STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: CANDICE BARBANEELL

When undergraduate biology student Candice Barbanell (pictured above) walked into her Basic Clinical Skills class in January 2013 wearing a lab coat from her job as a pharmacy technician, she had no idea it would be the start of a new career for her.

It turned out that Gina Johnson and Shari Goldstein, the course instructors and directors of the College’s Continuing Education Department, had been considering starting a Pharmacy Technician Program at FAU. When they started talking, they realized they had found the right person to help create and later lead the program. With 14 years of experience as a pharmacy technician and 8 years teaching pharmacy technician classes, Candice enthusiastically agreed to start working to establish the program.

Candice originally began her career as a pharmacy technician as a part-time job in high school. At that time, no official training was necessary – pharmacy technicians got on-the-job training. However, five years ago it became mandatory for all pharmacy technicians to become certified and licensed by the state of Florida. In South Florida, only Everest University (Broward) and Miami Dade College currently offer pharmacy technician certification programs, leaving a void in the local market for this type of training. Pharmacies and hospitals are finding it difficult to fill entry level pharmacy technician positions because of the lack of certified and licensed applicants.

After 19 months of work, Candice – who graduated with her B.S. in biology this past spring – will serve as the program’s director when the first cohort launches this fall. The 24 week program, which is followed by a 240-hour externship, will prepare students for the national Pharmacy Technician Certification Exam. Additionally, students will develop the interpersonal skills, communication skills and customer service skills necessary to interact with a diverse patient population. Tuition, including books, is $7,600 – less than half what students pay
at Everest for similar training. For more information on the program, visit: 

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

The College of Science is pleased to announce the following promotions in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science:

**Promotion to Full Professor**
- John Baldwin (Biology)
- Wolfgang Tichy (Physics)
- Jeanette Wyneken (Biological Sciences)
- Zhixiao Xie (Geosciences)

**Promotion to Senior Instructor**
- Barry Booton (Mathematics)
- Joseph Caruso (Biological Sciences)
- De Huai Chen (Physics)
- Alberto Haces (Chemistry)
- Robert Lubarsky (Mathematics)

**Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor**
- Ken Dawson-Scully (Biological Sciences)

**Promotion to Associate Scientist**
- Donna Chamely-Wiik (Chemistry)
- Evonne Rezler (Chemistry)
- Korey Sorge (Physics)

FAU RECEIVES NATIONAL CENTER OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN INFORMATION ASSURANCE/CYBER DEFENSE RESEARCH DESIGNATION

Florida Atlantic University’s Center for Cryptology and Information Security (CCIS) has been designated as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/Cyber Defense Research (CAE-R) for academic years 2014-19 by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The center, established in 2003 under the leadership of Dr. Spyros Maliveras and now under Dr. Rainer Steinwandt, is a collaborative, multi-college effort that functions as the hub of all information assurance and cyber defense research occurring at the University. For more information, visit: http://www.science.fau.edu/press.html#20140529.

OUTREACH AND NEWSMAKERS

KELSO TO SERVE ON NIH/NINDS SPECIAL EMPHASIS PANEL

Dr. Scott Kelso has been asked to serve on the NIH/NINDS Special Emphasis Panel (SEP) to review applications received in response to the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) initiative. This is a new (US) Presidential project aimed at revolutionizing our understanding of the human brain. By accelerating the development and application of innovative technologies, the goal is to produce a new dynamic picture of the brain that shows how individual cells and complex neural circuits interact in both time and space.

GRAD STUDENT INTERVIEWED ON THE WEATHER CHANNEL

Keren Bolter, a Ph.D. candidate in the Florida Center for Environmental Studies was interviewed by Anaridis Rodriguez on the Weather Channel. She discussed sea level rise for the Hurricane Prep special on AMHQ.
14-YEAR OLD FAU MATH STUDENT PUTS FAU IN THE NEWS AT NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

FAU’s mathematics department received significant national media attention because 14-year old Brian Reinhart, a high school student from Palm Beach Gardens, is as good at math as he is at spelling. Reinhart’s completion of MAA 4200 at FAU during the spring 2013 semester was touted by the press as an interesting twist on the typical spelling bee participant. Brian received an “A” in this course, which many FAU mathematics majors consider to be one of the most difficult courses they take. [http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/05/26/spelling-bee/9613043/](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/05/26/spelling-bee/9613043/).

ESIOBU GRANTED CARNEGIE AFRICAN DIASPORA FELLOWSHIP

Dr. Nwadiuto Esiobu has accepted a fellowship through the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program to work with Dr. Happiness Ogba Oselebe at Ebonyi State University in Abakaliki, Nigeria. She will spend the month of July working to help the university develop research capacity for both faculty and graduate students. Dr. Esiobu has previously worked in Nigeria and is highly regarded for helping to train faculty and students as well as establish programs in molecular biology and biotechnology.

GRANTS AWARDED*

**Dr. Warner Miller** received a $180,000 continuation for his multi-year grant (totaling over $758,000 to date) from the U.S. Air Force for his research titled “Discrete Ricci Flow in Higher Dimensions.” Dr. Miller’s research proposes to use Ricci flow algorithms to better understand, characterize and stabilize systems such as cell phones networks, the Internet, satellite communication, transportation scheduling, influenza spread, the global financial backbones, as well as social networks such as Facebook and Twitter.

**Dr. Michael Salmon** received $7,500 from the FAU Foundation for his research, “Sea Turtles Unlimited.”

The NIH grant reported last month for **Dr. Scott Kelso** and **Dr. Emmanuelle Tognoli**’s, “Neuromarkers of Social Coordination” only referenced the first year award. The entire 5-year grant award will total $1.97 million.

*To include your grant in this section, please forward the information to Paige Garrido at pgarrido@fau.edu.

UNIVERSITY-WIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY 101: THE LEGAL SIDE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

June 20, noon to 1:00 p.m., Engineering East 303

The Division of Research is pleased to welcome FAU’s Intellectual Property attorney Gregory Nelson, Partner at Novak Druce Connolly Bove + Quigg, to present Intellectual Property 101: The Legal Side of Entrepreneurship, on June 20 from 12noon - 1:00 p.m. in Engineering East 303. Graduate students and postdocs are also welcome to attend. [RSVPs are requested](mailto:rsbps@fau.edu), as lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Beth Barak, bbarak@fau.edu.

**DISSERTATION YEAR AWARD APPLICATION DATE MOVED UP**

The Division of Research has announced that the call for applications has been moved from the Spring 2015 semester to the Fall 2014 semester. The objective of the grant is to help students complete their dissertations.
The completed application and attachments must be submitted electronically by September 22, 2014 at limited@fau.edu. Applications will be reviewed by an awards committee, and applicants will be notified of committee action approximately eight weeks after the deadline. Awards are for a 12-month period. Please provide all of the materials, including the application form, in a single, PDF document. Information about this awards can be found at: http://www.fau.edu/research/internal_awards.php.

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE UPCOMING EVENTS**

To see a complete list of semester events, visit: http://www.science.fau.edu/events.html. To include a department or club event on this list, please send the information to Paige Garrido at pgarrido@fau.edu.

**June 16- July 11**  
**Summer Science Institute**  
FAU is offering a Summer Science Institute for high-performing middle and high school students ages 11 through 15. Two, four-week sessions will run from June 16 through July 11 and July 14 through August 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at FAU’s Boca Raton campus, 777 Glades Road. Each session will offer hands-on experience in real university classrooms and laboratories, taught by experts in the field. This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) summer enrichment program uses a problem-based learning model to develop students’ critical thinking skills and draws from a broad range of disciplines within the sciences to maximize the potential of interdisciplinary science studies. The Institute is a non-credit academic program specifically designed to meet the intellectual and cognitive needs of high-achieving middle and high school students interested in discovering the world of science. The selection process for the “Summer Science Institute” is competitive, and space is limited. For more information or to register, call the College of Science Department of Continuing Education at 561-297-3700 or visit www.science.fau.edu/oce.

**July 14- August 8**  
**Summer Science Institute**  
FAU is offering a Summer Science Institute for high-performing middle and high school students ages 11 through 15. Two, four-week sessions will run from June 16 through July 11 and July 14 through August 8 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at FAU’s Boca Raton campus, 777 Glades Road. Each session will offer hands-on experience in real university classrooms and laboratories, taught by experts in the field. This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) summer enrichment program uses a problem-based learning model to develop students’ critical thinking skills and draws from a broad range of disciplines within the sciences to maximize the potential of interdisciplinary science studies. The Institute is a non-credit academic program specifically designed to meet the intellectual and cognitive needs of high-achieving middle and high school students interested in discovering the world of science. The selection process for the “Summer Science Institute” is competitive, and space is limited. For more information or to register, call the College of Science Department of Continuing Education at 561-297-3700 or visit www.science.fau.edu/oce.

**August 5**  
**Commencement**  
9 a.m., 1 p.m., and 5 p.m.

**August 6**  
**University New Faculty Orientation**  
Details TBA

If you have any news you would like to include in future editions of *Science Connect*, please email Paige Garrido at pgarrido@fau.edu.