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Upcoming FCIS Events

New Heads' Institute

July 21-23, 2016
Jupiter Beach
Resort & Spa

Finance Institute

July 22, 2016

Fundraising Institute

July 23, 2016

Jupiter Beach
Resort & Spa

Administrators' Retreat

July 24-26, 2016
Jupiter Beach
Resort & Spa

New Teacher Institute

September 18-20, 2016
Mission Inn Resort,
Howey-in-the-Hills

Governance Workshop

September 25-26, 2016
Hyatt Regency,
Orlando Airport

from the executive director...

As educators, we often look forward to the month of June with celebrations of the ending of a school year and a time to reflect on the progress of the past year, as well as a time to envision plans for the future. At FCIS, we have had a busy and productive year. Our FCIS team is completing its second year of working together, and we are finding more ways to synergize in our work, as well as meet the needs of our member schools. We are already making plans for the 2016-17 school year and the resources that we may bring to our schools.

This past year, we brought various resources and services to our schools.

- Our online Master-Inservice Program has finished its second year; FCIS updated the program to make it an even more effective tool for our schools. The number of Master-Inservice hours recorded continued to grow, thus saving our schools countless dollars.
- As a result of our new marketing plan, FCIS displayed its new logo at the November convention, along with a convention app that was downloaded by at least 1050 participants.
- January brought the debut of the new FCIS website, which was the result of a year of planning and design; the usefulness of the website has resulted in higher traffic and visitors to the site.
- In tandem, FCIS rolled out a new format for the weekly FCIS E-News, highlighting not only FCIS events and happenings, but also links to some of the leading educational articles for the week.
- In the area of professional development, FCIS expanded the Prospective Heads Program of the Dale D. Regan Leadership Institute to include a third-year track, emphasizing more training in the areas of finance and advancement.
- Addressing the area of accreditation, the FCIS Board of Directors and staff spent the year researching trends in accreditation and developing a new accreditation process that will possibly be

finished in time to be presented at the Annual meeting in November.

- The legislative season was beneficial to our schools as we were able to successfully lobby for several bills, including passing a state statute that legalizes the charging of convenience fees in private schools.

As the new school year dawns on July 1, we look forward to expanding our professional development offerings, continuing the work on our accreditation process that will be better customized to meet the individual needs of our schools, and lobbying for the initiatives within the Legislature and the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) that best serve the needs of all schools, but particularly our independent schools. We are committed to our mission of "promoting the highest standards for PK-12 education through (our) accreditation process, professional development programming, and advocacy efforts".

CAPE. According to a report entitled *Pursuing Innovation: How Can Educational Choice Transform K-12 Education in the U.S.*, scores on the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) in mathematics and reading have improved modestly while inflation-adjusted spending has increased 300% in public K-12 schools. At the same time, public schools have been facing greater competition. Family-financed private schooling is the only type of school choice that is declining; there were 5.3 million students in private schools in 2011, as compared to 6.3 million in 2001. All other forms of school choice are increasing with charter school and tax-funded school voucher or scholarship students increasing at the fastest rate. Based on analytical evidence in this report, competition is actually improving public schools.

FCIS. It is not too early to plan to attend the FCIS Annual Convention on November 3-4, 2016 at the Hyatt Regency Miami. Plan to bring your entire faculty for Faculty Day on November 4. For more information, go to www.fcis.org.

Barbara H. Hodges, Ed.D.
Executive Director

FCIS Professional Development Calendar

Mark your calendars for these upcoming professional development opportunities.

2016-17

<p>New Heads' Institute July 21-23, 2016 Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa</p> <p>Finance Institute July 22, 2016 Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa</p> <p>Fundraising Institute July 23, 2016 Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa</p> <p>Administrators' Retreat July 24-26, 2016 Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa</p> <p>FCIS Hosts ISM Workshop: Leading with Others July 26, 2016 Jupiter Beach Resort & Spa</p>	<p>New Teacher Institute September 18-20, 2016 Mission Inn Resort, Howey-in-the-Hills</p> <p>Governance Workshop September 25-26, 2016 Hyatt Regency, Orlando Airport</p> <p>FCIS Pre-Conference: ISM November 2, 2016 Hyatt Regency, Miami</p> <p>Gathering for New & Prospective Heads November 3, 2016 Hyatt Regency, Miami</p> <p>FCIS Annual Convention November 3-4, 2016 Hyatt Regency, Miami</p>	<p>Prospective Heads' Institute I, II & III January 11-12, 2017 Mission Inn Resort, Howey-in-the-Hills</p> <p>Academy for High Performing Educators January 22-24, 2017 Corbett Prep at IDS, Tampa</p> <p>Winter Symposium: Finance and Legal Workshop February 7, 2017 Technology Workshop February 8, 2017 Shorecrest Prep, St. Petersburg</p> <p>Chair Training June 12, 2017 Hammock Beach Resort, Palm Coast</p>	<p>Heads' Retreat June 12-14, 2017 Hammock Beach Resort, Palm Coast</p> <p>21st Century Learning Academy June 21-23, 2017 Corbett Prep at IDS, Tampa</p> <p>New Heads' Institute July 27-29, 2017 Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater</p> <p>Fundraising Institute July 29, 2017 Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater</p> <p>Administrators' Retreat July 30-Aug 1, 2017 Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater</p>
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Congratulations to Our New FCIS 2015-2016 Accredited Schools

**Academy Prep Center of St. Pete
St. Petersburg**
Head of School: Gina Burkett

**Oxbridge Academy
West Palm Beach**
Head of School: John Klemme

**The Christ School
Orlando**
Head of School: Dr. Jason Powell

**The Mandelstam School
South Miami**
Head of School: Tiffany Pfeiffer

**Montessori Children's House of Hyde Park
Tampa**
Head of School: Amanda Linton

School News

Charley Zimmer, Head of School at **Episcopal School of Jacksonville**, was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Jacksonville Business Journal as part of their Innovators in Education award series. He was featured in the May 6 issue with several pictures and an interview. Congratulations, Charley!

Over Spring Break, **Seacrest Country Day School's** choir travelled to Vienna and Salzburg in Austria; Lucerne, France; and Lake Como, Italy. They sang at various venues and performed flash mobs on the streets of Europe. Easter Sunday was spent performing at the beautiful Salzburg Cathedral. Each year there is a different choir trip with Choral Director, Jodie DeSalvo. Last year they sang at Carnegie Hall in New York City, and the previous year, the choir traveled to London and Paris.



After hearing FCIS Convention Keynote Speaker, John Hunter, Mrs. Gallagher from **St. Mark's Episcopal Day School** in Jacksonville knew her fourth grader students would greatly benefit. The fourth graders launched themselves into a simulated game of war, conflict, and crisis. Two months later, they achieved world peace!

Creative Learning Academy regularly welcomes University of West Florida Assistant Professor of STEM Education, Dr. John Pecore, and his colleagues to their



campus for exclusive training sessions with CLA faculty. CLA's partnership with UWF began in 2011. The partnership has allowed CLA to benefit from UWF's nationally-recognized expertise in instructional technology and has

seen the installation of a number of new learning technologies on the CLA campus. The Melba Bayers Meyer Charitable Trust announced that Creative Learning Academy has been awarded a \$12,000 grant to benefit the school's science program through an enhancement program called, "Science Beyond the Walls: The Creative Learning Academy Field Guide."

Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart student, Christina Cruz, has been recognized as a U.S. Presidential Scholar for being one of our nation's most distinguished high school seniors. Congratulations!

Saint Stephens Episcopal School students led a team of six from Manatee County to the Division 1 championship of the 2016 Florida Commissioner's Academic Challenge in Orlando. The three-day competition featured teams from 38 counties competing in a series of challenges covering topics in language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, fine arts, world languages, physical education, health and technology. Team Manatee completed a perfect championship round with no incorrect answers to top Palm Beach County, 260-247. Senior



Zack Gromko was awarded the Golden Herald award for computer science. Sponsored by the Bradenton Herald, the Golden Herald Award honors the best and the brightest senior students in Manatee County in categories ranging from art to vocational. Zack, who will study computer science at MIT, was awarded a plaque and \$1,500 to use toward his future education. He was recognized for building a robot that solved a Rubik's Cube in less than three seconds, setting a world record in 2015.



Ivan (Ziyue) Wang, graduating senior from **Community School of Naples**, was the only person taking the Society of Actuaries Probability Exam in Southwest Florida to pass it on the first try. He scored a 9, which places him in the 96-99 percentile. This is the first in a series of four tests usually taken by advanced college students or graduates to become actuaries, business professionals who measure and manage financial risk. Congratulations, Ivan!



Congratulations to Anna Henricks from **All Saints Academy** on being named a National Merit Scholar! Anna was also chosen as a 2016 Disney Dreamer and Doer for "the many ways she takes action to make our world a better place."

Palmer Trinity School juniors hosted a hunger project with the NGO Feeding Children Everywhere to feed 12,000 children in Haiti. During the 2015-16 school year, students raised \$3,600.



FCIS Heads' Retreat

June 13-15, 2016

Naples Grande Beach Resort, Naples

In June, we welcomed 53 Heads of School to the 24th Annual Heads' Retreat in Naples. At the Welcome Reception, Craig Maughan, Charley Zimmer and Warren Hudson were recognized for their years of service to FCIS. Craig Maughan was Head at Trinity Preparatory School for 23 years and served on the FCIS Board of Directors and on the Executive Committee. Charley Zimmer was the Head at Episcopal School of Jacksonville for 13 years and served on the FCIS Board of Directors. Warren Hudson was the Head at Lake Highland Preparatory School in Orlando for 16 years and also served on the FCIS Board of Directors. Best wishes to Craig, Charley, and Warren for many years of joyful retirement!



At this year's retreat, the theme was *Being a Globally-Minded Leader*. The featured speaker was Dr. Yong Zhao, Presidential Chair and Director of the Institute for Global and Online Education in the College of Education, University of Oregon, where he is also a Professor in the Department of Educational Measurement, Policy, and Leadership. In his session *Building a World Class School*, Dr. Zhao proposed a new paradigm of education. He presented the triad model of education to prepare global, creative, and entrepreneurial talents that include: personalized curriculum/educational experience, product-oriented learning, and the globe as campus. He engaged Heads in a discussion about how to put into place these elements in practice, citing successful examples and efforts from around the world. Heads found the workshop relevant, engaging and thought provoking. The next day, several Heads gave presentations on global initiatives at their respective schools. Topics included: *Global Citizenship at an Independent School*, *Developing and Sustaining Global Partnerships*, and *Innovation and Creativity—The Optics and Reality of Leadership*. Round table discussions followed, providing an opportunity for Heads to dive deeper into the topics on leading globally sustainable schools in the 21st century.

Heads seemed energized by their time spent examining leadership and global education topics and networking with each other. On Tuesday, spouses were invited to a poolside chat to share conversation and enjoy the beautiful resort facilities. On Tuesday evening, there was a great turnout at the family buffet, and with a number of kids in attendance, the atmosphere was fun and lively.

Special thanks to the Naples Grande Beach Resort for their outstanding service and delicious food.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the next Heads' Retreat on June 12-14, 2017, at the Hammock Beach Resort in Palm Coast!



Florida Kindergarten Council Corner

Mark Your Calendars—FKC Convention 2017

Friday, February 3, 2017

6:30-8:00pm Meet and Greet

Complimentary Beverages and Hors D'oeuvres

Saturday, February 4, 2017

7:30am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:00am - 3:30pm General Meeting/Sessions/Lunch

The DoubleTree Sea World Orlando

10100 International Drive

Orlando, FL—800-327-0363



21st Century Learning Academy

June 22-24, 2016

At the end of June, 28 dedicated independent school educators attended the *21st Century Learning Academy* at Corbett Preparatory School of IDS in Tampa.

On the first day, Christine Ortega Gaurkee, Diversity Coordinator at Berkeley Preparatory School, kicked off the afternoon with her session *Cultural Competency: A Dynamic Dialogue*. Christine introduced a common language, framework and skill set to help students become more culturally competent and to cultivate an inclusive learning environment to facilitate multi-cultural discussion in the classroom. In his session *The Art of Global Education*, Robert Ponzio, Fine Arts Chair at Oak Hall School, introduced simple, yet powerful ways to help a school creatively interact with other students and educators from around the globe. He addressed common issues and shared a number of techniques, resources, and programs to help educators facilitate rich global experiences for their students, with the goal of better preparing them for success in the globalized 21st century. In her session *Developing Compassionate, Responsible, and Engaged Citizens*, Angela Giorgianni-Mejicanos, Lower School Spanish Teacher and Community Service Director at The Out-of-Door Academy, outlined strategies for developing character traits that reflect a school's core values and for weaving them throughout every facet of school life in order to prepare students to be engaged citizens in an increasingly complex and changing world. Barbie Monty, Fifth Grade Teacher at Carrollwood Day School, ended the day with her session *Inspiring Students to Think Globally and Act Locally*. She discussed ways to provide students with opportunities to work collaboratively to identify, investigate, and develop actions in order to solve or raise awareness of real-life issues or problems experienced locally or globally that truly can make a difference and impact the lives of others.

The next day Dr. Derrick Gay, Educational Consultant and former independent school administrator, led a full-day workshop, *Global Citizenship in the 21st Century: Reframing Community Life Initiatives in Independent Schools*. He highlighted the importance for global citizens to be able to effectively communicate and collaborate respectfully with individuals of different backgrounds. He also emphasized the critical influence of identity and positionality on cultivating international-mindedness. As part of the conversation, he deconstructed the word "diversity" as a double-edged sword within the context of independent school communities. In light of recent national events and shifting American and global demographics, Derrick encouraged schools to shape community life initiatives that develop intelligent, compassionate and informed 21st century global citizens.



On the last day, Sally Altrocchi, Coordinator of Community Activities at Saint Stephen's Episcopal School, presented her session, *Cultivating Transformative Teachers with EQ and Design Thinking*. She explored how teachers can use cultural competencies and apply a design-thinking model to make positive changes in classrooms and fully engage students, all while fortifying critical life skills for their future. With schools increasingly evolving into a microcosm of globalization, in which students bring different cultural experiences and patterns of thinking to the classroom, she emphasized the transformative power of teachers who have a finely tuned awareness of global perspectives, the capacity for recognizing cultural synergies, and the ability to engage students in their own learning. In his session, *What Does It Mean to Teach for Citizenship? Connecting Service and Activism for Civic Engagement*, Diego Duran-Medina, Director of Service Learning at Shorecrest Preparatory School, considered what it means to teach for citizenship. He reflected on both the promise and limits of service, inside and outside the classroom, and introduced one model of teaching citizenship through a class called LeadServe. As independent schools grapple with what it means to develop scholars, they also must contend with what it means to develop, train and engage citizens. The rapid interconnectedness brought on by technology, global events and social media are forcing schools to consider what these changes mean for civic engagement, both through service and beyond.

These sessions were interactive and collaborative, and participants enjoyed exploring the different topics, discussing new ways of developing 21st century skills, preparing students to become global citizens, and connecting with colleagues at peer schools from around the state.

Special thanks to Dr. Joyce Swarzman and Corbett Preparatory School of IDS for hosting the Institute. We appreciate her school's enthusiasm for 21st century learning and generous hospitality.