



ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY & STAFF

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARFS Upcoming Events Summer 2025

BBQ June 3, 2025 11:00am – 2:00pm
FSU Lakefront Park (the “Rez”)

ARFS Tour September 11th
Dedman College of Hospitality

ARFS Tour October 8th
Fallon Theatre

Fall Luncheon TBA October 11:00am – 1:30pm
Turnbull Center

Holiday Party TBA December 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Heritage Museum in Dodd Hall

Check the ARFS website (<https://retiredfaculty.fsu.edu/>) and the Fall 2025 issue of the *Retiree Journal* for updated information regarding dates and locations for these events.

FSU

ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FACULTY & STAFF

OFFICE OF FACULTY DEVELOPMENT
& ADVANCEMENT

Join ARFS!

6/1/25 – 5/31/26 \$10 per

person or

\$15 per Household

Make checks payable to ARF and mail to:

Jeff Owens, ARFS Treasurer, 1161

Walden Road, Tallahassee, FL 32317

PLEASE: Include your name, address,
email, and phone number

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS to the next issue of *ARFS Retiree Journal*

ARFS members are a vibrant and active group of people who have led successful lives and careers. Why not share with others the things that continue to interest and motivate you.

Do you have a story to tell that might be of interest to our members? (See, for example,

Paula Moyer Jones’s discussion of the Coco Chanel exhibit in London in the October 2024 issue, posted at <https://retiredfaculty.fsu.edu/>.)

If so, send it to Michael Launer at mllauner@fsu.edu for possible inclusion in the next issue of the *Retiree Journal*!

Manuscripts up to ~1500 words in length are certain to be read by others with alacrity. If you have photographs (JPGs, please) to accompany your story – so much the better.

DEADLINE for inclusion in the August/September issue of the *Retiree Journal* is JULY 25.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS to the next issue of *ARFS News & Notes*

Have you published an article? Written a book? Taken an interesting trip? Volunteered for a good cause? Done something else of interest? How do you spend your free time?

Whatever fascinates you will be of interest to other ARFS members.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Send a brief write-up (~300 words) to Michael Launer, chair of the Publications Committee, at mllauner@fsu.edu.

DEADLINE for inclusion in the November 2025 issue of *News & Notes* is OCTOBER 31.



REMARKS

President Patricia Martin

(pmartin@fsu.edu)

With the assistance of ARFS Board members and many others, we have had a successful year. President-elect Carol Weissert, Secretary/Photographer Jill Adams, and Treasurer Jeff Owens, along with former President Carol Darling, gave unstintingly of their time and talents on our behalf. We also benefitted again from the generosity of University Relations and the efforts of Jimmy Cole, Kevin Olsen, Jake Aboulhossn, and Max Dou. Their continued support allows us to thrive.

Carol Darling led us in a review of our Bylaws and officers' duties and provided us with guidance for moving forward. Michael Launer & Publications Committee members Anne Rowe and Nick Mazza produced informative and fun issues of our *News & Notes* electronic newsletters and the annual *Retiree Journal*, which is printed and mailed to everybody in the August/September time frame. Larry Gerber and Jill Adams planned a trip for us and, we hope, will plan another for the coming year. Betty Serow and Carol DeLoach organized two illuminating campus visits—one to the Nursing Simulation Lab and one to the FSU Innovation Hub. We look forward to more such tours in the coming year (one is already planned for the Fallon Theater in the Fall). Carol Weissert has set her cap to attract new members and to encourage more on-campus visits, and she is having some success with membership! Please note: When events are held on campus during the school year, University Relations reserves parking spaces so ARFS members can attend!

Some people have urged me to find ways to involve more people than just our Board members in planning and implementing ARFS events and projects. Another suggestion was to encourage faster Board turnover. I would love to broaden the participation of our members! If you have thoughts on this issue, please tell me and I'll follow up (pmartin@fsu.edu).

In closing, I again thank all who made the past year a success, and I thank those who, already hard at work, will make next year even better. I am proud to be a part of Florida State University through our organization: the Association of Retired Faculty and Staff.

President-elect Carol Weissert

(cweissert@fsu.edu)

Happy beginning of summer to all ARFS members. We've had a busy spring and hope to see you at our final ARFS event of the academic year—the June 3rd barbeque at FSU's Lakefront Park. This is always a highlight of our year, and this session will include terrific student speakers, as well as wonderful food and conversation. Please reserve your spot by sending \$15 per person to Jeff Owens, 1161 Walden Road, Tallahassee 32317.

Our two Spring events were very well attended and extremely informative. At our March 11 spring luncheon, Jorge Piekarewicz shared with us "The Beauty of Neutron Stars" in a way that was both relatable and timely. The questions from the audience were on-point and made a wonderful presentation even better. On April 16, fourteen members toured the Innovation Hub on campus and heard both the history and projected future projects of this popular resource for students, current faculty, and retired faculty and staff.

Next year we hope to offer two campus tours each semester beginning with the FSU Theatre in October. Also on tap for next year is the popular January off-campus bus trip to interesting places nearby. The best way to keep up with ARFS events is by visiting our website: <https://retiredfaculty.fsu.edu/>.

Thanks to all of you for your participation in ARFS. Please let me know if you have suggestions for campus tours, trips, or programs. We will be working on the schedule over the summer.

I hope to see you on June 3rd at the barbeque.



In Memoriam: Remembering Myles Hollander

DE WITT SUMNERS

ROBERT O. LAWTON DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS

My good friend Myles Hollander passed away on January 27, 2025. Myles was at FSU from 1965 until his retirement in 2007. He was named Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor in 1999. Myles is greatly missed, and I would like to share a few memories recounted by his many friends at FSU.

Myles was a world class statistician, a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA), the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the International Statistical Institute. He was theory and methods editor of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* from 1993 to 1996, and he received ASA's Senior Gottfried Noether award for excellence in nonparametric statistics in 2003. Myles climbed to the top of the academic mountain, but his life was a lot more than academics.

Myles was a Brooklyn Dodgers fan, spending many afternoons at Ebbets Field as a young man. His love of baseball became a metaphor for how he lived his life. His son Bart Hollander reflected, "He taught me that love of family crosses home plate first, while everything else sits in the dugout."

Joe Travis remembered, "Myles played a significant role in the late Dick Howser's studies at FSU. Some of you may know that Howser was FSU baseball coach before Mike Martin and went on to success in managing the Yankees and Kansas City Royals. Howser was a Master's student in sports management (I think) but, in any case, as Myles told it, did a thesis on base running: turning angles and when to accelerate and decelerate. Myles, a great baseball fan, helped him analyze the data. In return, Myles had a mitt signed by Howser and perhaps some others (I don't recall). Myles and I shared many conversations about going to spring training games in south Florida and the prospects of his beloved Dodgers."

David Kirby observed "Myles was a true polymath—one of those Renaissance people who know a lot about everything. History, physics, baseball, ballroom dancing, you name a topic, and Myles would take you up on it."

The great love of Myles Hollander's life was his late wife Glee Ross Hollander. Richard Wagner remembered, "Miles will be reunited with his beloved Glee, and there will be dancing. When Miles was growing up, maybe in Brooklyn but that part I am not sure about, his mother insisted that he learn to dance. That was part of a young man coming of age for his generation. Later when he was at Stanford, he went on a double-date. Glee was on the date but not with him. When some music started, Miles asked his date if she would like to dance, but she didn't know how and declined. Glee's partner didn't know how to dance either. So Miles asked Glee to dance, and they did a cha-cha. Eventually they became a pair and were married. When Glee passed away unexpectedly a number of years ago, she was buried in the cemetery on Timberlane Rd. The inscription Miles had put on her marker was "It all started with a cha-cha..."

My wife Neddy and I met Myles and Glee when we came to FSU in 1967. Our family went with the Hollander family to FSU football games, with free faculty seats in the wooden bleachers in the north end zone. This was before Bobby Bowden days, and the Noles were not very good, but we were solid fans! Our main worry was keeping our kids from falling out of the wide-open bleachers! We also remember a gigantic St Bernard "Rufus" that Myles and Glee had—Rufus was a gentle giant, but when chasing a cat across the road he was a terror.

Myles was very competitive in all things. I played tennis with Myles in the early days and usually lost—that Jimmy Connors stainless steel racquet did the job for him! Myles and I had a competition for ZINGs in the Tallahassee Democrat and would send text messages to each other on the rare days we actually got one in press! Myles also sent in New Yorker cartoon captions, and a few times got one as a finalist in the magazine to be voted on by readers.

When Glee died suddenly and unexpectedly in 2015, Myles was devastated and never really got over her death. In the early '90s, a number of friends of long standing (Glee Hollander, Mary Beth Brewer, Myrtie Mott, Jenny Bryant, Judy Goldman, Neddy Sumners) formed a dinner/lunch bunch called the "Glee Club." No singing, but lots of conversation! Later, some of the husbands of these ladies (Myles Hollander, Ken Brewer, Joe Mott, John Bryant and I) formed the "Glee Club Auxiliary," also a lunch/conversation bunch. Both the Glee Club and the Auxiliary met monthly for years and are still meeting today (unfortunately without Glee and Ken and Myles). Lunch with good friends is something to treasure, and probing conversations with Myles will be truly missed.



Retiree Activities

VISITING THE GADSDEN MUSEUM AND ART CENTER PAT MARTIN

I recently visited the Gadsden Museum and Art Center in Quincy, where two ARFS members – Jill Quadagno and Board member Lisa Waxman – have paintings on display in the 2025 Artists Guild exhibition, which runs through June 7th.

Although small, this museum is among about only 3% of the nation's museums that are nationally accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, confirming its adherence to Best Practices for all U.S. museums. As a regional museum, Gadsden Arts fulfills unique needs for our area: hosting major travelling art exhibitions with important historical and cultural content and providing year-round art opportunities for children and youth programs, free of charge.

The museum offers diverse services for more than 350 of our region's artists, with the Fletcher Museum Shop, Gadsden Arts Artists Guild, and multiple exhibition spaces. It hosts 12 local/regional shows each year. Other current exhibits include Impressionist Women (with local artist Natalia Andreeva) and works by Primitive Artists including Mary Proctor, among others.

Located at 13 North Madison Street in Quincy, the Gadsden Museum and Art Center is open Tuesdays > Saturdays from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

Phone: 850-875-4866

Website: <https://gadsdenarts.org/>

SPOILER ALERT:
COMING IN THE *RETIREE JOURNAL* IN THE FALL –
A FEATURE ON JILL AND LISA,
WITH PHOTOGRAPHS OF THEIR EXHIBITION PAINTINGS

Retiree Activities

STROZIER LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES

On March 4th ARFS members Marilyn Young and Michael Launer delivered a presentation for the Strozier Library Lecture Series entitled “The Role of Putin’s Discourse in the War in Ukraine.” The talk highlighted their forthcoming study, written with David Cratis Williams from Florida Atlantic University,

The Rhetorical Rise and Demise of “Democracy” in Russian Political Discourse – Volume Four: The Demise of “Democracy” after Putin’s Return to Power

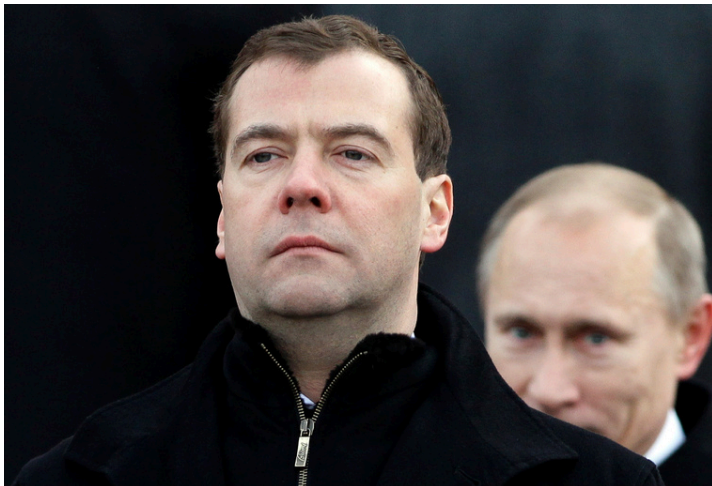
to be published later this year by Academic Studies Press in Newton, Massachusetts.

The book provides a rhetorical analysis of various speeches, interviews, and other public statements by Vladimir Putin since 2012, when he returned to the presidency in Russia for a third term. It demonstrates how Putin redefined terms such as “democracy” and “the rule of law” while promoting a transnational concept the authors call “Russia-of-a-Thousand-Years” to legitimize the annexation of Crimea in 2014, military support for the insurgency in eastern Ukraine (the Donbas region), and – ultimately – the full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

The presentation was supported by Provost Jim Clark, retiring Dean of University Libraries Gale Etschmaier, and Michelle Kazmer, Dean of the College of Communication and Information.

Marilyn and Michael made a similar presentation last year upon publication of the preceding Volume Three in their series.

Photo Credits: Associated Press





More Than a Medical Report

“He Won’t Open His Eyes” A Heartwarming Story from Kenneth Brummel-Smith

Sitting at my desk. Looking out the window at the oak trees in the yard around our clinic building. The phone rang.

“Hello, this is Dr. Brummel-Smith.”

“Are you the geriatrician at Glendale Adventist?” the woman’s voice said. This is a weird way to start the conversation, I thought.

“Yes, that’s correct,” I said.

“We’d like you to take over care of our father who’s in the hospital,” she said. The weirdness continues...

I had never had a call like this. But I was intrigued. “Can you tell me more about what’s going on?”

“Well, Dad has had a very severe stroke. He can’t talk or move his right side. The doctor just wants to send him to a nursing home, but we think he can get better and needs more time. We need someone who knows more about geriatric patients, so we’re calling you to see if you’d be his doctor.”

I had seen situations like this, although never had I been approached this way. I was leery. So many possibilities – from poor communication skills of a doctor to unreasonable expectations of a family in distress. This could be a minefield. The woman went on to describe how serious his stroke was, how he was very depressed, and how he couldn’t participate in rehabilitation, so they wanted to send him to a nursing home. She said they would never let him go to a nursing home.

I decided to go see him. These kinds of cases always intrigued me. I strongly believed in the concept of letting the patient decide what’s best, but here was someone who couldn’t talk. What was the right thing to do? When I got to the hospital, I started by reading the chart. Neurology reports a massive left hemisphere stroke – half of the brain. He was unable to speak, unable to move the whole right side of his body. The prognosis was grim. The physical therapy notes say he never opens his eyes or appears responsive when they see him. So, they are resigned to doing passive “range of motion” exercises. Interestingly, the nursing notes say that the wife reports that he opens his eyes when they are alone together and reaches his left arm out towards her. But they’ve never seen it. The psychiatry consult says he appears depressed but has not responded to any antidepressant drugs. They are considering electroconvulsive therapy.

I wanted to see the CAT scan myself, so I went down to the radiology suite and had them pull the films. The radiologist flips the large black plastic sheet up on the view box. My god, the left side of his brain is black - gone! I asked the radiologist if he’s ever seen someone with a stroke this large survive. He hadn’t – and neither had I.

I am perplexed. He should be dead but he’s not. But if he’s strong enough to survive this, why is he completely withdrawn? I decided to take this case and called the daughter.

Then I went into his room to meet him. I sat down on his left side so I could hold the hand that still presumably could feel. No response. I decided to take a chance. “Mr. Collins, I’m Dr. Brummel-Smith. Your family wants me to take over your care, and I have agreed. But I don’t understand something that I think we should talk about first. Maybe nobody has explained your situation to you. You’ve had a huge stroke. I have never seen anyone live through a stroke this big. You must have a great will to live. But everybody says you never open your eyes when they are trying to help you. So maybe you don’t want to live. Or maybe you just haven’t made up your mind yet.”

“So, I think tonight’s a good time to make up your mind. It’s unlikely you’ll ever be able to speak or move on your own again. But people can learn to live with a stroke and have a meaningful life, especially with the support of a loving family like yours. I think you should decide tonight. If you don’t want to live with a stroke, you can go ahead and die tonight. But if you want to try to find a new life with your family, then we can help. I can guarantee you will go home if you make that decision. So, go ahead, and make up your mind. I’ll check back on you in the morning to see if you’re still here.” I gulped – and left.

The next morning, I came in and looked at the chart. The psychiatrist’s note said, “Patient opens his eyes. Antidepressants finally working.”

ARFS Campus Tours

ARFS Members Visit the College of Nursing Simulation Lab Betty Serow

On February 26, six ARFS members joined Kimi Wilcoxon, Director of Communications at the College of Nursing for a visit to the College's simulation lab – the Sim Lab. It was a fascinating experience giving us great insight into modern nursing education.

Steve Walden and Amanda Baxley, who manage simulation experiences for students, introduced us to “mannequins” that are programmable to exhibit all kinds of hospital and home-based situations – from a newly diagnosed diabetic man who is homeless, to a dementia patient unable to manage her own meds, and a patient who dies during treatment. We also had a chance to watch a pediatric simulation in progress thanks to remote video. No “babies” were being born that day, so we didn't get to observe the simulation dealing with birth and newborn care.

Nursing students also learn to interact with “family members” accompanying “patients” in order to help them prepare for patient care post-discharge. The Sim Lab helps ensure that students are exposed to a wide variety of real-life situations and that they learn specific skills before moving to clinical settings, where a much narrower range of problems are typically encountered.

Innovations such as the Sim Lab, a Master's degree program in AI Applications in Health Care, hosting the nation's first nursing-college-based, nurse-practitioner-led lifestyle medicine clinic, and the College's commitment to expand the number of nurses it can educate explain why the FSU College of Nursing has recently been named the Number One public nursing education program in the country.

The college now enrolls BSN students three times a year, with cohorts exceeding 150 students, which is a significant increase from previous annual enrollments and is designed to help address the nation's critical nursing shortage.

It was a real treat to be invited to share this experience.

Photo Credits: Betty Serow



ARFS Campus Tours

ARFS Members Visit the FSU Innovation Hub Jill Adams, Carol Weissert, Pat Martin, Tom Hart

The April 16 ARFS visit to the FSU Innovation Hub was nothing short of terrific. Fourteen ARFS members heard from Ken Baldauf, Hub Director, and Paul Marty, FSU Associate Vice Provost for Academic Innovation, on the history and future of the Hub, which provides a collaborative workspace for students and faculty across disciplines. Many individuals from the FSU community were present as we observed activities involving the facility's digital design, 3-D printing, and robotics tools, which are used to create innovative practices to address a broad range of issues. Tackling problems regarding local homelessness or designing the perfect backpack requires enthusiasm and thinking "outside the box" – both of which are evident from even a short visit.

Ken spent an hour with us explaining the functions of the Hub, its technology and space usage. He credited former Provost Sally McRorie, who enthusiastically supported his idea, for the creation of the facility. The Hub is located on campus in the Shores Building, which houses the School of Information – a unit within the College of Communication and Information. Tom Hart was instrumental in the original design of the Shores Building in the 1970s. Local architects Lewis & Whitlock provided the design and supervised construction of the Hub, which was completed in 2018 at a cost of nearly \$1.5 million. For more information, visit: <https://www.think3d.net/work/fsu-innovation-hub>.

ARFS members were able to ask questions about AI issues that FSU and other institutions are facing. Paul explained that his primary task is to keep us moving forward in this regard. He said that it is a challenge to teach students – who come to college "to make A's and get the 'right answer'" – that it is all right to fail and that there is not always only one way to achieve a particular outcome. In fact, it is usually true that progress cannot be made without initial failure.

If you weren't able to attend, you might want to consider dropping by on Wednesdays at 9am for weekly faculty workshops. Everyone is invited! The day we attended there was a presentation on the use of AI in research. You might even be interested in volunteering your time at the Hub. More information can be found on their website: <https://www.innovation.fsu.edu/>.

Photo Credits: Jill Adams & Carol Weissert





Student Support

Fellows Society

The Fellows Society was established by Dean Nancy Marcus in 2007 to create opportunities for interdisciplinary networking and learning among outstanding graduate students. Marcus, an oceanographer who died in 2018, served as Dean of the Graduate School for 12 years. Prior to that, she had been the Director of the FSU Coastal and Marine Laboratory. The mission of the society is to develop leadership skills, promote interdisciplinary research, and encourage community service among fellowship recipients. The Fellows Society does not provide direct funding to students, but generous grants from the Graduate School support research opportunities that would not otherwise be available to them. Contributions to the Fellows Society Fund may be made through the FSU Foundation Giving Page at Give.fsu.edu. The Fund number is F07506.

Sliger Award

The Bernard F. & Greta Sliger Presidential Scholarship Fund is an endowed fund that was established in 1989 in order to “provide financial support for outstanding and gifted students attending Florida State University.” Many individuals, including ARFS members and former president John Thrasher, have contributed to the endowment. Proceeds from the account support Presidential Scholars, enabling recipients to participate in activities beyond the classroom throughout their undergraduate years. Contributions may be made through the FSU Foundation Giving Page at Give.fsu.edu. The Fund number is F06722. An undergraduate speaker at a recent ARFS barbecue expressed thanks to the Sliger Fund for allowing him to attend a national meteorological conference where he met the head of NOAA and several hurricane experts.

Southern Scholarship

The Southern Scholarship Fund helps needy students – particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds and those who have experienced homelessness or food insecurity – attend Florida State. ARFS members have supported this worthy cause for many years. Contributions may be made through the FSU Foundation Giving Page at Give.fsu.edu. The Fund number is F06147.



Student Support

Student Support – Student Emergency Funds

Florida State University has created funding opportunities within the FSU Foundation to support students facing emergency situations. These include a Food Pantry and a special fund for those students who were impacted by the recent shooting at the Oglesby Union.

The Student Emergency Food Pantry helps FSU students experiencing food insecurity. Contributions can be made through the FSU Foundation Giving Page at [Give.fsu.edu](https://give.fsu.edu). The Fund number is F08184. Gifts can also be made by check made payable to the FSU Foundation; checks should reference the fund number.

ARFS members may also support the FSU Food for Thought Pantry by purchasing items on its [Amazon Wish List](#). All items purchased in this manner are shipped directly to the Food Pantry.

The Student Emergency Fund under the auspices of the Division of Student Affairs is specifically focused on providing support in the wake of the tragedy on campus. Contributions can be made through the FSU Foundation Giving Page at [Give.fsu.edu](https://give.fsu.edu). The Fund number is F08909. Gifts can be made online using a credit card, debit card or PayPal on the [Student Emergency Fund page](#), which links directly to the Foundation website.

More information on available resources, including counseling services, FSU's Victim Advocate Program, and the Student Emergency Fund, is online at response.fsu.edu.



ARFS MEMBERSHIP FORM

ARFS DUES PURCHASE

Use this form to pay dues and/or purchase tickets for the BBQ and/or Luncheons.

ARFS Dues: \$10 per person/\$15 per household

Luncheons: \$25 per person

BBQ: \$15 per person

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Telephone _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Make checks payable to "ARF" [not "ARFS"]. Send this form and your payment to:

Jeff Owens / 1161 Walden Road / Tallahassee, FL 32317

**NEW RETIREES HAVE FREE MEMBERSHIP
for one year!**