

# FAPSC Florida Association of Postsecondary Schools and Colleges 52nd Annual Conference

July 22–25, 2008

The Fairmont Turnberry Isle Resort and Spa • Miami, Florida

FAPSC held its 52nd annual conference July 22–25 at the elegant Fairmont Turnberry Isle Resort and Spa in Miami, Florida. This year's theme, "Building for the Future," focused on providing tools and strategies to support Florida's 800 licensed schools in their efforts to provide quality career education to 265,000 students. Attendance reached a new record, with 380+ administrators and 490+ faculty participants.

Fifty-three vendors set up in the exhibit hall, continuing their strong support for the conference. FAPSC appreciates all they do, from sponsorships to door prizes to volunteering at the registration desk. Numerous events were held in the exhibit hall so attendees could spend quality time with our valued partners.

The conference kicked off on Tuesday with a golf tournament, sponsored by Lead Advantage, at the Westin Diplomat's Country Club and Spa. Forty golfers participated, and enjoyed a beverage cart sponsored by Becker Media, awards sponsored by Oasis Outsourcing, and drawings for door prizes. Once again, the coveted pink tennis racket and Barbie doll was awarded to the last place team. We won't say who earned that distinction, but Rick Thomas promises to turn this into a traveling trophy for next year.

Wednesday began with a FAPSC general business meeting, including awards, elections and approval of revised bylaws.

## New FAPSC Officers:

President Bill Polmear  
Ultimate Medical Academy



President-Elect Wayne Slater  
Meridian Career Institute

Treasurer Jan Schoonmaker  
Everest University

Secretary Dean Bartness  
Florida Career College

Past-President Don Slayter  
Florida Technical College



#### Award Winners:

**FAPSC School Member of the Year**  
Jan Schoonmaker  
Everest University

**FAPSC Associate Member of the Year  
(the first)**  
Walt Kirby  
Pearson Learning Solutions

**School of the Year**  
Full Sail University

**Administration & Management  
Administrator of the Year**  
Nery Parker  
Technical Career Institute–Miami

**Admissions Administrator of the Year**  
Leonie Bowick  
Florida Technical College–Lakeland

**Education Administrator of the Year**  
Michael Moench  
Keiser University–Sarasota

**Rickie Knobel Financial Aid Officer of  
the Year**  
Sheyla Welch  
Everest University–Tampa

**Gail Benjamin Student Services  
Administrator of the Year**  
Theo Eggleston  
Everest University–Tampa

**Graduates of the Year**  
Phoenix Cain  
Florida Technical College–Lakeland  
Oscar Tucker, III  
WyoTech–Daytona



This year's keynote was delivered by Harris Miller, CEO of the Career College Association. Harris provided an excellent overview of the student loan access issue, and his vision for the future of our sector. Administrators could then choose among 25 breakout sessions over two days, including our first-ever session conducted in Spanish.

A highlight of the conference was the Legislative reception, where attendees heard from Rep. Ray Sansom, incoming Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, and Sen. Mike Haridopolos, in line to become President of the Florida Senate in 2011–2012. FAPSC made history by welcoming eleven other members of the Legislature, for a total of thirteen sitting Legislators in attendance.

On Thursday evening, administrators, exhibitors, sponsors and staff enjoyed a fabulous pool party with outstanding food, drink and entertainment. The Fairmont staff surprised everyone with a beautiful food art carving of the SS-FAPSC, and guitarist David Goodman rocked the house.

On Friday, the faculty enjoyed an opening presentation by Dr. Joe Pace, former FAPSC president and current staff member of the Pacific Institute. The room was packed and faculty enjoyed Dr. Pace's insights into the effects of emotion on learning and memory. He encouraged faculty to build a positive environment so students maximize their experiences. Attendees were able to choose among 16 breakout sessions organized around allied health, business/IT, and general education. Awards presented at lunch were Ryan Centeno, Everest University, and Richard Mackowiak, WyoTech-Daytona, Faculty Members of the Year. Faculty enjoyed an ice cream social and prize drawings before experiencing another FAPSC first: CEU certificates were handed out to participants at the meeting!

Join us at the Fontainebleau in Miami Beach, July 28–31, 2009 for another FAPSCtastic conference!

**Report submitted by:**

Kathy Mizereck  
FAPSC Executive Director

**Photography provided by:**

Michael J. Cooney, Editor  
*Career Education Review*

