

The *Women* for FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall/Winter 2013



ALUMNA RETURNS TO FSU TO LEAD THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

The College of Music has a new dean, and SHE is female! Dr. Patricia Flowers is only the second female dean in the music program's 103 year history. Ella Scoble Opperman, for whom the music recital hall is named, served as director from 1911 to 1920, then as dean until 1944. Dr. Flowers follows the very successful tenure of Dean Emeritus Don Gibson, who oversaw the transition of Ruby Diamond Auditorium into a state-of-the-art concert hall. Be assured that Patricia Flowers is up to the task, having been selected from an impressive group of applicants.

Flowers comes to Florida State from Ohio State University, where she served as a professor of music since 1996. She previously was chair of graduate studies from 1992 to 2007. Flowers was also an associate and assistant professor of music at Ohio State from 1985 to 1996. Prior to her Ohio State tenure, Flowers was a visiting professor and assistant professor of music at the University of Texas of San Antonio.

She earned her Bachelor of Music degree at Kent State University, where she also earned a Master of Music degree. Flowers earned her Doctor of Philosophy degree in music at Florida State in 1981.

"I am proud and honored by the privilege of leading the College of Music, one of America's finest comprehensive music programs and a source of pride for the state of Florida," Flowers said. "It is a special joy to come home to my alma

mater. There is no place I would rather be."

Flowers has earned numerous awards and recognitions throughout her distinguished career in music education. She is also the author of numerous scholarly, music publications and research presentations and lectures.

Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Garnett S. Stokes, Ph.D., said, "I am very excited about

such a prestigious scholar and educator leading Florida State's distinguished College of Music. I believe that our College of Music will thrive under her leadership."

Dean Flowers spends her days guiding the College of Music, visiting with alumni, attending conferences and playing the occasional tune on the piano or the oboe. ✨



Dr. Patricia Flowers, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Music, Florida State University



Jaimi Wacksman

W4FSU began with the idea that women needed a place where they felt connected to the University. The seed was first planted in 2003, and membership has since blossomed to more than 700 women. Being a member not only means you have access to the University, it means you also have a place to connect with other women who share a passion for Florida State University. But where do you fit in?

W4FSU is designed to be YOUR connection to the University. Whether you stay engaged by networking with other women through FSU, by reuniting with old friends or by learning ways that allow you to contribute your time or your resources, I hope you will continue your quest to learn more about the many programs and ways to get involved.

It is my pleasure to work with you to bring support to this University. Thank you for your continued commitment as we work toward President Barron's goal to become one of the nation's top 25 public universities. Without a doubt, your support will play a vital role in accomplishing this goal. No matter how you chose to connect with Florida State, my hope is that you find a home in W4FSU where you always feel welcome and appreciated. 🌸

– Jaimi Wacksman
Chairwoman, Executive Committee

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Florence Ashby
Molly Barron
Jessica Leigh
Leslie Patterson
Sherrill Ragans
Cassandra Rayne Gross
Cherie Rowland
Marilyn Spores
Janet Stoner
Phyllis Underwood
Jaimi Wacksman
Jeanette Yeager

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT W4FSU.ORG

DARING TO BE GREAT

Larger-than-life: the only phrase that fully encompasses the true spirit of Dr. Melvene Draheim Hardee. Dr. Melvene “Mel” Hardee came to Florida State University as the first coordinator for counseling and advisement in 1948, but she is largely remembered for her dynamic role in founding the FSU higher education program 10 years later. Between that time and her retirement in 1985, Dr. Hardee served as the major adviser for more than 120 doctoral candidates and supervised the work of more than 120 master's degree students. Dr. Hardee was known as “The Mentor,” and to many, is known as the creator of the FSU “LifeNet.” This support system is composed of students, alumni, faculty and friends of the higher education program and has provided guidance to countless individuals beginning with their graduate studies well into their careers.

With red lipstick, white go-go boots and a colorful scarf, her just-above-five-foot frame commanded attention and respect when she entered a room. She spoke through poetry and was very theatrical in her classes. She was also very strict, infamous for her red-flare grading pens. Although her expectations for her students were high, she instilled in them a sense of togetherness and family. During her career, Dr. Hardee impacted countless lives through her work, fighting for the advancement of women and African-Americans in the field of higher education.

In 1977, Dr. Hardee founded the Center for Studies of Women in Educational Management Systems to identify and solve problems, through professional development, activities, and resource materials, faced by women who aspired to be higher education administrators. After Dr. Hardee's retirement in 1989, the center was renamed the Melvene Draheim Hardee Center for Women in Higher Education in recognition of her vision for the center and of her advocacy for women. Today, the center is named the Hardee Center for Leadership and Ethics in Higher Education and is committed to perpetuating the ideals and values embodied by Dr. Hardee.

Dr. Hardee was also a prominent figure in the field of student personnel administration. She served as president of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) from 1962-1964 and was a charter member and subsequent president of the Southern Association of College Student Administrators (SACSA) from 1955-1958. In 1986, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) named its Dissertation of the Year Award in her honor, and later, SACSA named its Dissertation of the Year Award in her honor. In 1987, she was named a Senior Scholar by ACPA. The following year, she received the Robert H. Schaffer Award from NASPA for her personal inspiration to graduate students, service on doctoral committees and distinguished record of scholarly achievement.

Dr. Hardee was a true Renaissance woman. She was not only a faculty member and higher education professional but also a hardworking farm woman and loving wife. A person with many interests, she drove the 89 miles to and from her farm using one of her “High Noon Farm” trucks. She would come to work wearing overalls and then transform by changing into a stylish, designer outfit that was hanging in the back of her truck. She oversaw the production of soybeans, corn, cabbages, watermelon, hay, cotton and trees. Over the years, she terraced and fenced the land, developing waterways and fish ponds. In 1979, Dr. Hardee was named Georgia's Alapaha District “Farm Man of the Year” for conservation practices on her 877-acre farm and also received the Alapaha District Conservationist of the Year Award in 1989.

On Friday, October 25, members of the FSU “LifeNet” came together to celebrate the extraordinary life and accomplishments of Dr. Hardee at the Hardee Centennial Celebration, commemorating 100 years of her inspiring legacy (1913-2013). In Hardee spirit, this daylong event included both academic and professional development elements, as well as opportunities for networking and fellowship among affiliates of the FSU higher education program.

Generations of the past, present and future will forever be indebted to Dr. Hardee for the outstanding foundation she built for higher education at Florida State, and her legacy will continue to inspire us all. Dr. Melvene Draheim Hardee will always be remembered as a mentor, educator and visionary. 🌸



Dr. Melvene Draheim Hardee
(1913-1994)

INAUGURAL W4FSU WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The inaugural signature program funded by the W4FSU Endowment, the Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI), was held October 11-12, 2013, on Florida State's campus. With expert guidance and participation by Dr. Laura Osteen, program director, her staff and student volunteers at the Center for Leadership and Social Change, the two-day program brought 42 female students together with Center staff and members of W4FSU for a leadership experience never before available to FSU students. Following this invigorating, educational program, W4FSU facilitators and their student cohorts will continue to communicate and work toward individually selected leadership goals. Throughout the academic year, these goals will benefit the many diverse communities of Florida State students who were represented by the program participants.

The wonderful kickoff dinner hosted by first lady Molly Barron and FSU President Eric Barron at the President's home set the tone for the Institute and energized the participants. On Saturday, October 12, the groups of students, facilitators and Institute staff explored their identities as women, as leaders and as agents for positive change in their communities. After panel discussions with W4FSU members and other women in the FSU community and a campus walk to experience the rich history and legacy of FSCW and FSU, the Institute concluded as participants outlined their action plans for positive influence in their communities.



W4FSU committee planning leader Phyllis Underwood stated, "It was a genuine pleasure to be part of the inaugural WLI. Student participants were energizing and inspiring as we engaged in activities and meaningful dialogue regarding the creation of positive change in our communities." Dr. Osteen added, "Together as alumnae facilitators, guest speakers, and student participants, we created an environment of unlimited possibilities and high expectations for Florida State's female leadership and the impact we can have in our local and global communities." The students and their respective facilitators will continue conversations within their cohorts throughout the academic year and plan to come together in the spring to celebrate their leadership successes and their bonds as Women for Florida State University. 🌿

PHILANTHROPY IN ACTION

Have you ever asked yourself if you are a philanthropist? Have you ever asked, "How does one become a philanthropist?"

In their book "Women & Philanthropy: Boldly Shaping a Better World," authors Sondra Shaw-Hardy and Martha A. Taylor say, "Research results vary concerning whether philanthropy is 'caught' from parents, elicited when one is personally touched by an event, or 'taught' through donor education."

Regardless, when you give from your heart, you receive one of the greatest rewards in life.

As women, we strive to live by our values; we desire to make the world a better place, and we want to invest our time, talents and resources

where we believe we are making a difference.

W4FSU is dedicated to making a difference for Florida State University. Together, we educate ourselves about the University of today and fondly remember and share stories of the University from "our day." We create opportunities for women to find or perhaps reunite with programs, projects and people for which there is a special interest. We celebrate the connections of alumnae and friends with each other and with our great University.

W4FSU hopes you will choose to JOIN US and invest your time, talent and resources in Florida State University. 🌿

- Janet Stoner



Florida State University student Victoria Underwood takes these words of her Delta Zeta Sorority creed to heart:

To those whom my life may touch in slight measure, May I give graciously of what is mine.

As an Alpha Sigma chapter member, Underwood has pledged to support the organization's philanthropic goal of donating \$10,000 per year for five years toward the College of Communication & Information Science & Disorders' planned Integrated Preschool Program. She has committed \$1,000 of her own resources to support the program.

As a child, Underwood experienced significant hearing loss in one ear and struggled in school as a result. "Thankfully, I had a teacher who worked with me to not just learn how to read but to excel in reading and everything I do," she said. The difference that teacher made in her educational experiences was immeasurable. Underwood completed a bachelor's to master's program in criminology this summer and began a Ph.D. program in the College of Criminology & Criminal Justice in the fall.

Contributing to a project as worthwhile as the Integrated Preschool Program is important to Underwood because she understands the value of children of all ability levels having access to the learning tools they need to succeed. When funded, the preschool will allow typically developing children and those with communication impairments to work and play together, aiding their development and bridging the gap between children who have impairments and children who do not. The preschool will allow Florida State students and faculty members to take advantage of research opportunities in early language and literacy interventions for children with speech and language impairments.

While Underwood is passionate about the philanthropic efforts of her sorority, she encourages all students to get involved with projects that are meaningful to them.

"Projects and charities that are important to you are worth getting involved with," she said. "You do not have to give a lot to make a significant difference in the lives of others." 🌿



SAVE THE DATE!



Backstage Pass 2013

BACKSTAGE PASS TO THE VERY BEST OF FLORIDA STATE MARCH 21-22, 2014

Enjoy an exciting weekend of unique activities at the fifth annual *Backstage Pass to the Very Best of FSU*. You won't want to miss our signature event! A save-the-date announcement will be sent in early December 2013. ✂

The *Women for*
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ENGAGE SHARE CELEBRATE

As the student body president and vice president of Florida State University, Rosie Contreras and Sara Saxner represent the interests of more than 40,000 students. This year is the first time in Florida State's history that two women occupy the highest student offices.

Rosie is a senior pursuing a degree in international affairs. She is a member of the Garnet and Gold Key Honor Society and the Seminole Torchbearers. She previously served as the director of the Hispanic/Latino Student Union, an agency of the Student Government Association, and she was a two-time board member of the Office of Governmental Affairs. Rosie was first elected to Florida State's Student Senate, representing the College of Social Sciences and Public Policy, in the spring of her freshman year. She is the recipient of the 64th Student Senate Ethics Award, the Milton S. Carothers Ethical Courage Award and the 2013 Student Government Woman of the Year Award. At the age of 2, she emigrated with her family



Rosie Contreras (left) and Sara Saxner (right)

from Santiago de Cuba to Melbourne, Fla.

Sara is a senior pursuing a major in interdisciplinary social sciences and a combined degree in Masters in Public Administration. She is from Plantation, Fla., where she graduated from Nova High School in 2010. Sara entered Florida State University through the Social Justice Living Learning Community with the Center for Leadership and Social Change. She began her Student Government experiences by serving as vice chair of the Oglesby Union Board, in the 64th Student Senate, and as director of the Women's Student Union. She is a proud, founding executive council member of the Gamma Phi chapter of Alpha Phi Fraternity. Her experiences at Florida State University have led her to serve students in various capacities, including as a 2011 Orientation Leader and 2012 Rho Gamma for the PanHellenic

Council. She is a member of the Honors Student Association and Garnet and Gold Key Leadership Honorarium.

"It is a tremendous honor to be given the opportunity to serve our students as president and vice president. Being women in the highest offices of student government poses unique challenges, but none that are insurmountable. We have felt supported along the way by a University community that values both diversity of background and of thought," Rosie and Sara said.

"Student government is, at its heart, an advocacy network and a means for students' voices to be heard and respected. We are aware of how many of us are worried about life after graduation and the jobs that we will get once we accept our diplomas and walk across the stage. We are worried about the student loan debt that we've racked up during our time here. We are worried about how competitive our degrees will be once we enter the job market."

"As an administration, we have learned that if we can use our resources to invest in student innovation and creativity, we have supplemented and bolstered the education of our students in a way that no other University has, or can. Ultimately, we want to help foster engaged citizens who are ready and unafraid to change the world." ✂