

BlueWave **NEWS**

October 2021



Q&A with Dr. A

You are invited to an open conversation with Dr. Avendano to talk about current College priorities and future goals and initiatives for the upcoming year. Join us in-person or virtually to share your thoughts and questions for Dr. A. The North Campus event was held on October 12.

Upcoming Events

Kent Campus, D-120, October 26 at 2:30 p.m.

Nassau Center, Nassau Room, November 1 at 2:30 p.m.

South Campus, Lakeside Room, November 2 at 2:30 p.m.

Downtown Campus, ATC T-140/141, November 4 at 2:30 p.m.

Cecil Center, Auditorium, November 8 at 2:30 p.m.

Deerwood Center, Large Academy Room, November 15 at 2:30 p.m.

Links for virtual participation have been sent to campus faculty and staff via email.



2022 Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment is your opportunity to review benefit plan options and make changes for the next plan year. It begins Monday, October 18, 2021, at 8 a.m. and ends Friday, October 29, 2021, at 5 p.m.

Employees are encouraged to carefully review the options to ensure your health insurance selections meet your needs and budget. Informational sessions and open forums are being held to get your questions answered. Free flu shots will also be offered by appointment only for employees and dependents covered by the College's medical plans, and those employees who opt out of medical insurance coverage. Click on the green button to view the dates and all the details.

[Learn More](#)



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myGradPlan Launches Soon

myGradPlan, our student success platform, will launch for students in the coming weeks. The system will allow students to build an academic degree plan, connect with classmates to form a study group, schedule appointments for tutoring and other services, and more. Students can download the app from the Apple Store or Google Play. Additional features are being added, including the ability to register for classes, just in time for Summer Term 2022.

Click on the button below to visit the myGradPlan website, where you can find helpful videos and learn more about how it will support our students throughout their academic journey.

[Learn More](#)

Fall 2021 Data Summit Recap

On September 10, faculty and staff participated in the first hybrid version of the Data Summit. More than 150 attendees, both in-person and virtually, were led through presentations and discussions centered on economic mobility, opportunities to reduce equity gaps, Career Technical Education (CTE) enrollment and earnings study and the 2021-24 Visionary Impact Plan (VIP) 2.0. Attendees also participated in interactive break-out sessions to apply the knowledge they gained and to better identify ways to close the equity gaps, strengthen CTE enrollment barriers, and use VIP 2.0 strategic priorities to further advance the College's economic mobility and equity.

Dr. Avendano kicked off the event by defining Student Success at FSCJ. Dr. Jerrett Dumouchel presented Economic Mobility specifically as it relates to our service areas. He and Leofric (LJ) Thomas reviewed the CTE Enrollment and Earnings study, Barbara Schaefer and Daniel Donaldson shared the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V) and the overall retention and placement performance for Perkins programs, and Dr. Deb Fontaine went over the VIP 2.0 Strategic Plan.

[View Presentations](#)

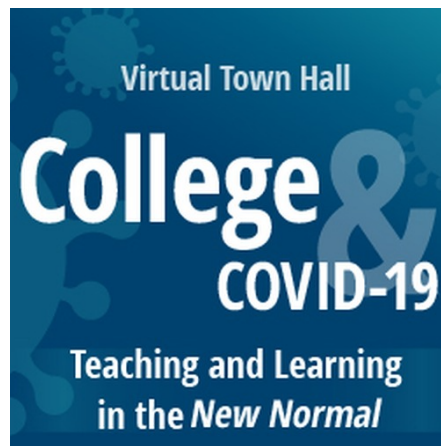
VIP and Guided Pathways Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in the development of our Visionary Impact Plan 2.0. A draft has been presented to the Board of Trustees for review and will be voted on in November. Watch for opportunities in the following weeks to join teams and participate in its implementation!

Guided Pathways had its first meeting of the academic year in September. Team leaders shared data from our Spring Term 2021 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE), some of which has been used to support the Visionary Impact Plan 2.0. Pillar Teams are beginning work on projects targeting efforts to improve student success and close equity gaps. To learn more about Guided Pathways, check out our [LibGuide](#) and click on the green button below.

[Learn More](#)



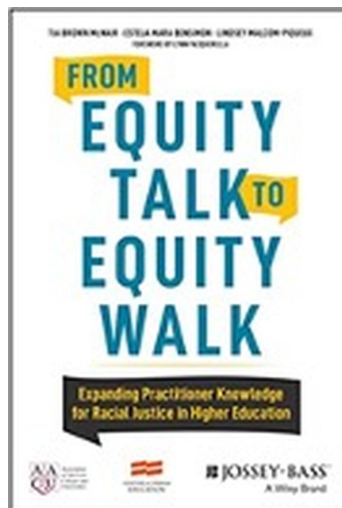


Virtual Town Hall: "College & COVID-19: Teaching and Learning in the New Normal"

Join us on Friday, October 29, from 10-11:30 a.m. as presidents, school officials and Student Government Association (SGA) presidents from local colleges and universities share insights into the new normal and post-pandemic future within higher education and beyond. All faculty, staff and community members are invited to attend and hear from the panelists as they discuss lessons learned throughout the pandemic.

This event is free and open to the public, but registration is required. WebEx details will be provided upon completed registration.

[Register Here](#)



Fall Term Reading Circle

Faculty and staff are invited to participate in the 2021 Fall Term Reading Circle. The chosen book, "From Equity Talk to Equity Walk: Expanding Practitioner Knowledge for Racial Justice in Higher Education," offers practical guidance in the design and application of campus change strategies for achieving equitable outcomes. This guide presents advice on building an equity-minded campus culture, aligning strategic priorities and institutional missions to advance equity, understanding equity-minded data analysis, developing campus strategies for making excellence inclusive, and moving from a first-generation equity educator to an equity-minded practitioner.

The Reading Circle will meet via WebEx on November 3 and December 1 from 3-4 p.m. and will culminate with a visit from Author Tia Brown McNair on January 7, 2022. Each participant will be provided with an e-copy of the book. If you would like to participate, please complete this [form](#) by October 22. WebEx details will be sent as meeting invitations to those that complete the form.

[Complete the Form](#)

FSCJ Author Series

Although in-person and virtual events are still being planned, we wanted to introduce you to the book and author we will welcome this coming March. The 2022 Author Series will focus on the book, "From Scratch: A Memoir of Love, Sicily and Finding Home" by Tembi Locke, actor, producer, advocate and bestselling author.



"From Scratch" is a poignant and transformative cross-cultural love story set against the lush backdrop of the Sicilian countryside, about how one woman discovered the healing powers of food, family and unexpected grace in her darkest hour. You might know Tembi from famous shows such as "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air," "Friends," "The Magicians" and "NCIS: LA," to name a few. She is currently producing a limited series with Netflix based on her book. To see how you can get involved or incorporate "From Scratch" into your classroom, contact Professor Boyd at Melissa.Boyd@fscj.edu.

Learn more about Tembi [here](#).

FSCJ VERC Team to Present at National Conference

Heather Campbell and Ben Cutler with the Vision Education and Rehabilitation Center (VERC) were selected as presenters for the upcoming NISOD Fall Virtual Conference, which will be held October 20-22, 2021. Their training is a condensed version of the 3-hour course that is offered to FSCJ faculty and staff, "What Do You Know About Ableism?" as supported by FSCJ's Perkins Grant program.

The NISOD course will define Ableism and describe how the oppression of people with disabilities has manifested throughout history. Participants from colleges around the nation will focus on actionable strategies they can utilize to create inclusive and universally accessible spaces, such as changing the language and labels applied to people with disabilities, evaluating representation of disabilities in pop culture, current events, and curriculum materials, unlearning restrictive/othering expectations and policies, and implementing universal design.

With the support of the Perkins Grant, a plan is being developed to also offer this training to FSCJ students, who are one of our greatest assets as ambassadors for change at the macro level. The team has already had the opportunity to present to students in the Early Childhood Education program and were very optimistic about their engagement, reception and feedback on how they may apply the things they learned.

All FSCJ faculty and staff can register at no cost for this event, simply by using your FSCJ email address. The deadline to register is October 19.

[Register Here](#)



October Recruitment Update

Our community partners have shared how important it is to start the conversation early around all of the many opportunities available to students as they explore career opportunities. To help in this career exploration, we are hosting four **Imagine Your Future** events this fall, in partnership with our FSCJ community.

These events provide an opportunity for prospective students to come and learn more about all of the programs we offer, receive assistance on their application and FAFSA, and learn about some of the support services we provide both on campus and in the community. If you know anyone who is thinking about joining the FSCJ family, encourage them to join us for any of the events!

- October 21, 2021, 6-8 p.m., Kent Campus, Bldg. C
- October 26, 2021, 6-8 p.m., South Campus, Bldg. G
- October 28, 2021, 6-8 p.m., Downtown Campus, Bldg. B
- November 18, 2021, 6-8 p.m., Nassau Center, Bldg. T

[Learn More and Register](#)

Below is a summary of September outreach efforts:

- FSCJ recruiters Nichole Harris and Lorne Richardson (pictured at right) visited the Lawtey Correctional Institution Re-Entry Center to talk to prospective students about the programs we offer.



- We connected with more than 200 prospective students through recruitment events across our service area.
- We assisted more than 1,600 students through QLess calls and walk-in appointments.

If you know anyone interested in attending FSCJ be sure to let us know!

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

Congratulations to the following certificate recipients:

Diversity at FSCJ Certificate

Administration Support Manager Janet Meigs
Professor Shawna Coram

Managing at FSCJ Certificate

Instructional Program Manager Dr. Linka Crosby

Get Fit Trails and Walktober Fest

FSCJ's Employee Wellness team and the Athletics departments are teaming up to promote health throughout the College. Join your fellow faculty, staff and students for a walk on the new FSCJ Get Fit Trails.

Walktober Fest Kickoffs will be held at each location:



October 25, 11:30 a.m.: Downtown Campus – Building A
October 26, 11:30 a.m.: Kent Campus – Building G
October 27, 11:30 a.m.: Deerwood Center – Building G
October 28, 11:30 a.m.: South Campus – Building Q
October 29, 11:30 a.m.: Nassau Center – Building AB and North Campus – Building D

Following the kickoff, we encourage you to use the trails when you can to help get those extra steps in! Walk with a buddy during lunch, create a team challenge in your department or end your workday with a workout. To download a copy of the trail maps, click [here](#).

[View Maps](#)

Get to Know Your A&P Colleagues: Heather Carter

October's Administrative & Professional Collaborative (APC) spotlight shines on Director of Program Development for the Northeast Florida Jobs Initiative Heather H. Carter. Her life's work centers on supporting students who desire to enter higher education and help to provide the tools they need to successfully fulfill their goals.

[Learn More](#)



First Coast Flyer at Kent Campus

On September 27, JTA hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the First Coast Flyer Orange Line located at FSCJ Kent Campus. The new line will connect customers to jobs, businesses and attractions in and around Five Points, Kent Campus and the Orange Park Mall.

[Learn More](#)

In the News

FSCJ's faculty, staff, students, programs and leadership are often highlighted by local and regional media outlets - online, on air and in print. Read articles featuring important updates and activities happening within the College by clicking [here](#).

FSCJ In Action



In partnership with Feeding Northeast Florida, FSCJ students and staff recently helped distribute fresh food at South Campus. Food donations were also collected for the FSCJ H.O.P.E. Food Pantry.

At the recent Florida College System Council of President's meeting, Dr. Avendano had the opportunity to meet and speak with Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives Chris Sprowls.



Upcoming Events



SECOND ANNUAL
CELEBRATION OF CULTURE
PHOTO CONTEST

SEPTEMBER 7-
OCTOBER 25



SPRING TERM REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN

Register through myFSCJ. To view class schedules,
visit fscj.edu/schedules

ΦΘΚ

UPSILON ETA CHAPTER

INDUCTION CEREMONY
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2021 · 6 P.M.

[View Upcoming Events](#)

BlueWave News Quiz

Test your knowledge. To ensure all faculty and staff have an opportunity to submit answers, the quiz winners will be selected at random from entries with all questions answered correctly. You have until 6 p.m. on the day the newsletter is distributed to email your answers to bluewavenews@fscj.edu. The three winners will receive a BlueWave prize pack! **Please note:** Previous quiz winners, while eligible to submit answers, are not eligible for additional prizes for six months.

- 1) Where is JTA's newest First Coast Flyer located?
 - a. South Campus
 - b. Downtown Campus
 - c. North Campus
 - d. Kent Campus
- 2) When is the Cecil Center Q&A with Dr. A event?
 - a. November 4
 - b. October 26
 - c. November 8
 - d. November 15
- 3) What is the deadline to register for the NISOD Conference?
 - a. October 19
 - b. October 20
 - c. October 21
 - d. October 22
- 4) How many Imagine Your Future events are being held this fall?
 - a. 2
 - b. 3
 - c. 4
 - d. 6
- 5) What is the name of the featured author for this year's Author Series?
 - a. Tia Brown
 - b. From Scratch
 - c. From Equity Talk to Equity Walk
 - d. Tembi Locke



Connect with us!