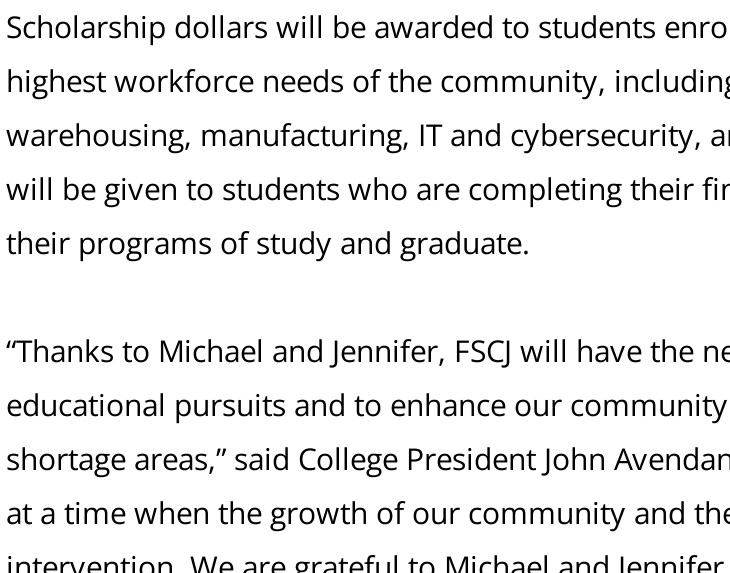
Registration is now open for FSCJ's 10th Annual Professional Development Day, scheduled for Friday, January 9, 2026. This year's theme is "10 Years of Growth and Moving Forward."

The day will begin with keynote speaker Dr. Clare Brady, an accomplished higher education leader and consultant, sharing innovative strategies to unlock the potential of AI in higher education. The event will also feature dynamic workshops in several learning tracks including Career Development, Departmental Showcase, Teaching and Learning, Technology and Wellness. Additionally, in celebration of our 10th anniversary of Professional Development Day, we invite you to bring canned goods and nonperishable food items to donate to our "Tin for Ten" food drive in support of the H.O.P.E. Food Pantry!

View Program and Register

News and Updates

Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock Foundation Makes Transformational \$1 Million Donation for FSCJ Students



FSCJ was honored to receive a \$1 million gift from the Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock Foundation through the FSCJ Foundation. Ward and Glock, longtime local philanthropists, made their commitment to support the I Choose FSCJ Workforce Scholarship Fund and to establish the Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund.

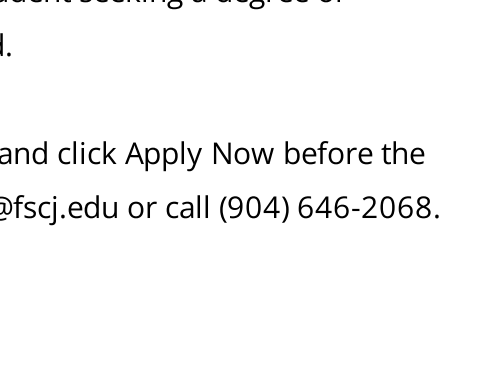
Scholarship dollars will be awarded to students enrolled in critical academic programs that serve the highest workforce needs of the community, including health care, logistics, transportation and warehousing, manufacturing, IT and cybersecurity, and culinary and hospitality. Additionally, preference will be given to students who are completing their final 15 credit hours to better position them to complete their programs of study and graduate.

"Thanks to Michael and Jennifer, FSCJ will have the necessary funds to support even more students in their educational pursuits and to enhance our community through a skilled workforce that addresses key shortage areas," said College President John Avendano, Ph.D. "This gift is truly life changing in that it comes at a time when the growth of our community and the economic challenges our students face necessitate intervention. We are grateful to Michael and Jennifer for their forward-thinking partnership that we know will strengthen our College, our students and this community we are proud to serve."

Read More

Nominate a Student Volunteer for the Scheidel Leadership in Action Award

The Leadership in Action Award is an annual scholarship funded by the Scheidel Family. This recognition is awarded to currently enrolled FSCJ students who are committed to making a difference by volunteering with exceptional service to community nonprofit agencies in the FSCJ service area.



Candidates are selected through a nomination process and self-nomination is allowed. To be considered for the Leadership in Action Award, nominees must be a current FSCJ student seeking a degree or certificate during the time in which the volunteer service was performed.

To nominate a student, visit the Scheidel Leadership in Action webpage and click Apply Now before the February 15 deadline. For more information, email luann.risoli.goodall@fscj.edu or call (904) 646-2068.

Make a Nomination

Celebration of Student Success 2025-26

Celebration of Student Success Nominations Open

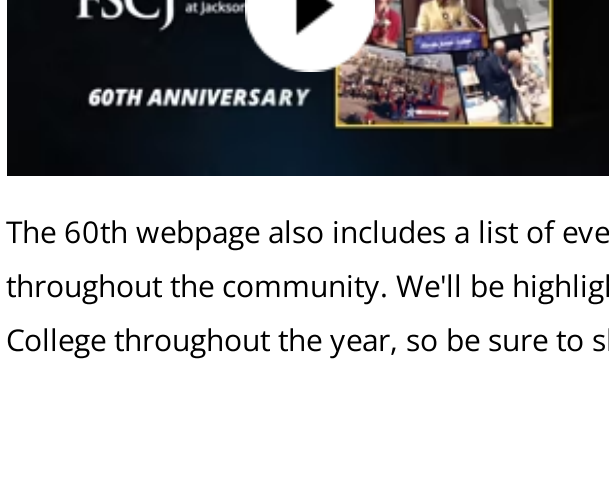
Faculty and staff are invited to select one to three students for recognition in the Celebration of Student Success. Students may be selected from the Summer 2025, Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 Terms in the following categories: Academic Achievement, Inspirational Achievement, Outstanding Student Worker and Outstanding Student Leadership.

The schedule for each campus awards ceremony is as follows:

- Deerwood Center – Tuesday, March 31, 6-7:30 p.m., Academy Room, B1204
- Downtown Campus – Thursday, April 9, 4-5:30 p.m., Auditorium, A1068
- North Campus/Nassau Center – Tuesday, April 14, 6-7:30 p.m., Auditorium, C126
- Kent Campus/Cecil Center – Thursday, April 16, 6-7:30 p.m., Room D120
- South Campus – Thursday, April 23, 6-7:30 p.m., Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts, Lakeside Room

Nominations may be submitted by completing the online form. Nomination deadlines are two weeks before the date of your preferred campus award ceremony. Read more [here](#).

Make a Nomination



60th Anniversary Celebration Continues

Check out this 1985-89 recap video, part of a 12-part series created to highlight specific timeframes throughout the College's history. All 12 will be housed on the 60th [webpage](#) as they are finalized.

The 60th webpage also includes a list of events and stories of how FSCJ has impacted individuals throughout the community. We'll be highlighting different stories of alumni, partners and friends of the College throughout the year, so be sure to share yours!

fscj.edu/60

FSCJ SERVES Day

On Tuesday, December 2, 92 employees and 13 students partnered with local food banks to distribute food to our community.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped make this day of giving back to the community a great success!

Here's a quick recap:

- Downtown, Kent and Cecil volunteers worked with Feeding Northeast Florida. Over two shifts, 32 employees and 5 students packed 11,399 pounds, equating to 9,498 meals.
- Volunteers with the Deerwood Center helped Farm Share. Twelve employees packed 224 boxes with 3,360 pounds of food.
- North Campus and Nassau Center joined forces with the BCTE team to help Hunger Fight. In total, 45 employee volunteers packed 10,000 pounds of food to be distributed with 400 children's books.
- Members of the South Campus and Downtown Campus teams supported Lutheran Social Services, with two employees and four students, passing out 76 bags of groceries.
- Men's basketball players and Coach Andrews helped United Community Outreach Ministry (UCOM) by packing 100 full bags of groceries.

View Photos

Sulzbacher HealthMobile Visits Downtown Campus

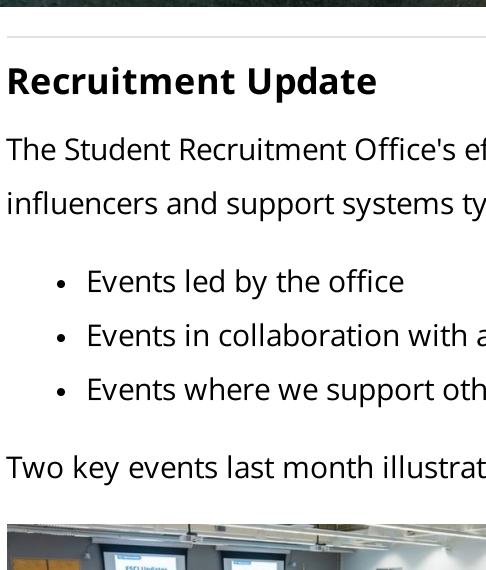
FSCJ and Sulzbacher HealthMobile have partnered to provide essential health and support services to FSCJ students who are experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity. The mobile unit brings together multiple agencies in one convenient location, and all services are provided at no cost. The HealthMobile will be parked in Downtown Campus Student Parking Lot 5 on the third Thursday of each month through February 19 from 9 a.m. to Noon. FSCJ students who meet eligibility are encouraged to visit the Sulzbacher HealthMobile and explore the resources available to support their success both inside and outside of the classroom.

Available services include:

- Mental and physical health support (including dental, vision and hearing)
- Legal assistance and referrals
- Food, clothing and care packages
- Connections to additional community resources

For questions or assistance, please contact Frantz Damas, Educate Tomorrow Case Manager, at [educatetomorrow@fscj.edu](mailto:educatetomorrow@fscj.edu) or (904) 632-3004.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments



Congratulations to Funeral Services Adjunct Professor Crystal Tyler who was awarded the Lex Hester Memorial Scholarship from the City of Jacksonville. Professor Tyler will use the scholarship as she works to complete the Master of Public Administration program at the University of North Florida.


The Lex Hester Memorial Scholarship Review Committee was created in memory of former City of Jacksonville Chief Administrative Officer Lewis Alexander (Lex) Hester. Learn more [here](#).

Recruitment Update

The Student Recruitment Office's efforts to engage, inform and encourage prospective students, their influencers and support systems typically fall into three categories:

- Events led by the office
- Events in collaboration with another FSCJ office or external organization
- Events where we support others' efforts to positively impact the lives of prospective students.

Two key events last month illustrate our collaboration and support.



In mid-November, the Student Recruitment Office, in partnership with the Office for Civic Engagement, hosted the annual FSCJ Connections: Community Partner Event at the Advanced Technology Center. This year, more than 70 attendees represented local businesses, nonprofits and community-based organizations. View photos [here](#).

Duval County Public Schools hosted its annual BEACON (Bringing Economic and Career Opportunities Nearer) program training in late November. The College is a strong supporter of this initiative, with staff from the Student Recruitment Office and other departments volunteering for the FAFSA-focused program.

Upcoming events:

12/5: Instant Decision Day at Sandalwood High School

12/8: Virtual Financial Aid Night for Douglas Anderson High School

12/10: South Campus Tour for Cecil Earlywood High School

12/11: College & Career Fair: Earlywood College

12/11: Dual 2 Degree Virtual Session

12/12: BEACON Program at Raines High School

12/18: Sonshine Christian Academy Financial Aid Night

Engagement By the Numbers:

Events: 39

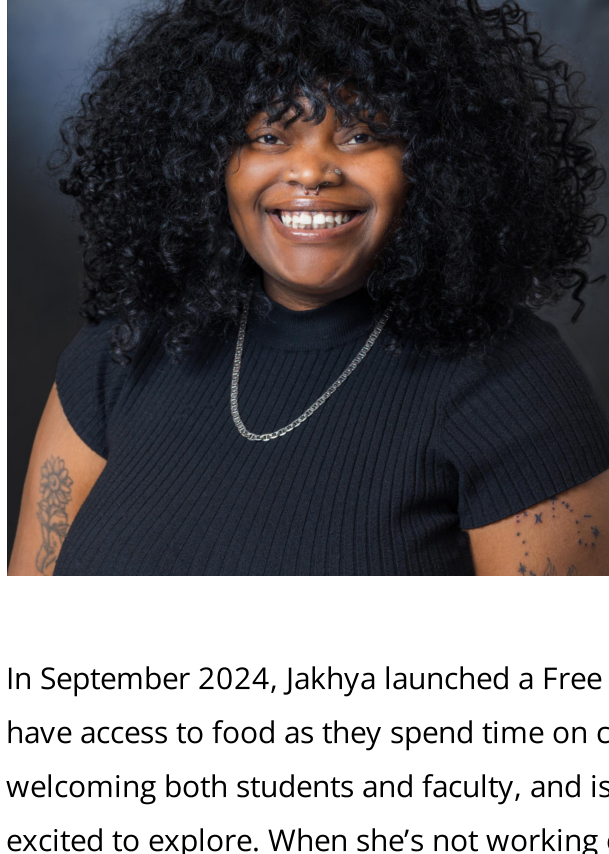
Prospective Student Engagement: 941

Tours: 12

Attendees: 24

Read More

Get to Know Your CEC Colleagues: Jakhya Dailey



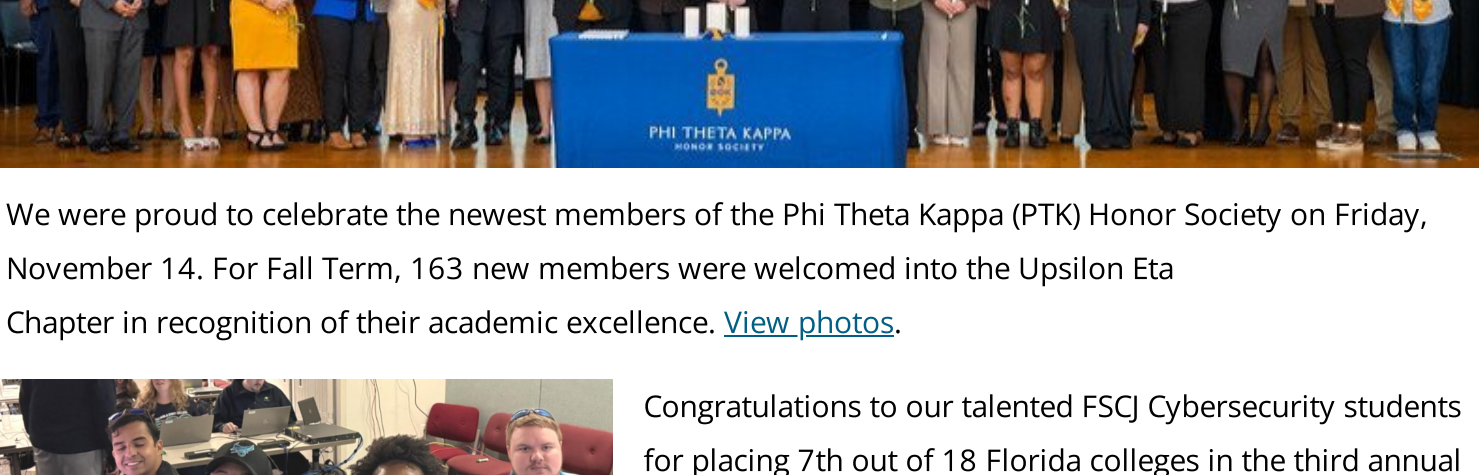
December's Career Employees' Council (CEC) spotlight features Admin Assistant I Jakhya Dailey who joined FSCJ in 2022. In her position, she enrolls and reenrolls students in classes, encodes all IDS, SLS and IDH courses, handles course substitutions and coordinates classroom reservations for professors and events, ensuring smooth operations across campus.

Jakhya earned her Associate in Arts this past summer and began pursuing a bachelor's degree in Human Services this fall. Beyond her daily responsibilities, she serves on the 60th Year Committee, the Women's Endowed Scholarship Committee and the Foundation Scholarship Committee.


In September 2024, Jakhya launched a Free Snack Cart at Kent Campus to support students who may not have access to food as they spend time on campus. She also hosts a crochet club at the Kent Campus, welcoming both students and faculty, and is beginning to volunteer outside of FSCJ, an opportunity she is excited to explore. When she's not working or volunteering, she enjoys crocheting, spending time with her fiancé and playing her alto saxophone—a passion she has nurtured since the age of 14.

Read More


FSCJ In Action



We were proud to celebrate the newest members of the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society on Friday, November 14. For Fall Term, 163 new members were welcomed into the Upsilon Eta Chapter in recognition of their academic excellence. [View photos](#).

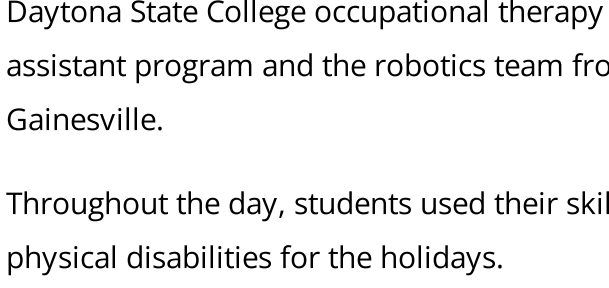


Congratulations to our talented FSCJ Cybersecurity students for placing 7th out of 18 Florida colleges in the third annual Florida College System Cybersecurity Competition, which was held on November 5 and 6 in Tallahassee!




Professor Kimberly Fahlgren, Professor Dionne Griffin and students from our Occupational Therapy Assistant program recently participated in an event with the University of Saint Augustine master's level occupational therapy students, the Daytona State College occupational therapy assistant program and the robotics team from Gainesville.

Throughout the day, students used their skills to adapt over 36 toys to be distributed to children with physical disabilities for the holidays.



On Tuesday, November 25, the Military and Veterans Service Center (MVSC) at South Campus welcomed faculty, staff and veteran students for a holiday party. Attendees enjoyed food and fellowship in the beautifully decorated space.



In appreciation for their service to the country, the MVSC team raffied off bags of food, school supplies and personal products for student veterans who were there.

Facilities Updates

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

Recently completed

- North Campus - Boiler Replacement, Bldg E

In progress

Ongoing Collegewide:

- Door Access Control Upgrades
- Elevator Door Lock Monitoring Systems
- Fire Alarm Replacement
- Scan/Digitize Facilities Plans
- Science Lab & Classroom Renovations
- Wayfinding, Monument Signs
- Memorial Benches/Legacy Walk
- Energy Initiatives
- Classroom USA Flag Replacement
- Library Master Planning

Cecil Center:

- Chiller Replacement, Bldg A

Deerwood Center:

- Conference Center Renovation
- Stairs, Curtainwall and Balcony Repair

Downtown Campus:

- Elevator Modernization
- ADA Signage
- Fire Alarm System Replacement
- Parking Lot Lighting

Kent Campus:

- Barbershop Renovation
- Auditorium Seating
- Art Lab Furniture

Nassau Center:

- Fire Alarm Replacement

North Campus:

- Student Services Renovation
- Allied Health Program Renovation
- Signage
- Athletics Renovation
- Tower Stairwell Paint

South Campus:

- Door Access Control Upgrades
- Elevator Modernization
- Lighting Controls Upgrade
- Fire Alarm System Replacement
- Mens Locker Room Renovation
- Gymnasium Bleachers

In planning

Cecil Center:

- Driving Track Lighting

Deerwood Center:

- Parking Garage Joint Repair
- Repurpose Bookstore Space

Downtown Campus:

- Warehouse Building
- WERC Renovation
- Jr. Achievement Building and Career Job Placement Center Expansion
- ATC Boiler Replacement


Kent Campus:

- Repurpose Bookstore Space

South Campus:

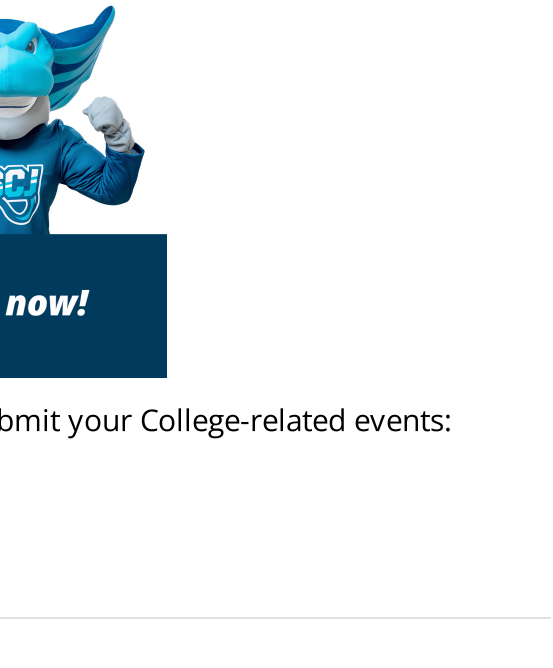
- New Burn Building
- Wilson Center Architect Assessment
- Security Renovation

Upcoming Events



Next Call:  
January 14, 2 p.m.

Call notes available at myFSCJ OnPoint Quick Link



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 9 a.m.-Noon  
FSCJ EMPLOYEE WELLNESS FAIR 2026

Stay a Manta Ray!

Spring registration is open now!

Check out the full calendar to view more and access the form to submit your College-related events: [fscj.edu/events](#)

View More Events

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 [newsletter@fscj.edu](mailto:newsletter@fscj.edu). Three winners will receive a Manta Messenger prize pack! Please note: Previous quiz winners are not eligible to win for six months.

1. Where will the Sulzbacher HealthMobile be parked at Downtown Campus on the third Thursday of each month through February 19?

- Student Parking Lot 5
- Parking Lot 11
- Student Parking Lot 6
- Parking Lot 12

2. The \$1 million gift from the Michael Ward and Jennifer Glock Foundation was made to support what area through the FSCJ Foundation?

- Buildings
- Programs
- Scholarships
- Athletics

3. The musical instrument does Jakhya Dailey play?

- Violin
- Drums
- Clarinet
- Alto Saxophone

4. What will be the main focus area of the Professional Development Day keynote speaker?

- Student success
- AI in higher education
- Workforce development
- Hybrid learning

5. The Herbert W. Scheidel Leadership in Action Award is given to currently enrolled FSCJ students who are committed to what?

- Volunteerism
- Good Grades
- Perfect Attendance
- Research

