



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

AUGUST 2019

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WELCOME TO THE 2019-2020 ACADEMIC YEAR!

The new academic year has arrived and we foresee a very successful year of growth and advancement ahead of us. Over the past few years, our strategic plan guided us to construct a launching pad that will effectively prepare the College to meet the demands of the future. We observed; we listened; we learned, and now we are ready to SOAR.



Our College, as documented by EMSI in their recent impact report, makes a significant regional economic impact of more than \$326 million annually. To ensure this continued impact and our relevancy in the community, the College will focus on the following priorities during this new year. These priorities will give Northwest Florida the wings necessary to take flight and SOAR!

(continued on next page)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES BUDGET NO INCREASE IN TUITION AND FEES

In a unanimous decision, the Northwest Florida State College's Board of Trustees voted to approve the College's budget for the 2019-2020 academic year with no increases to tuition or fees. This will be the sixth consecutive year the Board of Trustees has held tuition flat for students.

"Northwest Florida State College remains committed to being the first choice for accessible, affordable and relevant higher education," said Brian Pennington, chairman, NWFSC Board of Trustees. "On behalf of the College's Board of Trustees, we will continue to make every effort to remove financial barriers so we can be an open door for anyone who wants to improve their lives through higher education."

The College is also focused on decreasing general education textbook costs for students. The average cost of a new general education textbook decreased from \$87.03 in Spring 2018 to \$79.29 in Spring 2019. To ensure consistency in instruction and reduce costs to students with bulk pricing, the College requires all sections of a general education course to utilize the same textbook. Exceptions are only granted for pilot projects or student benefit. One hundred percent of general education textbooks and instructional materials remained and will remain in use for more than one term.

"We want to provide the absolute best educational experience for our students," said Dr. Devin Stephenson, president. "Students can attend Northwest Florida State College and learn from our world-class faculty and experience the best in academic and student development services. We are proud to positively impact our region by providing affordable and high-quality education to improve the quality of life and quality of place in Northwest Florida."



STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 1, 2 and 3



TAKEFLIGHT

with

NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE



(Welcome, continued)

STRATEGIC

- Working to provide a trained workforce for the next generation and ensure our community's economic future.
- Aiming our efforts toward exemplary student services to improve completion and persistence.

ON-TARGET

- Launching and maintaining relevant, high-quality academic programming to meet this region's needs.
- Focusing on outcomes in a continuous improvement environment:



ACCOUNTABLE

- Committing to a culture of High Expectations – Effective, Efficient and Entrepreneurial.
- Transforming our campus/centers into state-of-the-art learning centers.

REACHING

- Stretching beyond limitations to a place of innovation, influence and best practices.
- Operating in a continuous state of situational awareness and environmental scanning.

Building on our momentum from the past few years, the time has arrived where we will see our foundational work produce outstanding results and success. I look forward to our journey together in 2019-2020; it's time to Take Flight and SOAR!

Dr. Devin Stephenson
President
#TheBestisOurStandard

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

2019 SKILLSUSA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP & SKILLS CONFERENCE



Photo: (front row, left to right) Gabrielle Jackson, Samuel McClead, Lena Webb and (back row) Rachel Williams

Multiple Northwest Florida State College students competed at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Kentucky on June 26. Gabrielle Jackson participated in the Computer Programming division of the competition. Samuel McClead and Rachel Williams earned bronze in the audio/radio production competition. Lena Webb earned silver in early childhood education competition. Congratulations!

STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 2, 3 and 4



ATHLETICS WELCOMES NEW COACHES



Joseph "Butch" Pierre (left), an NCAA Division I veteran assistant coach, has been named the next head men's basketball coach at Northwest Florida State College and Andy Lee (right), a six-time national champion and three-time national coach of the year, has been named the next NWFSC head softball coach. Welcome to #RaiderNation!

STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 5 and 6





Photo (left to right): President Dr. Devin Stephenson and USA President Dr. Tony Waldrop signing the Pathway USA partnership agreement.

STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 2, 3 and 4



NWFSC PARTNERS WITH UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Northwest Florida State College is proud to announce it has partnered with the University of South Alabama's Pathway USA program that streamlines the transfer process for students who earn their associate's degree.

"Our partnership with the University of South Alabama greatly benefits students by expanding postsecondary degree opportunities," said Dr. Devin Stephenson, Northwest Florida State College president. "The Pathway USA Agreement not only creates a seamless transfer opportunity, it includes wrap-around support services such as advising to assist with a successful transition. We are looking forward to growing enrollment through the Pathway USA program while strengthening the relationship between Northwest Florida State College and the University of South Alabama."

Northwest Florida State College also has university partnerships with FSU Panama City, FAMU: Architecture, Northcentral University, UWF, Troy University Online, UCF and Western Governors University.

CHOCTAWHATCHEE BASIN ALLIANCE HONORS FOUNDING MEMBER

The Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance (CBA) presented the inaugural Mike Flynt Memorial Bay Champion Award to Shoreline Church at their annual celebration in June.

Mike Flynt was one of the original founders and long-time board members of the CBA. In addition to his distinguished career in the U.S. Air Force and his work with CBA, Flynt served on the Board of Trustees for Northwest Florida State College, as well as numerous other nonprofit and business boards.

"We miss his guidance and spirit at our organization and wanted to honor his legacy by recognizing an exceptional steward in our region," said Alison McDowell, CBA director.

Earlier this year, Shoreline hosted a Fly Fishing Film Tour and event that highlighted exceptional fishing and conservation stories that inspire action in our own community. Find out how you can become a water steward at basianalliance.org.



Photo (left to right): CBA Director Alison McDowell, Shoreline Church Pastor Eric Partin and NWFSC Trustee Charlotte Flynt after the inaugural Mike Flynt Memorial Bay Champion Award ceremony in June.

STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 4 and 6



SEASON CALENDAR

9/19/19	Preacher Lawson – Comedian	Artist
9/28/19	Take Flight	NFSO
10/12/19	Love & Marriage	NFSO
10/18/19	Winston Scott	Speaker Series
10/21/19	Dog Man	Family
10/24/19	Beginnings – Tribute to Chicago	Artist
12/2/19	Mystery Science Theater 3000	Artist
12/13/19	Holiday Pops	NFSO
1/4/20	Pink Floyd Laser Experience	Artist
1/15/20	Greatest Love – Whitney Houston	NFSO
1/24/20	Wild World of Animals	Artist

1/31/20	John Quiñones	Speaker Series
2/9/20	Bandstand the Musical	Broadway
2/21/20	Jersey Boys	Broadway
3/7/20	Music of Beethoven & Bernstein	NFSO
3/9/20	Pete the Cat	Family
3/13/20	Dale Berra	Speaker Series
3/26/20	Choir of Man	Artist
4/18/20	Stars of Tomorrow	NFSO
5/8/20	Sponge Bob the Musical	Broadway

Season packages available August 12.
Single show tickets available August 19.

100 College Boulevard East | Niceville, FL 32578



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100 College Boulevard, East
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FOUNDATION

STRATEGIC PLAN:
Goals 3, 4 and 5



GREENHOUSE ESTABLISHED IN HONOR OF KAY LITKE

Major General Donald P. Litke and his family donated \$150,000 to establish the Kay Litke Culinary Arts Greenhouse at Northwest Florida State College to honor and memorialize their beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Kay Litke.

The establishment of this facility will help provide students with fundamental farm-to-table techniques, innovative green practices and equip students with marketable sustainability skill sets. Under the direction of the culinary arts leadership team, the project will also provide opportunities for community engagement.



Photo (left to right): Dr. Devin Stephenson, Sue Farrell (daughter of Kay and Don Litke) and Major General Don Litke, USAF retired.



Photo: New signage was unveiled in June for the Susan Myers Learning Resources Center on the Niceville campus.

SUSAN MYERS' LEGACY LIVES ON

Before her passing earlier this year, Mrs. Susan Pryor Sloat Myers decided to link her name with Northwest Florida State College's Learning Resources Center with a \$1 million dollar bequest. Today, her name is on permanent display on the Susan Myers Learning Resources Center at Northwest Florida State College's Niceville Campus. NWFSC is grateful for the generous donation from Mrs. Myers. In addition, Myers established six scholarships in honor of her family members: M. Scott Myers, Sarah Frances Brooks Pryor, W.C. Pryor, Diana Pryor Sloat, John Gregory Sloat and Susan Pryor Sloat.

