

March 2025

FSCJ 2025

C O M M E N C E M E N T

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025 AT 4 P.M. • VYSTAR VETERANS MEMORIAL ARENA

Commencement is May 7

Save the date, Wednesday, May 7, for the 2025 Commencement Ceremony. The event will be held at VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena at 4 p.m. We need volunteers to help with the various important tasks throughout the day, such as setting up the arena, passing out programs, cheering on and checking in graduates, assisting guests to their seats, helping graduates prepare and line up for the ceremony, and cleaning up after the ceremony.

Before the in-person ceremony, we will host a single Grad Bash event at South Campus on Saturday, May 3, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Grad Bash is a special way to connect with our graduates personally before they cross the stage at Commencement. There will be activities for graduates and their guests, entertainment and giveaways, and an opportunity for group photos with family and friends.

If you are interested in volunteering for either or both of these opportunities, please speak with your supervisor and contact us at commencement@fscj.edu. Communications have been sent out to potential grads and registration is open through March 28.

News and Updates

FSCJ Included in MONOPOLY: Jacksonville Edition

Did you hear? MONOPOLY just released a new Jacksonville edition, complete with local sites, landmarks, organizations and FSCJ! A launch event was held at EverBank Stadium on Monday, February 24 with Mr. Monopoly, Jaxson de Ville and Dr. A. Additionally, Mr. Monopoly stopped by South Campus on Tuesday, February 25 to hang out with Rayzor Ray and students.



The official game description reads, "Whether you're enjoying a bite of Mayport Shrimp or having a roaring good time at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, the Jacksonville Edition of MONOPOLY encompasses all your local favorites. Spend the day chanting 'Diauaval' at a Jacksonville Jaguars game and end the night satisfying your BBQ cravings at Bono's Pit BBQ before heading to bed at Margaritaville Beach Hotel. Grab your token and start your journey through the Gateway of Florida. Every roll is an adventure in Jacksonville!"

Monopoly: Jacksonville Edition is available online and in stores including Barnes & Noble, CVS, Amazon and select local retailers. Keep reading this newsletter to see how you can get one of the games for yourself for FREE!

[View Photos](#)

Spring Career Fair



Our Spring Career Fair will take place on Tuesday, April 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Advanced Technology Center. More than 100 local, regional and national employers will be on hand, ready to network with students who are looking for career and internship opportunities. Please encourage students to dress appropriately, bring extra resumes and be prepared to potentially interview onsite.

Students can prepare for the Career Fair by attending pre-fair workshops and visiting the Career Closet located at Kent Campus. For more information, visit the Career Fair [webpage](#).

[Learn More](#)

Data in Motion: Insights on the Go

Faculty and staff are invited to Data in Motion: Insights on the Go, a dynamic roadshow designed to bring key data insights directly to FSCJ faculty and staff. This interactive event, hosted by Dr. Jerrett Dumouchel and Karen Acevedo, will showcase key performance indicator metrics and foster a discussion about how your work contributes to student success.

Join us to explore how data can enhance student outcomes, inform institutional strategies and empower your work. RSVP on this [MS Forms document](#) and an invitation will be sent for your selected date and location. Remaining events:

- Cecil Center North, March 25, 1:30-2:30 p.m., A109-Cecil Auditorium
- North Campus, March 26, 2-3 p.m., E166
- Downtown Campus, March 27, 1-2 p.m., ATC-T112
- Nassau Center, March 31, 1-2 p.m., A114

Join the Manta Fever Booster Club

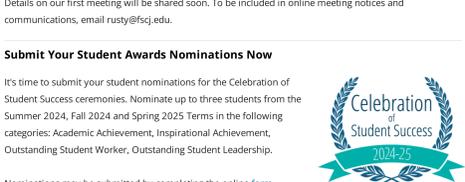


Manta Fever is the annual giving program designed to engage our loyal fans as supporters of FSCJ Athletics. There are multiple giving levels to choose from with special benefits including season tickets, front-row seating, a booster gift and more.

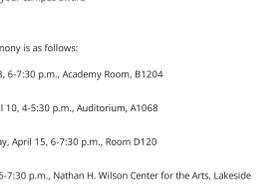
Join us as we work to grow our fanbase and support the development of our students into champions in athletics, academics and life.

[Learn More](#)

Men's Basketball Heads to National Tourney



We're having déjà vu! For the second year in a row, FSCJ Men's Basketball defeated Alabama Region 22 winner Snead State Community College (68-64) to become the NJCAA Gulf South District Champions!



This huge win also earned the team a bid into the national tournament in Danville, Illinois. They will face off against Davidson-Davie Community College on March 18 at 2 p.m. EST.

Watch along at njcaa.org/network/landing/index. Pay-per-view day passes are \$12 and the tournament pass is \$30.

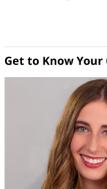
Join us at South Campus (Northeast parking lot in front of the child development center) on Saturday, March 15, at 8 a.m., to wish them good luck as they head to Illinois! Bring posters, signs or pom-poms to help get them pumped up for the big game.

Great Colleges to Work For Survey

FSCJ is participating in the Great Colleges to Work For® program, a national survey designed to recognize institutions that have built great workplaces. On March 3, all full-time employees should have received an invitation to participate in the survey with the subject line "Great Colleges to Work For 2025 Faculty/Staff Survey." The deadline to complete the survey is March 28.

All employees have the same username but unique passwords to log in. For this reason, employees should not forward their survey to any colleagues.

The survey is voluntary and completely confidential; FSCJ will not be able to trace results back to individuals. Once the survey is closed, it will be processed by ModernThink LLC, and our results will be provided in August 2025. Employees are encouraged to complete the survey today!



Invite Rayzor Ray to Your Event

Bring some extra excitement to your events with Rayzor Ray! Our beloved mascot is ready to make appearances that will energize the crowd and create unforgettable memories. Don't miss out—bookmark the Rayzor Ray Request Form today and secure a visit!

[Request Form](#)

Visit the [mascot shop](#) to get your manta ray gear! Mascot polo shirts can be ordered [here](#).

AI in Action Discussion Group

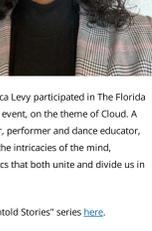
Faculty and staff are invited to join the AI in Action online discussion group, which will meet virtually each month to discuss different AI products, share real-world use cases, AI-related events and advancements in the workplace, and more.

AI in Action is open to anyone interested in exploring how AI can enhance our work at FSCJ. Whether you're already using AI tools or just curious about their potential, this will be a great opportunity to learn, share and stay ahead of emerging trends.

Details on our first meeting will be shared soon. To be included in online meeting notices and communications, email rusty@fscj.edu.

Submit Your Student Awards Nominations Now

It's time to submit your student nominations for the Celebration of Student Success ceremonies. Nominate up to three students from the Summer 2024, Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 Terms in the following categories: Academic Achievement, Inspirational Achievement, Outstanding Student Worker, Outstanding Student Leadership.



Nominations may be submitted by completing the online [form](#). Deadlines are two weeks before the date of your campus award ceremony.

The schedule for each campus awards ceremony is as follows:

- **Deerwood Center** – Thursday, April 3, 6-7:30 p.m., Academy Room, B1204
Nominations Due: March 20
- **Downtown Campus** – Thursday, April 10, 4-5:30 p.m., Auditorium, A1068
Nominations Due: March 27
- **Kent Campus/Cecil Center** – Tuesday, April 15, 6-7:30 p.m., Room D120
Nominations Due: April 1
- **South Campus** – Thursday, April 17, 6-7:30 p.m., Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts, Lakeside Room
Nominations Due: April 3
- **North Campus/Nassau Center** – Tuesday, April 22, 6-7:30 p.m., Auditorium, C126
Nominations Due: April 8

[Make a Nomination](#)

Seeking Alumni Nominations for Anniversary Celebration

FSCJ's 60th Anniversary begins August 2025! As part of our celebration, we'll be celebrating our alumni. We are collecting nominations for alumni features throughout the year. Please nominate alumni including fellow employees, yourself, retirees and anyone you can think of from the past six decades. Submit a nomination [here](#).

Faculty and staff are also invited to share their ideas and input to help develop a fitting celebration. If you are interested in participating in a committee or have an idea to share, email communications@fscj.edu.

Recruitment Update

On Friday, February 28, nearly 60 educators from public, charter and private schools across our service district came together at Kent Campus for our annual Principals and Counselors Meeting. This year, we introduced a more tailored approach by splitting attendees into two tracks to maximize engagement.



Counselors participated in workshops led by Student Support Services, Business and Financial Services programs, and Financial Aid/Scholarships staff. The principals' session consisted of presentations by Education and Human Services, Institutional Research, and Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

After the separate sessions, both groups enjoyed guided tours of Kent Campus. The day wrapped for all attendees with an alumni panel discussion hosted by Dr. Janetoria Burton of the Center for Civic Engagement.

Upcoming events:
3/13: KIPP Bold City College & Career Fair
3/19: Florida Youth Challenge Career Day Class 48
3/25: Beachside High School Application Assistance Day
3/28: FSCJ Connections: Community Partner Event, Nassau Center

Recruitment by the numbers:
Events: 66
Student Connections: 1,514

If you're interested in participating in recruitment events, please contact us at fscjrecruitment@fscj.edu with the subject line Dive Into Manta Ray Nation.

[Read More](#)

Get to Know Your APC Colleagues: Paula Marshall

March's Administrative & Professional Collaborative (APC) spotlight shines on Dean of Nursing Paula Marshall. She rejoined FSCJ in February to assume this role. Prior to this appointment, she held various positions at FSCJ, including Associate Dean of Nursing and Interim Dean of Nursing. Most recently, she served as the Dean of Nursing at Fortis College in Orange Park.

Dean Marshall brings over twenty years of extensive experience in nursing, nursing education and leadership. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing Education and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, both awarded by South University.

In her position as Dean of Nursing at FSCJ, she will collaborate closely with nursing faculty to enhance the educational experience and support the ongoing development and growth of the nursing programs.

[Learn More](#)

Get to Know Your CEC Colleagues: Kaelin Guerrero

March's Career Employees' Council (CEC) spotlight features Accountant IV Kaelin Guerrero, who has been with the College for three years. She plays a vital role at FSCJ by maintaining the finance system security, verifying sensitive information and purchases, tracking daily banking transactions, providing employee security access, auditing details and confirming pay cycle information for Accounts Payable and Payroll. She actively supports the College's objectives by serving as a positive representative of FSCJ and its career employees on various councils and committees.

She is a proud graduate of FSCJ having earned a Bachelor of Applied Science in Supervision and Management and an Associate in Arts with High Honors. She is enrolled at UNF studying for a Master of Business Administration with a Finance concentration.

[Learn More](#)

FSCJ In Action

FSCJ hosted the Jacksonville Dental Society's annual Give Kids a Smile Day dental wellness event on February 15. This annual event offers free dental services for children under 18. FSCJ faculty, students and community volunteers provided dental treatment including fillings, cleanings and extractions.

This year, close to 100 pediatric patients were served. View photos [here](#).

Congratulations to the FSCJ Brain Bowl team for their big win at the FCSAA Regional Brain Bowl Tournament! Team A finished in third place and Team B finished in sixth. Team A has qualified for the state tournament which will be held later this month.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

Associate Vice President of Strategy and Transformation Karen Acevedo presented at DREAM 2025 about FSCJ's work as part of the first cohort of Achieving the Dream's (ATD) Student Parent Opportunity Assessment. She also shared how the findings are being used to increase success for our parenting students.

Karen was recently featured in an interview, "Q&A: The Student Parent Opportunity Assessment in Action," for the ATD blog. Read the interview [here](#) to learn more.

Professor of Dance Rebecca Levy participated in the Florida Theatre's "Untold Stories" event, on the theme of Cloud. A storyteller, choreographer, performer and dance educator, Professor Levy spoke on the intricacies of the mind, feminism and the dynamics that both unite and divide us in her dance works.

Learn more about the "Untold Stories" series [here](#).

Welcome to the FSCJ family! On February 13, new faculty and staff attended the New Employee Reception. The latest additions to the team were able to meet each other, meet and hear from College leadership and enjoy breakfast.

View event photos [here](#).

Facilities Updates

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

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Recently completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downtown and South Instructor Lecterns <p>In progress</p> <p>Ongoing Collegewide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door Access Control Upgrades • Elevator Door Lock Monitoring Systems • Emergency Responders Radio Communications System • Fire Alarm Replacement • Scan/Digitize Facilities Plans • Science Lab 18 Classroom Renovations • Wayfinding/Monument Signs, Vehicular/Pedestrian Signage, Building IDs • Memorial Benches/Legacy Walk • Energy Initiatives <p>Cecil Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHU, ERU Replacement • Door Replacements <p>Deerwood Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classrooms to Computer Labs Renovation • Memorial Conference Center Renovation | <p>Downtown Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multipurpose Room Renovation • Building Envelope • Elevator Modernization • ADA Signage • Fire Alarm System Replacement • Vehicle Charging Stations <p>Kent Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hot Water System Replacement • Addressable Device Upgrades • Science Lab Upgrades • Auditorium Dressing Room Renovation • Student Life Renovation • Bus Route Improvements <p>Nassau Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Lab Remodel • Door Access Control Upgrade • David Yulee Room Furniture • Fire Alarm Replacement <p>North Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door Access Control Upgrades • Student Services, Science Lab Renovation • Nutrition • Nursing Program Expansion • ADA Monitoring System • Individual Addressable Monitoring System • Signage • CJC Pavilion, Window Replacement • Lot 5 Resurfacing • Boiler Replacement • Dental Student Breakroom Chairs | <p>South Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door Access Control Upgrades • Elevator Modernization • Fire Academy Skills Pad • Lighting Control Upgrade • Fire Alarm System Replacement • Childcare Center Renovation • Men's Locker Room Renovation • Parking Lot Lighting • Restroom Renovation <p>In planning</p> <p>Deerwood Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stairs, Curtain Wall, Main Entry and Balcony Repairs <p>Downtown Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warehouse Building • VERC Renovation <p>Kent Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BarberShop Renovation <p>North Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pajne Tower Stairwell • Athletics Renovation <p>South Campus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilson Center Architect Assessment • Honors Program Expansion • Security Renovation • Gym Renovation • Legacy Walk Benches |
|--|---|---|

Upcoming Events

Available on:

- Apple TV
- Amazon
- YouTube
- and many other platforms

Stay a Manta Ray!

Summer classes start May 5

REGISTER NOW

FSCJ OnPoint

Next Call:
April 9, 2 p.m.

Call notes available at [myFSCJ OnPoint Quick Link](#)

Check out the events calendar to view more events 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. Three winners will be drawn to receive MONOPOLY: Jacksonville Edition! All current faculty and staff are eligible to win.

- What board game is FSCJ represented on?
 - a. Scrabble
 - b. Monopoly
 - c. Catan
 - d. Trivial Pursuit
- What is the last day graduates can register for Commencement and/or Grad Bash?
 - a. March 18
 - b. May 6
 - c. No registration needed
 - d. March 28
- Where was the latest Principals and Counselors Meeting held?
 - a. Kent Campus
 - b. Deerwood Center
 - c. Nassau Center
 - d. Downtown Campus
- When is the Spring Career Fair?
 - a. April 1
 - b. March 24
 - c. April 8
 - d. April 4
- What is the name of the annual giving program to support FSCJ Athletics?
 - a. Manta Madness
 - b. Manta Fever
 - c. Manta Squad
 - d. Manta Crew