

Inside this issue

Page 1

Executive Director Letter

Page 2

School News

Heads' Luncheons

Page 3

Prof. Dev. Calendars

Page 4

FCIS Annual Convention

FCIS Convention Sponsors

Page 5

FKC Corner

Upcoming FCIS Events

Prospective Heads' I, II, & III

January 11-12, 2017
Mission Inn Resort,
Howey-in-the-Hills

Academy for High Performing Educators

January 22-24, 2017
Corbett Prep at IDS,
Tampa

Winter Symposiums: Enrollment Management & Legal Issues Symposium

February 7, 2017

Technology Symposium

February 8, 2017

Shorecrest, St. Petersburg

Business Officers' Conference

May 7-9, 2017

Renaissance Hotel, Orlando

FCIS Chair Training

June 12, 2017

Hammock Beach Resort,
Palm Coast

from the executive director...

Happy Holidays to everyone as we bid farewell to the year of 2016 and welcome the new year of 2017. This coming year promises to bring exciting changes for FCIS and our member schools.

At the 2016 Annual Meeting in Miami, the new FCIS/FKC Standards were rolled out to the membership with considerable positive feedback. The new standards are a result of three years of intensive study and work on the part of FCIS Board of Directors and FCIS staff. Effective July 1, 2017, member schools with dual accreditation in FCIS and FKC will have one set of standards. In keeping with best practice among independent school accrediting associations, the standards have been reduced in number and are evaluated using indicators. Standards for areas not previously addressed include Data and Research, Student Life, International Students, Domestic and International Travel, Special Education, and Proprietary Schools. To better acquaint our schools with the new standards, Melissa Alton, Director of Accreditation, is hosting webinars focusing on various areas covered within those standards.

The new standards are the foundation of a reimagined evaluation process focusing on school improvement, with opportunities for schools to identify areas of focus, along with a request for feedback from the visiting team, thus resulting in a more customized evaluation process to meet individual school needs. Also new to the process is a compliance visit prior to the arrival of the visiting team to examine the school's adherence to standards. With the separation of compliance from the team visit, the evaluation process will center on school improvement. This process has been piloted over the last two years. In the 2017-18 school year, schools up for evaluation will have a choice between the old process and the new process, while using the new standards, with full adoption of the new process in the 2018-19 school year. In addition, FCIS is

in the process of developing an accreditation portal, where schools will eventually write their self-studies, and visiting teams will construct their reports.

2016 FCIS CONVENTION. The 61st Annual FCIS Convention was held in Miami on November 3 and 4. The theme, "Cultivating Growth: A Mindset for the Future", resonated throughout the convention, including the two pre-conferences and the Annual Business Meeting. I want to personally thank the convention co-chairs, Elise Ecoff, Head of North Broward Preparatory School and Robert Goldberg, Head of The Benjamin School, as well as the convention steering committee, who spent untold hours in dedication to our member schools.

At the FCIS Annual Business Meeting, new Directors and one Officer were elected. The newly elected Directors include: Mark Heller, Head of Academy at the Lakes; Olen Kalkus, Head of Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart; and Patrick Roberts, Head of Palmer Trinity School. Tane Bonham was elected to a one-year term as Treasurer of the FCIS Board.

CAPE. A national poll recently released by EdChoice, formerly the Friedman Foundation, indicates that millennials prefer private schools to regular public schools, homeschooling, and charter schools. Seventy-four percent of millennials gave a grade of A or B to area private schools, as opposed to 41% of millennials giving similar grades to regular public schools. Sixty-eight percent of millennials rated area charter schools with a grade of A or B.

NAIS. FCIS congratulates Donna Orem on her selection as President of NAIS. FCIS looks forward to working closely with our new NAIS President in addressing the needs of independent schools.

Barbara H. Hodges, Ed.D.
Executive Director

School News

Tampa Preparatory School's Upper School Chorus students wowed a packed crowd at Epcot's Candlelight Processional. The students performed in two shows with a professional orchestra, Disney performers, a few other schools and Neil Patrick Harris! On Sunday, December 4, long-time Tampa Prep Head Boys Basketball Coach Joe Fenlon was inducted into the Florida Association of Basketball Coaches (FABC) Court of Legends. The FABC created the Court of Legends to honor those individuals and teams that have left an indelible mark upon Florida basketball. Coach Fenlon was inducted into the Court with nine others at the ceremony held at the Lakeland Center.



'18 for having their photography accepted for display in the Tampa Museum of Art Fall Art Exhibition.

Congratulations All Saints Academy! The Saints are now the Sunshine State Athletic Conference FCS State Football Champions.



Community School of Naples alumnus Welles Harris '16 recently received a letter from the College Board, the organization which administers many standardized tests, congratulating him on having achieved a perfect score on the Advanced Placement Macroeconomic exam last May. Welles, currently studying at the University of North Carolina, was one of 34 in the world to receive a perfect score. According to the College Board, his performance "was so superior that it falls into a very select category."



Congratulations to **Berkeley Preparatory School** students James Langley '17, Elizabeth Sage '19 and Sam Bennett

Heads' Luncheons

Save the date cards and/or invitations will be sent for the following area Heads' Luncheons. Please feel free to contact another "area host" if you are unable to attend your area luncheon.

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Tallahassee/Panhandle Area

Hosted by: Peter Klekamp

Holy Comforter Episcopal School

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

Miami Area

Hosted by: Patrick Roberts

Palmer Trinity School

Wednesday, April 19, 2017 (new date)

Tampa/St. Petersburg/Sarasota/Naples Areas

Hosted by: Dr. Joyce Swarzman

Corbett Preparatory School of IDS

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Boca Raton/Ft. Lauderdale Areas

Hosted by: Dr. Dana Markham

Pine Crest School

Friday, April 21, 2017 (new date)

Orlando Area

Hosted by: Dr. Steve Whitaker

The First Academy

Friday, May 5, 2017

North Palm Beach Area

Hosted by: Bob Goldberg

The Benjamin School

Thursday, May 11, 2017

Jacksonville Area

Hosted by: Martha Milton

Beaches Episcopal School



We wish you a happy and safe holiday season!
From: The FCIS Office
Dr. Barbara Hodges, Melissa Alton, Alison Carlson,
Keara Danger and Matt Wilson



FCIS Professional Development Calendar

Mark your calendars for these upcoming professional development opportunities.

2016-17

**Prospective Heads'
Institute I, II & III**

January 11-12, 2017
Mission Inn Resort,
Howey-in-the-Hills

**Academy for High
Performing Educators**

January 22-24, 2017
Corbett Prep at IDS, Tampa

**Winter Symposiums:
Enrollment Management
& Legal Issues
Symposium**

February 7, 2017
Shorecrest, St. Petersburg

Technology Symposium

February 8, 2017
Shorecrest, St. Petersburg

**Business Officers'
Conference**

May 7-9, 2017
Renaissance Hotel, Orlando

FCIS Chair Training

June 12, 2017
Hammock Beach Resort,
Palm Coast

Heads' Retreat

June 12-14, 2017
Hammock Beach Resort,
Palm Coast

**21st Century
Learning Academy**

June 21-23, 2017
Corbett Prep at IDS,
Tampa

New Heads' Institute

July 27-29, 2017
Sheraton Sand Key,
Clearwater

Finance Institute

July 28, 2017
Sheraton Sand Key,
Clearwater

Fundraising Institute

July 29, 2017
Sheraton Sand Key,
Clearwater

Administrators' Retreat

July 30-August 1, 2017
Sheraton Sand Key,
Clearwater

FCIS Webinars

**Serving on an FCIS
Evaluation Team**

Jan. 25, 2017 @ 3:30 p.m.

**Prospective Heads'
Program Conclusion**

Mar. 14, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m.

Legal Webinars with Suzanne Bogdan

***Sexual Misconduct: Standards
Have Changed***

Jan. 19, 2017 @ 12:00 p.m.

***Claims Brought Against
Independent Schools***

Feb. 22, 2017 @ 12:00 p.m.

FCIS Convention

Cultivating Growth: A Mindset for the Future

November 3-4, 2016

Thank you to all the schools, speakers and sponsors who participated in the FCIS Annual Convention at the Hyatt Regency Miami in November. Convention Committee Chairs, Elise Ecoff, Head of North Broward Preparatory School, and Robert Goldberg, Head of The Benjamin School, designed a program that emphasized the importance of challenging independent schools to encourage grit and a growth mindset in the learner and to free students from self-imposed perceptions that limit the breadth and depth of their academic experiences.

FCIS kicked off the Convention with an ISM pre-conference workshop, Assessing Your Enrollment Management and Marketing Communications Operations. Over 40 participants spent the day focused on their enrollment management programs. In the morning session, participants were guided through ISM's Admission and Enrollment Management Assessment Instrument and used this framework to analyze the state of their operations and establish a baseline from which to measure the effectiveness of their plan strategies. In the afternoon session, participants looked at the factors most impacting the hard and soft income bottom line: their school's market position and culture and the way they take care of their key constituents. Participants were taken through ISM's Marketing Communications Assessment Instrument and reflected on their school's marketing communications efforts to identify areas that, when well-attended to, will result in enrollment demand in excess of supply, high rates of retention, and inspirational giving. Best practices were highlighted, and participants designed a three-part action plan to enhance their school's enrollment operations, based on the findings of their assessment.

For the first time, there was a pre-conference workshop targeted to Business Officers. Over 40 participants attended Howard Teibel's presentation, The Changing Tides of Leadership. Mr. Teibel provided the tools and insights to navigate change effectively, handle personal and organizational change, and lead others through the complexity and ambiguity of a changing work environment.

Over 2,400 educators from 125 independent schools attended two energizing days filled with innovative sessions on topics targeting educational leadership, sustainability, student health and wellbeing, and diverse uses of evolving technologies to enhance teaching and engage learners at any level and in any discipline. Paul Tough, Author, Journalist and Speaker, and Kristen Hadeed, Millennial Engagement Expert and Founder of Student Maid, delivered outstanding keynote addresses. In his presentation, Paul Tough outlined the latest research showing that the qualities that indicate lifelong success are "non cognitive" or what we might refer to as "personality traits," such as curiosity, conscientiousness, optimism, self-control, and grit. He traced the links between early childhood neurological development and environment. Kristen Hadeed shared the meaningful lessons she learned from her middle school teacher and shared the story of how she built a culture known for shaping hundreds of future leaders. With her inspirational presentation, she encouraged teachers to rise up and help the next generation reach their full potential.

Participants attended luncheons on both days in anticipation of our two luncheon keynotes: Dr. Amishi Jha, Associate Professor of Psychology, Director of Contemplative Neuroscience UMindfulness Initiative, University of Miami, and Mr. Michael Baiamonte, Voice of the Miami Heat. On Thursday, approximately 275 administrators attended the luncheon to hear Dr. Amishi Jha's presentation. She captivated administrators with her presentation on the effectiveness of mindfulness training to strengthen the brain's attention system and to promote performance success and well-being in high stress/high performance environments. On Friday, over 600 faculty members attended the luncheon to hear Mr. Michael Baiamonte. Mr. Baiamonte discussed the true measure of success in independent schools: the student's experience in the classroom. He shared the ways that each of his daughters was shaped by their teachers and their academic endeavors, both inside and outside the classroom, and that their independent school experiences have directed their paths in life. During the luncheon, door prizes were awarded, and the lucky winners went home with a variety of gift cards to restaurants and retail stores, bottles of champagne, and overnight stays at several great resorts. Dr. Barbara Hodges also delivered a "state of the association" address on Thursday, bringing members up to date on current and future FCIS initiatives, trends in independent schools on both a state and national level, and FCIS's progress on its five-year strategic plan.

Again this year, FCIS offered a mobile app for the Convention to provide participants with helpful information and navigation of the schedule, sessions, special events, hotel and exhibitors. Participants were able to give feedback on each session that they attended as well as on their overall Convention experience, which will shape the planning for next year's Convention.

Mark your calendars for next year! The 2017 FCIS Annual Convention will take place at the Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate on November 2-3.

FCIS Convention

President's Reception

Honoring New FCIS School Heads



Special Thanks To Our Generous Convention Sponsors

Balfour Yearbooks
Independent Colleges and Universities Benefits Association (ICUBA)
Co-Sponsor of the Welcome Reception

Independent School Management (ISM)
Southern Teachers Agency (STA)
Co-Sponsors of the FCIS President's Reception

FACTS Management
Contribution to the Business Officers' Pre-Conference Workshop

Carney, Sandoe & Associates
Contribution to the Admission Directors' Dinner

Three W International
Contribution to the Administrators' Dinner

Texas Instruments
Contribution to the Technology Directors' Dinner

Smart Tuition
Contribution to the Business Officers' Dinner



FKC Convention 2017

Celebrating Creative Spaces

Registration Now Open

www.fkconline.org

Conference Schedule

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

Member Rate: \$120

Non-member Rate: \$135

The DoubleTree Sea World Orlando

10100 International Drive

Orlando, FL

800-327-0363



Keynote Speaker – Christian Long

Christian is the co-founder of WONDER (by Design): A Learning and Design Expedition, a collaborative multi-disciplined venture that explores the future of learning through a human-centered design lens. He is also the proud founder of Prototype Design Studio, an on-going experimentation in social-driven design done in partnership with students, teachers, professional creatives, and community leaders around the world. Christian speaks internationally on topics ranging from design thinking mindsets, trends in education, emerging technologies, and innovative school design practices.



Registration Deadline: January 12, 2017

www.fkconline.org