

# THE COMMUNICATOR

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FLORIDA TECH'S SCHOOL OF ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

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## REMEMBERING ALAN ROSIENE

By Julius Luchs for *The Communicator*

Florida Tech lost a beloved faculty member when Alan M. Rosiene, Ph.D., 60, passed away peacefully on Jan. 16 from COVID-19-related symptoms.

Rosiene, a native of Preston, Connecticut, received his bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University in 1982 and his doctorate in English from Northwestern University in 1992.

He began his 28-year career at Florida Tech in 1993. He was an assistant professor and program chair of English and Languages and associate head of the School of Arts and Communication.

His colleagues admired his dedication and passion for teaching and learning.

"Alan Rosiene was an extraordinary man: sensitive, intelligent and forthright," said Gordon Patterson, Ph.D. "From our first encounter 29 years ago to the present, I was struck by his passion for teaching and concern for his students."

Patterson, a history professor in the SAC, has been a member of the Florida Tech faculty for 40 years. He recalls the times he would walk by Rosiene's office and see Rosiene, who was usually grading papers, give him a wink as he passed by.

Every time Patterson stepped into Rosiene's office to have a conversation, he always learned something new.

Rosiene was a member of numerous university committees, such as the General Education Division Review Committee, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee and the Humanities Assessment Committee. He also was director of Florida Tech's English as a Second Language program for 16 years.



Alan Rosiene keyboards the 2012 Twitchy album, "Hey Mr. Professor"

### An educator with a passion for learning

Also, he had a passion for learning, focusing on various research topics that include theories and history from ancient and medieval times.

"One day, he called me in as I walked past his office and gave me a copy of a page from the 1964 World's Fair program," explained Jacob Ivey, Ph.D., an assistant professor of history in the SAC.

"It was of the African pavilion and was a fantastic time capsule of the racist, simplistic presentation of the continent. I still have that page hanging in my office."

Not only did Ivey appreciate Rosiene's skill of finding fascinating items, but he admired his passion for learning and applying it to his teaching.

# SCHOOL OF ARTS AND COMMUNICATION FACULTY AND STAFF, SPRING 2021

## SCHOOL HEAD

Associate Dean Robert Taylor, Ph.D., History, *Florida State University*

## FACULTY

### PROFESSORS

Andrew Aberdein, Ph.D., Logic and Metaphysics, *University of St. Andrews*  
Heidi Hatfield Edwards, Ph.D., Mass Communication, *University of Georgia*  
Gordon Patterson, Ph.D., History, *University of California–Los Angeles*

### ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Gabriella Baika, Ph.D., French, *University of Pittsburgh*  
Kevin Burke, Ph.D., Musicology, *University of Cincinnati*  
Natalie Dorfeld, Ph.D., English/Composition & TESOL, *Indiana University of Pennsylvania*  
John Lavelle, Ph.D., English, *University of Louisiana–Lafayette*  
Debbie Lelekis, Ph.D., Literature, *University of Missouri*  
Moti Mizrahi, Ph.D., Philosophy, *The Graduate Center, City University of New York*  
Ted Petersen, Ph.D., Mass Communication, *University of Florida*  
Youngju Sohn, Ph.D., Mass Communication, *University of Georgia*  
Angela Tenga, Ph.D., English, *Purdue University*  
Wanfa Zhang, Ph.D., Political Science, *University of Alabama*

### ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Danita Berg, Ph.D., English, *University of South Florida*  
Melissa Crofton, Ph.D., Literature, *University of South Carolina*  
Michael Finnegan, Ph.D., Literature, *University of Rhode Island*  
Sharon Irvin, M.A., English, *University of Wisconsin*  
Jacob Ivey, Ph.D., History, *West Virginia University*  
Lars R. Jones, Ph.D., Art History, *Harvard University*  
Joe Montelione, D.M.A., Winds and Percussion Performance, *University of Southern California*  
Kenneth R. Pike, Ph.D., Philosophy, *Arizona State University*  
Matthew Ruane, Ph.D., Higher Education and Policy Studies, *University of Central Florida*  
Renée Souris Smith, Ph.D., Law & Society and Political Theory, *American University*  
Andy K. Stanfield, Ph.D., Instructional Design and Development, *University of South Alabama*  
Dzmitry Yuran, Ph.D., Communication and Information, *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*

### INSTRUCTORS

Ingrid Bradley, M.A.	Rolanda Hatcher-Gallop, M.S.	Anna Montoya, M.A.
Annie Caza, M.Ed.	Amy Laakman, M.A.	Joy Patterson, M.A. and M.S.
Elizabeth Dopira, M.M.	Keturah Mazo, M.A.	Alexandra Soya Brewer, M.A.

### ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS

Dana Beattie	Donald Harrell	Wanda Perez
Andrei Belyi	Shirley Johnson	Brandon Smith
Anushka Boyd	Lianne Kagunda	Ellen Stewart
Tiffany Crews Loris	Julianne Mallak	Chelsea Stripling
Erik Cole	Linda Marks-Morgan	Charles VanRiper
Scott Devlin	Pervin Muradov	Jeffery Woliver
Jeffery D. Gallop	Steven Osborne	
Jason Griggs	Alycia Pardoe	

### STAFF

Amanda Culver, Administrative Assistant III

## SAVE THE DATE

### SPRING 2021 EVENTS

April 12 | Wind Ensemble concert at 7 p.m. (virtual)\*  
April 13 | Concert Choir recital at 7 p.m. (virtual)\*  
April 14 | SAC faculty meeting at 3 p.m. (virtual)  
April 15 | String Orchestra concert at 7 p.m. (virtual)\*

\*Florida Tech's Music Program concerts will live stream on its YouTube channel:  
[youtube.com/c/FloridaTechMusicProgram](https://youtube.com/c/FloridaTechMusicProgram)

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

April 22 | Last day of classes  
April 23 | Study day (no classes)  
April 26–30 | Final exams  
May 1 | Spring commencement exercises (virtual)  
May 10 | First day of classes, first 6-week term  
May 17 | First day of classes, 8-, 9- and 11-week terms  
May 31 | Memorial Day (no classes)  
July 5 | Independence Day, observed (no classes)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Taylor Steps In as Interim Dean for CoPLA

On Jan. 22, Florida Tech Executive Vice President and Provost Marco Carvalho announced Robert Taylor, Ph.D., as interim dean for the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts. He will serve in this role while the university initiates a national search for a new CoPLA dean.

Taylor appointed Heidi Hatfield Edwards, Ph.D., as acting head of SAC during this time. Edwards was the associate head of SAC and chair of communication programs before the appointment. Edwards remains chair of the communication graduate program.

She named Ted Petersen, Ph.D., as acting chair of the undergraduate communication program. While serving in this position, Petersen will continue as director of Florida Tech's student media.

## THANK YOU

Special thanks to those who contributed to producing this issue of *The Communicator*. We owe you a debt of gratitude!

Julius Luchs, Nomathemba Mafico, Rob McDonald, JoAnn Parla-Palumbo, Joy Patterson, Arianna Schuck and Y.J. Sohn.

The Communicator is a publication of Florida Tech's College of Psychology and Liberal Arts, School of Arts and Communication.

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## IN MEMORIAM: ALAN M. ROSIENE

It was with great sadness that I recommended Dr. Alan M. Rosiene for a posthumous Faculty Senate Lifetime Achievement Award after his passing in January.

For almost 30 years, Dr. Rosiene labored tirelessly to educate his students, collaborate with colleagues in the School of Arts and Communication, and make Florida Tech a better institution of learning.

Alan Rosiene was a dedicated teacher who remained passionate about his students and their studies. Whether it was writing about Literature, Civilization I and II or his signature Science Fiction Literature and Film course, he constantly strove to improve his craft and mentor younger faculty members in the art of teaching.

His efforts were recognized by the awarding of the Faculty Senate's award for excellence in teaching from 1999 to 2000. He also won the President's Award for University Excellence three years in a row, from 2013 to 2015.

Generations of Florida Tech international students remember Dr. Rosiene as the person who shepherded them through the TOEFL process and set them up with the ESL classes they needed to be ready to achieve in English-speaking classes.

At times, his quiet reserve masked a brilliant and caring man, the likes of which are rare to find. The late Alan Rosiene is truly worthy and deserving of recognition for all he has contributed to our university through his efforts.



Robert Taylor, Ph.D., is the interim dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts and head of the School of Arts and Communication.

He was a meticulous administrator who made the necessary forms flow with ease. His almost 20 years of service on the University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee made significant contributions to classes and programs beyond his own by reviewing them with a laser-like focus.

Alan contributed three decades of service in many areas as diverse as playing in former Florida Tech President Anthony Catanese's faculty band, TWITCHY, to reading names at virtual graduations. He advised many student organizations and was always available in an emergency.

At times, his quiet reserve masked a brilliant and caring man, the likes of which are rare to find.

The late Alan Rosiene is truly worthy and deserving of recognition for all he has contributed to our university through his efforts.

My condolences to all of us who knew and worked with this amazing human being. He is dearly missed.

We will continue on with the work Alan so diligently dedicated himself to for 28 years, investing in our students, the SAC and this great university. ■

*Robert A. Taylor*

CONNECT WITH US:



## FACULTY NEWS ROUNDUP: SPRING 2021

**Andrew Aberdein** published “Dialogue Types, Argumentation Schemes, and Mathematical Practice: Douglas Walton and Mathematics” in the *Journal of Applied Logics*, 8(1), 2021, pp. 159–82. Also, with Matthew Inglis, he published “Are Aesthetic Judgements Purely Aesthetic? Testing the Social Conformity Account” in *ZDM – Mathematics Education*, 52(6), 2020, pp. 1127–36. Aberdein, along with co-authors Alison Pease, Ursula Martin and Fenner Stanley Tanswell, also published “Using Crowdsourced Mathematics to Understand Mathematical Practice” in *ZDM – Mathematics Education*, 52(6), 2020, pp. 1087–98.

Aberdein published two book chapters last year: “Arrogance and Deep Disagreement,” pp. 39–52 in *Polarisation, Arrogance, and Dogmatism: Philosophical Perspectives*, edited by Alessandra Tanesini & Michael P. Lynch (London: Routledge, 2020); and “Intellectual Humility and Argumentation,” pp. 325–34 in *The Routledge Handbook of Philosophy of Humility*, edited by Mark Alfano, Michael P. Lynch and Alessandra Tanesini (London: Routledge, 2020).

Also, Aberdein gave a couple of online talks: “Virtue Argumentation (and The Law)” during the Virtue, Argumentation, and the Law online roundtable with the Centre for Legal Theory, Edinburgh Law School, University of Edinburgh, in January 2021; and “Straight from the Book: Erdős and the Aesthetics of Proof,” during the Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Mathematics online colloquium last December.

He also is a co-organizer of a new monthly interdisciplinary online speaker series on the ethics of argumentation. Go to [argumentethics2021.wixsite.com/argumentationethics](http://argumentethics2021.wixsite.com/argumentationethics) for more information.

**Annie Caza, Natalie Dorfeld** and **Keturah Mazo** presented in a virtual session on “Practices and Pedagogies: Celebrating Asian Studies at a Technical University” at the Asian Studies Development Program’s 28th National Conference on March 6. Caza presented “Can You Hear Me Now? A Hybrid Teaching Model in ESL Classes,” while Dorfeld discussed “Buddhism and the Environment: What is Your Responsibility?” Mazo presented “Discovering Asian Diversity through Technical Communication.” The Zoom session was hosted by **Matthew Ruane** and chaired by Dorfeld.

Mezzo-soprano **Eliza Dopira** performed famed English composer Edward Elgar’s song cycle “Sea Pictures, Op. 37” with the Space Coast Symphony Orchestra on Jan. 30.

**Natalie Dorfeld** presented “Multiple Intelligences: Keeping Students Engaged During the COVID-19 Semester,” in a virtual roundtable on March 11 during the Northeast Modern Language Association’s



52nd annual and first virtual convention. Her article, “Welcome to Adjunctville: Where Do We Go from Here?” will be published in *The CEA Forum* this spring. Dorfeld’s book chapter, “Time Management is Everything: Useful Tips for Graduate Students,” also will be published in *Reimagining the Graduate Seminar Essay in Literary Studies* this spring.

### Michael Finnegan

published “Kenny and Ernest: How Hemingway Helped Me Understand the Pain of My Late Uncle, Who Died in World War II” in the December 2020 issue of the *Phi Kappa Phi Forum*, the quarterly publication of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Finnegan also published two scholarly articles on Sherwood Anderson in the February 2021 issues of *The Midwest Quarterly* and *MidAmerica*.



**Rolanda Hatcher-Gallo** published two articles in the February 2021 issue of *Space Coast Living*: the cover story on “Trailblazers and Torchbearers: Exploring Brevard’s Black History” and “Connecting History + Community at Brevard’s Only Urban Bookstore.”

**Donald Harrell** presented “Uprooting Racism: An Evolution of Hip-Hop & Hip-Hop Nation Story” on Feb. 26 as part of the third annual Dr. John T. Washington Lectures Series sponsored by the University of Central Florida’s history department and Africana Studies Program.

Congratulations to **Jacob Ivey** for winning the Florida Historical Society’s Arthur W. Thompson Award for the best article published in the *Florida Historical Quarterly* in 2019.

The winning entry was “‘The Happiest Place on Earth?’ South Africa, Divestment, and the Anti-Apartheid Movements in Orlando, Florida in the 1980s.” Ivey also published “‘Born out of Shaka’s spear’: The Zulu Iklwa and Perceptions of Military Revolution in the Nineteenth Century,” in the *Selected Papers of the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era* and a book chapter in *Cultures of Memory in the Nineteenth Century* from Palgrave Macmillan titled “‘The Same Effort and the Same Death’: The Memory of the Langanlibalele Incident of 1873.”

Also, Ivey published three book reviews. They are on *Settlers, War, and Empire in the Press* by Sam Hutchinson for *Britain and the World*; *Njinga of Angola: Africa’s Warrior Queen* by Linda M. Heywood for H-Net and H-War Reviews; and *How History Gets Things Wrong: The Neuroscience of Our Addiction to Stories* by Alex Rosenberg for *Philosophia*. He also contributed a guest column, “Trump’s Push for ‘Patriotic Education’ Ignores the Complexity of Our National Story” for *Florida Today* and was interviewed by Sinclair Broadcast Group for a nationally syndicated

segment on Trump’s Patriotic Education Commission.

Also, Ivey presented papers at four virtual conferences over the last year: “The Zulu Iklwa and the Perception of Military Revolution in the Nineteenth Century” at the 50th Annual Conference of the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, 1750–1850, in Tallahassee, Florida; “Langanlibalele: Aid or Enemy of Empire?” at the North American Conference on British Studies-Online; “No lack of vigilance on the part of either the white constable or the native police’: Prison Escapes and the Creation of a Police Narrative in 19th Century Natal” at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association-Online; and “These men are really forest rangers’: Provisions and Belonging in the Police in the Colony of Natal” at the Southern Conference on British Studies-Online.

Lastly, Ivey recently signed a book contract for *Policing, Race, and the Formation of Nineteenth Century Colonial Natal for the Britain and the World* series with Palgrave Macmillan (anticipated publication in 2022).

### Debbie Lelekis

published “Experimenting with Poverty & Performing Benevolence: Morality and Social Reform in Stephen Crane’s New York City Sketches and Maggie, A Girl of the Streets” in *Humanities Bulletin* in November 2020. She also signed a book contract for her second book, which will focus on the works of Irvin S. Cobb.



Her chapter on Fuller Warren published in *The Governors of Florida*, a book co-edited by **Robert Taylor** and published by the University Press of Florida in 2020. She organized and presented on the panel “Girl Reporters & Breaking News” for the South Atlantic Modern Language Association conference in November 2020. Additionally, Lelekis was interviewed for a podcast on Florida writing and culture regarding her scholarship on Harriet Beecher Stowe’s impact on Florida. An article on that topic and postbellum travel literature is forthcoming in *Literature Compass*.

**Wanfa Zhang** was interviewed in December by Mark Harper, a political editor with *The Daytona Beach News-Journal*, on Florida Senators Marco Rubio and Rick Scott’s attitudes toward China and prospects of U.S.-China relations in the incoming President Joe Biden era. He also published a book review of *China’s Global Identity: Considering the Responsibilities of Great Power in China Review International*, Vol. 26, No. 2, published by the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2020.

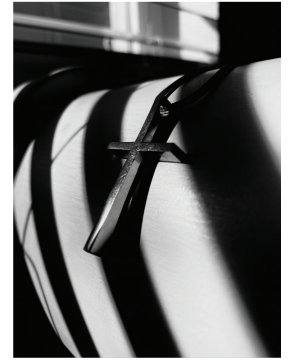
## COM2503 ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS SPEAK THROUGH PHOTOS

Christianity, nature and the relationship between a pet and its owner are highlighted in the winning photo essays presented by students in Y.J. Sohn's photography class last fall. Three students—Evan Thompson, Sydney Spicer and Rob McDonald—took first, second and third place, respectively, in the photo essay contest, each letting their cameras reveal what matters most to them.

These are some of the winning photos. Click the link to see the full essays: [drive.google.com/file/d/1CbJhnFEsRD2RWyq5BgBpu-S8n39V26ht/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CbJhnFEsRD2RWyq5BgBpu-S8n39V26ht/view?usp=sharing)

### First place: Evan Thompson's "Eternal Life"

Evan wrote, "The Project 'Eternal Life' is a story illustrated by pictures that describe what it is like to live as a follower of Jesus Christ. It incorporates many clues as to how one lives for eternal life and is a great representation of the number one priority in life. Following the lord is never easy but it is much worth it, as this project portrays."



### Second place: Sydney Spicer's "Yūgen"

Sydney wrote, "Yūgen (n.) An awareness of the universe that triggers emotional responses too deep and mysterious for words. Feeling insignificant compared to the awe-inspiring depth of nature."



### Third place: Rob McDonald's "Man's Best Friends"

Rob wrote, "This photo essay goes to show the nature of the adage: 'man's best friend.' It aims to express the personality of Libby and the relationship between her and I. She's a friend to me. I'm a friend to her. And, she's a friend to her gang of toys. I hope this brings you all a SMILE!"



## SCIENCE JOURNALISM FOCUS OF THIS YEAR'S FREE SPEECH WEEK

By Arianna Schuck, for *The Communicator*

The *Crimson's* 10th annual Free Speech Week was held Feb. 15–19 and featured two events: a Q&A session with Joe Palca, a science correspondent for National Public Radio, and a science journalism panel discussion.

Due to COVID-19, the events were held virtually over Zoom with Facebook livestreams. Each event also was recorded and posted on social media.

The week kicked off with Ted Petersen, Ph.D., director of Florida Tech's student media and faculty

adviser to *The Crimson*, distributing an email to faculty and students each day highlighting his gratitude for journalists and the events they covered throughout 2020 up until now.

During the first event, Palca, the keynote speaker, was questioned by Petersen and Sonja Michaels, *The Crimson's* editor-in-chief, on various topics ranging from how his career started to dealing with misinformation.

Palca opened up the conversation by telling everyone about his relationship with journalism. He explained that although he was getting a degree in psychology at the University of California Santa Cruz, he also wrote for the student newspaper and rose up to the sports editor position.

Palca described his college experience as the “story of the guy who doesn't know what instrument he wants to play in the orchestra, and finally, they make him the conductor and then he's finally happy.”

He told the audience about his struggle with enjoying what he was studying but not wanting to pursue a research career.

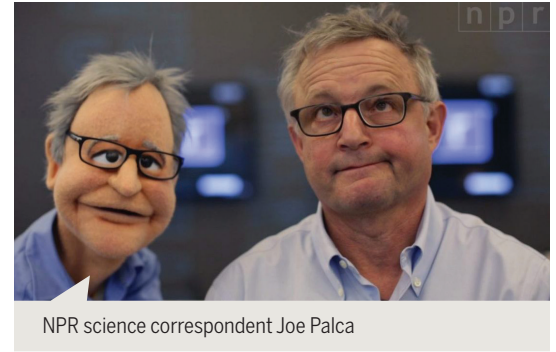
“I felt like I'd suddenly been made the conductor because I wasn't sure what science I wanted to do, but I sure liked talking about it and reporting on it... I came back to Santa Cruz, where I was doing my Ph.D., determined to become a science journalist,” Palca said.

He spoke on the start of his journalism career at a local television station for *Nature*, an international weekly science journal, which he left after three and a half years to go to *Science* magazine, where he discovered his “artistic differences” with the residing editor.

“I took a temporary job and a pay cut to come to NPR, and the job was for one year ... but it seemed like a better deal,” Palca laughed.

He later explained some of the current challenges to journalism as a career.

He said that finding work isn't the problem; it's finding a job that pays. He pointed out that this is a problem that NPR struggles with regarding their interns.



NPR science correspondent Joe Palca

“You're basically saying, ‘If you're privileged and rich, you can come work at NPR as an intern, and it's really great!’ and that doesn't exactly bring diversity, so that's a problem,” Palca said

The next challenge he discussed was the different aspects various mediums bring to a story.

He first brought up television media, giving the example of coverage of the 1986 shuttle launch when the Challenger blew up.

“When you see that picture of the rocket tailing off and the boosters falling away... words aren't necessary ... I don't have words that would adequately convey the horror and terribleness of that,” Palca said solemnly.

He then argued that in television, because images are required, there are irrelevant video clips using the example that, at some point in

*Continued on page 9*

“... I wasn't sure what science I wanted to do, but I sure liked talking about it and reporting on it.”

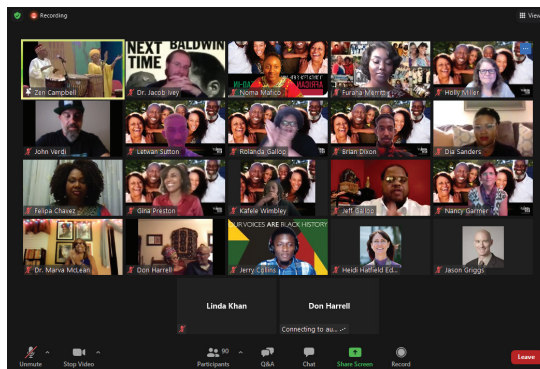
—Joe Palca

## AFRICAN AMERICAN READ-IN GOES VIRTUAL, CELEBRATES FAMILY

The sixth annual African American Read-In, a virtual event for the first time due to the COVID-19 pandemic, drew more than 90 attendees. The event, held Feb. 19, was presented by the School of Arts and Communication and Evans Library.

This year's theme was “The Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity.” Performers and participants celebrated the Black family by highlighting literary works showing the strength of familial ties over centuries, continents and hardships.

SAC faculty Jacob Ivey, Ph.D., an assistant professor of history, read an excerpt from James Baldwin's *The Fire*



*Next Time* while adjunct instructor Donald Harrell and his wife, Tutu, shared drum performances.

The event can be viewed on the library's YouTube channel at [youtu.be/0pUp-9VbaWg](https://youtu.be/0pUp-9VbaWg).

## COMMUNICATION HONOR SOCIETY WELCOMED FIVE NEW MEMBERS LAST FALL

Congratulations to five Florida Tech students recently inducted into the Upsilon Xi Chapter of the Lambda Pi Eta (LPH) National Communication Honor Society.

Inductees include John O'Brien, who also serves as the organization's current president, as well as Samantha Lerner, Brianna Forté, Alexander Polimeni and Stephan Pickrom.

With more than 450 active chapters at universities across the country, LPH recognizes outstanding scholastic achievement in communication studies.

The Upsilon Xi chapter, founded by SAC students in spring 2016, is celebrating its fifth year on campus.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS



### HANGING WITH ROB McDONALD

Hello, my name is Rob McDonald, and I am a junior multiplatform journalism major.

- 1) Born and raised in a small town in South Carolina, I am a first-generation college student with a childlike wonder for life.
- 2) Prior to attending Florida Tech, I spent 10 years in the U.S. Air Force serving as a combat medic, EMT-first responder and, later, as an enlisted medical provider functioning as a physician extender. A decorated combat veteran, I served multiple tours in the Middle East, supporting the war in Iraq and the fight against ISIS. I honorably left service in 2016.
- 3) I'm really moved by music and love a good concert. I've collected vinyl records for over a decade and built up a pretty sweet collection.
- 4) Aside from being a plant dad, I am also a doggie dad to an 11-year-old mini schnauzer named Libby.
- 5) As an athlete and yogi, I enjoy a wide range of fitness activities. I have a mean left-handed jump shot that helps me win on the basketball court. I also love spending my time in the ocean, carving up waves as a surfer. When I'm not doing either of those activities, I like to collect sneakers and hoard as many plants as possible. Lastly, as a former butcher turned vegan, I love spending time in the kitchen cooking and trying out new vegan recipes. ■



### MARTINUS WINNER IN GRAPHIC DESIGN CHALLENGE

Oceanography major Julia Martinus took the top prize in a design challenge in Y.J. Sohn's COM 2501 Intro to Visual Design class last fall. The challenge centered on creating posters reminding people to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Martinus' "Mask Up, Save Lives" poster garnered the most votes, earning her a gift card as a reward. Sohn is looking forward to hosting similar challenges in COM 2501 again this fall. ■



### PATTERSON LEADS BOTANICAL GARDEN TOUR

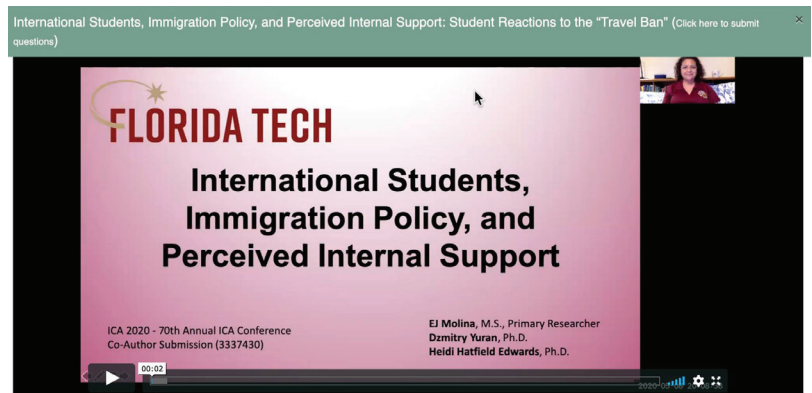
While most students were enjoying a one-day spring break, Florida Tech historian and SAC professor Gordon Patterson, Ph.D., was centerstage Feb. 8 as he led a tour through the Joy & Gordon Patterson Botanical Garden. The tour, composed mostly of faculty, lasted for about an hour. ■

### SAC ALUMNA E.J. MOLINA PRESENTED PAPER AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Elma "E.J." Molina '18, presented her paper, "International Students, Immigration Policy, and Perceived Internal Support: Student Reactions to the "Travel Ban," during the 70th Annual International Communication Association Conference held virtually last spring.

Her paper, with co-authors Dzmityr Yuran, Ph.D., and Heidi Hatfield Edwards, Ph.D., was in the Intercultural Division top paper panel at the conference.

Molina's paper was based on thesis data for her master's degree in Global Strategic Communication. She graduated from Florida Tech in spring 2018. ■



## REMEMBERING ALAN ROSIENE

*Continued from page 1*

“He loved teaching, even as he railed against the student’s lack of engagement with the texts he was so passionate about,” Ivey said. “He loved his research, which you saw with the giddiness in his demeanor when he had discovered a new source, passage or individual for this work.”

Ivey will remember Rosiene as being a truly loved colleague.

“Always willing to assist anyone when necessary. Always willing to defend the humanities and their importance in higher education. Always willing to stand up for the written word, which was so precious to him from all he read and wrote,” he said.

He called Rosiene a model for academic life because of his determination and value of focus, discipline and his approaches and methods to writing.

Science fiction was another research topic that Rosiene enjoyed very much.

Robert Taylor, Ph.D., interim dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts and head of the SAC, said he misses the conversations and debates he shared with Rosiene over the last 23 years regarding their love of science fiction, novels and films, all of which Rosiene enjoyed immensely.

One of the literature pieces that stood out the most to Rosiene was William Shakespeare’s “Hamlet.”

Rosiene’s love for learning and honing his craft as an educator during his time at Florida Tech garnered him multiple awards.

In 1998, Rosiene was awarded the Florida Tech Student Ambassadors Outstanding Faculty Award. The following year, he received the Kerry Bruce Clark Award for Excellence in Teaching for 1999–2000.

His most recent Florida Tech awards were three consecutive President’s Awards for University Excellence from 2013 to 2015.

In 2012, he was named associate head of the School of Arts and Communication.

### ‘A scholar and a gentleman’

Not only was Rosiene remembered for his excellence in teaching, but also his love of music and playing instruments.

“He played keyboards in the faculty band TWITCHY,” said Andy Stanfield, Ph.D.



“For years, I stood next to him, playing bass or rhythm guitar. Musicians have to pay close attention to each other, to be aware of the moment.”

Stanfield has been close friends with Rosiene since he joined the Florida Tech faculty in 2009. They shared many memories together, having too many stories for Stanfield to pinpoint which one stood out the most.

“We were also in meetings and on committees together, so over time, we could, with a glance, know exactly what the other was thinking. Rarely do you have that type of connection with someone you work with,” Stanfield said.

“He never wavered in his dedication to high standards and would always fight the good fight. He was a scholar, a gentleman and a wise, kind human being,” he added.

Stanfield, an assistant professor of English who also coordinates the Writers’ Den peer-to-peer tutoring program, was named the new program chair of English, ESL and Languages.

It is an emotional situation for Stanfield, taking over his friend’s position.

“Intense grief, exhaustion from the last year, a burning desire to honor Dr. Rosiene by striving for the best writing program possible and a terrible numbness knowing we will never talk again, but I am trying to bury myself in my work,” he said. “My emotions are so raw it is going to take a long time to process everything.”

Stanfield will always remember Rosiene’s mischievous eyes and witty sense of humor.

Natalie Dorfeld, Ph.D., an associate professor of English, witnessed that humor up close during

a dinner with Rosiene as she interviewed for a faculty position at Florida Tech.

As he drove her to a local restaurant, “we were chatting about the area and school, so I didn’t pay much attention to his vehicle.

“After dinner, we were standing on the sidewalk while he was reaching for his keys. I got into the nearest car and buckled my seatbelt. He tapped on the window, shyly smiled, and said, ‘Nat, that’s not my car.’”

Dorfeld felt a little embarrassed for a second, but both shared a laugh over the mishap.

Rosiene then joked, “Oh, we should totally hire you.”

Dorfeld laughed at Rosiene’s comment. He then told her that his car was a different color and a different model.

“Still four doors, though,” Rosiene quipped.

Dorfeld added, “He saw humor in awkwardness, a necessity for working in academia. My thoughts are with his daughter and wife.”

Rosiene was married to his wife, Sandra, for nine years. They have a daughter, Kate.

His family has opened a charitable donation towards establishing the Dr. Alan M. Rosiene Liberal Arts Scholarship.

Donations and pledges can be made electronically at [floridatech.edu/giving/what-to-support/more-giving-options/dr-alan-m-rosiene-scholarship](http://floridatech.edu/giving/what-to-support/more-giving-options/dr-alan-m-rosiene-scholarship) or by mail to the Office of Development, Florida Institute of Technology, Allen S. Henry Building, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901-6975. ■



## ALAN ROSIENE: A MEMORY

By JoAnn Parla-Palumbo for  
*The Communicator*

Alan Rosiene was the first person to hire me to teach ESL classes part time at Florida Tech, and I thought I'd do it for maybe two years; however, I spent the next 13 years teaching at the university.

So many memories were made within that time.

I remember an incident that really exemplifies the unwavering dedication Alan, always humble, had for teaching.

I needed to speak to Alan, so I was outside a classroom door, waiting for him to dismiss his class.

A student happened by and asked if I needed help. I replied, "No, I was just waiting for Dr. Rosiene."

He smiled and replied that he really resented having to take the required CIV class, thinking it had nothing to do with his life's goals and would only take away time from his major courses. However, he had Dr. Rosiene, and it was one of the best classes he ever had taken.

"He really made the course interesting," the student said.

"It all came to life, and I realized there was a lot more to appreciate beyond my engineering major. He was one of the best teachers I've ever had." The student then disappeared into the elevator.

Alan came out of the classroom. We went to his office and conversed about the issues I needed to discuss.

Then I said, "By the way, a student gave you unsolicited accolades." I recounted the student's comments.

Alan asked, "Really?" I replied, "Well, I'm no novelist; I could not make that up!"

The emotion showed in his eyes. He said, "Thank you for sharing that. It really means a lot to me."

As I think back to that incident, I am sure there were/are many students who felt the same way as the young man I spoke to did.

It is one thing to write a good evaluation. It is quite different when the words are sincerely spoken.

I am not sure that Alan realized the extent to which he touched students' lives. He was an amazing educator!

*JoAnn Parla-Palumbo, Ph.D., is a professor emerita at Florida Institute of Technology, having retired as assistant professor of language and linguistics in May 2020.* ■

## FREE SPEECH WEEK

*Continued from page 6*

television shows about science, the viewer will see a scientist walking down a hallway or doing some standard procedure that conveys no main message or meaning.

"That's one of the things I hated about television and love about radio. You can do without those nonsensical, time-consuming, pointless video shots and just tell the story," Palca said.

He commented that print could make it difficult to capture the raw emotion that comes with audio. He used transcribing his talk during Free Speech Week as an example.

"You don't hear the energy in my voice, you don't hear the passion, you don't hear the inflection, you don't hear me making a snide comment because in print that doesn't come across," Palca said.

"That's why I like audio so much ... you can hear people who sound sincere."

However, he added that when communicating using print, "you can be more creative in word choice and phrases."

Palca was then asked about his typical workday at NPR, to which he responded, "I haven't been to NPR since March 14" last year due to the pandemic.

"Last year, I had more stories on the air than I think I have had in a decade," Palca said.

The majority of his stories were about COVID-19, which came along with a set of challenges.

"One of the things that was getting increasingly difficult for me was this notion that people thought I was lying about stuff or making it up," Palca said.

He explained that in dealing with misinformation, it's better to ignore it than add any more fuel to the fire.

"There's a tendency to jump on things when you

should just let them die quietly," Palca said.

He then discussed taking any scientific topic—whether it be controversial or complex—and making it easy for the public to understand. He emphasized that making information accessible includes leaving some information out and focusing on what's most important while zooming out to the bigger picture.

Petersen explained the motivation behind focusing on science communication during this year's Free Speech Week mainly was to reflect on the past year's events. He added it also helped students learn more about communicating science since they go to Florida Tech, where there is research being conducted.

"In a year where science has gotten politicized and misinformation has run rampant, it's important that we've got sources like Joe Palca to help us understand what is truly happening to make good decisions," Petersen said.

According to Michaels, dealing with fake news and misinformation is more important now than ever.

"I think it directly relates to people losing their trust in the media, and I like how [Palca] said that ... the best way to address misinformation is to not address it," Michaels said.

Michaels' biggest takeaway from Palca's talk was that truthful reporting will outshine fake news at the end of the day.

A key point for Heidi Hatfield Edwards, Ph.D., the associate head of Florida Tech's School of Arts and Communication, was when Palca talked

about learning how to solve problems.

"At Florida Tech, we do try to encourage you to think about the big problems and big issues and trying to solve [them]," Edwards said.

"At Florida Tech, we do try to encourage you to think about the big problems and big issues."

—Heidi Hatfield Edwards, Ph.D.

She stressed that this will help outside of the classroom and help give more context to what's going on in the world.

"That's part of what Free Speech Week is all about ... giving that bigger context that's outside of the classroom," Edwards said.

She added she was very pleased with Palca's talk and the panel discussion because the topics that were discussed were also what's being talked about in the classroom.

One of Edwards' last points was that because these topics are being discussed in communication classes, she encourages all students, whether they are a STEM or liberal arts major, to take some of these classes.

She said that students don't have to be a journalism major to enroll in these courses and, if it's a topic they are interested in, to come and participate. ■