



DATE: June 14, 2023
TO: District Board of Trustees
FROM: Michael McPherson Ed.D., Vice President Academic Affairs
DEPARTMENT: Academic Affairs
SUBJECT: Division Report – Michael McPherson Ed.D.

Marine Science and Technology Division

Marine Resource Management

At the Spring 2023 commencement ceremony, 19 students received bachelor's degrees in Marine Resource Management. This was the second graduating class of the MRM program. Several of these graduates have already accepted positions in local marine science-related positions, while others have been accepted into or are actively pursuing graduate degrees.



During the last week of the spring semester, MRM seniors participated in a capstone poster session in the CFK Library. The students interacted with attendees and discussed their capstone experiences as part of the MRM program of study. The posters are now on display in the "D" Building on the Key West campus.

Diving Business and Technology

Professor Rice recently completed a PEQ 1136C Instructor Development Course. The course resulted in nine new Professional Association of Diving Instructor (PADI) Open Water Scuba Instructors and Divers Alert Network (DAN) Instructors for first aid, CPR, and oxygen administration courses. Seven of the new instructors are Diving Business and Technology students. The other two students were from local dive centers, Southpoint Divers and Captain's Corner.

Arts and Hospitality Division

Dr. Vazquez attended the E-Merge America's Project Conference in Miami. The focus of the conference was on Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, and local efforts for Miami-Dade to emerge as a leader in global entrepreneurship.

Dr. Medyk's SLS Career Exploration class participated in a Scavenger Hunt boat trip.



Students from the SLS classes visited the Key West Botanical Gardens on Thursday, June 15th.

Dr. Medyk attended the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) in Kansas City and will be attending the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities (FCSUA) from July 10-12 in Orlando. This is a strategic planning meeting for the Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program (FPCTP) grant. It was a pleasant surprise to see the landing page of FCSUA feature a graduation photo (below) from the College of the Florida Keys.



The Beginning Poetry Writing class held the 15th annual CFK Open Mic on Thursday, April 13th, 2023. Dr. Weekley's students decided on the theme, "The Mortality of Creation," and organized the event to celebrate National Poetry Month. The turnout was terrific, with representation from departments across campus as well as community members.

The Creative Writing Club premiered its second volume of the annual CFK creative writing journal, *Ebb/Flow*. Students' poems and stories were published in the journal, which is the club's annual fundraiser. In addition, artwork from students in the underwater photography course, taught by Ms. Rice, was published in the journal as well as on the cover. The club also worked on an interactive haiku wall as part of National Poetry Month. The forms for the haikus were available online so that submissions came from across the Keys.

Dr. Weekley's recent book, *The Way a Wound Becomes a Scar*, was selected as a finalist for the 2023 Eric Hoffer Book Award and a review of the book and three of her poems appeared in the recent issue of *The Lincoln Review*, the literary review of the University of Lincoln. Her poem "In the World" was published in the Summer 2023 issue of *Kenyon Review*, a literary journal published by Kenyon College.

The winners of the 4th annual CFK Elizabeth Bishop Poetry Contest were announced at the annual student awards banquet. Congratulations to the first-place winner, Catalin Olortegui, and the second-place winner, Quinn Dumas.

Science & Nursing Division

Nursing

Within one month of graduation, 11 of the 31 Spring 2023 ASN graduates received their Registered Nurse licenses. Candidates have up to a year upon graduation to attain their license.

There is a record number of nursing applicants this semester with 155 applicants. Interviews are in progress for what is sure to be a fantastic group of new students.

In May, the entire Nursing Faculty attended a Continuing Education workshop hosted by the Assessment Technologies Institute for the development of simulation clinical techniques and curriculum. The agenda included integrating NCLEX Next-Generation topics into all nursing core courses through simulation education and current practices for technology use in nursing education.

On June 14th, 2023, Dr. Deborah Townsend was surprised by her nursing students with cake and cookies to celebrate her nine years of teaching at CFK.



Institute for Public Safety

The Institute for Public Safety received a perfect audit from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) for the 2021/2022 fiscal year at the May 2023 Training Center Director's Association (TCDA) quarterly meeting.

The part-time/night-time Basic Law Enforcement Academy #86 began May 22, 2023. Fourteen cadets are attending the academy at the Upper Keys Center.

At the Key West campus, a full-time sponsored Basic Law Enforcement Academy #86 began June 20, 2023, with 16 recruits accepted into the academy. Key West Police Department sponsored eight cadets and Monroe County Sheriff's Office sponsored seven cadets. A full-time Monroe County Sheriff's Office-sponsored Correctional Officer Academy #60 also began June 20, 2023.